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## DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

### Press Release

#### **AU Statement on Cote d'Ivoire Parliamentary Elections**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – 22 December 2016:** The Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC), H.E. Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma lauds the peaceful environment which surrounded the conduct of Legislative Elections on 18 December 2016 in the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire. Dr. Dlamini Zuma is delighted with the smooth organization and proper conduct of the vote which marked an important milestone toward democratic consolidation in this country.

The AU Commission Chairperson expresses her sincere gratitude to the law-abiding people of Cote d'Ivoire, the authorities and all stakeholders in the electoral process for demonstrating political maturity, professionalism and a high sense of responsibility, which enabled the Ivorian people to freely elect their representatives, under very calm and serene conditions.

Faced with the comparatively low voter turnout registered in some parts of the country, the Chairperson encourages the government and people of Cote d'Ivoire to continue efforts in the domains of dialogue and reconciliation, to restore harmony amongst all the citizens, and confidence of all in the ongoing democratic consolidation process in Cote d'Ivoire. To this end, the Chairperson assures the people of Cote d'Ivoire of the African Union's full commitment, in collaboration with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the United Nations, to promote peace, stability and democratic progress in Cote d'Ivoire.