

**Statement attributable to the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General
on the selection of the Somali President**

New York, 11 September 2012 – The Secretary-General congratulates Mr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud on his selection as President of the Federal Republic of Somalia, following the vote of the New Federal Parliament in Mogadishu yesterday. The selection of the new President brings an end to the eight-year political transition. The Secretary-General congratulates the New Federal Parliament and its Speaker for the peaceful and orderly conduct of the process. He also pays tribute to all the signatories of the Roadmap for Ending the Transition for the important role they have played to bring the process to a successful conclusion.

The Secretary-General encourages the new President to move expeditiously, to appoint an inclusive, accountable Government that can begin the work of peacebuilding in the country. He urges Somali and international actors alike to pledge their continued support.

The Secretary-General looks forward to the upcoming high-level meeting on Somalia in the margins of the General Assembly, which will be an opportunity for Somalia's new leadership to consolidate the partnership with the international community.

The Secretary-General takes this opportunity to thank his Special Representative, Augustine P. Mahiga, and the staff of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) as well as the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and other stakeholders for their tireless and dedicated work in support of the peace process in Somalia.

* * * * *

The African Union welcomes the successful Presidential Election in Somalia

Addis Ababa, 11 September 2012 – The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Jean Ping, welcomes the successful completion of the presidential election in Somalia, which was held in a transparent and fair manner. He congratulates Mr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud on his election as the new President of the Federal Republic of Somalia. He also commends the outgoing President, Sheikh Shariff Ahmed, for having gracefully conceded defeat and for his significant contribution to the peace and reconciliation process in his country. The Chairperson of the Commission notes that yesterday's election, following the adoption of a new interim Constitution and the selection of a new Parliament, marks the conclusion of the transition. It therefore ushered in a new chapter in the history of Somalia.

While commending all the Somali stakeholders and people for the maturity and commitment they have displayed over the past few weeks to complete the transition, in difficult circumstances, he urges them to remain steadfast and to continue to be driven by the higher interests of their country, in order to overcome the many challenges that lie ahead. He calls on them to build on the significant results thus achieved and the progress that continues to be made on the ground by the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Somali forces to further the peace and reconciliation process.

The Chairperson of the Commission wishes to assure the Somali stakeholders and people of the AU's continued support in their efforts. In particular, the AU, through AMISOM, will continue to work towards the improvement of the security situation and the extension of State authority, the building of strong

and effective Somali security forces and the reconstruction of the country. He acknowledges the critical role that the region, in particular IGAD and the East African Community, and the rest of the international community, notably the United Nations, the European Union, the League of Arab States, as well as the United States and other bilateral partners, have played in the results achieved so far. He calls on the AU member states and partners alike to remain actively engaged and to enhance their assistance to Somalia to enable it meet the even more demanding and complex tasks ahead.

* * * * *

Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on the end of the transition in Somalia

Brussels, 10 September 2012 – The European Union congratulates Hassan Sheikh Mohamoud on his election as the new President of Somalia.

Today is a significant day in the history of Somalia. Eight years on from the establishment of Transitional Federal Institutions, the transition has ended with the election of the President by the new Federal Parliament. The EU welcomes the prospects this occasion brings to Somalia for lasting peace, prosperity and stability to the millions of people who have suffered from a protracted conflict over the years. The adoption of a new Provisional Constitution in particular marks the beginning of a new, democratic era in Somalia.

There is now much work to be done. The new Federal Institutions must finalise key pending elements of the Provisional Constitution and embark on stabilisation efforts in all accessible areas in the country, both crucial for the future of a viable federal Somalia. The people of Somalia must be assured of good governance, transparency and accountability, justice and respect of their rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of worship. Above all, the new Federal Institutions must reach out to Somalis of all walks of life, urgently seeking to achieve reconciliation and development after more than twenty years of conflict. The EU urges the Somali leadership to embark on this process, acting with integrity and in the interests of the Somali people.

The EU looks forward to the new Government's work plan, and highlights the urgent need for a mechanism to guarantee the sound use of financial resources. The EU takes this opportunity to assure the Somali people of its continued support. In this framework, the EU supports AMISOM in its mission to create the necessary conditions for the development of Somali security forces and contributes to their building up through CSDP engagement (EUTM and EUCAP Nestor).

The Acceding Country Croatia*, the Candidate Countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Iceland+ and Serbia*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the EFTA country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia, align themselves with this declaration.

* Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

+ Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area

* * * * *

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

September 11, 2012

2012/1420

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY CLINTON

Statement on the Election of New Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamoud

I want to congratulate President Hassan Sheikh and the Somali people on yesterday's election. I commend former President Sheikh Sharif for his humility in conceding the election. With the election of a New Federal Parliament and Speaker, the national constituent assembly's adoption of a provisional constitution, and the election of a new president, Somalia has completed its political transition. This significant achievement is the result of years of hard work - by Somalis and the international community. I especially want to thank the African Union, the United Nations, and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development for their critical contributions.

We applaud these steps toward a responsive, representative and accountable government and Hassan Sheikh's commitment to inclusive governance. But there is still more work to be done. The United States calls on Somalia's new leaders to continue the reform effort and to work together to create a better future. We are committed to helping the new government strengthen democratic institutions, improve stability and security, and deliver results for the Somali people.

* * * * *

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

September 10, 2012

Statement by the Press Secretary on the Elections in Somalia

The United States congratulates Hassan Sheikh Mohamoud on winning the support of Parliament and becoming Somalia's new president, and the Somali people for completing this momentous political transition. Today's vote represents an important milestone for the people of Somalia, and a crucial step forward along the path of building a representative government.

With leadership comes tremendous responsibility. The United States calls on Somalia's leaders to usher in a new era of governance that is responsive, representative, and accountable. We encourage President Hassan and all members of Parliament to be inclusive and collaborative, and to build on today's vote by continuing to strengthen democratic institutions, improving stability and security, and bringing tangible improvements to the lives of Somalia's citizens.

The United States stands with the people of Somalia during this historic moment, and will continue to be a committed partner moving forward. Today's achievement would not have been possible without the contributions of the African Union, United Nations, Intergovernmental Authority on Development, and

regional stakeholders. While today's vote marks the end of the transition period, much work remains to be done. The United States calls on the international community to reaffirm its commitment to Somalia, and to help realize a more secure and prosperous future for the Somali people.

* * * * *

PM statement following election of Hassan Sheikh Mohamud in Somalia

Tuesday, 11 September 2012 – Prime Minister David Cameron has made a statement following the election of Hassan Sheikh Mohamud in Somalia.

Mr Cameron said:

“This is a significant moment for Somalia, and an important step towards a renewed political process. I congratulate Hassan Sheikh Mohamud on his victory and welcome the part played by outgoing president Sheikh Sharif, to bring Somalia to this day.

“The coming months and years are critical for Somalia's transition to democracy. Somalia's leaders must now work together to build a more representative and transparent system, tackle corruption and strengthen security and stability.

“The London Conference on Somalia in February brought the international community together to support this process. Britain will continue to support Somalia's people and leaders, so that Somalia can fulfill its potential as a peaceful, inclusive and prosperous nation.”

* * * * *

Statement of the spokesman of the French Ministry of Foreign affairs on the election of the new Somali President

Somalia - Election of the new President

Hassan Sheik Mohamud was elected President of Somalia on September 10, 2012.

France congratulates him and wishes him success at an especially important moment in Somalia's history. His election marks the end of the transition period. It's a crucial step in the national reconciliation process and in the political process, which must continue to move toward the establishment of democratic institutions.

In accordance with the aspirations of the Somali people, we encourage Somalia to give priority to the protection and well-being of the population as well as to development. Everyone must contribute to the efforts which must be based on a long-term perspective. France urges all Somalis, particularly women and young people, to unite in support of peace.

France remains committed alongside those who are seeking to lead Somalia toward democracy, respect for human rights, good governance, peace, security and development. It stands ready to work with the newly elected president. We will continue to support Somalia within the European and international forums.

* * * * *

**Minister Terzi “most satisfied” to hear
of Hassan Sheikh Mohamud’s appointment as President of Somalia**

Rome, 11 September 2012 – Foreign Minister Giulio Terzi was “most satisfied” to hear of the appointment of Hassan Sheikh Mohamud as President of Somalia. This appointment, said Terzi, “is an important step, a step taken in a spirit of responsibility and respect for the rules by the new Somali Parliament. It sees the completion of the transition and the opening of a new political era in Somalia”.

The international community now awaits the appointment of the new government, continued the head of Italian diplomacy. A government that will need to devote its energies to consolidating the results achieved thus far. It must implement the provisions of the recently approved provisional Constitution; provide an enhanced security framework and work to provide the Somali people with the conditions and services that are necessary to launch a civil and economic renaissance”.

“Italy”, concluded Terzi, “has made a determined effort, most recently – with the United Nations – by organising a meeting of the International Contact Group at the Farnesina in July 2012, to pave the way for this historic change in Somalia. We will continue to stand by the country and its people to build a future of peace, stability and development”.