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<i>President:</i>	Mr. Wang Min	(China)
<i>Members:</i>	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Durmić
	Brazil	Mr. Fernandes
	Colombia	Mr. Alzate
	France	Mr. Suquet
	Gabon	Ms. Ngyema Ndong
	Germany	Mr. Roessel
	India	Mr. Vinay Kumar
	Lebanon	Mr. Ramadan
	Nigeria	Mr. Adamu
	Portugal	Mr. Vaz Patto
	Russian Federation	Mr. Kravchenko
	South Africa	Mr. Crowley
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Ms. Rickett
	United States of America	Mr. Donegan

Agenda

The situation in Somalia

Comprehensive strategy for the realization of peace and security in Somalia

Letter dated 3 March 2011 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2011/114)

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The meeting resumed at 3.10 p.m.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I wish to remind all speakers to limit their statements to no more than four minutes in order to enable the Council to carry out its work expeditiously.

I now give the floor to the representative of Indonesia.

Mr. Kleib (Indonesia): Let me begin, Mr. President, by expressing our profound appreciation to you for having convened this open debate on the situation in Somalia. Before proceeding, let me convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) troop casualties in the wake of the latest deplorable attacks.

Two decades of violent conflict have shattered the dreams and lives of innocent Somalis, young and old, including women and children. A child born 20 years ago in Somalia who has lived there throughout his childhood might not be able to envisage an alternative, peaceful life. The list of grievances is indeed long. The many international meetings held, including this one, are replete with such references. More gatherings will be organized in the coming months and years. This meeting should be a building block in facilitating the end of conflict and a return to normalcy in Somalia. Added value is key, and it must be of a strategic nature.

The report is unequivocally clear on the fact that there are multiple sources of instability. The situation, as the report rightly urges, requires the completion of a comprehensive strategy that addresses the social, political, economic and security issues in Somalia.

But before any meaningful progress can be achieved, there must be, first and foremost, genuine and strong political will on the part of all stakeholders, from within and outside Somalia. Allocating time to, and pouring finite resources into, addressing this issue has been the main choice in the context of our work. Unfortunately, however, little headway has been achieved.

The Council might also need to reflect on its fundamental approach and see if it might have overlooked key aspects of the peace process, which has fallen short in terms of bringing tangible results. The report recommended that the constitution-drafting

process be inclusive and meet the targets for the political transition. We support that approach, but the constitution should also reflect the wishes of society and the stakeholders, as well as the cultural diversity of the country.

Indonesia is deeply concerned for the security and well-being of the Somali people. The humanitarian crisis, worsened by the current drought, has caused additional suffering for the population, a large part of which is already internally displaced. It is also a matter of concern that, along with the threats to human life inside Somalia, including terrorism, the threats off its coast remain very serious. The internal conflict demands strong local institutions that can cope with the fundamental challenges of governing a country as large and diverse as Somalia. Building effective local institutions is crucial to establishing a viable and peaceful Somalia. Through that avenue, we can see the Government regain its foothold in the country.

We share the view that the issue of piracy off the coast of Somalia is not a stand-alone problem. It is an extension of the continuing instability in Somalia. But the issue of piracy, which has vast implications beyond the country's territory, should also not be seen through the single prism of security. We must accept the fact that many people who become pirates are economically marginalized and have no viable alternative. Therefore, while we are grateful to the Secretary-General for the report, we also look forward to receiving a comprehensive report that will also elaborate the economic difficulties faced by society. Deploying troops and naval armadas would be a solution, but it would be a short-term solution. A comprehensive one would have to include ways to find alternative livelihoods for pirates.

Indonesia commends the leading role played by the African Union in deploying its Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and lauds its troop- and police-contributing countries. Like other peacekeeping operations authorized by the Security Council, AMISOM should be provided with the needed resources and equipment in an adequate and predictable fashion. The Security Council should find ways and means to address this precarious circumstance. It has to act with resoluteness. AMISOM should become the nucleus of a future United Nations peacekeeping force in Somalia. The implementation of the incremental approach must therefore be supported. AMISOM acts on our behalf. It is the duty of the

international community, in particular the Security Council, to fulfil its commitment to AMISOM. We need to respond positively to the calls of the African Union.

In closing, I wish to commend the work of the personnel of the United Nations, the African Union, humanitarian organizations and other partners who have persevered and continued their work in Somalia despite adverse security conditions. Let me also underline that it is presently the responsibility of the Transitional Federal Government to steer Somalia through its wide-ranging challenges, now and not later. Somalia, with the support of the international community, must continue charting its path to peace, security, democracy and prosperity in full consonance with the wishes of the Somali citizens.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of Japan.

Mr. Nishida (Japan): I would like to echo previous speakers in thanking Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon; Mr. Mohamed, Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of Somalia; and Mr. Diarra, Special Representative of the Chairman of the Commission of the African Union for Somalia, for their presence here today and for their statements.

Japan welcomes the timely convening of this open debate, which provides a valuable opportunity to discuss the situation in Somalia at this important juncture, with fewer than six months remaining before the expiration of the mandate of the TFG.

Japan is deeply concerned about the slow progress of the political process, in particular the delays in the constitutional process and the recent declaration by the Puntland Government that it was suspending its cooperation with the TFG. We would like to join others in urging the TFG to effectively address the remaining political tasks before the end of the transitional period, including the formulation of a Somali constitution and inclusive consultations with all political groups in Puntland and Somaliland, as well as with other clans.

The key problem in Somalia lies in the interrelatedness of a number of critical issues — including the political process, security, the humanitarian crisis, terrorism and piracy — that hamper the resolution of any of the others. Japan

supports the idea that the international community should join forces to implement a comprehensive strategy that takes into account all of those issues. Japan is firmly committed to contributing to such collective efforts, and various actions and assistance that we are undertaking in areas such as security, anti-piracy measures and humanitarian support testify to our determination in that regard. For instance, an additional \$77 million in assistance to support stability and to cope with humanitarian crises is being processed for immediate disbursement.

We welcome the enlarged coverage by TFG forces and the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) of the area under TFG control, and we highly commend the efforts and sacrifices of Ugandan and Burundian troops in that endeavour. The international community should continue to support them so that they can fully meet their mandate. We sincerely hope that the Council will continue consultations on how to provide predictable support to AMISOM. It is also essential to maintain security in the controlled areas, and in order to do so a functioning police force is essential.

To that end, Japan is vigorously contributing to the capacity-building and deployment of the Somali police force. The training of 500 police officers in Djibouti through our financial contribution of \$10 million to the United Nations Trust Fund for the Somali security institutions has just been completed. In addition, Japan recently authorized an additional \$10 million to cover the cost of the salaries of trained police officers and the construction of police facilities in Mogadishu. We expect the TFG to make full use of its enhanced security and to seize the current momentum for political dialogue.

With regard to anti-piracy activities off the coast of Somalia, Japan is engaged in various ways, including escort and surveillance activities by Japanese vessels and patrol aircraft and capacity-building support extended in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization to coastal countries for maritime security. Despite the efforts of like-minded countries to date, acts of piracy are still on the rise, and that is a matter of grave concern for all of us.

We appreciate the comprehensive report of Mr. Lang, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Legal Issues related to Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (S/2011/30, annex), which includes various proposals.

Japan shares the view that building capacities, especially the correctional capacities, of the coastal nations, as well as of the region as a whole, is an urgent task in the effort to effectively bring pirates to justice. Japan had previously disbursed \$500,000 to the Trust Fund to Support Initiatives of States Countering Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, and has recently authorized an additional \$1 million for that purpose. We will continue to support regional efforts to that end. Lastly, Japan would like to note that, while we remain fully committed to supporting the TFG, we will maintain our assistance to Somaliland and Puntland as well, with a view to achieving progress on Somali issues as a whole.

I would like to conclude my remarks today by reiterating Japan's continuing commitment to peace and security in Africa and our intention to work closely with the Council on these issues.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of Kenya.

Mr. Kamau (Kenya): I would like to thank the delegation of China for convening this very important debate on Somalia. I also recognize the presence here of the Prime Minister of Somalia. Kenya also wishes to thank the Secretary-General and the African Union (AU) representative for Somalia for their briefings.

At the outset, my delegation wishes to extend its condolences to the families of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) peacekeepers who lost their lives while defending the lives of ordinary Somalis. We also wish to pay tribute to the Governments of Burundi and Uganda for their valuable contributions to peacekeeping efforts in Somalia.

