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PRESS STATEMENT

IGAD Welcomes the Intended Formation of Regional State in Central Somalia

Nairobi, Thursday 31 July 2014: The IGAD Special Envoy to Somalia, Amb. Mohamed Affey welcomes the signing of the agreement for the intended formation of a regional state in central Somalia.

On behalf of IGAD, the special envoy congratulates the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) for its leadership in this process and encourages the parties to pursue an inclusive, peaceful formation of the regional state.

“We support the ongoing efforts of the FGS in ensuring the establishment of the pillars for the federal system of the country,” said Amb. Affey, who was among the witnesses to the signing ceremony that took place yesterday at the Villa Somalia in Mogadishu.

He pointed out that the regional organization further supports the position of the FGS regarding the formation of this new state in a manner that does not undermine the existing federal states.

The IGAD Special Envoy added that the country was indeed moving towards attaining the goals of federalism as enshrined in the vision of 2016 aimed at building a strong, peaceful, prosperous, united and sovereign Somalia.

Other witnesses included envoys and senior officials of the United Nations, the African Union and the European Union. ##

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