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PRESS RELEASE

THE AU CONDEMNS THE AMBUSHING AND KILLING OF CIVILIANS IN THE NORTH OF THE GAMBELLA REGION OF ETHIOPIA

Addis Ababa, 14 March 2012: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Dr. Jean Ping, condemns the terrorist attack that occurred on 12 March in the vicinity of Boga, in the north of the Gambella region of Ethiopia, during which gunmen ambushed a bus carrying students from the Teacher and Health Science College. The gunmen shot dead 21 of the students and abducted nine.

The Chairperson of the Commission strongly condemns this cowardly attack and expresses AU's sincere condolences to the Ethiopian Government and the families of the bereaved, and wishes those wounded a speedy recovery. The Chairperson further calls for the immediate release for those abducted who have not been released.

The Chairperson of the Commission reaffirms the AU's unequivocal condemnation of all forms of terrorism and attacks against innocent civilians. He further calls on the Ethiopian Government to ensure that those responsible for this cowardly attack are brought to justice.

