

**Directorate of Information and Communication****PRESS RELEASE****AUC Chairperson approves the deployment of a Long-Term African Union Election Observation Mission to the Republic of Liberia**

**Addis Ababa, 31 August 2017:** Following an invitation from the Government and National Electoral Commission of the Republic of Liberia, and in line with the mandate of the African Union Commission (AUC) to promote democracy and democratic elections in Africa, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC), His Excellency Moussa Faki Mahamat, has approved the deployment of a Long-Term African Union Election Observation Mission to Liberia's Presidential and Legislative Elections scheduled for 10 October 2017.

Three (3) Core Team Analysts and ten (10) long-term observers (LTOs) selected from various African Union Member States will be deployed to Liberia on 2 September and will remain in the country until the announcement of final election results. The Core Team and LTOs will meet regularly with various stakeholders in Liberia, and will observe and report on the political context and technical preparations for the elections.

A short-term observation mission will join the LTO mission approximately a week before elections to assess the conduct of Election Day operations such as voting, counting and tabulation. The AU Long-Term Observation Mission will operate in accordance with relevant AU instruments for election observation, such as the 2007 African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance; the 2002 AU/OAU Declaration on Principles Governing Democratic Elections in Africa; 2002 AU Guidelines for Elections Observation and Monitoring Missions, as well as national and regional legal frameworks for elections. For more information, please contact the Mission Coordinator:

**For any enquiry:**

Mr. Idrissa Kamara/Political/Election Officer/ Department of Political Affairs  
African Union Commission / Email: [kamarai@africa-union.org](mailto:kamarai@africa-union.org)/ Tel: +251912628629

**For further information:**

Directorate of Information and Communication | African Union Commission | Email: [DIC@african-union.org](mailto:DIC@african-union.org) | Web Site: [www.au.int](http://www.au.int) | Addis Ababa | Ethiopia

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