Somalia is a perplexing conflict — on the one hand so dangerous and devastating in its implications and, on the other, seemingly neglected and undeserving of a concerted international response commensurate with the magnitude of the problem. Many in the region, however, and especially Kenya, simply cannot afford this level of ambiguity. Somalia is Kenya's neighbour. We share a long and porous border, and over 1 million Somalis live in Kenya, half of whom are in refugee camps. We have no other option but to continuously strive for solutions to the conflict, which has for so long ravaged our neighbour and placed a very heavy burden on our society and our social and economic development.

Continued fighting in Somalia and the lack of an effective central Government has resulted in rapid growth in the number and size of Somalia's diaspora, from which Al-Shabaab — among others, I am sure — is determined to recruit for extremist activities overseas. In addition, thousands of refugees have fled from Somalia to neighbouring countries, thereby worsening the humanitarian situation in those countries and consuming scarce resources meant for other sectors of the economy.

The Daadab refugee camp in Kenya, now notoriously the largest in the world, was built to accommodate only 90,000 refugees. It now hosts almost 600,000. The refugee influx has caused enormous challenges, including competition among refugees and local communities for scarce resources, and has resulted in environmental degradation. Regrettably, some of those entering our countries under the guise of refugees are also hardcore criminals and extremists who are ready to cause trouble in the entire region, and even further afield. Their presence in the Horn of Africa is a major cause of worry. No efforts should be spared in dealing with those terrorists.

International partnerships should include agreements on the need to change AMISOM's mandate from peacekeeping to peace enforcement, to ensure that AMISOM not only secures Mogadishu but also reclaims areas under the control of Al-Shabaab. In addition, United Nations peacekeeping troops should be deployed in the rest of Somalia in order to secure it.

The issue of funding in support of AU peacekeeping operations has been a concern of the Council for a long time. In the specific case of the AU Mission in Somalia, Kenya supports the call made by the AU summit to the Council to provide greater support to AMISOM and to fully assume its responsibilities towards Somalia, including through increased funding from United Nations assessed contributions.

Furthermore, we should support the implementation of the Djibouti Peace Agreement, which remains the basis through which reconciliatory efforts should be undertaken in Somalia. It is important to note that the Agreement envisages progress in three key areas, namely, security, political cooperation and reconstruction and development. We must support all of these areas, as they are mutually reinforcing.

The issue of piracy has also been discussed here and, as has been rightly pointed out by many, it has real linkages with the ineffectual governance in Somalia. The quicker that we provide effective governance in Somalia, the quicker we will eliminate the piracy menace. I believe that point was made this morning by the Prime Minister. The Secretary-General's Special Adviser, Mr. Jack Lang, also made a passionate plea to the Council barely two months ago (see S/PV.6473) to act urgently and decisively on the question of piracy. We in Kenya consider the issue of piracy incredibly complex. In many ways, it has put in place a quasi-blockade on our eastern coast.

In conclusion, let me say that the situation in Somalia will continue to fester until the Council, which is charged with the mandate of ensuring the maintenance of international peace and security, decides to act decisively in favour of adopting a comprehensive strategy to establish a functioning State in Somalia. That strategy should include first, enhanced support to AMISOM as we have described; second, support to Somali security institutions and other institutions of governance; third, assistance in economic and social development; fourth, securing peace through the creation of job opportunities, especially among the Somali youth; fifth, investment in the reconstruction of infrastructure; sixth, increased access to basic services for all people, including education and health; and seventh, but not the least, the possibility of encouraging Somalia's further integration into the East African Community. Anything short of that will not secure sustainable security and development for Somalia and will not eliminate the threat to the region and countries further afield.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of Egypt.

Mr. Abdelaziz (Egypt) (*spoke in Arabic*): At the outset, I would like to express my appreciation to the presidency of the Security Council for convening this open debate on the situation in Somalia at this important juncture in the efforts of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), the region and the international community to restore peace and stability in brotherly Somalia. Allow me also to welcome the high-level participation in this meeting on the part of the TFG, as represented by Prime Minister Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed.

I should like to express my delegation's sincere condolences to, as well as our support for, the forces of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

The situation in Somalia has been the focus of growing attention from the international community. This is due to an awareness that the threats stemming from this situation do not stop at Somalia's borders but also affect the region and the world as a whole. This situation has resulted from the absence of peace, stability and development in Somalia. It has set the stage for the humanitarian tragedy now experienced by the Somali people and created a fertile environment for the growth of terrorism and piracy.

The high-level meeting on Somalia that took place during the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly illustrated the growing attention of the international community. We look forward to that continued attention.

During the recent period of the transition, the TFG has played an effective role, despite great difficulties. The TFG has made unremitting efforts, with the support of AMISOM and regional and international partners, to expand the area under its control, enhance security, extend State authority, provide basic services to Somali citizens, enhance transparency and broaden the scope of the political reconciliation process on the basis of the Djibouti Peace Agreement. The agreement reached between the Transitional Federal Government and the Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a group was a result of those efforts.

While we commend those efforts on all levels by the TFG, Egypt also emphasizes that it is important that they continue to be made in the coming months in order to accomplish the outstanding transitional tasks, in particular the drafting of the constitution. That will require the Security Council and the international community to enhance their support and formulate a comprehensive strategy to support the TFG's efforts to deal with the situation in Somalia. This strategy should be based on respect for Somalia's unity and territorial integrity and must build on what has already been achieved during the transition period.

In that regard, Egypt stresses the importance that any decision regarding post-transitional arrangements should reflect the consensus of the Somali parties themselves and that this consensus should stem from a broad-based dialogue among the Somali parties in a way that contributes to enhancing the reconciliation

process as well as the efforts to achieve peace and stability in Somalia. Egypt calls upon the Somali parties to respond to the efforts of Special Representative of the Secretary-General Augustine Mahiga in that regard.

Acts of piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia have contributed to attracting much more attention from the international community to the situation in Somalia than the situation had garnered previously. However, international efforts so far have dealt with only part of the problem, as the focus has been on combating acts of piracy at sea instead of on directing greater attention to the fundamental underlying causes on the mainland. Egypt has warned against such a partial approach and has always emphasized — in particular through our participation in the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia and its Trust Fund Board, as well as through our chairmanship of Working Group 4 — the importance of the international community adopting a comprehensive approach that takes into account the root causes of the problem and addresses its political, security, economic and humanitarian dimensions, in particular the two decades of the absence of State authority, peace, stability and development. To achieve that goal, Egypt underlines the importance of taking a number of actions, including the following.

First, the TFG should enhance its efforts to expand the scope of the reconciliation process, building on the steps achieved in this area so far, and continue to maintain its cohesion, promote transparency in its work and enhance its credibility by accomplishing the outstanding transitional tasks, in particular the drafting of the constitution.

Secondly, the international community must redouble its support to the TFG, led by President Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed, in order to support the TFG's efforts to build the capacity of its institutions, in particular in the security sector. In that context, all parties must fulfil the commitments they made during the Brussels Conference in April 2009 in support of the Somali security sector and the African Union Mission in Somalia.

Thirdly, the international community should continue to provide support to AMISOM in order to enable it to reach its authorized strength of 12,000 troops, in accordance with resolution 1964 (2010), and address the gaps in the financial and logistical support

extended to the Mission. Furthermore, the Security Council should continue to consider the deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping mission in Somalia. Strengthening the capacity of Somali security institutions together with continued support to AMISOM will contribute to creating conditions conducive to the deployment of such a mission.

Fourthly, efforts to combat acts of piracy at sea should be part of a comprehensive strategy that benefits from the progress on the security and political tracks in Somalia. Such a strategy should work to promote an environment suitable for development and create alternative employment opportunities for Somali youth. In that regard, it may be appropriate to consider holding a donors' conference designed to launch a process for development in areas where the security situation is improving, especially in the light of the fact that the financial support during the transitional period was not significant.

Egypt will continue to pay great attention to the situation in Somalia, as it represents an important part of the Arab, African and Islamic arenas. We will maintain that attention and continue to support capacity building for Somali institutions through educational missions from Al-Azhar Al-Sharif, training programmes for Somali security and coast guard forces and training courses for Somali cadres, as well as humanitarian and medical aid.

Finally, Egypt hopes that our discussion today will contribute to the formulation of a comprehensive vision on how to help Somalia achieve peace, stability and development.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to representative of Uganda.

Mr. Mugoya (Uganda): Let me begin by congratulating you, Mr. President, and the delegation of China on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for this month. I thank you for organizing this important and timely debate on the need for a comprehensive strategy for the realization of peace and security in Somalia. I also thank the Secretary-General for his statement and his commitment to Somalia.

