

International Contact Group on Somalia
2-3 June 2011, Kampala
Communiqué

The 19th meeting of the International Contact Group on Somalia (ICG) was held under the chairmanship of the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, Mr. Augustine Mahiga, from 2 to 3 June 2011 in Kampala, Uganda. During the opening, the meeting was addressed by H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, and H.E. President Sharif Sheikh Ahmed, President of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG). The meeting was closed by H. E. Pierre Nkurunziza, President of the Republic of Burundi.

The ICG reiterates its concern at the continued instability and dire humanitarian situation for many Somalis. The ICG also reiterates its call for a comprehensive strategy to encourage peace and stability in Somalia; reaffirms its support for the Djibouti Agreement and peace process as the basis for the resolution of conflict in Somalia; and stresses the need for broad-based, representative institutions and political outreach in Somalia.

The ICG reiterates its full support for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and urges the international community to provide timely and well-coordinated support. It expresses its appreciation to the Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) for their continuing contribution to peace and security in Somalia and the region, and pays tribute to the courage and determination of their soldiers. The ICG expresses its deep condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in Somalia. The Group recognises the major territorial gains made by the TFG forces and its allies and AMISOM. It urges African Union members to contribute additional troops, and appeals to the international community to assist AMISOM.

Members of the TFIs and regional authorities presented their views on the end of transition. International partners urged the TFIs to rapidly agree on elections and reforms and to reach agreement on the way forward. The TFI leadership expressed appreciation to the Troop Contributing Countries, and urged the international community to fulfil their pledges to Somalia.

The International Contact Group made the following recommendations:

End of the current transition: The ICG encourages all efforts to further the consultative process amongst Somalis with the aim of ending the transition and defining the post-transitional arrangements, in consultation with regional actors and the rest of the international community and within the framework of the Transitional Federal Charter and Djibouti Agreement. In this regard, the ICG welcomes the initiative of high-level consultative meetings which are aimed at facilitating Somali-led political decisions, and are inclusive of all segments of society, elders, women and youth. The ICG expresses its grave concern over the continuing protracted political crisis within the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) and notes that changes must occur throughout the entire spectrum of TFIs. In this respect the ICG:

- Recalls the obligations of the TFIs to act in accordance with the Transitional Federal Charter and the Djibouti Agreement;
- Recalls that the transition period will end in August 2011;
- Recalls the United Nations Security Council's Presidential Statement of 11 May 2011, which "urges the TFIs to focus on implementing reforms to build their

legitimacy, representativeness and credibility, and to reach agreement as soon as possible on the holding of elections for the positions of President and Speaker of Parliament, without which there can be no extension”.

- Notes with serious concern the existing political impasse and the need to complete critical transitional tasks to end the transition, most notably the constitution making process, as quickly as possible through a credible and inclusive consultation process. It also notes the significant progress in the security situation which requires political stability in order to be consolidated. The two Heads of State of Uganda and Burundi advocated for a one-year extension of all the TFIs guided by clear benchmarks and timelines, subject to agreement by the TFIs. Several other delegations asked for the election of a new leadership before the end of the transition in August 2011. Members of the ICG however note that Somalis must reach an agreement on the transition, and, if there were an extension, it would be for no more than 12 months ending August 2012 for all TFIs unless circumstances dictate otherwise;
- Welcomes the commitments made by the President and the Speaker to the UN Security Council (Nairobi of 25 May 2011) that they will reach agreement on the timing of elections for the TFI leadership and the nature and sequence of reforms, and that they will abide by that agreement;
- Welcomes the requirement mandated by the UN Security Council for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Mahiga to convene the consultative meeting in Mogadishu in June 2011, and to report back its conclusions;
- Reiterates that failure to reach agreement by the TFIs in a timely manner will lead to decreased or suspended support from the international community, and possible sanctions;
- Welcomes the development of a joint UN/AU/IGAD political Roadmap with benchmarks, timelines and compliance requirements, which could be applied once the current political impasse has been overcome. The Group discussed a possible regional political initiative at Heads of State level, similar to the Burundi Peace Process, that could oversee, monitor and advance the transition. The ICG agreed on the need for any process to work with the UN and the broader international community to oversee, monitor and advance the transition. The ICG notes that the Roadmap would be on the agenda for discussion with the TFIs in the forthcoming Mogadishu meeting consistent with the Djibouti Agreement and the Transitional Federal Charter.

