COMMUNIQUE OF THE 39th EXTRA-ORDINARY SESSION OF THE IGAD COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON THE SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION IN SOMALIA, SUDAN AND ERITREA’S ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION

28TH JUNE 2011

The 39th Extra-ordinary Meeting of the IGAD Council of Ministers convened on the sidelines of the African Union Summit in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, on 28th June 2011 to discuss the developments in Somalia, the Sudan and the activities of Eritrea in the region and to chart the way forward, ahead for an Extra-Ordinary IGAD Summit scheduled for 4 July 2011. The Council was chaired by H.E. Haile Mariam Desalegn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the current Chairperson of the IGAD Council of Ministers. In attendance were H.E. Mohamed A. Omaar, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia; H.E. Mahamoud Ali Youssouf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Djibouti; H.E. Salah Wanassy, State Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Sudan, H.E. Richard Onyonka, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya H.E. Amb. James Mugume, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda, and H.E. Mahboub M. Maalim, Executive Secretary of IGAD.

The meeting was also attended and briefed by H.E. Deng Alor, the Minister for Regional cooperation of The Government of Southern Sudan, H.E. Boubacar Gaoussou Diarra the Special Representative of the African Union Commission for Somalia; Hon. Kipruto arap Kirwa, IGAD Facilitator for Somalia Peace and National Reconciliation, H.E. Lissane Yohannes, IGAD Special Envoy to the Assessment and Evaluation Commission; H.E. Amb Augustine Mahiga, the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the UN to Somalia.

After deliberating at length on the prevailing political and security situation in Somalia, the Sudan and Eritrea’s activities in the region the Council:
On Somalia

1. **Welcomes** the signing of the Kampala Accord and urges all parties to work towards its full implementation as part of the wider programme of reconciliation and outreach; **directs** the parties to the Accord to include as an integral component a strategy for effective implementation of the various agreements entered between the TFG and other entities that are supportive desirous of genuine peace and national reconciliation;

2. **Congratulates** the President and Speaker of the TFG for their efforts in breaking the political impasse, as well as the government of the Republic of Uganda and the UNSRSG for their tireless efforts in the realization of the Accord.

3. **Welcomes** the nomination and confirmation by Parliament of a new Prime Minister for the TFG of Somalia, and requests the expeditious establishment of the Cabinet as stipulated in the Kampala Accord.

4. **Expresses** appreciation to the troop contributing countries to AMISOM namely; Uganda and Burundi for the sacrifices they continue to make to advance the cause of peace and stability in Somalia, **calls** upon them to continue supporting TFG forces so as to bring the entire Mogadishu under the control of the Government forces; and **urges** those African countries that who have pledged troops to avail the same immediately.

5. **Urges** the Governments of IGAD member States individually and collectively to identify specific areas of support to the TFG and intensify their efforts in providing logistic support and advice to the TFG and ASWJ forces in order to enable them gain control of more areas;

6. **Recalls** the decisions of IGAD Heads of States and Government contained in their communiqué issued on 30th January 2011 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and **calls** on all parties to mobilize more resources to improve the operational capacity of AMISOM and the TFG to enhance the ongoing co-ordination plan between IGAD Military Experts with TFG and AMISOM forces;

7. **Calls upon** the TFIs to, as a matter of priority, intensify their cooperation beginning from a speedy formation of the Government followed by a collaborative implementation of the Kampala Accord within a stipulated timeframe;
8. **Further calls** upon the AU, UN and members of the International Community working on Somalia to relocate to Mogadishu and support the TFIs concretely to consolidate the new liberated areas and districts;

9. **Reiterates** its previous calls to international community to upscale their efforts in humanitarian assistance to the needy women and innocent children.

**ON THE SUDAN**

10. **Congratulates** the Parties to the Sudan Peace Process who have manifested a high level of courage and commitment to engage in the negotiations and urge them to maintain this level of commitment to finalize not only the outstanding issues but also the spirit of cooperation post July 9, 2011;

11. **Welcomes** the Abyei Interim Administration and the Temporary Security Arrangements and further welcomes the UN resolution 1990 that supports the deployment of security forces to demilitarize the border areas..

12. **Welcomes** also the recent signing of the agreement on political and security principles that would pave the way for a final settlement in the South Kordofan and Blue Nile States. **Further congratulates** the Parties on reaching an agreement on the General Principles for the cessation of hostilities, and **urges** them to uphold the agreement;

13. **Welcomes and acknowledges** the intensive engagement of the parties as affirmed above, and the firm engagement and determination of the AUHIP under the leadership of President Thabo Mbeki and members of the Panel, President Pierre Buoyoya, President Abubaker Abusalam and **commends** the efforts of Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, for his continued and unstinting support for the negotiations, as IGAD Chairman to supplement in facilitating the negotiations.

14. **Further commends** the AUHIP and IGAD at the highest level and representation on the ground who have set the example for cooperation and integration of continental and sub regional organizations and the AEC for not only rendering support to the Joint Secretarial Committee of the two Parties as per the conclusions of the Mekelle Memorandum of Understanding but also and significantly so, to the funding it made available for the negotiations that have taken place since February, 2011 to date.
15. **Calls upon** the AUHIP to further continue its engagement with the Parties and to this end IGAD has, with the recommendation of the AEC and the support of the GoS, GoSS and the donors that have been supporting the AEC, accepted a new arrangement that would allow channeling of funds and necessary support post July 9, 2011.

16. **Recalls** the previous decision of the Summit that called on the international community to take all necessary measures to ensure the creation of two viable states.

17. **Express** gratitude and appreciation to the Federal Democratic Government of Ethiopia who have supported the negotiations and the IGAD secretariat who supported in organizing the negotiations in collaboration with the AUHIPC;

**On the State of Eritrea**

18. **Strongly condemns** the activities of the State of Eritrea that has taken an active part in destabilizing the region by supporting extremist and other subversive elements;

19. **Calls** on the UN Security Council to take all appropriate measures to ensure that the regime in Asmara desists from its destabilization activities in the Horn of Africa;

20. **Calls** on the AU and the UN Security Council to fully implement the existing sanctions and impose additional Sanctions selectively on the Eritrean Regime specially on those economic and mining sectors that the regime draws on including the Eritrean Diaspora as well as ensuring compliance with previous decisions of the UN;

21. **Decides** to remain seized of the matters.

Done in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea on 28th June 2011