We welcome the participation in today's debate by Prime Minister Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, Mr. Boubacar Diarra, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for

Somalia, and Ambassador Mahiga, Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

Uganda commends the efforts made by Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and the Somali people towards restoring peace, security and stability in the country, in spite of the challenges. We are convinced that durable peace and stability in Somalia is attainable. What is needed now, more than ever before, is a comprehensive approach that addresses the political, security, rule of law and socio-economic dimensions. That approach should take into account the fact that the primary responsibility for durable peace and stability in Somalia remains with its Government and people. Support by the international community in that regard is key.

We encourage the TFG to intensify its efforts in reaching out to those groups willing to cooperate in a spirit of reconciliation and inclusiveness within the framework of the Djibouti Agreement. It is also essential to intensify efforts to complete the outstanding transitional tasks and ensure that the constitution-making process is completed in a consultative and timely manner.

Uganda is encouraged by the initiatives aimed at building the capacity of the Transitional Federal Institutions, especially in the security sector. However, more needs to be done to build on the gradual but steady progress made by the Somali Security Forces, with the support of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), in consolidating security and stability in Mogadishu and beyond. That will facilitate the creation of the necessary conditions for the political process to take place.

On the problem of piracy, we reiterate the need for a holistic approach that includes addressing its root causes.

Resolute action must be taken against armed groups, especially Al-Shabaab, that commit attacks, including terrorist attacks against the TFG, AMISOM, civilians and humanitarian workers. Action must also be taken against spoilers within and outside Somalia who continue to undermine the peace process.

Furthermore, Somalia requires sustained financial, material and technical support for the delivery of basic services and reconstruction and for setting up basic economic infrastructure in order to improve the livelihood of its population.

We call upon the international community to redouble its commitment and support for Somalia, including at the next meeting of the International Contact Group on Somalia, scheduled for later this month in Kampala. We welcome the announcement by the United Kingdom of an additional contribution to the Trust Fund for Somalia without caveats, as well as that of Japan to provide training and facilities for the Somali police.

Finally, we commend Special Representative Ambassador Augustine Mahiga and African Union Special Representative Baboucar Diarra and their teams for their work under challenging circumstances.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to Mr. Pedro Serrano, Acting Head of the Delegation of the European Union.

Mr. Serrano: Let me begin by thanking you, Mr. President, for having invited the European Union to participate in this important debate. Let me also thank Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia, Ambassador Diarra, for their important messages. I also welcome the presence of the Prime Minister of Somalia, Mr. Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed. On this occasion, I would like to restate that the European Union remains committed to providing support to Somalia and to all those who are making efforts to bring peace and security to the country.

The candidate countries Turkey, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia align themselves with this declaration.

The European Union remains deeply concerned by the situation of violence and unrest in Somalia and by its dramatic impact on the lives of the civilian population, especially women and children, who have been the primary victims. The European Union has in particular also repeatedly expressed its grave concern over the recruitment and use of children in the conflict.

In addition to the already dire security situation, the recent short rainy season resulted in rising food insecurity in central and southern regions, increasing the number of people needing humanitarian assistance by 20 per cent in the past six months to a total of

2.4 million. Following her recent visit to Somalia, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Valerie Amos said that Somalia had become one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, and that the situation could easily worsen if immediate action were not taken.

The European Union will continue to provide humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable populations, in accordance with the humanitarian principles of independence, neutrality, impartiality and humanity, while also taking into account the broader regional dimension and the substantial number of Somali refugees in neighbouring countries. However, the European Union is deeply concerned over the lack of access to and respect for the integrity and independence of the delivery of humanitarian assistance, and calls on all actors to ensure free and unhindered access.

In Mogadishu and its surrounding areas, violent clashes between Al-Shabaab and forces loyal to the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) have continued to occur on an almost daily basis. That illustrates the urgent need to link security with a political strategy, built on inclusive outreach. Security cannot be guaranteed by military means alone.

Tensions in the contested regions between Puntland and Somaliland have recently increased. The European Union calls on all parties to refrain from violence and to turn to dialogue to resolve their differences.

We are also concerned by the continuing political instability, following the recent unilateral decision of the Somali Parliament to extend its mandate for an additional three years. In order to improve the legitimacy, representativeness and credibility of any possible new institutional arrangements after August 2011, the Transitional Federal Institutions must be reformed. The constitutional process must be broadened and not limited to those Institutions.

In conformity with relevant Security Council resolutions, the European Union has developed a multipronged strategy for Somalia, in support of and in partnership with the Transitional Federal Government, the African Union, the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, countries in the region and other international partners. That support extends to the Djibouti political process, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), the

development of the rule of law and the security capacity of the Transitional Federal Government, and the fight against piracy.

For the sake of brevity, I will not go into details on all aspects of the European Union's engagement in Somalia, but would refer participants to the written version of my statement. However, it is important to mention that we greatly appreciate the efforts of the AMISOM troop-contributing countries, Uganda and Burundi. The courage and commitment of their troops deserve admiration. I am also glad to inform the Council that the first intake of 1,000 soldiers, trained in the framework of the European Union training mission, has been deployed in Mogadishu to reintegrate under AMISOM responsibility.

The European Union continues to worry about the level of violence of pirate attacks, and remains in the forefront in the fight against piracy through its Operation Atalanta. The European Union acknowledges the urgent need to respond through a multipronged approach that tackles the root causes. We need to support countries in the region in building regional maritime capacities. It is also urgent to take action in the fight against impunity for piracy crimes and to support the development and enhancement of legal, judicial and penitentiary measures in the countries of the region. The Kampala process, bringing together the TFG, Puntland and Somaliland, should be further developed.

There is no purely military solution to the conflict in Somalia. The strengthening of AMISOM, in particular, must go hand in hand with an upgraded and comprehensive political strategy, based on widening the TFG support base. Regrettably, the Transitional Federal Institutions have been unable to reach out to others, and, as a consequence, subregional authorities, such as those in Puntland and Galmudug, are expressing their frustration. That must be addressed.

We support efforts to shorten the extension of the transitional period, but at the same time it is necessary to ensure that any extension is linked to reforms. Indeed, in order to conclude the transitional period and to finalize the constitution, we believe that the TFG should develop more effective governance and consensus-building during the run-up to August 2011 and beyond.

For that purpose, it is urgent that the Transitional Federal Institutions advance a reform agenda to enable

the delivery of services to the Somali people and to build legitimacy and credibility. A Somali-driven reform of the Federal Institutions, as well as a national security strategy setting the parameters for the stabilization of Mogadishu and conflict-torn parts of southern and central Somalia, are essential. We note the commitment of Prime Minister Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, as reiterated today, and we count on the TFG's constructive approach in increasing the legitimacy of institutions in Somalia.

The challenges of Somalia need to be dealt with through a comprehensive approach, covering political reconciliation, security and development, as well as human rights. In that regard, the participation of Somali women in the decision-making process and in the political sphere, which has decreased in the past years, should be encouraged as a way to promote peace and reconciliation.

Bearing in mind the impact of the Somali situation on other countries of the region and beyond, it is therefore of key importance that the international community remains actively engaged in fully supporting the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, Ambassador Mahiga.

It is essential to put in place an influential approach, allowing for dialogue, understanding and moving the Somali peace process forward. The next meeting of the International Contact Group on Somalia will be helpful in that regard.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate the firm commitment of the European Union to continue to work for peace and stability in Somalia.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of Denmark.

Mr. Staur (Denmark): Let me join others in thanking you, Mr. President, for this timely debate. At the outset, let me also align myself and my Government with the statement just made by the representative of the European Union.

Like others, Denmark is very concerned about the worsening situation in Somalia. The country has been without a central Government for two decades. Mogadishu is the scene of continued battles between the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), supported by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), and Al-Shabaab. Most of southern and central Somalia

is controlled by Al-Shabaab, which seriously limits the space for addressing what is probably the greatest humanitarian crisis in the world today. The deteriorating humanitarian situation is a particular cause for concern. The conflict has disastrous consequences for the population, and the potential to further destabilize the situation in the Horn of Africa. Negative implications could be felt also in Europe.

At the end of the day, a lasting solution to the crisis in Somalia must be political. It is imperative that the international community come together under the leadership of the United Nations, both through the Security Council and through the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Ambassador Augustine Mahiga.

Denmark strongly supports the Special Representative's efforts. We urge, first and foremost, that the United Nations assist the TFG as a matter of priority in finalizing its political strategy, which is needed to frame military efforts, as well as to engage Somali groups, including the private sector, religious leaders, Somali civil society, women and the diaspora. Secondly, we urge the United Nations to push ahead with stronger integration in order to ensure better coordination across the many and complex United Nations efforts in Somalia. We are aware that the task is difficult and the environment risky. Yet there may be possibilities for strengthening the presence of the United Nations in more stable areas, such as Hargeisa or Garowe.

