



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Tel.: (061) 2829111
Telegram: MINFORA
Fax: (061) 223937/221145/220265
E-mail: headquarters@mfa.gov.na
Ref:m
Enquiries:

Private Bag 13347
WINDHOEK

10 November 2014

MEDIA RELEASE

SUBJECT: "AFRICAN UNION KEEPS EYE ON NAMIBIA POLLS"

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs herewith declare null and void an article published in the Namibian Sun Newspaper on 27th October 2014, under the heading: **"African Union keeps eye on Namibia Polls"**.

The Ministry have established that the author of the publication from which the Namibian Sun Newspaper's journalist quoted from, is a researcher at the Institute for Security Studies, ISS, based in Pretoria. The ISS does not fall under the AU umbrella.

It should be noted that Namibia is a member of the Peace and Security Council, PSC, of the African Union and our Diplomatic mission in Addis Ababa has confirmed that the issue has never been discussed at any PSC meetings. In addition the subject of elections at the AU falls under the Department of Political Affairs and not that of Peace and Security.

The article appears to be one sourced from the media reports in Namibia through the internet and the Researcher did not contact any Namibian Authorities to verify the facts.

The Ministry is of the view that the journalist should have verified the story of a Peace and Security Council report with the Namibian Authorities before publishing such a false article.

Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah
Minister

END