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**DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**AFRICAN UNION ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION TO THE REPUBLIC OF  
KENYA'S 8 AUGUST 2017 GENERAL ELECTIONS**

**ARRIVAL STATEMENT**

**Nairobi, 28 July 2017:** Following the invitation by the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) and Government of the Republic of Kenya, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC), H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, has deployed the African Union Elections Observation Mission (AUEOM) to the Republic of Kenya to observe the General Elections scheduled for 8 August 2017.

The AUEOM has a mandate to observe the 2017 General Elections in conformity with the relevant provisions of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, which entered into force on 15 February 2012 and the AU/OAU Durban Declaration on the Principles Governing Democratic Elections in Africa (AHG/Decl.1 (XXXVIII)), adopted by the Assembly of the African Union in July 2002; the African Union Guidelines for Elections Observation and Monitoring Missions; and other relevant international instruments governing elections observation and the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Kenya.

The AUEOM is led by H.E. Thabo Mbeki, former President of the Republic of South Africa. The AUEOM comprises of 90 Short Term Observers (STOs) and 14 Long Term Observers (LTOs) drawn from the Pan-African Parliament, African Ambassadors to the African Union in Addis Ababa, Election Management Bodies (EMBs) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Think Tanks and the Academia from various African countries. The LTOs are deployed from 3 July – 26 August 2017 while the STOs are deployed from 28 July – 14 August 2017.

As part of its activities, the AUEOM will meet with various stakeholders in Kenya, including political parties and CSOs. The observers will be deployed throughout the country to observe the pre-election, Election Day and post-election activities.

Observations and recommendations of the AUEOM will be based on the credibility, transparency, fairness and the effective organization of the elections. After the elections, the AUEOM will release its preliminary statement during a press conference in Nairobi, Kenya. The AUEOM will also produce a more detailed report, including

recommendations, within two months after the elections. This will be shared with the appropriate Kenyan authorities and institutions.

The Secretariat of the Mission is at ***the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Nairobi.***

**For more information, contact:**

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