International efforts must be underpinned by a process, led by Africans themselves, in the African Union (AU), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and other relevant forums. A comprehensive solution must include Somalia's neighbours and the other countries in the wider Horn of Africa.

Through AMISOM, the AU is doing a commendable job in securing the TFG in Mogadishu, but a military track cannot stand alone. A broad political solution that embraces a new constitution for Somalia is also needed. Like others, we have been concerned about the lack of progress made on the political track by the TFG. The Parliament's recent unilateral prolongation of its mandate was not helpful to bolstering its credibility. A further prolongation beyond the present year is not acceptable. In order to improve the legitimacy of any new institutional

arrangement after 2011, the Transitional Federal Institutions must be reformed and the constitutional process must be broadened.

We deplore the loss of opportunities to exploit divisions within Al-Shabaab and other armed groups. We urge the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to work with the TFG to restore its credibility and reach out to the groups outside the Djibouti process, including in particular the regions, the private sector, the diaspora and non-governmental organizations.

Denmark, as a considerable seafaring nation with important interests in safe and open seas, considers the fight against piracy to be a high priority. Piracy off the coast of Somalia has reached an alarming scale and poses a threat to world trade and economic recovery. Not least, the East African economies are at risk, with piracy threatening important trade routes in the region. Denmark has been a very active partner in the fight against piracy since the maritime military operations kicked off in 2008. At the moment, we are contributing a vessel to NATO's Operation Ocean Shield. In spite of the valuable contribution of the naval forces to the fight against piracy delivered, it is clear that military efforts cannot stand alone. A lasting solution to the piracy problem can be found only — only — on land.

The legal issues pertaining to piracy are thorny. Denmark works actively to strengthen international legal efforts to combat piracy off the coast of Somalia, in particular through the Danish chairmanship of Working Group 2 of the international Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia. Ensuring that pirates are prosecuted is a cornerstone of the international fight against piracy. We are therefore pleased with the latest figures, which show that 820 pirates are in fact being prosecuted in 16 States. At the same time, it is important to continue exploring the legal aspects of post-trial transfers of sentenced Somali individuals back to Somalia for incarceration. The establishment of prison facilities on the ground in Somalia is a key factor in that regard.

Finally, I take this opportunity to inform the Council that my Government has recently revised its Somalia policy. The new policy embraces a whole-of-Government approach across the areas of defence, diplomacy and development, and provides a Danish envelope for humanitarian and development assistance amounting to more than \$70 million over the next four

years. On top of that are funds set aside for stabilization purposes, in addition to our naval contribution to the international fight against piracy off the coast of Somalia.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I call on the representative of the Sudan.

Mr. Osman (Sudan) (*spoke in Arabic*): At the outset, I wish to sincerely and warmly congratulate you, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for this month. I do so especially because China is a great friend of our mother continent, Africa, and in particular of my country, the Sudan, in the light of the historic and very sound relations between our two peoples and countries.

It therefore comes as no great surprise to us that during your presidency we will enjoy such constructive and positive initiatives as that which the Council is engaged in today regarding the situation in Somalia. China has a long-standing tradition of strengthening and maintaining international peace and security and participates generously in support of peacekeeping operations throughout the world.

I would also like to welcome Mr. Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, and thank him for his detailed briefing to the Council today. The very praiseworthy efforts recently undertaken by his Government were reflected in that briefing.

It is high time for the international community to take greater interest in Somalia and to address the various developments in the situation there by adopting a different approach from that of the United Nations over the past two decades. It is essential to adopt a new strategy that will enable us to achieve lasting peace and security in that brotherly Arab-African country.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the commendable efforts of the African Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and, in particular, the African Union Mission in Somalia. I also wish to acknowledge recent efforts aimed at strengthening the implementation of the road map adopted by the Prime Minister, following the initiative of the international Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia.

It is very important to affirm here that the Sudan, as an influential and active member of the international

Contact Group on Somali Piracy, played an essential role in the adoption of the decisions taken by the Contact Group during its meeting in Rome in June 2009. In that context, it is important to identify a definite vision and a precise timeline for carrying out the outstanding tasks during the transitional period. We fully agree with the guiding principles outlined in the document circulated by the presidency (S/2011/114) regarding the difficulty of completing all remaining tasks during the transition period, which will come to an end in only five months.

We share the general concern regarding increased acts of piracy off the coast of Somalia. We support the statements of the Prime Minister of Somalia, in particular his comment that the issue of piracy will be resolved not off the coast of Somalia but by strengthening State authority on land and by promoting the rule of law throughout Somalia. The phenomenon of piracy will be effectively resolved only through a lasting and comprehensive political solution to the problem of Somalia.

According to the Secretary-General's report (S/2010/556), the intensive international efforts undertaken to eliminate piracy have been unsuccessful. On the contrary, the pirates' activities have spread, reaching the very edge of the Indian Ocean. Suffice it to recall here that more than 20 vessels are currently being held by the pirates. This situation calls for the international community, and the Security Council in particular, to take a new approach to tackling this phenomenon in line with the Chinese initiative we are discussing today.

The historic ancestral links between Somalia and the Sudan impel us to spare no effort in seeking to restore peace and stability in Somalia. Solid channels of communication have long existed between our two countries. Since the beginning of the civil war in Somalia, the Sudan has been at the forefront of countries acting effectively to restore peace and stability throughout that country. We will limit ourselves to citing only a few examples.

In 2006, the Sudan hosted three rounds of negotiations between Somali factions. Furthermore, efforts have continued and been stepped up in the framework of the Arab Contact Group on Somalia in order to bring together the various brotherly Somali factions. The Sudan also played a leading role in the Djibouti process in 2008, which resulted in the signing

of the power-sharing agreement. The Sudan's efforts to strengthen stability in Somalia continued in 2009 with a number of ministerial and presidential visits from the Transitional Federal Government to Khartoum to strengthen cooperation between the two States and to support peace and stability throughout Somalia.

Finally, we believe that the Chinese initiative to seek a comprehensive approach is a good and positive one that should be adopted and swiftly implemented. We see our exchanges today as a platform for launching this initiative, which addresses the real underlying causes of the problematic situation in Somalia.

We reaffirm that, given our geographic and regional position and cultural, social and civilizational links with the brotherly country of Somalia, the Sudan is ready to provide all possible assistance to the United Nations and its various bodies, including the Security Council, in order to achieve security and stability in brotherly Somalia.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of Sweden.

Mr. Grunditz (Sweden): I thank you, Sir, for convening this open debate on the critical situation in Somalia. Sweden aligns itself with the statement of the European Union and would like to put forward the following supplementary observations.

In this final phase of the transitional period, it is high time that the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) demonstrate unity, determination and the capability to act. A realistic, implementable and prioritized plan of action is required. The international community should be ready to support the early implementation of such a plan with clear, identified benchmarks. Adequate financial mechanisms, with clear accountability and transparency criteria, should be readily available if such a plan is to be timely and effective.

The development of a constitution for Somalia has proven to be a contentious and divisive exercise. Genuine popular consultations are necessary to allow a broad segment of Somali constituencies to voice their views and expectations. The delay in this process is regrettable and a missed opportunity for reconciliation and peace. The TFIs should therefore accelerate the consultative process.

The mechanisms provided for by the Djibouti Agreement should be used more effectively, and we support the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Mahiga, in this regard. The high-level committee to be chaired by the United Nations could be better used for reaching out to regional administrations and other stakeholders. A dialogue on priorities for the political process, including on constitution-related matters, is needed immediately and should preferably take place inside Somalia.

We welcome the valuable contribution of the Joint Security Committee on security and rule of law matters. We want to stress that effective security structures of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) cannot be established without a national security strategy. A defectors' programme is also required.

The role of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) is indispensable. We express our sincere condolences to the families of the soldiers from Burundi and Uganda who have lost their lives in battle in Somalia. We welcome the fact that the United Nations Support Office for AMISOM has established a presence in Mogadishu to make its support to AMISOM as effective as possible. Sweden is pleased to note that AMISOM is taking measures to improve the enforcement of international humanitarian law, including by the troops of the TFG.

Sweden's contribution to AMISOM includes support for quick impact projects that directly benefit the civilian population and their livelihoods in Mogadishu. We hope to see the TFG taking initiatives for such activities and other ways of winning peace dividends in areas under their control.

The piracy problem needs a multipronged response. It requires joint initiatives and cooperation among the entities in Somalia, including Somaliland. The opportunities that the Kampala process presents should be further captured and additional areas for cooperation identified. Some of the areas and activities in this process could prevent the recruitment of persons for piracy activities. A comprehensive approach to addressing the piracy problem through activities on land needs to be well informed of the livelihood patterns, income opportunities and dynamics on the ground.

