

IGAD Statement on the Political Crisis in Baidoa

IGAD welcomes and will follow the ongoing meetings in Mogadishu under the leadership of the Prime Minister of the Federal Government of Somalia Abdiweli Sheikh Ahmed and also IGAD will support the outcome of the ongoing meetings in Mogadishu.

We wish to reiterate our earlier statement that the Federal Government of Somalia has the legitimate mandate to work for the people of Somalia of the 3rd march, 2014.

IGAD urges the Baidoa political process to be in line with the decision of the Communiqué of the 21st extra ordinary summit of the Heads of state and government paragraph 6: held in Addis Ababa Ethiopia on the 3rd of May, 2013 that states the following principles on stabilization and formation of Regional Administrations:

- Leadership of the Government of the Federal Republic of Somalia in the process;
- Respect of the provisional constitution of the Federal Republic of Somalia
- All inclusive consultative process with the people of Somalia;
- Supportive role of IGAD based on the priorities of the Somali Government; and
- Fighting Al Shabab as the primary focus of the Somali Federal Government; AMISOM, regional and international partners.

Furthermore, the formation of Regional Administrations should be in line with the Provisional Constitution, Six Pillar Policy and the Addis Ababa Agreement signed on the 27th of August 2013 agreed by both parties about the formation of the Interim Jubba Administration which consists of Gedo, Lower Jubba and Middle Jubba regions.

We welcome the statement made by the United Nations SRSG regarding the ongoing Somali led talks by the Prime Minister Abdiweli Sheikh Ahmed. We hope for early conclusions of the talks to allow our partners to support the outcome of these talks, which we believe will pave the way to stability in Somalia.

IGAD remains committed to support the Federal Government of Somalia in its mandate to build peace, security and stability in Somalia.

IGAD Office Of the Facilitator for Somalia Peace and National Reconciliation Special Envoy to Somalia H.E Honorable Ambassador Mohamed Affey, May 23, 2014 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia