

(checks against delivery)

**EXPLANATION OF VOTE BY GUATEMALA
THE SITUATION IN SOMALIA
6 MARCH 2013**

Mr. President,

Guatemala has voted in favor of Resolution 2093 (2013), given the importance of supporting the efforts undertaken by the Government of Somalia, the United Nations, and the Mission of the African Union in Somalia (AMISOM). It is thanks to this collective effort that Somalia is now in a better place. Further, we are in agreement with the extension of AMISON's mandate until 28 February 2014. We believe that the resolution that was just adopted leads towards an orderly process of integration and strengthening of the United Nations System presence in Somalia.

We also acknowledge the important progress achieved in the stabilization and pacification of the country; or, at least, parts of the country, including its main urban center. However, we wish to place on record that the progress achieved does not justify so far the lifting of the arms embargo alluded to in paragraph 33 of Resolution 2093 (2013). We believe that the Security Council should have adopted a phased approach to prevent the possible repercussions of an abrupt suspension of the embargo, which could subsequently compromise the stabilization efforts in Somalia. This is another way of saying that our delegation supported the recommendations of the Monitoring Group for Somalia and Eritrea on this matter, which offered Somalia the capacity to develop its security sector without having to modify the arms embargo.

We trust that with the adoption of this resolution, the international community will redouble its commitment with accelerating security sector reform in Somalia and support the establishment of the necessary safeguards to count with and an operational system that guarantees the adequate control of arms.

Thank you.