Final Communiqué of the High Level Committee Meeting

Nairobi, 15 December 2009

Members of the High Level Committee (HLC) met in Nairobi on 15 December 2009 for the second time. The meeting, chaired by UNPOS, was attended by the Somali Prime Minister and other Ministers and representatives from Sweden (EU Presidency), the EC, France, Italy, Japan, Norway, the UK, the US and UNDP. Due to commitments outside Nairobi, a number of HLC members were excused.

The international participants welcomed the papers provided by the TFG and the additional clarifications on the Governments efforts.

The participants acknowledged:

The allowances paid by the TFG to 3000 soldiers as well as to Parliamentarians and Ministers;

The agreements drawn up by the TFG with different groups as part of the continued outreach and reconciliation efforts;

The TFG's emphasis on education being an important priority;

The TFG's efforts to disseminate its message to the Somali people and Diaspora in particular through Radio Mogadishu and its planned work to expand this further.

The participants further agreed that:

These Working Papers are a good basis to pursue discussions;

The papers will be discussed further at the International Contact Group meeting in Jeddah where participants will look at ways to operationalize them through various programs.

Summary

The meeting highlighted the work of the TFG towards continued reconciliation and recognized the importance of certain parameters as outlined by IGAD – namely no new reconciliation process. It also recognized the benefits and risks of the continued reconciliation process with clear objectives.

The meeting discussed the linkages between reconciliation, security, humanitarian and development objectives. It recognised the need to help the TFG develop a more attractive image and to support its efforts at building its forces and in all areas.

The meeting acknowledged that the international community would benefit from understanding what the Government is able to do. It appreciated the TFG's proposal to come up with periodic updates.

Conclusions

The representatives committed themselves to continuing their discussions in Jeddah on concrete support to the TFG.