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STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMISSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION ON THE SUMMIT BETWEEN THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Addis Ababa, 13 June 2018: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union, Moussa Faki Mahamat, welcomes the historic Summit held yesterday, in Singapore, between the Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Kim Jong-un, and the President of the United States of America, Donald J. Trump. Following the inter-Korean Summit of 27 April 2018, which adopted the Panmunjom Declaration, this meeting and the Joint Statement emanating from it mark a new and encouraging step in the quest for lasting peace, security and stability in the Korean Peninsula, including its complete denuclearization.

The Chairperson of the Commission commends the two leaders for their commitment. He looks forward to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States of America staying the course and working together driven by the same constructive spirit to fully implement the outcomes of their Summit. The establishment of new relations between the two countries and the resolution of the serious and longstanding challenges confronting the Korean Peninsula, particularly its denuclearization, are of critical importance for the entire world, including Africa.

Such positive developments will usher in a new era of peace, prosperity and mutual trust in the Peninsula. They will also further vindicate the relevance of the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes, which offers the surest path for achieving lasting solutions, while significantly consolidating the international regime on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons. The African Union is deeply committed to these two principles, whose respect is essential to the maintenance of international peace and security.