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Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, P.O. Box: 3243 Tel.: (251-11) 5513 822 Fax: (251-11) 5519 321  
Email: [situationroom@africa-union.org](mailto:situationroom@africa-union.org), [situationroom@ausitroom-psd.org](mailto:situationroom@ausitroom-psd.org)

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## Press Release

### Political Consultations between the African Union and the Netherlands

**Addis Ababa, 06 June 2011-** Ambassador Ramtane Lamamra, Commissioner for Peace and Security met, on 6 June 2011, Mr. Ben KNAPEN Minister for European Affairs and International Cooperation of Netherlands.

In addition to reviewing the Africa - EU partnership, the parties exchanged views on the state of Peace and Security in Africa, more particularly on the situations in Libya, Sudan, and Somalia.

Regarding the current situation in Libya, Commissioner Lamamra reiterated the African Union's position embodied in the African Union Roadmap considered to be a legitimate and peaceful way forward for a political and democratic solution in Libya.

On Sudan, the Commissioner recalled the continued work of the African Union for a peaceful solution to the Abyei issue, as well as on the post-referendum arrangements which will further the efforts aimed at establishing two viable states cooperating for the well-being of their peoples.

The two parties exchange views on the situation in Somalia in particular the recurrent issue of piracy off the coast of Somalia, recalling the African Union and the European Union's efforts in this regards, as well as on the need for an enhanced support of the international community to the TFI's and AMISOM.

The Commissioner reiterated the importance of the cooperation between the African Union and the European Union on those issues, and expressed the wish to see these ties reinforced.

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