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Puntland and Galmudug authorities commit to peaceful settlement

Mogadishu, 5 September 2011 – At today’s Consultative Meeting for Ending the Transition in Mogadishu, Mohamed Ahmed Alin, President of the Galmudug State of Somalia and Abdirahman Mohamed Mohamud (“Farole”), President of the Puntland State of Somalia, committed to a peaceful settlement of their recent dispute and in particular, adopted a four point plan to ensure that hostilities do not re-occur. This important agreement was enacted in the presence of Sharif Hassan Sheikh Adan, Speaker of the Transitional Federal Parliament, Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government Abdiweli Mohamed Ali, and a number of Ministers and high ranking Somali officials.

“I am most gratified that the United Nations was able to bring the parties together in the margins of the Consultative Meeting and that they decided, in a spirit of brotherly reconciliation, to put aside their differences which had threatened to undermine this important moment in the peace process,” Dr. Mahiga said.

Specifically, President Mohamud and President Alin agreed to (1) implement and maintain an immediate cease fire, (2) establish and maintain direct communication at the highest level, (3) address future issues in a non-violent and cooperative manner and (4) recognize that they face a common threat from insurgent groups.

“Puntland and Galmudug are on Somalia’s front lines in the ongoing fight against violent extremists that increasingly are relying on terror tactics to try and disrupt the Peace Process. As we work together at this important conference to adopt a roadmap for ending the transitional period in Somalia, I am most encouraged that the two leaders showed such statesmanship in agreeing to work together to resolve their differences peacefully. The UN continues to stand ready to assist,” Dr. Mahiga said.