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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union condemns the attack on the United Nations office in Abuja**

**Addis Ababa, 26 August 2011:** The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Dr. Jean Ping, has learnt with shock and sadness of the bomb attack on the United Nations office in Abuja, Nigeria, which occurred this morning and led to the killing of at least ten people and wounding dozens more, some in critical condition.

The Chairperson of the Commission condemns in the strongest terms these abhorrent and criminal attacks which cannot be justified under any circumstances.

The Chairperson of the Commission expresses his most sincere condolences to the families of the victims and wishes those wounded a speedy recovery. He also expresses the AU's most sincere sympathy and solidarity with the United Nations family at large, as well as the people and government of Nigeria.

The Chairperson of the Commission reaffirms the AU's total rejection of extremism and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and its determination to combat its scourge in accordance with the relevant AU and international instruments. In this respect, he encourages the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to spare no efforts in bringing those responsible for this horrific attack to justice.