



Statement of the IGAD Joint Committee on Grand Stabilization Plan for South Central Somalia

Somalia has entered a new phase in its modern history. The opportunity now lies in building lasting peace and stability in Somalia into a new era for good relations with its neighbors.

Recognizing this, the IGAD Joint Committee has been expanded to include Somalia. Under the auspices of IGAD chaired by Somalia the IGAD Joint Committee commits itself to ensure effective and timely coordination and implementation of the grand stabilization plan for south central Somalia this will include:

1. Promoting political reconciliation
2. Establishing local administration
3. Developing integrated national security capacities
4. Establishing rule of law
5. Delivering the necessary assistance to communities in need.

In pursuing these tasks, the committee has developed an MOU that will enable it work closely with and in support of the institutions of the Somalia Federal Government.

It will also encourage the international community to provide coordinated assistance to ensure timely implementation of the stabilization plan.

Dated on the 6th of December 2012

**At the Office of the Facilitator for Somalia Peace and Reconciliation
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

Memorandum of Understanding between the IGAD Joint committee for the Grand Stabilization of South Central Somalia

Preamble

Considering the need for the maximization of maintaining good neighborly relations and collective measures to eliminate threats of State and human insecurities constraining regional co-operation in the sub-region;

Reaffirming their commitment to the promotion of peace, security and stability in the IGAD region in conformity with the Charters of the United Nations, the African Union and other relevant international instruments;

Aware of the fact that there is need for cooperation in stabilizing Somalia for the development of strong democratic institutions, the rule of law and order, the promotion of good governance and more generally, the implementation of post-conflict reconstruction and development and for the promotion of collective security, durable peace and stability in the country ;

Recognizing the need for closer collaboration between the neighboring countries and the government of Somalia in order to address effectively the common transnational challenges posed by the threats of terrorism and other emerging security concerns, as well as the importance of deepening relations for greater understanding and mutual benefit;

Acknowledging the IGAD Heads of State and Governments decision endorsing the IGAD Grand Stabilization Plan for South-Central Somalia and establishment of the IGAD JOINT COMMITTEE comprising Ethiopia and Kenya to support the development of an inclusive process, in determining the political and administrative arrangements for the liberated areas and the expressed willingness and commitment of the government of Somalia to work within IGAD, framework and stabilization and recognizing the partnership engagement required for greater stability in Somalia;

, further acknowledging the emphasis given by the UN Security Council to the importance of stabilizing the liberated areas in Somalia, promoting peace and reconciliation, law and order, the delivery of basic services and strengthening governance at district, regional, state and federal levels;

Desirous of deepening their collaboration and enhancing their capacity to collectively support the peace building processes in South Central and other parts of Somalia through the conclusion of the present Memorandum of Understanding;

Hereby agreed on the following:

Article 1

Purpose

The purpose of this MOU is to provide a framework for implementation of the Grand Stabilization plan for South central Somali in the area of peace, security and stability.

Article 2

Definitions

In this Memorandum of Understanding, unless the context requires otherwise:

“Parties” means the IGAD Joint committee made up of the respective delegations of Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya.

Facilitator means the IGAD office of the Facilitator for Somalia peace and reconciliation.

“Intergovernmental Authority on Development (hereinafter referred to as IGAD)” means the Authority established under article 1A of the Agreement establishing the IGAD.

“Executive Secretary” means the Chief Executive Officer of IGAD established under article 13 of the Charter establishing IGAD;

“MOU” refers to the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the respective delegations in to the IGAD joint committee.

Article 3

Scope of Application

This Memorandum of Understanding will create a platform through which the Joint committee will cooperate in the areas they find relevant within the framework of a common consensus, in the spirit of good neighborly relations and most importantly in line with the initiatives of the IGAD.

Article 4

Objective of the MoU

The primary objective of this MoU is to strengthen the implementation of the Grand Stabilization plan by expanding the joint IGAD committee with the inclusion of the new committee members appointed by the federal government of Somalia.

Article 5

Areas of cooperation

The parties aim to, *inter alia*, and achieve the following:

- (a) Facilitate Stabilization; promote peace and reconciliation and an inclusive process to determine political and administrative arrangements in the liberated areas, of south-central Somalia.
- (b) Develop and implement joint strategies in the areas that are relevant to re-establishment of government institutions in an inclusive manner, security sector arrangement, rule of law and order, humanitarian/stability, and cross -border issues.
- (c) To establish interim Administrations through a consultative process that will lay the foundation for the establishment of functional Regional and District governance structures.
- (d) Enhance information sharing through jointly agreed mechanisms.
- (e) Ensure that the Joint committee agreement is developed on the basis of mutual understanding to strengthening the coordination of political and security initiatives on the ground;

Article 6

Cooperation and coordination

- a) The parties shall cooperate mainly through direct communication and consultation as well as through the IGAD Office of the Facilitator.
- b) The parties and the Executive Secretary/Facilitator shall meet regularly on the implementation of the MoU and other joint agreements.
- c) The facilitator shall represent IGAD in order to facilitate the parties.
- d) The parties shall be guided by the amended rules of procedure of the joint committee towards the implementation of the IGAD stabilization plan. (here in attached)

Article 7

Dispute Resolution

Any misunderstanding or difference(s) arising among the Parties from or regarding the interpretation or application of the provisions of this MoU shall be resolved amicably through dialogue.

Article 8

Amendment

The Parties shall regularly review the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and shall where necessary amend its provisions, by consensus.

Article 9

Commencement of the Memorandum

- (a) This MoU shall enter into force upon signing of the agreed minutes by the parties.
- (b) The parties may agree to terminate this MoU upon consensus and mutual agreement at any time of its existence.
- (c) The termination of this MoU shall not affect neighborly relations of the respected countries and IGAD