



Security Council

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Identical letters dated 28 January 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya has the honour to transmit to you the attached press release from our Ministry of Foreign Affairs (see annex). It addresses the negative allegations made against Kenya by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Somalia, Mohamed Abdirizak, during the Security Council informal interactive dialogue held on 20 January 2021.

The allegations made by the Honourable Minister reflected a stance that had been tabled to a meeting of Heads of State of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and that led to the deployment of a Djibouti-led fact-finding mission. The report of the fact-finding mission, which is awaiting formal release, confirms the fact that the allegations made by Somalia against Kenya are unfounded.

Kenya is fully aware of the growing demands on the Security Council agenda and looks forward to a renewed focus – free of unhelpful distractions – by the federal Government on resolving outstanding disagreements with federal Member States over elections. It is our desire for Somalia to hold free, fair and inclusive national elections by implementing the electoral agreement of 17 September 2020.

It is the least that the people of Somalia deserve, and it would be an invaluable help to the strengthened political foundations required for a more effective security campaign against Al-Qaida affiliate Al-Shabaab.

We urge members of the Security Council to continue to speak with one voice in urging the federal Government to meet its agreed obligations on the political and security front. We also urge unified Council opposition to any use of violence to resolve political disagreements and any attempts to muzzle the media. The international community needs Somalia to be on a clear course to stability, not an unravelling of its gains.

Kenya will remain committed to the peace and security of Somalia, knowing that they are key factors in ensuring a stable Horn of Africa free of global terrorist actors, irredentism, State fragility and humanitarian crises.

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex issued as a document of the Security Council in accordance with rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council.

(Signed) Martin **Kimani**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



**Annex to the identical letters dated 28 January 2021 from the
Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of
the Security Council**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya

Press release

Kenya upholds a long-standing commitment to regional peace and security

1. Kenya welcomes the Report of that Fact Finding Mission that was established by His Excellency Ismaïl Omar Guelleh, President of the Republic of Djibouti under the mandate of the Assembly of IGAD Heads of State and Government.
2. It is recalled that during the 38th Extraordinary Assembly of IGAD Heads of State and Government, held on 20th December 2020 in Djibouti; the Federal Government of Somalia reiterated atypical allegations against Kenya causing the Assembly to call for a verification of these unsubstantiated allegations.
3. The Fact Finding Mission established by His Excellency President Ismaïl Omar Guelleh visited both Kenya and Somalia between 9th and 13th January, 2020 and held extensive consultations with authorities in both countries with a view to establishing the facts.
4. During its visit to Kenya, the Fact Finding Mission was provided irrefutable evidence invalidating all allegations against Kenya and accorded every assistance including a visit to the Kenya – Somali border to independently verify facts on the ground.
5. The Report of the Fact Finding Mission affirms the fact that the allegations by Somalia against Kenya are wholly unfounded. It is also clear that the decision by the Federal Government of Somalia to sever diplomatic relations with Kenya was uncalled for and has negatively impacted the lives of Somali nationals who seek relief and amenities in Kenya, AMISOM operations and the livelihoods of citizens of both countries. More importantly, it is now evident that the simulated crisis being contrived by Somalia does not advance IGAD's vision for achieving peace, prosperity and regional integration.
6. Kenya is confident that the Report of the Fact Finding Mission provides clarity to the Assembly of IGAD Heads of State and Government who remain seized of this matter and would provide a way forward. Further, this impartial report definitively settles the matter; Kenya will not be drawn into this reckless campaign whose sole intent remains the creation of artificial fissures for parochial and domestic political ends at the expense of regional peace and security.
7. Working with different Somali administrations, IGAD and other partners, the Government and People of Kenya have spared no cost to stabilise Somalia and create conditions for peace and prosperity; this remains our long held commitment from which we will not be distracted. It is incumbent on the administrations to whom this hard worn peace has been entrusted to, to honour the sacrifices made in the past and the will of the people by making a constructive contribution to regional peace, security and prosperity.

27 January 2021
Nairobi