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PRESS RELEASE

THE AFRICAN UNION STRONGLY CONDEMNS THE TERRORIST ATTACK IN BARCELONA

Addis Ababa, 19 August 2017: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, strongly condemns the terrorist attack that was carried out in Barcelona's Las Ramblas area yesterday afternoon, in which thirteen lives were lost and dozens injured.

The Chairperson of the Commission offers his most sincere condolences to the bereaved families of the victims, and wishes those wounded speedy recovery. He further expresses the AU's solidarity with the People and Government of Spain.

The Chairperson of the Commission noted that this attack highlights, once again, the insidious threat posed by terrorism to all regions and nations around the world and calls on the international community to persist in their efforts to prevent violent extremism. In this regard, he underlined that Spain remains a critical partner of the AU in this area, noting the important contribution it has made over the years to the AU's efforts to promote the role of victims of terrorism, and civil society as a whole, in preventing and countering violent extremism.