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**Visit of the President of the Federal Republic Of Nigeria
H.E. Goodluck Jonathan to the Headquarter of the African Union**

Addis Ababa, 07th October, 2011-The Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC) Dr. Jean Ping received and welcomed H.E. Mr. Goodluck Jonathan, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria at the headquarters of the African Union today, Friday 07 October, 2011, and appreciated the role Nigeria is playing and the manner in which it is contributing to the African Union.

On this occasion, President Jonathan expressed satisfaction at the way the AUC is dealing with the challenges of peace and security on the continent, particularly in Sudan, Somalia among others.

Mr. Jonathan stressed the need for all Africans to work together for a better Africa, and to be able to tackle all the challenges Africa is facing, "Now it is the era of peace and stability", he noted.

In his welcome statement, the AU Commission Chairperson, Dr Jean Ping praised the Nigerian President for his leadership role in ECOWAS, which he has chaired for the last three years and in Africa as a whole. He said Mr Jonathan's leadership is manifested in several ways, including politically, economically, culturally, and in the efforts to maintain peace and security on the continent.

Dr Ping expressed concern about the security situation in Africa, one of the continent's main challenges and expressed his desire to find a way forward. "Libya is yet to settle down and we hope this will change for the better. The famine in the Horn of Africa is another challenge, but for the first time Africa has collectively risen to assist one of its own" he noted, in reference to the pledging conference that was hosted by the African Union in September. The conference raised \$350 million in pledges of support for the Horn of Africa.

During his visit to the AU headquarters, Mr. Jonathan signed the visitor's book and had a photo opportunity with Dr. Ping, the Commissioners and the Directors of the AUC.

