



COMMUNIQUE OF THE 33RD ORDINARY SESSION OF THE IGAD COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON SOMALIA

The 33rd Ordinary Meeting of the IGAD Council of Ministers was held at Djibouti on December 7 and 8, 2009. The Council was chaired by **H.E. Seyoum Mesfin**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the current Chairperson of the IGAD Council of Ministers. The Council received briefs from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, **H.E. Ali Ahmed Jama** and the IGAD Facilitator for the Somali Peace and National Reconciliation, **Hon. Kipruto arap Kirwa**.

Present at the Council meeting were **H.E. Mahamoud Ali Youssouf**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Djibouti; **H.E. Moses Wetang'ula**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya; **H.E. Isaac Isanga Musumba**, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Regional Cooperation of the Republic of Uganda, **H.E. Dr. Tekeda Alemu**, State Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, **H.E. Bright Rwamirama**, Minister of State for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries of the Republic of Uganda, **H.E. Hassan Eisa Eltalib** Ambassador of the Republic of Sudan to Djibouti; and **H.E. Mahboub M. Maalim**, Executive Secretary of IGAD. Also present at the meeting was **H.E. Sharif Hassan Sheikh Aden**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of the TFG of Somalia

Invited guests to the Council meeting included **H.E. Karl Wycoff**, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Central African and East African Affairs (USA), **H.E. Ahmadou Ould Abdallah**, United Nations Secretary General Special Representative to Somalia, **H.E. Dr. Maxwell M. Makwezalamba** Commissioner for Economic Affairs of the African Union Commission, **Hon. Wafula Wamunyinyi**, Deputy Special Representative of the AU to Somalia, **H.E. Raffaele de Lutio**, Italian Ambassador to Ethiopia and the Co- Chair of IPF and **H.E. Ambassador Salim Alkussaibi**, Special Envoy of the League of Arab States to Somalia.

After in-depth deliberation on the prevailing political, security and humanitarian situation in Somalia, the Council;

1. **Takes note** of the comprehensive report presented to Council by Hon. **Kipruto Arap Kirwa**, IGAD Facilitator for the Somalia Peace and National Reconciliation.
2. **Approves** the Strategic Plan of the Office of the IGAD Facilitator on Re-Establishing Effective Government Institutions in Somalia (2009-2011) as

- amended by the delegation of the TFG and the proposal to strengthen the Office of the IGAD Facilitator to Somalia; **Calls upon** all organisations in particular AU through AMISOM, UNPOS, EC, UNDP, LAS and UNECA to collaborate with the TFG and the IGAD Facilitator in the implementation of the Plan and appeals to partner countries and organisations to fund the Strategic Plan.
3. **Takes note** also of the reports by **H.E Sharif Hassan Sheikh Aden** Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of the TFG of Somalia and **H.E. Ali Ahmed Jama**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the TFG of Somalia.
 4. **Takes note** further of previous AU and UN resolutions on Somalia.
 5. **Notes with grave concern** the continued attacks being carried out by the extremist groups of Al-Shabab and Hizbul Islam militia on the TFG leadership, AMISOM Peace keepers, Government installations and the civilian population creating a general state of heightened insecurity in Somalia, loss of lives and destruction of property, as well as creating endless humanitarian crisis situation associated with the displacement of the people within and outside the country.
 6. **Notes with alarm** that the extremist and terrorist groups in Somalia are increasingly foreign driven with full backing and support of international terrorist groups and some states, in particular Eritrea, and that the danger facing the people of Somalia today is also a direct threat to the peace, security and stability of the sub-region, the African continent and the world at large.
 7. **Notes further with dismay** that the response of the international community and in particular that of the UNSC, has not been by any means adequate for addressing the challenges facing Somalia as is clearly demonstrated by the inaction and delays in taking measures against countries, organisations and individuals directly or indirectly involved in providing human, financial and technical support to the Al-Shabab and the Hizbul Islam militia.
 8. **Calls upon** the UNSC to take the situation in Somalia seriously so that the enemies of peace in Somalia would not conclude that the international community has no means of showing resolve to assist the people of Somalia to restore peace and security in their country and repulse foreign driven extremist attack.
 9. **Condemns** most vehemently the suicide attack carried out on 3rd December 2009 at a graduation ceremony in Mogadishu that killed 22 persons including three Cabinet Members of the of the TFG, journalists and students and led to injury of more than forty two civilians.
 10. **Expresses** its condolences to the bereaved families and affirms the unswerving solidarity of the member states of IGAD with the people and the TFG of Somalia and that such cowardly acts shall not deter the progress towards achieving peace and stability in the country, but rather strengthens, as is already becoming too

apparent, the resolve of the people and government of Somalia to defeat the extremist and terrorist forces.

