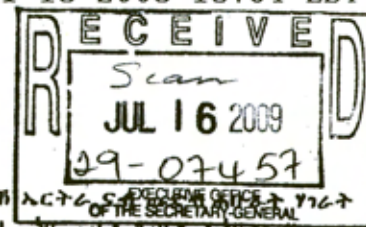


Eritrea  
Somalia

1761002



Permanent Mission of Eritrea  
to the United Nations



الهيئة العامة للخدمات  
الجنسية  
29-07457  
JUL 16 2009  
SECRETARIAT-GENERAL  
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

16 July 2009

ACTION COPY  
Mr. Le Roy  
NA

Excency,

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to write this letter to Your Excellency, and through you to the members of the Security Council, as a renewed reminder on the situation in Somalia.

The Security Council continues to maintain a complicated position on the situation in Somalia, bending to the pressure and lobbying emanating from certain quarters.

Indeed, as a consequence of the United Nations Security Council's position, the suffering of the Somali people has been exacerbated to unprecedented levels and just as much, the stability of the Horn of Africa has witnessed a steady decline.

In a bid to help bring about a lasting solution and conclusion to the issue, Eritrea has since long made its observations well known. Eritrea's position is anchored on legality, justice and political practicality. Unfortunately, Eritrea's efforts had not only been unheeded by the Security Council but, on the contrary, various schemes were continuously hatched by certain powers to muffle our calls and to drag us into other diversionary issues.

Although these issues have been repeatedly raised, Eritrea wishes to seek clarification from the Security Council on its position on the following issues for the record and for better insight:

Does the United Nations Security Council respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and unity of Somalia?

Does the United Nations Security Council recognize as sovereign the self-declared entities of "Somaliland", "Puntland" and other self-declared governments in Somalia? And what are the legal and procedural grounds for its recognition or non-recognition of these entities? (For reasons of analogy and precedence, the cases of "Kosovo", "Abkhazia" and "South Ossetia" could, among others, be invoked.)

H.E. Mr. Ruhakana Rugunda  
President of the Security Council  
United Nations  
New York, NY 10017

TO: EOSG

FROM: Mary Constable DATE: Thu Jul 16 2009 16:54 EDT  
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The United Nations Security Council invariably glosses over the issues of Puntland, Somaliland and similar entities in Somalia whenever the Somali issue is raised. Is this inadvertent or deliberate?

And finally, why does the Security Council endorse illegitimate governments that are propped up by external powers and that do not represent Somalia as a whole?

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

  
Tesfa Alem Seyoum  
Charge d'affaires a.i.