Continued support for the security institutions: The ICG urges the TFG to continue its work on reorganizing its military, police and justice institutions, and the accompanying oversight and accountability mechanisms. It welcomes the TFG’s and AMISOM’s commitment to the protection of civilians and human rights. It welcomes the support for stipends to TFG troops by the US and Italy, for police reorganization by Japan and the European Union (EU) as well as the security forces training mission by the EU, Uganda and the United States. It encourages its members to continue their contribution in training the forces and in ensuring that those who have undergone approved training are properly equipped and receive stipends for an appropriate period of time. The ICG is encouraged by the increasing number of defectors from Al Shabaab, and requests the UN and donors to support the TFG in its efforts to develop a comprehensive policy and programme to address this issue appropriately and expeditiously. The ICG urges support for those making efforts against Al Shabaab elsewhere in Somalia, including Puntland and Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama’a. They also urged for a comprehensive security strategy that is aligned to the political strategy including community security and protection of civilians.

Urgent support for the AMISOM Troops: The ICG notes the urgent need for adequate, predictable and sustainable support to AMISOM in order to enable it to

effectively discharge its mandate. In particular, it calls on the international community, including new donors, to provide sustainable and predictable resources for the reimbursement of contingent-owned equipment and self-sustainment, as well as assistance in enhancing specialised capabilities. In this regard, the ICG recalls Security Council resolution 1964 (2010), through which the Council requested Member States to “contribute generously and promptly to the United Nations Trust Fund for AMISOM without caveats”. The ICG takes note of the request by the Troop Contributing Countries for the expedited payment of arrears between 2007 and 2009.

Counter Piracy efforts: The ICG welcomes UN Security Council resolution 1976 (2011) and endorses the need to assist Somalia and the region in building capacity to fight piracy through the Kampala Process, and to establish land-based employment and income generation projects with a view to contributing to a durable eradication of piracy and other illegal activities. The ICG welcomes the establishment of a Piracy Unit in UNPOS and the forthcoming reports of the Secretary General on Specialised Courts and the report on alleged illegal fishing and illegal dumping (including toxic waste). The ICG welcomes the presence of the international maritime forces off the Somali coast according to the UN Security Council resolutions and emphasises the need to improve maritime security off the coast of Somalia.

Improved access for humanitarian operations, protection of civilians and human rights: Acknowledging the deepening humanitarian crises in Somalia as a result of conflict and drought which led to large scale displacement, the ICG urgently calls for increased funding to support humanitarian operations. The ICG expresses concern that civilians continue to bear the brunt of the conflict, and encourages efforts to further minimize the adverse impact on civilians. It condemns the violent actions of extremists including their attacks on human rights workers, judges, journalists and NGOs and calls for the respect of human rights and the freedom of the press by all parties. It strongly condemns the widespread impunity for perpetrators of serious human rights abuses.

Parallel approach to support recovery and development activities: The ICG notes the opportunity to undertake recovery work in areas of Mogadishu which have recently come under the control of the TFG, and calls for increased funding to match the needs and expectations of the population in these areas. It notes that a unified TFG position is essential in the prioritisation and implementation of recovery activities. The ICG recognises the opportunities for development and for tackling underlying causes of conflict, such as environmental degradation, and calls for a coherent approach to development that promotes consistent policies and practices across Somalia. The ICG also calls on all concerned to work to increase accountability, transparency and integrity.

The International Contact Group thanks Uganda for hosting the meeting, and welcomes the offer by Denmark to host the next meeting in September or October 2011.

Participants: Austria, Belgium, Burundi, Canada, China, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, France, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States, African Union, European Union, Islamic Development Bank, IGAD, League of Arab States, Organization of Islamic Conference, NATO, United Nations.