



Security Council

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Letter dated 7 April 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on Somalia issued on 7 April 2005 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jean-Marc **Hoscheit**
Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations

Annex to the letter dated 7 April 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Statement on Somalia issued on 7 April 2005 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The European Union strongly urges all parties, inside the transitional institutions and outside, to immediately refrain from any further hostilities and armed confrontations, on all fronts, and return to dialogue as the basis for consensus and compromise.

The European Union insists that inclusiveness and reconciliation remain the two pillars for the peace process and must be restored immediately as the institutions are transitional in nature and decisions must remain consensual and based on compromise. Insufficient consensus over important issues such as security and relocation will only result in the creation of divisions derailing the successful outcome of the IGAD-led peace conference, and shaking the confidence of the international community in the nascent transitional institutions. In this regard, the constant search for consensus should not be hindered by unreasonable pre-conditions or rigid positions.

The European Union recalls that its readiness to support the transition process has been determined by the inclusive approach which has led to a successful conclusion of the Somali National Reconciliation Conference.

The European Union advocates for immediate dialogue among all concerned parties within the transitional institutions with a view to the Council of Ministers and Parliament reaching an agreement on a new comprehensive proposal on relocation and security which could include the following elements:

(a) Reviewing the Mogadishu Plan by consultation and incorporating its operational elements into an inclusive national plan for the relocation of the Transitional Federal Government. In this regard, it is imperative to ensure independent monitoring and verification of progress at all stages of implementation, including prospects for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.

(b) Conclusions of the 24th session of the IGAD Council of Ministers on Somalia of 19 March 2005 on phase one of the deployment of IGASOM; the European Union suggests that phase one should be of adequate duration and take into account modalities acceptable to all parties as well as the need to train Somali security forces. The European Union encourages continued planning under an African Union-coordinated framework.

(c) Proposals for temporary operational sites for the transitional institutions until the security situation in the capital is adequately addressed, taking into account the concerns of all parties.

(d) Planning for ceasefire and disengagement on a countrywide basis.

The acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate countries Croatia* and Turkey, the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this statement.

* Croatia continues to be part of the stabilization and association process.