

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

STATEMENT ON THE IGAD PRE-ELECTION MISSION TO JUBALAND

(August 8, 2019 – Djibouti) A delegation of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) led by the Special Envoy for Somalia Amb. Dr Mohamed Ali Guyo arrived in Kismayu on Sunday 4th August 2019; as part of concerted efforts by international partners to foster a peaceful and credible electoral process in Jubaland.

The mission held discussions with a range of stakeholders including: Presidential Candidates (registered and unregistered), the Speaker and Deputy Speakers of the Jubaland Parliament, Federal Members of Parliament and Senators from Jubaland, the Jubaland Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission, Clan Elders and Civil Society Organizations.

IGAD notes that the upcoming presidential and parliamentary elections in Jubaland are critical and will mark yet another milestone in Somalia's journey towards the consolidation of state-building and good governance that will strengthen peace, security, stability, economic development and prosperity.

IGAD continues to emphasize the need for free, fair, credible, transparent and peaceful elections consistent with the Provisional Constitution of the Federal Republic of Somalia and the Constitution of the State of Jubaland. In a bid to achieve this, we have provided advice for consideration.

IGAD calls upon the leadership and the people of Jubaland to maintain harmonious co-existence of all communities taking into consideration the cosmopolitan character of Jubaland. We urge that any divergence of opinion or misunderstanding be mitigated through dialogue.

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