We welcome the fact that United Nations Political Office in Somalia is establishing presences in

Mogadishu, Puntland and Somaliland. An integrated strategic framework for the combined role of the United Nations throughout Somalia, including in Somaliland, should be put in place and facilitate the harmonization of the overall international response. All United Nations activities concerning Somalia, inside or outside the country, need to be well coordinated in order to avoid duplication and ensure an effective and efficient use of resources. We also believe that the work of the international Contact Group, under the leadership of Special Representative Mahiga, should be made more productive.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of the Philippines.

Mr. Cabactulan (Philippines): At the outset, I wish to congratulate China on its assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for the month of March. I am confident that, with China's wise and able leadership, the Council will successfully discharge its duties and responsibilities. I wish to thank the Secretary-General, His Excellency Ban Ki-moon, for his presentation on Somalia. I also wish to thank Prime Minister Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia and Ambassador Boubacar Diarra, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia, for providing us with a ground-level view of the situation in Somalia. Lastly, I wish to thank Mr. Henry Bellingham, Minister for Africa of the United Kingdom, for sharing his insights and perspective on Somalia this morning.

The delegation of the Philippines highly appreciates China's concept note, entitled "Comprehensive strategy for the realization of peace and security in Somalia" (S/2011/114, annex), which helps set the tone of our open debate today.

The situation in Somalia has momentarily taken a back seat in relation to the pressing developments in the Middle East. But the deteriorating situation in that huge and strategic country in the Horn of Africa poses serious security challenges that, if not addressed quickly and consistently, could further develop into a much greater and long-term threat to international peace and security. The damage and disruption caused by Somali pirates to international shipping, trade and tourism and the danger posed by pirates to the safety and well-being of merchant mariners have far-reaching negative impacts and potentially catastrophic effects.

The rampant piracy off the coast of Somalia and beyond is indeed a major concern for the international community and the Philippines. The Philippines is the origin of one third of the world's seafarer population and is among the countries most adversely affected and seriously alarmed by incidences of piracy off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden.

We are now feeling the negative effects of relentless pirate attacks on cargo ships and even smaller marine vessels navigating Somali waters and the wider Indian Ocean. Buoyed by their initial successes and impunity from prosecution, the Somali pirates are getting more and more sophisticated and aggressive in seizing control of unprotected ships. We see not only more crew members being taken hostage, but also an escalation of atrocities. Early this year, Somali pirates shot dead a Filipino seaman aboard a German-owned ship, the MV *Beluga Nomination*, off Seychelles.

As I speak, at least 130 Filipino seafarers from 11 vessels are still being held captive by Somali pirates. It is a tribute to their courage and tenacity that they have so far endured the ordeal. The Government of the Philippines is doing everything within its power to facilitate their early and safe release so that they can return to their families and loved ones and resume their normal lives.

The Philippines supports more robust international action against piracy. Pirates must be brought to justice to the extent possible. In this regard, the Philippines commends the work of Mr. Jack Lang, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Legal Issues related to Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, in developing legal approaches aimed at the prosecution and imprisonment of captured pirates. In addition, the international community must push bolder and more effective anti-piracy measures. There must a concerted effort among the stakeholders — such as Governments, shipping companies, manning agencies and seafarers' associations — to work closely together to comply with best management practices to deter piracy attacks.

The international naval presence in the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean, in particular Operation Atalanta, has done a lot to protect and ensure the safe passage of merchant vessels in those high-risk waters. The deployment of navy assets, however, in such a wide expanse of territory poses logistical and

coordination challenges and strains the limited resources needed for the operation's sustainability.

It is evident in our debate today that there is a firm commitment to tackling the urgent problem of piracy off the coast of Somalia. The long-term solution to piracy, however, lies on land and not at sea. The ongoing peace process in Somalia deserves the strong and vigorous support of the international community. The peace and security and development needs of that country should be the paramount goal. Economic and career opportunities must be created in order to provide an alternative path for restless Somali youth who are vulnerable to the lure of piracy.

The Philippines stands ready to work with the United Nations and other partners to assist in the efforts to help Somalia attain peace and stability and fight the menace of piracy. The Somali people urgently need our continued understanding and help. We should not disappoint them.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of Spain.

Mr. De Laiglesia (Spain) (*spoke in Spanish*): I would like to start by thanking China, as President of the Security Council for this month, for having organized this open debate on a comprehensive strategy for achieving peace and security in Somalia and for the concept note (S/2011/114, annex) prepared to guide our debate. I also wish to thank the Secretary-General for his presentation and welcome the statements by the Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia and the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia. I would also like to join others in paying tribute to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, Mr. Mahiga, for his work.

Spain fully aligns itself with the European Union statement made this afternoon and would like to share, in our national capacity, the following thoughts.

In our opinion, this debate is appropriately focused on responding to the complex challenges currently facing Somalia. Spain is strongly committed to Somalia. We are contributing €6 million to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). In 2010, we were the first humanitarian donor in the country, and during the meeting of the International Contact Group on Somalia held in Madrid last

September we committed €3 million in direct budgetary support to the Transitional Federal Government, 2 million of which have already been disbursed.

In this context, and in view of the end of the transitional period in August, we believe it to be a matter of urgency that the authorities of the Transitional Federal Government make progress in the drafting of a new constitution that obtains broad consensus. They must promote an inclusive political dialogue that makes it possible to address the root causes of conflict. They need to focus on security sector reform with the support of the international community, and they must work actively to improve the living conditions of the population.

Spain shares the international community's concern about the escalation of piracy in the Indian Ocean waters. Spain's commitment to the fight against piracy is unequivocal. My country is participating with two vessels — a frigate and a patrol boat — and two aircraft — a helicopter and a maritime patrol aircraft — in the European Union's Operation Atalanta, which is currently under Spanish command. It supports the Ocean Shield Operation of the Atlantic Alliance and has offered to continue collaborating in escorting ships of the World Food Programme heading for Somalia. Spain also leads the European Union Somalia Training Mission, which provides training to Somali security forces in Uganda, in which 38 troops are stationed.

However, the commendable work of the naval forces in the prevention and prosecution of acts of piracy contrasts with a degree of impunity enjoyed by those arrested for acts of piracy that seriously undermines the effectiveness of the international efforts. Although the causes of piracy are numerous and complex — and we all agree that they should be addressed in a holistic manner — we deem it essential and urgent to resolve this paradox by strengthening the legal, jurisdictional and correctional spheres as measures necessary to cut down on impunity.

The report by Mr. Lang, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Legal Issues related to Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (S/2011/30, annex), provides us with valuable proposals that deserve to be revisited. We agree with the assessment that it is essential to develop and strengthen the institutional capacities of the countries of the region in the legal, jurisdictional and correctional spheres if we wish to

reverse the trend that favours the spread and continuation of acts of piracy. Legal initiatives should be aimed against not only the actual perpetrators, but also those who plan, lead and make a profit from those activities. This will require improving the collection and production of evidence, as well as the further involvement of all the countries taking part in this endeavour.

The aforementioned measures — in particular, those of a jurisdictional nature — would be better implemented through the adoption of a new Security Council resolution as soon as possible. Notwithstanding the fact that such a resolution could address a wide range of the many necessary elements of an approach to piracy, in Spain's opinion it should focus on the legal aspects and contain at least the following three main elements: an encouragement of the strengthened collection and production of evidence; a guarantee of treatment in accordance with international humanitarian law for those detained, prosecuted and found guilty for crimes of piracy; and a decision to urgently establish Somali courts to hear piracy cases in Somaliland, Puntland and in any of the neighbouring countries. Such courts could be also open to staff from third countries.

With regard to the drafting and adoption of such a resolution, the Security Council can count on the full support and cooperation of Spain, since we are convinced that it would contribute to addressing the current significant legal loopholes. That is an essential element in the international effort coordinated by the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia and requires maximum effectiveness with respect to prevention and deterrence.

Despite the complexity and ongoing escalation of piracy, Spain is convinced that the situation can still be reversed. We should act above all with resolve and without delay to strengthen our counter-piracy tools, since its continuation presents a difficult obstacle to overcome as we build a Somalia with solid and capable institutions that can work for the security and development of the Somali people. We all hope that such a scenario will be a reality in the near future.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I give the floor to the representative of Qatar.

Mr. Al-Nasser (Qatar) (*spoke in Arabic*): I congratulate you, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency of the Security Council this month, and I

welcome your choice of Somalia as the subject of the thematic debate during your presidency. Through you, I would like to thank the Secretary-General for his participation in the meeting and to welcome His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, and to wish him, on behalf of the Government of the State of Qatar, success in achieving his ambitious programme to serve his country.

