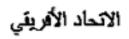
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## **Press Statement**

## The Chairperson of the African Union Commission calls for calm and peace as Malawians await Court decision on Presidential Election Dispute

Addis Ababa, 01<sup>st</sup> February 2020: The Chairperson of the African Union Commission Moussa Faki Mahamat is closely following developments in Malawi and notes that the Constitutional Court of Malawi is due to deliver its judgement on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 regarding the election petition challenging the outcome of the Presidential election that was held on 21 May 2019.

While congratulating the people of Malawi for their largely peaceful conduct during the Court proceedings, the Chairperson urges all stakeholders including political parties and their supporters, to uphold the rule of law before, during and following the Court's verdict.

The Chairperson expresses the commitment of the African Union to working closely with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the leaders of the region, and to support their efforts. In this regard, the African Union associates itself with the statement made by HE Emmerson Mnangagwa President of the Republic of Zimbabwe and Chairperson of the SADC organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, on behalf of SADC.