



Misión Permanente de Guatemala ante Naciones Unidas
Nueva York

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JOSÉ BRIZ
BRIEFING ON SITUATION IN SOMALIA
JUNE 6 2013 (AM)**

Mister President,

We would like to congratulate the United Kingdom for its assumption of the Presidency. We would like to thank the United Kingdom's Minister for Africa, Mark Simmons, for presiding over this meeting and we congratulate him for the successful Somalia Conference in London on May 7th. We also thank Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations, Sr. Jan Eliasson, for his speech and we recognize the presence of Somalia's Foreign Minister, Mrs. Fauzia Yusuf Haji Adan.

We would like to touch on five particular subjects:

First: We believe the London Conference set an important precedent in reaffirming Somalia's leadership position given its role as co-host, and we recognize the great efforts Somalia has made to leave behind two decades of crisis. This has also demanded a great collective effort by its closest partners, in particular the troop-contributing countries of the African Union in Somalia Mission (AMISOM), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and bilateral donors.

We appreciate the international community's commitment to provide financial assistance in three vital subjects for the stability of Somalia: security, justice and reform in the administration of public resources.

In addition, we want to take note of the joint communiqué by Somalia and the United Nations regarding the prevention of sexual violence and we hope that the Somali Government implement the recommendations articulated in that document.

Second: We welcome the designation of Nicholas Kay as the new Special Representative to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM). We expect the UNSOM to build a constructive relationship with the Somali Government in order to address key challenges, such as national reconciliation and the distribution of power and resources in the region, the reconstruction of the State's institutions and the strengthening of human rights.

Third: We agree that reforming the security sector is a priority and we recognize the National Security Plan presented by the Somali Federal Government. Like others, we believe it is vital to consolidate the armed and police forces in Somalia. In light of the partial lift of the arms embargo, it is important that Somalia establishes the

safeguards that the Security Council required in accordance with Resolution 2093 (2013.)

We also cannot fail to recognize the work done by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Council needs to respond to its funding needs in order to extend to recovered areas.

Fourthly: We are worried about the situation in southern Somalia, in particular the case of “Jubaland”; which is a situation that has to be resolved through constructive dialogue which respects the Provisional Constitution and with the common goal of consolidating a Federal State in Somalia. Stabilizing the region is vital for the future of Somalia and we would like to note IGAD’s visit to the region. Al-Shabaab’s links to the region and the revenues it receives through the unlawful selling of carbon is also of great concern. We consider it important to ensure that the embargo on this product is implemented.

Fifthly: We would like to reiterate the point that the Secretary General made in the last brief that achieving stability in Somalia is in everyone’s best interests. We praise the efforts the new Government’s has made in constructing trusting ties with all its neighbors and in this sense we recognize the important role of IGAD in supporting the Somali Federal Government in all its endeavors.

Somalia has one of the longest coastlines of Africa. In the past its coasts have been used for illegal activities like piracy, illegal fishing and the elimination of toxic waste. We hope, however, that the Somali coast will soon become a source of revenue for the Somali population rather than a challenge to the country.

Finally, Mr President, my delegation supports the Statement by the President that will be adopted today at the end of the session.

Thank you.