

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, P.O. Box: 3243 Tel.: (251-11) 5513 822 Fax: (251-11) 5519 321
Email: situationroom@africa-union.org

PRESS RELEASE

THE AFRICAN UNION DEEPLY CONCERNED BY THE ONGOING CRISIS IN THE TRANSITIONAL FEDERAL PARLIAMENT OF SOMALIA

Addis Ababa, 16 January 2011: The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Jean Ping, expresses deep concern over the lingering dispute in the Transitional Federal Parliament (TFP) of Somalia. In the past weeks, the TFP has been embroiled in a paralysis and, on one occasion, a brawl, as a result of the removal of the Speaker of the TFP, Honourable Sharif Hassan Sheikh Aden.

The Chairperson of the Commission regrets the inability of some members of the TFP to demonstrate the required maturity and rise to the challenges facing their country. In particular, he notes that the election of a new Speaker, in violation of the Kampala Accord of June 2011 and the Mogadishu Political Roadmap of September 2011, can only complicate the ongoing efforts to move forward the peace and reconciliation process in Somalia, at a time when the AU and IGAD are taking further steps to strengthen AMISOM and consolidate the gains made on the ground against the Al Shabaab terrorist group.

The Chairperson of the Commission fully associates himself with the press release issued by the IGAD Council of Ministers on 9 January 2012, in support of the decision made by the National Security Committee of Somalia on the situation.

The Chairperson of the Commission appeals to the members of the TFP, in line with the call by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) at its 306th meeting held on 5 January 2012, to immediately resolve the ongoing dispute, with due respect for the provisions of the Kampala Accord and other relevant instruments. He reiterates the determination of the AU to take all necessary measures against any individuals engaged in actions aimed at undermining the peace and reconciliation process in Somalia, as well as the efforts of AMISOM.

The AU, working with IGAD and the UN, remains committed to assisting the Somali political leadership and all Somali stakeholders, including by facilitating constructive resolution of the present situation in order for the TFP to resume its rightful role in accelerating the implementation of the political Roadmap as the international community is, with focused



attention at this moment, working assiduously to enhance its support to the peace process in Somalia.

The Chairperson of the Commission reiterates AU's appreciation for the central role being played by IGAD and its Chair, Ethiopia, and for its continuing commitment to the promotion of lasting peace, security and stability in Somalia.

