



United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS)

For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE 019/2011

SRSB condemns suicide attack in Mogadishu

04 October 2011 – The UN Special Representative for Somalia, Dr. Augustine P. Mahiga, has expressed his strong condemnation of a vehicle-borne suicide bomb attack at a Transitional Federal Government complex in south Mogadishu which has left scores of people dead and many more wounded.

“I am deeply saddened by this senseless and cowardly attack. I would like to send my deep condolences to the families of the victims,” said Dr. Mahiga. “These actions are unacceptable. The murder of ordinary Somalis can not be justified for any reason.”

Al-Shabaab announced in August that it was withdrawing from Mogadishu and the Transitional Federal Government, backed by African Union peacekeepers, now control most districts of the capital city.

“Although the extremists have left the capital, it is very difficult to prevent these types of terrorist attacks which we have consistently warned are likely to be on the increase,” said Dr. Mahiga.

Dr. Mahiga condemned Al-Shabaab’s raid on Dhusamareb in Central Somalia on Monday night as well as its attack on Dhobley in Lower Juba near Somalia’s border with Kenya.

He stressed the importance of strengthening the Somali National Security Forces, raising awareness of the continuing threat throughout the country and highlighted the need to rapidly approve the National Security and Stabilization Plan. He also called on the international community to urgently provide the necessary resources to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) to enable them to deal effectively with the continuing instability in the country.

Dr. Mahiga said that the only way to consolidate recent progress in the political and security sectors was for the Government and regional administrations to work together to implement the Roadmap agreed in Mogadishu last month.