



## **United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS)**

### **UN Special Representative for Somalia welcomes Parliament's endorsement of Prime Minister Mr. Abdi Farah Shirdon**

Mogadishu, 17 October 2012 – UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, Dr. Augustine Mahiga today welcomed the endorsement by Parliament of Mr. Abdi Farah Shirdon “Saacid” as the Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Somalia. All of the 215 members present endorsed his candidacy.

“The approval of Prime Minister Shirdon by the Somali legislature is further incontrovertible evidence of progress in Somalia.” SRSG Mahiga said.

SRSG Mahiga further commented that Parliament embodies the aspirations of all the Somali people and its overwhelming endorsement of the new Prime Minister signals an encouraging start of cooperation and confidence between two important arms of government.

“The United Nations Political Office for Somalia recognizes that by approving the new Prime Minister the Federal Parliament has cast a vote of confidence in the new leadership. I call on the new Prime Minister to appoint without delay a new Council of Ministers. There is much to do and little time to waste.”

The SRSG pledged to work in partnership with the new Prime Minister and his new government on the country’s new priorities and urgent needs as expressed in the Six Pillars outlined by President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud.”