Over the past few years, and since the national reconciliation conference in Djibouti, Somalia has witnessed a range of positive developments at the domestic, regional and international levels. However, the looming threats in that country call for the continued support of the international community.

We condemn all forms of violence and all acts that threaten stability and the security of Somali citizens, the internationally recognized Government and the international forces, and we regret any casualties that they have suffered. We also take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the African Union and the countries contributing troops to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). Since security remains the most critical challenge faced by the Transitional Federal Institutions, we must increase the package of support provided to AMISOM.

The problem of piracy off the Somali coast has reached an unprecedented level. Military action to deter pirates and protect merchant ships in the Indian Ocean is indispensable. However, it is also necessary to put an end to the impunity enjoyed by the pirates.

We have stressed repeatedly that we should not deal with Somalia only as a security problem, since any approach aimed at addressing the lack of security and stability will not be successful unless it addresses its various dimensions and is implemented within the framework of cooperation and close coordination among the United Nations, the African Union, the League of Arab States and other subregional organizations on the basis of Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter.

For many years, Somalia was considered to be a forgotten country. It will be very important for efforts to help the country to be coordinated through cooperation among the Security Council, the General Assembly and the specialized agencies in accordance with their mandates. The international community has

a responsibility to do its utmost to end this crisis, which is one of the most difficult in the world.

The full version of my statement has been circulated to members of the Council.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I give the floor to the representative of the United Arab Emirates.

Mr. Al-Jarman (United Arab Emirates) (*spoke in Arabic*): I thank you, Sir, for convening this meeting to discuss the situation in Somalia. I wish also to welcome His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, Prime Minister of Somalia.

My country has closely followed the drawn-out suffering of the people of Somalia over the past two decades, including internal political divisions, insecurity, ongoing conflicts and violent unrest throughout the country, and the displacement of more than 2 million Somalis to date. While we are deeply concerned about the persistence of this unfortunate situation in Somalia and the threat it continues to pose at the regional and international levels, we also emphasize our strong support for all endeavours and joint efforts of the United Nations and the African Union to enable the Transitional Federal Government to pursue its plan in the areas of reconciliation and the fight against extremism, within the framework of the Djibouti peace process.

We call on the Somali parties, and their leaders in particular, to bear the primary responsibility for the restoration of peace and stability in their country. In this context, we emphasize the need to develop a genuine and comprehensive international strategy and to establish a clear political and development road map capable of helping the Somali people to overcome their predicament and to restore peace, security and stability throughout the territory and territorial waters of their country.

The United Arab Emirates pledges to maintain its full commitment to the United Nations resolutions, especially those imposing an arms embargo on Somalia, and to the ongoing provision of all forms of assistance to the Somali people in order to enable it to overcome the urgent humanitarian crisis. We also call for strengthened international support for Somalia, especially in the following main areas.

First is support for the political process and for addressing the security situation in the country, which requires the promotion of efforts to establish political

dialogue among all Somali parties and entities, including within the Transitional Federal Institutions, as well as among groups remaining outside the framework of the Djibouti peace process, in order to encourage them to join the process and secure the cessation of all acts of violence in the country, including acts of extremism and other acts targeting the humanitarian workers there.

Second is the need to address the tragic humanitarian situation in Somalia, which requires the international community to strengthen its humanitarian, financial and economic support in order to enable the Transitional Federal Government to overcome the consequences of the drought affecting the country and to implement programmes for the reform, rehabilitation and recovery of the Somali economy, aimed at rebuilding the country and creating legitimate alternative sources of income as a substitute for mutual killing and piracy, which currently attracts hundreds of young Somalis. In that connection, we refer to the humanitarian assistance, comprised of 149 tons of food, provided recently by the United Arab Emirates to Somalia. We hope that all States will undertake similar humanitarian initiatives to alleviate the current plight of the people of Somalia.

Third is to address the growing phenomenon of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast, the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean. The threats posed by piracy to international navigation and trade, including the movement of humanitarian assistance to the African continent, have exceeded international efforts made to date to eradicate it. In addition, according to reports from the International Maritime Organization, piracy has resulted in huge annual financial losses, approaching \$12 billion.

Therefore, as an affected country and active supporter of the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia and its four working groups, the United Arab Emirates calls upon the international community to develop a holistic long-term strategy to combat and completely eliminate this phenomenon. Such a strategy should also make it possible to bring to justice those who are responsible, involved in or facilitating acts of piracy, so as to ensure that we can fully prevent and put an end to these acts.

In that context, we support the options and recommendations contained in the recent report of the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on this issue

(S/2011/30, annex). We also emphasize that anti-piracy efforts must be an integral part of the overall strategy of the Djibouti Peace Agreement.

In conclusion my country, which in the past has hosted a number of forums on combating piracy at sea, hopes that the high-level conference scheduled to be held in Dubai from 17 to 19 April under the theme "Global threat, regional responses: forging a common approach to maritime piracy", will contribute to supporting and strengthening current international efforts aimed at combating this phenomenon.

Finally, we reiterate our position calling for full respect for the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Somalia as part of any international or regional efforts undertaken for restoring the security and stability of that country and relaunching its development.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of Norway.

Mr. Wetland (Norway): As a founding member of the International Contact Group and Chair of the Group of Friends of Somalia here in New York, Norway is deeply engaged in the peace process in Somalia. Norway will continue to assist in areas such as peace, reconciliation and training police capacity. We will cooperate both with the Transitional Federal Government and with those regional administrations that are functioning. We have also recently decided to provide approximately \$30 million in humanitarian assistance to Somalia in 2011.

As the fighting has intensified, a severe drought has also exacerbated the already grave humanitarian crisis in large parts of the country. There is an urgent need to improve access for the provision of humanitarian assistance to all parts of Somalia.

It is alarming that the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) are lagging far behind in their efforts to deliver on what is expected of them before the expiry of their mandate, in August. We deplore the untimely decision by the Transitional Federal Parliament to unilaterally extend its mandate for another three years.

Action is urgently needed to lay the ground for a broader political platform and a more inclusive political process, including with the regional administrations, in order to build a basis for a more peaceful post-transition process. The TFIs cannot

afford another internal power struggle; rather, they must focus their efforts on addressing the pressing challenges for Somalia and its people.

The international community must act together in assisting and supporting Somalia with the means available to overcome the present hardships and achieve the peace, security and stability that the Somali people so desperately need. We welcome the recent joint regional strategy adopted by the African Union Mission in Somalia, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the United Nations Political Office in Somalia to better coordinate their efforts. In that respect, let me pay tribute to the brave peacekeepers from Uganda and Burundi.

The absence of an effective international presence in Mogadishu and southern Somalia is an impediment to having a better picture of the political and humanitarian situation on the ground. We call for an increased international presence in the course of 2011.

Piracy is dramatically threatening humanitarian and commercial activities. The threat is felt both by local communities in Somalia and the hundreds of hostages on land and on hijacked ships. We all agree that a lasting solution to the problem of piracy can only be found on land and through the restoration of effective Somali State institutions. But in the meantime we need to contain the problem. It is vital that the pirates and their leaders and investors are brought to justice. To do so, we need a more coordinated effort in collecting, analysing and sharing intelligence on the financial flows related to piracy.

It is important to cooperate with the relevant Somali national and regional authorities and with other countries in the region. We have taken due note of the report (S/2011/30, annex) of Mr. Jack Lang, Special Adviser of the Secretary General. The report contains certain proposals that we hope will be implemented.

In 2011 Norway will allocate approximately \$5 million for counter-piracy measures, including measures to strengthen the justice sector. That will also include a new contribution to the trust fund established by the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia. We encourage other countries to do the same.

Finally, I want to salute my former colleague Augustine Mahiga and to congratulate him on the important and decisive work he is doing for the people of Somalia.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of Thailand.

Mr. Kittichaisaree (Thailand): My delegation commends the delegation of China for convening this timely and important open debate on a comprehensive strategy for the realization of peace and security in Somalia. I would like to focus my statement on the issue of piracy off the coast of Somalia.

Thailand has serious concerns about the problem of Somali piracy, which has increased in scope, scale and frequency. Thai fishing and commercial vessels are at times hijacked by Somali pirates. Thailand believes that Somali piracy is a symptom of various underlying factors. In order to effectively address the problem, such factors and root causes must be concurrently and holistically addressed through short-, medium- and long-term solutions.

