PRESS RELEASE 011/2011

The SRSG congratulates the new Prime Minister

Nairobi, 23 June 2011 – The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia and Head of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS), Dr. Augustine P. Mahiga, congratulates Mr. Abdiweli Mohamed Ali on his appointment as the new Prime Minister of Somalia. He commends President Sharif Sheikh Ahmed on his timely action in appointing Mr. Abdiweli and pledges the United Nations' full support in working with the new Prime Minister.

SRSG Mahiga looks forward to the rapid appointment of a new Cabinet and the endorsement of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet by the Transitional Federal Parliament. He reiterates the importance of all parties working together to implement priority tasks including finalizing the constitution, reforming institutions, enhancing security and rebuilding the security sector, continuing outreach and reconciliation, improving accountability and rolling out basic administrative and social services to ensure the stabilization of areas recovered from armed groups.

The Transitional Federal Institutions and representatives of Galmudug and Puntland are preparing a road-map - with the support of the African Union, IGAD and UNPOS - for the implementation of these tasks aimed at ending the transition. The road-map will be discussed at a Consultative Meeting with a broad range of Somali stakeholders next month.