11. **Pays tribute** to the 22 Ugandan and Burundian troops that were killed by the extremists and condemns the perpetrators of these acts; **commends** AMISOM troops that continue to make sacrifices under the most difficult circumstances; **acknowledges** with appreciation the resolve and determination of the troop contributing countries of Uganda and Burundi in the interest of the maintenance of peace, security and stability in Somalia.
12. **Welcomes** the recent announcement by the Government of Djibouti to contribute troops to AMISOM; and **calls upon** those African countries that have made pledges earlier to provide troops to AMISOM, to do so without further delay in order to reach the level authorised as per the initial African Union plan.
13. **Appreciates** the support being rendered by EU and its member states, USA, the United Nations Support Unit to AMISOM (UNSOA) and other partners and underlines the need for the United Nations to fulfil its role of providing the requisite funding and logistical support to AMISOM.
14. **Emphasises** that the maintenance of peace, security and stability in Somalia is ultimately the responsibility of the TFG. However, there is a need for the partner countries and organisations to appreciate the urgency and magnitude of the challenges posed by extremist forces and provide the requisite financial, technical and logistical assistance to the TFG to enable it build a credible and effective security throughout the country.
15. **Commends** those countries that have provided training and made their facilities available for the training of the Somalia police; and in this connection, **underlines** the critical importance for the TFG and those involved in coordination of the police training program particularly the UNDP, UNPOS and AMISOM to work closely to ensure proper induction of the trainees, establishing and maintaining credible command control structure, providing uniforms and paying them stipends regularly.
16. **Reiterates** the readiness of the countries of the region to assist the TFG in its effort to build the Somalia national security forces; and **calls upon** the international community to work closely with the TFG and member states of IGAD with a view to building an effective military force in Somalia that would help in securing lasting peace, security and stability in Somalia and the region as a whole.
17. **Notes** that despite the presence of a large naval force in and around the Gulf of Aden, the piracy menace is once again on the rise and underlines that piracy is not only a symptom of the larger problem of insecurity in Somalia, but is now also a source of increased crimes in and around Somalia besides contributing to the strengthening of the terrorist and extremist forces.

18. **Underlines** the need of fighting piracy in a comprehensive manner in close collaboration with the TFG, IGAD member states, the AU and the international community as a whole.
19. **Recalls** the commitments made at the Somalia pledging conference held in Brussels in April 2009 that amounted to USD 213,960,000 and notes with regret that as of mid-November 2009 a very small amount of money has been received out of which only 3 millions has reached the TFG. In this connection, Council **calls upon** all countries that have made pledges to honour their commitment within the shortest time possible.
20. **Acknowledges** and encourages the efforts of the TFG to work closely with the partner countries and organisations in a transparent and accountable manner and in this regard notes the agreement that was signed between the TFG and the Price Water House Coopers. as well as the national budget approved by the Council of Ministers of the TFG of Somalia for July-December 2009 and January-December 2010.
21. **Urges** the leadership of the TFG and members of the TFP to demonstrate an enhanced sense of commitment and resolve in the fulfilment of the mandate entrusted upon them following the signing of the Djibouti Peace Agreement and in this regard put in place the administrative and governance structures as well as accomplish the tasks envisaged for the transitional period.
22. **Calls Upon** the partner countries and organisations to recognise the efforts as well as the multiple challenges facing the TFG and to make available the necessary resources as a matter of urgency based on the prepared approved budget as outlined to the Council by the Deputy Prime Minister of the TFG so that the TFG is able to maintain state institutions and function effectively.
23. **Commits** that IGAD Member States shall make every endeavour to assist the TFG to raise the funds required for the national budget including making direct contribution in cash or in kind. In this connection, Council also agreed to convene a meeting in the first week of January 2010 in Addis Ababa and subsequently send a ministerial delegation to partner countries to help in raising the fund for the budget.
24. **Reiterates** that the Djibouti Agreement provides the sole basis for continuous reconciliation efforts. In this connection, Council rejects any attempt aimed at launching new peace initiatives which would ultimately undermine what has been achieved so far.
25. **Notes** with serious concern the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Somalia caused by prolonged drought followed by flood and epidemics that have caused death and displacement to hundreds of thousands of the population and forced them to live under unbearable and inhuman conditions.

26. **Appreciates** the efforts of the humanitarian organisations that continue to provide basic necessities to the affected population despite the serious obstacles and enormous challenges that the terrorist organisation of Al-Shabab has been creating including assassinating and abducting of humanitarian workers.
27. **Appeals** to the international community to prioritise and increase humanitarian assistance to Somalia while at the same time taking necessary measures including imposing targeted sanctions on the spoilers that are preventing the humanitarian operations in the country.

*Done on 8th December 2009
Djibouti.*