

IGAD

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY
ON DEVELOPMENT



AUTORITÉ INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE
POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE 41ST EXTRA-ORDINARY SESSION OF THE IGAD COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

The 41st Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the IGAD Council of Ministers was held in Addis Ababa on October 21, 2011 under the Chairmanship of **H.E. Hailemariam Desalegn**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) and the current Chairperson of the IGAD Council of Ministers. The meeting was attended by **H.E. Moses Wetang'ula**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya, **H.E. Mr. Siraj Fergessa**, Minister of Defence of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, **H.E. Hon Yusuf Haji**, The Minister of State for Defence of the Republic of Kenya, **H.E. Abdirahman Sheikh Ibrahim**, Minister of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Environment of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia; **H.E. Hamid Ali Masheye**, State Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, **Brig. Gen. Mohamed Ali Ibrahim**, Deputy Minister of Defence of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia; **H.E. Mohamed Idriss Farah**, Ambassador of Djibouti to Ethiopia, on behalf of H.E. Mr. Mahamoud Ali Youssouf, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Djibouti; **H.E. Dr. Hassan E. El Talib**, Ambassador of Sudan to Djibouti on behalf of H.E. Ali Ahmed Karti, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Sudan; **H.E. Ambassador Mull S. Katende**, Uganda's Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Republic of Djibouti on behalf of H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Uganda, and **H.E. Eng. Mahboub Maalim**,

Executive Secretary of IGAD. Also in attendance were **Gen. Samora Yonusse**, Chief of General Staff of the Defence Forces of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, **Gen. Julius Karangi**, the Chief of Defence Forces of the Republic of Kenya and **Gen. Abdukadir Sheikh Ali Dini**, Chief of Staff of the Somali Armed Forces

After exchanging views on the prevailing political, security and humanitarian situation in Somalia in particular the current security operations by TFG and Kenyan troops, the Council:

1. **Takes Note** of the briefs on the current political and security situation in Somalia as presented by **H.E. Moses Wetang'ula**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya and **H.E Hamid Ali Masheye**, State Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Transitional Federal Government of Somalia
2. **Expresses** serious concern regarding the recent security developments, in particular the escalation in violation of Kenya's territorial integrity as indicated by the kidnappings of foreign tourists and aid workers on Kenyan territory by the Al Shabaab, the Qaeda-affiliated group.
3. **Welcomes and supports** the up scaling of the security operations by Kenya in response to these threats in pursuit of the Al Shabaab in under 'Operation Protect the Nation'.
4. **Welcomes** the agreement between the Government of Kenya and the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG) to cooperate on all aspects of the operation, and **endorses** the Joint Communique from the meeting between the Government of Kenya and the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia in Mogadishu on 18 October 2011.
5. **Strongly Condemns** the actions of Al-Shabaab for kidnapping aid workers from the Dadaab refugee camp where humanitarian efforts are being made in response to the drought and famine in Somalia; **Takes note** of the statements of the humanitarian organizations over their security concerns for their officers in view of the escalation of Al Shabaab attacks; and urges the Humanitarian actors not to scale down humanitarian support to the more than 600,000 refugees in the Dadaab camp; further urges the international community to redistribute the burden of hosting refugees.

6. **Condemns in the strongest terms**, the recent attack against AMISOM troops by Al Shabab and **expresses** condolences to the families of the fallen soldiers. The Council **expresses** its support and solidarity with the people and the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia and AMISOM in their struggle against extremist forces.
7. **Reiterates** the commitment of IGAD to continue working in partnership with the International Community to enable the TFG to assume full control over the territory of Somalia. In this regard, **calls on** the International Community to implement the decisions and recommendations of the IGAD and the AU to enhance the capacity of the national security forces of the Somali Republic, as well as the mandate and capacity of the AMISON, to undertake effective Peace Support Operations.
8. **Urges** the International community, in particular the UNSC to impose a blockade on Kismayu and impose no fly zone on parts of Somalia; Further calls for the lifting of the arms embargo on Somalia, as well as a concerted effort to stem the menace of piracy affecting the IGAD coastal countries in particular Djibouti and Kenya.
9. **Pays tribute** to the AMISOM peacekeeping troops and the troop contributing countries, Uganda and Burundi for their continued sacrifice in pursuit of Security in Somalia; and **calls upon** the UN and the International Community, at large, to enhance assistance to AMISOM.
10. **Welcomes** the successes of TFG and AMISOM forces for capturing the entire of Mogadishu; and urges that further deployment be done outside of Mogadishu, in an effort to expand the areas under the TFG control.
11. **Further Welcomes** the African Union's understanding of and support for the sustained ongoing joint security operations against Al Shabaab and **calls upon** the AU to support this operation through the fast-tracking of the next phase of deployment of AMISOM in order to sustain and consolidate the current successes.
12. **Expresses** confidence in the leadership of the TFG to deal with the current security concerns in the country and **calls upon** the International community to continue rendering support to the TFG to ensure the full implementation of the Mogadishu Roadmap; in this regard, reaffirms the decision of the 18th Extra-Ordinary Summit of IGAD to act in concert in enhancing the capacity of

the TFG and its institutions in its effort to expand stable zones and re-establish Administrative institutions in liberated areas.

13. **Expresses** its appreciation for the support and assistance provided by the International Community to the people and Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, in particular in relation to the escalating drought and famine situation. In this regard, **mandates** the secretariat to reinforce its efforts in humanitarian support and take the lead in coordinating ongoing responses.
14. **Expresses** its appreciation to the Government and the People of Ethiopia for hosting this Extraordinary Council session.
15. **The Council decides** to hold an IGAD ordinary session in mid-December 2011 in Djibouti.
16. **Requests** the Executive Secretary of IGAD to communicate these decisions to the African Union and the United Nations Security Council.
17. **Decides** to remain seized of this matter.

Done on the 21st of October in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia