

# IGAD

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

The Council of Ministers of Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) welcoming the progress made so far in the constitution-making process in Somalia and the gains made against extremists on the ground by the TFG and its allied forces with the support of AMISOM and neighboring countries, expresses its concern that some leaders have failed to demonstrate the required level of maturity, as shown on the continued crisis among Parliament members of Somalia, critical for the implementation of the Kampala Accord of June 2011 and the political road map of September 2011, in the context of the Garoowe Conference in Puntland on constitution making.

The conduct of some parliamentarians and the illegal nomination of a new Speaker of Parliament have once again demonstrated the danger posed by negative elements and spoilers on the peace process in Somalia. It goes counter to the spirit and the letter of the Transitional Federal Charter which is the basis of the country's laws. Some of the individuals, who participated in these illegal activities, have also played similar roles in the past which cannot be constructive and in support of peace. The Council of Ministers of IGAD has been keenly following their activities with the hope that they will in due course fully reform and become strong advocates of peace. Unfortunately, some have not changed their ways.

The Council of Ministers of IGAD finds such behavior unacceptable and it is a lack of appreciation to those who are continuing to sacrifice their lives for the peace and stability of Somalia. It shows that these leaders are oblivious of the danger that their negative activities pose to the hopes and aspirations of innocent people of Somalia and for peace and stability in Somalia. The illegal nomination of the Speaker goes counter to the spirit and the letter of its past decisions and resolutions and will lead to the demolition of the foundation on which the current TFIs stand on since the establishment of the parliament in 2004 in Nairobi and its expansion in 2009 in Djibouti.

The countries of the region have borne the brunt of escalation of terrorist activities by extremist elements. It therefore calls upon all concerned not to further deteriorate the situation in Somalia at this time when there is some measure of hope.

The Council of Ministers of IGAD advises those leaders of Somalia who work for the spoilers and detractors to refrain from engaging in acts that can be detrimental to peace. It once again emphasizes its resolve to take all appropriate measures against the detractors and spoilers, both external and internal, who are engaged in unconstructive activities which damage the peace and reconciliation process in Somalia. It recommends for a strong action against individuals who are continuing to undermine the peace and reconciliation process in Somalia. It strongly supports the decision made by The National Security Committee of Somalia in this regard and calls upon all parties to enter into a dialogue in order to resolve their disputes peacefully. It commends the collective will and determination of the top leadership of the TFI's to remain committed to the implementation of the Kampala Accord and the Roadmap, as exemplified by their unity of purpose at the recent Garoowe Conference on constitution making, on

ending the transition and ushering in a new phase of political transformation in Somalia. The Council of Ministers of IGAD express its support for the Government and people of Somalia in their efforts towards rebuilding vital institutions especially in the areas of security and the rule of law.

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