

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

## SRSG statement on killing of Member of Parliament

Mogadishu, 22 September 2012 – The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, Dr. Augustine P. Mahiga condemns the killing of Mustafa Haji Maalim, a Member of Parliament. According to initial reports, he was shot by unidentified armed men earlier today in Mogadishu and later succumbed to his injuries in the hospital.

"I am shocked and outraged by the killing of Hon. Maalim" said SRSG Mahiga while he called for an independent investigation on the crime and for the perpetrators to be brought to justice.

"These cowardly acts of targeted assassinations and indiscriminate bombings cannot deter the remarkable courage of the Somali people, whose tenacity and determination has overcome formidable obstacles and brought us where we are now" said SRSG Mahiga.

"The MPs were selected in a transparent, consultative and representative manner and were called upon to serve at a critical moment in the history of the country. This loss has come very early in the life of the new Parliament whose work is central to the new path that Somalia has chosen. It is a reminder of the challenges faced by the new institutions and administration."

"My deepest condolences go to the family and friends of the victim including former President Sheikh Sharif, son-in-law of the deceased, as well as to the Members and Speaker of Parliament." SRSG Mahiga added.