Thailand believes that a long-term and long-lasting solution to the Somali piracy problem can only be achieved through the restoration of peace and security in Somalia. The rule of law must be in place and upheld. Economic development must be promoted to offer employment opportunities as viable alternatives to piracy. Sustained international and regional aid and assistance for Somalia to help develop its economy and eradicate poverty are crucial; as is capacity building for Somalia, for it to achieve political and economic stability and security.

A medium-term solution may be achieved in the form of the Somalization of responses to piracy, proposed by Mr. Jack Lang, Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Legal Issues Related to Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, in his report (S/2011/30, annex). The international community should seriously consider his 25 proposals, including the possibility of setting up special courts, with two special prisons for suspected pirates in Puntland and Somaliland. The approximate cost of \$25 million for establishing them, as he proposes, should be shared by the United Nations, the African Union, the European Union and other organizations and stakeholders.

The cost of piracy to its perpetrators must be raised to a point where piracy is no longer a relatively low-risk, high-profit enterprise. To achieve that, the problem of impunity must be addressed, and there is a short-term solution: deterrence of the perpetration of acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea through the repression and prosecution of pirates and those

involved in piracy, including national and transnational organized groups. Universal jurisdiction over piracy and criminalization of acts proscribed by various conventions and protocols should be useful tools for achieving this objective. Another deterrent measure that is already in place and that Thailand supports appears in several Security Council resolutions: imposing certain arms sanctions, travel bans and assets freezes of those individuals and entities engaged in perpetuating the instability in Somalia, including those who may be supporting or engaged in acts of piracy.

For Thailand's part, between 8 September 2010 and 14 January 2011, the Royal Thai Navy (RTN) dispatched its Counter-Piracy Task Group, comprising 371 Royal Thai Navy personnel with two naval vessels together with two airlift helicopters and two RTN Special Operation Units, to participate in the Combined Maritime Forces patrolling in the Internationally Recommended Transit Corridor in the Gulf of Aden and off the coast of Somalia. On 28 February this year our experts participated in the meeting of the Working Group 3 of the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, chaired by the United States, to discuss strengthening shipping self-awareness and protection and other capabilities in order to coordinate international efforts to combat piracy in the Gulf of Aden and off the coast of Somalia. I myself will be one of the panelists at the meeting organized by the Permanent Observer Mission of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization on 16 March to address the topic of "Piracy: Legal and Policy Issues" here at United Nations Headquarters.

Thailand hopes that our concrete contributions have helped alleviate the problem of piracy off the coast of Somalia. We look forward to further dialogue and cooperation to develop a coordinated international strategy for combating piracy in all its dimensions, including the attainment of the long-lasting peace, stability and prosperity of the nation and people of Somalia.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Mr. Sefue (United Republic of Tanzania): Mr. President, my delegation thanks you for the initiative to convene this open debate on the situation in Somalia, a situation that is of great concern to us

because Tanzania is one of the Member States most affected by insecurity and instability in Somalia.

We commend international efforts and cooperation in deploying assets to combat piracy off the Horn of Africa. We now ask that those welcome efforts at sea be balanced by equal efforts to address, in a comprehensive manner, the socio-economic and security push-factors on land in Somalia. Increased international presence at sea alone will not solve the problem; it will only push the pirates further east and southwards.

Tanzania will continue to do all it can to ensure the safety of our waters. But our capacity to do so in the face of increasing acts of piracy is limited. We thank those bilateral partners who have provided some help to build our capacity to act more effectively, but there is no doubt that we need more support in building our surveillance, monitoring and deterrence capacities at sea. We ask for that kind of support from members of this Council, as well as all others who can help.

Tanzania likewise stands ready to do its part, within its own capabilities, in prosecuting accused pirates. We look forward to working with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assess our capabilities and the support we need in that regard.

The Transitional Federal Government in Somalia has the primary responsibility to provide leadership for an all-inclusive political process for a post-conflict Somalia, as well as to build national institutions and capacity that can deliver for the Somali people. We welcome the commitments in that regard by the Prime Minister, His Excellency Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, in this Chamber this morning. We encourage them and ask that they remain united, determined and focused in driving this process forward.

The implementation of the transitional tasks must be stepped up. Tanzania does not support the decision of the Somali Parliament to unilaterally extend itself for another three years. Likewise, all the other parties to the peace and reconciliation process have to be forthcoming and contribute to a speedy and successful outcome. The international community, and certainly this Security Council, must stand ready to impose sanctions on spoilers.

Tanzania is concerned about the deteriorating security and humanitarian situation in Somalia, and we

urge increased support for humanitarian assistance. We commend Uganda and Burundi for providing the bulk of the troops for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). We ask the Security Council to support AMISOM fully. Africa is showing leadership in this issue.

It is important for the Council to support, endorse and authorize the specific requests by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union. They include expanding and increasing support to AMISOM, imposing a naval blockade and no-fly zone over Somalia, imposing sanctions against those impeding the peace and reconciliation process, adopting a holistic, comprehensive approach that will address all underlying issues that drive the piracy menace, and a commitment to re-hat AMISOM as a United Nations peacekeeping operation.

Somalia poses a serious threat to peace and security in the region and beyond. Somalia is not an African problem; it is a global problem and is within the full purview and mandate of this Security Council. Tanzania applauds the efforts being undertaken, in very difficult circumstances, by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, His Excellency Ambassador Augustine Mahiga. He needs and deserves the genuine support and cooperation of all parties in Somalia and of all of us in the international community.

Finally, Tanzania pays tribute to all men and women serving under AMISOM and to those providing humanitarian assistance, especially those who lost their lives in the cause of peace and humanitarian assistance in Somalia. Our sympathies and condolences go to their Governments, their families and loved ones.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of Ukraine.

Mr. Sergeev (Ukraine): Mr. President, on behalf of the delegation of Ukraine I wish to thank you for holding this important meeting and for inviting Ukraine to participate. I would also like to wish the Chinese delegation every success in fulfilling the highly responsible duties of the Security Council presidency.

Aligning ourselves with the statement of the European Union, my delegation would like to share some views in its national capacity.

Undoubtedly, Somalia's insecure and volatile situation deserves our utmost attention, as it is

impacting not only that country's own people but the entire region of the Horn of Africa — and, one could say, the whole world. Although the very process of bringing peace, stability and prosperity to the country remains in the hands of the Somalis, the international community can and, moreover, is obliged to assist Somalia in completing that difficult task.

Given that the humanitarian crisis in the country is worsening, the number of violent clashes and losses of human life are growing and the Transitional Institutions are so far unable to build constructive dialogue with other stakeholders of the Somalia political reconciliation process, the world community is now being urged to come up with a new, more holistic and comprehensive approach on Somalia. In that connection, we welcome the recent adoption by the United Nations Political Office for Somalia, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) of the Joint Regional Strategy on Somalia, outlining a common approach to the political, security, humanitarian, institutional and financial challenges that confront the peace process in the country.

In spite of the recent unilateral decision by the Somali Parliament to extend its mandate for three years, Ukraine is still hopeful that the Transitional Federal Government will justify the trust placed in it as a credible transitional authority in Somalia. However, Ukraine would favour shortening the transitional period and combining that with the reform of transitional institutions and the continuation of the constitutional process in the country. Thus we reiterate to Ambassador Mahiga, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, our full support in the fulfilment of his mandate.

Military efforts aimed at providing security in Somalia are also of vital importance. Hence more progress needs to be made in deploying the additional AMISOM troops, as has been authorized by the Security Council. Ukraine pays tribute to the African Union soldiers in Somalia, as the gains made by AMISOM are coming at a high cost.

One more increasingly disturbing factor in the context of the situation in Somalia is the maritime piracy that is taking place off its coast and in the Arabian Sea area. Ukraine is in favour of reinforcing the international naval presence in the western part of the Indian Ocean and in the Arabian Sea. In this regard,

we commend the efforts of the European Union Naval Force Atalanta and of the other maritime forces operating in the area off the Somali coast.

Unfortunately, despite the tremendous amount of work carried out by anti-piracy actors, this scourge is far from being ended. The pirates' tactics have evolved, and the overall number of their attacks has grown. Most regrettably, the level of violence used by pirates towards the crews of the vessels they attack has increased dramatically. The average length of time during which hostages are held by pirates has doubled since 2009 and is now 190 days. In that context, Ukraine calls upon all the actors involved, including flag States and industry, to engage more actively in the process of resolving the problems of seafarers and their family members that derive from their being constantly exposed to the threat of piracy. Although the implementation of the industry-developed best management practices has improved the security of crews and significantly contributed to a reduction in the number of successful hijackings, a long-term solution to the problem that addresses its root causes is still urgently needed.

