



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **THE AFRICAN UNION CONGRATULATES THE PEOPLE AND THE POLITICAL ACTORS OF SENEGAL ON THE SMOOTH CONDUCT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**

**Addis Ababa, 26 March 2012:** The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Jean Ping, warmly congratulates the people and the political leaders of Senegal on the successful organization of the second round of the presidential election, on 25 March 2012. He notes, particularly, the serenity and calm in which the Senegalese went to the polls.

The choice of alternation and the recognition, by the outgoing President, of the victory of his adversary, are eloquent testimony to the vitality of democracy in Senegal and the maturity of the Senegalese political actors, which not only honor Senegal, but also the continent as a whole. The smooth organization of the presidential election is proof that Africa, despite difficulty, continues to make significant progress in the area of democracy and electoral transparency.

The Chairperson of the Commission commends Maitre Abdoulaye Wade for his remarkable contribution to the advancement of democracy in Senegal and for his proven commitment to the cause of African unity. He also warmly congratulates Mr. Macky Sall on his victory, and assures him of the support of the AU in the fulfillment of his new and high responsibilities.

The Chairperson of the Commission reiterates the determination of the AU, in conformity with its relevant instruments, to continue to support the African States in their efforts to deepen and consolidate the democratic processes.