



PRESS RELEASE

The Department of Political Affairs of the African Union Commission launches a five-day training on AU Long-Term Election Observation Methodology in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Addis Ababa: 21 March 2017: The Department of Political Affairs (DPA) of the African Union Commission (AUC) has launched a five-day training on AU long-term election observation methodology in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 20 March 2017. The training brings together fifty (50) participants from English and French-speaking African civil society organisations, think tanks, independent electoral and governance experts, and members of electoral management bodies (EMBs), and is aimed at developing capacity of participants to serve as long-term observers (LTOs) in AU election observation missions (AUEOMs).

During the five days course, participants will learn about practical guidelines for AU long-term observation (LTO) methodology. In particular, they will be introduced to international and regional principles and obligations for democratic elections, roles and responsibilities, code of conduct, national legal framework for elections, voter registration, participation of women, youth and minority groups, registration of political parties and candidates, electoral campaigns and campaign financing, electoral dispute resolution, electoral environment and security, techniques for drafting AUEOM reports and recommendations, and interpersonal skills, among others.

The LTO training forms part of the DPA's overall efforts to ensure a more consistent, credible and comprehensive approach to AU election observation to enhance the transparency and credibility of electoral processes and promoting democratic governance in AU member states.

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