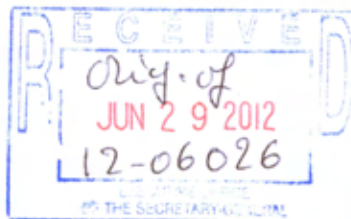


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Note to the Secretary-General

UPDATE ON SOMALIA

1. This note provides an update on the situation in Somalia since the Istanbul conference on Somalia, which you co-chaired with Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan on 1 June. The note also suggests some issues for follow-up from the Istanbul meeting.
2. Istanbul delivered the right message, albeit generating little donor interest in the "priority sectors" (water, energy, roads and resilience), by underscoring the need to plan for a new phase for Somalia's peace-building "based on and complementary to the Roadmap". The conference called for the UN to review its future engagement in Somalia under the expected new Somali order. These have helped pave the way for our reflections on post-August arrangements to be led by the Transitional Federal Government's (TFG) successor supported by the international community. As the next two months are decisive in setting in motion priorities for the new phase in Somalia, we wish to keep you closely informed of developments on political and other tracks.
3. **Political process:** In an effort to accelerate preparations for ending the transition by 20 August, your Special Representative for Somalia, Mr. Augustine Mahiga, convened the third meeting of Roadmap principals in Nairobi on 21-23 June where the principals reached agreements on key issues. Notably, the Somali principals have overcome previous differences and agreed on the Provisional Constitution, which will now be made public. They also signed a decree establishing a legal framework and a number of important protocols to introduce transparency in the process before August (Constitutional review will go on beyond August to ensure sufficient public consultation). The National Constituent Assembly (NCA) would now convene on 12 July to adopt the Provisional Constitution. However, the Elders are yet to produce a list of delegates to the NCA and the new Parliament and the timeline remains tight. Meanwhile, UNPOS, UNDP and UNSOA are working to ensure the venue of the Assembly and other related logistical preparations (thanks to UNPOS' supplementary funds recently endorsed by the Fifth Committee). Of the \$11 million requested, close to \$10 million are now in place. Our request to the PBF for \$ 990,000 is soon to be finalized and would close the gap.
4. **Recovered areas:** AMISOM has continued its efforts to stabilize the situation in the recently-recovered Afgooye, while preparing for further offensives in Lower and Middle Shabelle areas eventually onto Kismaayo (the main economic hub for Al Shabaab). In a worrisome development, allied Somali and Ethiopian forces withdrew from a number of towns in Galguduud and Hiraan regions, which were subsequently taken by Al-Shabaab. More progress is required on political reconciliation and in the establishment of "political leadership" in the areas, as well as to bring more internal cohesion within the TFG-affiliated forces supporting AMISOM and to ensure provision of adequate material support. Meanwhile, TFG and AMISOM received indications that an increasing number of mid-level Al Shabaab commanders were willing to defect or surrender and join the peace process. While UNPOS is making headway in coordinating partners around a coherent approach to the recovered areas under the TFG's lead, some

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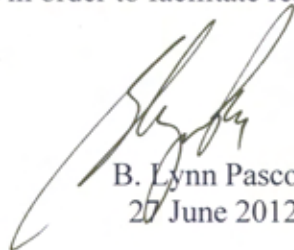
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substantial security and political risks notably *warlordism*, whereas political, military and relief strategies should move in tandem and begin to kick in now.

5. **International support architecture:** Further to London and Istanbul meetings, there are ongoing discussions on reforming the International Contact Group (ICG) for Somalia – formally the main peace support structure, to deliver a more efficient support with better division of labour amongst Somalia's partners. This item, along with the new political "Roadmap" discussion is expected at the ICG in Rome on 2-3 July. Meanwhile, Turkey's plans for a "Fund for Rebuilding the Somali Security Forces" remain fluid, the UK's "Local Stability Fund" as well as the proposed new multi-donor Reconstruction fund (driven by the Islamic and African Development Banks) are not yet in place. Your Special Representative for Somalia, supported by DPA, DPKO and UNCT, is working with key Member States to prepare for discussions in Rome, importantly to help prepare partners "psychologically" for the new period that must be Somali-owned.

6. **UNPOS deployment to Mogadishu:** UNPOS is proceeding with further deployment of staff in Mogadishu, taking the total to 25 (of 99) by August. Refurbishment of a security-compliant live-in workspace is ongoing in Mogadishu. Meanwhile, the mandated AMISOM guard-force dedicated to the protection of UN staff is not yet in place. UN is working with the new AMISOM Force Commander on an interim arrangement to ensure a minimum of mobility for UN staff in Mogadishu and possibly other newly recovered areas.

7. In conclusion, we note that the coming period will require hard work – chiefly by the Somalis - to maintain unity, earn legitimacy and confidence of its people, and to address issues of donor and investor mistrust in order to facilitate real support for peace-building. We will keep you updated.



B. Lynn Pascoe
27 June 2012