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**PANEL OF EMINENT AFRICAN PERSONALITIES**

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Statement issued by Mr. Kofi Annan, Chairman of the African Union Panel of Eminent African Personalities.

22 February 2011

Mr. Kofi Annan, Chairman of the African Union Panel of Eminent African Personalities, has been following with keen interest, developments concerning the judicial nominations and that of the Controller of Budget, submitted to the National Assembly by the President of the Republic of Kenya. He also noted the comments of the various stakeholders in Kenya as the National Assembly deliberated on the nominations and the intense debate they generated in the country, as well as the wise ruling of the Speaker of the National Assembly.

Mr. Annan has sent personal letters to the two principals appealing to them to come together in a show of unity on the nominations and reduce the political temperature, especially in the National Assembly. “Kenya turned a new page on 27 August 2010 and the momentum generated must not be allowed to dissipate. Much is at stake. I appeal to you to remember the needs and aspirations of the people for a prosperous and stable Kenya”.