



ENDING THE TRANSITION IN SOMALIA

With less than two weeks to go before the end of the Transition, we remain increasingly concerned that the selection of the new Somali Parliament continues to be jeopardized by individuals who are seeking to undermine this critical process. We are approaching the very last milestones of the roadmap and any attempt to undermine, manipulate, delay or derail this process would be unacceptable. We are of the view that long-suffering Somali people deserve a reassuring future.

Indeed this is the best opportunity to concretise and prevail in favour of peace that Somalia has not had for two decades and for which tremendous sacrifices were made in blood by Somalis, AMISOM and allied forces who have laid their lives for cause of peace in Somalia. We continue to receive credible information from Somali and international sources that certain quarters are engaged in using bribery, intimidation, violence and other unfair means to affect the selection of the members of Parliament and the election of the Speaker, Deputies and the President. We express deep concern that the some of the 135 traditional elders as well as members of the Technical Selection Committee (TSC) are being targeted by the negative elements.

To this end, recalling their statement of 1 May, 2012, the United Nations, the African Union and IGAD are issuing an unambiguous warning that those found using such nefarious means to undermine the process would be disqualified from seeking public office as well as subjected to appropriate action.

Moreover, work is in progress to provide the most comprehensive information to the Technical Selection Committee, to allow them to make well-founded decisions on the selection of Members of Parliament along the agreed upon criteria. We strongly urge the TSC to ensure that those people who have a history of criminality, violence and intimidation, or who are employing bribery and corruption, and other political spoilers are not returned to Parliament.

We wish to express our gratitude to all those striving to meet the agreed deadlines, particularly those within the group of 135 Traditional Elders and Technical Committee Selection and Somali Traditional Leaders. However, we are concerned about reports that some quarters are trying to delay the submission of the lists of members of Parliament from some of the clans with a view to perverting the process and excluding prospective women parliamentary candidates. We categorically state that any such attempt would be unacceptable and those perpetrating these acts would be dealt with as spoilers. We once again urge you to refrain from such practices and join ongoing efforts to complete the Transition peacefully by 20 August, 2012.

Amb. Boubacar Diarra
Special Representative of the
Chairperson of Commission (SRCC)
(AU)

SRSG Augustine Mahiga
Special Representative of the
UN Secretary-General for
Somalia (UNPOS)

Hon. Kipruto Kirwa
Special Facilitator for
Somalia Peace and National
Reconciliation (IGAD)