



**CONFERENCE ON THE AFRICAN UNION SUPPORT TO
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DJIBOUTI PEACE PROCESS FOR SOMALIA
15 – 18 NOVEMBER 2010, BUJUMBURA, BURUNDI**

COMMUNIQUE

1. The African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) convened a conference on the theme *"The African Union (AU) Support to the Implementation of the Djibouti Peace Process for Somalia"* and hosted by the Government of the Republic of Burundi in Bujumbura, Burundi from 15 – 18 November 2010.

2. The Conference was opened by H.E. Pierre Nkurunziza, President of the Republic of Burundi. Prof. Abdurahman Adan Ibrahim Ibbi, Deputy Prime Minister and Amb. Mohamed Ali Nur of the Somalia Transitional Federal Government (TFG), Dr. Augustine Mahiga, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General (SRSG) for Somalia, Ambassador Boubacar Diarra, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the AU Commission (SRCC) for Somalia and Hon. Kipruto arap Kirwa, IGAD Facilitator for Peace and National Reconciliation in Somalia also attended the conference.

3. The Conference participants were drawn from the Somalia TFG, Somalia, USA, AU, IGAD, UN, civil society organizations, think-tanks, research institutions, peace support training institutions, the media and women and youth groups from across the continent and AMISOM current and potential personnel contributing countries.

4. The Conference, inter alia, discussed broadly, the AU's support to the Somalia peace process and the lessons learnt from its implementation and considered specific mechanisms and recommended actions to the TFG of Somalia and other Somali stakeholders with a view to broadening dialogue and reconciliation, expanding TFG's control over Somalia territory and enhancing its legitimacy and its broad based acceptance both locally and internationally. In addition, the Conference deliberated on the possible options for the post-transitional (20 August 2011) period.

5. The Conference recommended, among others, the following:

- Somalia TFG continues its dialogue and reconciliation efforts in line with the Transitional Federal Charter and the Djibouti peace process.
- Somalia TFG should prioritize the conclusion of the constitution making process in order to ensure the promulgation of a new constitution in the shortest time possible.
- The consultation process for the constitution making should be used for national dialogue to consider possible options for the post 20 August 2011 dispensation.
- The international community, especially the UN should provide adequate and predictable financial and material (personnel and equipment) resources to AMISOM and to the Somalia TFG in order for them to effectively discharge their respective mandates.

6. The Conference recommended that the outcomes of its deliberations be tabled before the relevant organs of the UN, AU and IGAD and also, the High Level Committee (HLC) which is a mechanism for consultation and joint decision making between the Somalia TFG and the international community in order to facilitate their implementation.

7. The Conference participants expressed their commitment to support the peace process in Somalia by utilizing their competences and spheres of influence. The participants lauded the opportunity for interaction between the Somalia TFG, AU, IGAD, UN and civil society through the Conference. They also emphasized the importance of the critical insights offered by stakeholders during the conference as a positive contribution to AU's peace efforts in Somalia. Accordingly, participants encouraged AMISOM, working with UN Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) and the IGAD Office of the Facilitator for Somalia Peace and National Reconciliation, to continue and broaden such interaction by convening similar fora in different regions of the continent so that it raises greater awareness on the Somalia conflict.

8. The Conference noted with appreciation the continuing efforts, in Somalia, by the AU with the support of the UN and IGAD, and in particular the commitment and sacrifice of the governments and peoples of Uganda and Burundi who have deployed troops in Somalia under AMISOM since its inception in 2007 and appealed to other AU member states to contribute personnel and other necessary resources to AMISOM in order to meet the new manpower requirements as approved by the AU Peace and Security Council.

9. The Conference thanked the government and people of Burundi for their hospitality and the government's support in making the conference a success.

18 November 2010, Bujumbura, Burundi