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African Union High Level Implementation Panel on Sudan (AUHIP)

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PRESS STATEMENT

Sudanese Political Parties and Civil Society Organisations meet to discuss the Referendum and Code of Conduct

Khartoum, 19th December 2010: Over 130 representatives of political parties and civil society organizations met in Khartoum on Saturday 18th to discuss the Common Code of Conduct, for the Referenda and Popular Consultations.

The Code of Conduct was developed by the AUHIP and was first adopted by more than 40 Sudanese political parties and civil society organizations in Juba on 17th October 2010.

During the meeting, which was organised jointly by the AUHIP, the Political Parties' Affairs Council and civil society organisations, participants stressed the importance of adequate preparation and civic education for the referendum. They called for a peaceful referendum process and sustained peace during the post-referendum period.

The code seeks to guide the conduct of political parties, civic and media organisations and other promoters of the referenda and popular consultations, and builds on the democratic principles that were adopted in the Electoral Code of Conduct of March 2010.

Participants pledged to promote a peaceful referendum process and to disseminate the code of conduct. They resolved to hold another meeting in January, before the referendum.

The AUHIP is convinced that the commitment that the political parties and civic organisations have demonstrated to civic education and democratic values augurs well for peaceful and successful referendum processes and popular consultations.

The Panel will continue to support the Sudanese stakeholders in their preparations for the referenda and popular consultations.



Participants at the workshop

Khartoum, 19 December 2010,

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