



United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS)

UN Special Representative for Somalia statement on the nomination of the new Prime Minister

Mogadishu, 6 October 2012 – The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, Augustine P. Mahiga, congratulates Mr. Abdi Farah Shirdon “Saacid” on his nomination for the post of Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Somalia.

“I extend my warmest congratulations to Prime Minister-designate Shirdon on his nomination and wish him every success in the tasks entrusted to him by President Hassan Sheikh. The appointment of a new Prime Minister is another important step forward in the country’s peacebuilding process,” SRSB Mahiga said.

SRSB Mahiga further commended President Hassan Sheikh “for leading a broad consultative process on the appointment of the Prime Minister within the constitutionally-stipulated time period.”

The Prime Minister’s nomination will now go to the Somali Federal Parliament for endorsement. The Prime Minister will then proceed to form a Cabinet, which will also need to be endorsed by the Legislature.

“I pledge my and my mission’s full support to Mr. Shirdon and encourage him to immediately begin the critical work of establishing a transparent, efficient and accountable government,” SRSB Mahiga said.

“The new authorities will play the central role in promoting the reconciliation and good governance necessary to achieve lasting peace and stability in Somalia. UNPOS will work closely with the Somali government to address the challenges ahead as set out in the six “pillar” priority areas envisioned by the President,” added SRSB Mahiga.

For more information, please contact UNPOS Public Information Office
Nick Birnback, + 254 41 350 6855 (Office) or + 254 739 976 888 (Mobile)

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