Nevertheless, a sustainable solution to the problem of Somali piracy is to be found on the ground, not at sea, as all of us unanimously agree. In the process of repressing pirates at sea, the international community should more keenly explore ways of building a regional naval and judicial capacity so as to enable Somalia to police its own waters and bring pirates to justice. We find reasonable the ideas put forward by Mr. Jack Lang, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Legal Issues related to Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, in his recent report (S/2011/30, annex), including the proposal to establish a system of Somalia courts comprising a specialized court in Puntland, a specialized court in Somaliland and a specialized extraterritorial Somali court outside the country. Notably, Mr. Lang foresees the creation of the necessary imprisonment facilities in Somalia, as the lack of imprisonment arrangements has been referred to as a major constraint on piracy prosecutions.

In our view, it is high time that the Security Council took measures aimed at fighting Somali pirates' impunity, on the basis of the work that has been done to that end by the Secretary-General and his Special Adviser, as well as by the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia. By doing so, we, as States Members of the United Nations, would prove

our sincere commitment to cooperating in the repression of Somalia piracy to the fullest possible extent.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of Tajikistan.

Mr. Noziri (Tajikistan): I have the honour to make this statement on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) group.

At the outset, we would like to thank the Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, and the Special Representative for Somalia of the Commission of the African Union, Mr. Boubacar Diarra, for their important briefings. We welcome the presence of the Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, Mr. Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed. We would like also to express our deep appreciation to the Chinese presidency of the Security Council for the convening of this timely meeting and for giving the OIC group the opportunity to address it.

Since the beginning of the conflict in Somalia nearly two decades ago, the OIC has always given top priority to the situation in that country, which is a founding State Member of the Organization. The crisis in Somalia has permanently featured on the agenda of all OIC summits and conferences of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, including their annual coordination meetings in New York.

The OIC has remained in close contact and worked in unison with the United Nations to find the necessary ways and means of restoring peace and security in Somalia. In the same vein, we wish specifically to pay high tribute to Mr. Augustine Mahiga, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, for his commendable role and outstanding performance directed at ensuring a tangible outcome to the efforts of all concerned to restore peace, security and stability in Somalia.

Despite the renewed strong engagement by the OIC and, indeed, the larger international community, which produced the Djibouti Peace Agreement, currently under implementation, lasting peace has, sadly, continued to elude Somalia. A number of international conferences in which the OIC actively participated have been convened to demonstrate solidarity and support for the Transitional Federal Government, led by President Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed, but Somalia is still at a crossroads, and the

security situation remains fragile. Considering the huge investment made so far in the Somalia project, it is therefore incumbent on all of us, as stakeholders, to continue to work together with the Government in order to protect and preserve our collective investment, in the interest of regional and international peace and security.

As a practical commitment to Somalia, the OIC also hosted the sixteenth session of the International Contact Group on Somalia in Jeddah. Unfortunately, the violence and terrorist attacks by extremist militant groups seeking to overthrow the internationally recognized Transitional Federal Government have not abated, thereby compounding the already dire humanitarian situation in Somalia.

It is our hope that with the appointment of the new Prime Minister and his government, the Transitional Federal Government will remain focused on pursuing national reconciliation and will avoid any distraction in order to complete, through an inclusive process, the outstanding key tasks under the transition.

The international community must encourage the Government to promote dialogue and reconciliation with the groups that renounce violence and join the peace process. However, we must also demonstrate a strong resolve to confront as well as defeat the spoilers and enemies of peace and progress. I urge participants in this meeting to send a strong and clear message to them that terrorist activities and violence will not pay and will never be rewarded.

As we all know, security and development are mutually reinforcing. The Somalis need to be given hope through rehabilitation, reconstruction and economic development in order to make their lives more meaningful and worth living. To achieve this goal, the current Somali Government requires massive international support to build a viable economic base and institutions. I should like here to reiterate our unflinching solidarity with the good people of Somalia and to reassure them that the OIC will never abandon supporting their country. In this regard, I have the pleasure to announce that the OIC has opened a humanitarian affairs office in Somalia and signed an agreement with the World Food Programme and many international partners for the implementation of a comprehensive food security programme covering the south and centre of Somalia and the areas most

affected. In its first stage, the programme will benefit around 400,000 citizens.

Finally, as we strive to retain the confidence of the Somalis, the international community must be seen to deliver on its promises, as stabilizing Somalia is an invaluable investment in global peace with respect to which we cannot afford to waver or compromise. In this important peacebuilding project, enormous responsibilities also lie on the shoulders of the Somalis themselves, and we must all strive individually and collectively to meet our part of the bargain satisfactorily. Let this meeting produce the desired fruitful outcome that will lay the ground for permanent peace in Somalia.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I now give the floor to the representative of Eritrea.

Mr. Desta (Eritrea): It seems that I am nearly the last speaker, and the statement I have prepared is very brief. Let me take this opportunity to congratulate you, Mr. President, on assuming the presidency of the Security Council for the month of March. I would also like to thank you for organizing this open debate on the situation in Somalia, an issue to which my delegation attaches great importance, given its grave consequences for the Somali people, the subregion and far beyond.

Several pressing issues are involved in the situation in Somalia, and that is why a comprehensive strategy is critical to overall peace and stability in that country. However, in order to respect the time allotted to each speaker, I wish to limit my statement to the political track of the situation in Somalia.

As my delegation sees it, a growing consensus is emerging on how best to approach the crisis in Somalia. Taking cognizance of the realities on the ground, and having made realistic assessments of the situation in Somalia, many Member of the United Nations, including members of the Security Council, are now calling for a Somali-led and owned inclusive political process to bring peace and stability to Somalia. My delegation realizes that such a positive approach is meeting with some resistance, which is only to be expected, from parties that want to cling to policies and arrangements that have clearly failed to lead to any tangible improvement. We also cannot but notice that concerted efforts are being made to maintain the status quo, even while the military

involvement of external actors continues unabated in Somalia.

The emerging consensus on the imperative of an inclusive Somali-led political process has been long in coming and is the outcome of frank assessments of past and current realities. Eritrea readily acknowledges that, even with a new approach, there will be no easy and quick solution to the Somali crisis. But everything else has not worked, and we owe it to the Somali people to provide them with the space and opportunity to resolve their own problems and to protect the process from negative and destructive interference.

Eritrea welcomes the emerging consensus on the need for an inclusive Somali political process and stands ready to make its own modest constructive contribution. In this regard, let me stress that we are prepared to actively cooperate with the good offices of the Secretary-General and all Member States in the search for peace and stability in Somalia.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): I give the floor to the representative of the Republic of Korea.

Mr. Park In-Kook (Republic of Korea): At the outset, I would like to express my appreciation to you, Sir, for allowing me to participate as the last speaker in this meaningful open debate.

Today marks an important Council meeting on this topic, following the fruitful meeting in January (see S/PV.6467), at which the Council agreed on a press statement that voiced support for the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SC/10154). My delegation is of the view that there is a true necessity to holistically address the underlying causes of conflict in Somalia that go beyond piracy. We note that peace and security in Somalia are intrinsically interlinked with the country's unstable political situation, lack of development and ongoing humanitarian crisis. Finding ways to address the interdependence among those issues should be faithfully pursued in a comprehensive and synergistic manner by the Council in order to help the people of Somalia, while simultaneously bolstering peace and security in East Africa.

Regarding the political situation in Somalia, the Republic of Korea recognizes the great need for the Council to continue to help the Somali people work towards the realization of post-transitional governance. Communication with all key stakeholders must be

continued with a view towards August, when the Transitional Federal Charter expires. In this regard, the role of regional organizations continues to be important. Indeed, the Council should continue to work alongside the African Union and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development as the transitional process winds down.

In a similar vein, the international community should scale up its training and equipping of the Somali security forces. Wholeheartedly supporting the security institutions of the Transitional Federal Government is crucial to the fight against terrorism, especially as fighting has intensified in Mogadishu in the past few weeks and the overall significance of the unification between Al-Shabaab and Hizbul Islam remains unclear.

My Government continues to be deeply concerned over the continued activities of pirates and armed robbers who attack commercial and humanitarian vessels alike and engage in hostage-taking in the waters off Somalia. Acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships off the coast of Somalia continue to be of grave concern not only to the countries of the region but also to countries of other regions, including Korea. In January, a Republic of Korea navy rescue operation, responding under the mandate of resolution 1851 (2008), successfully engaged pirates in the Gulf of Aden and rescued 21 sailors onboard a Korean commercial vessel.

The Republic of Korea believes that piracy is a serious transnational crime that poses a threat to regional peace and stability. Pirates and armed robbers off the coast of Somalia not only threaten the safety of commercial maritime routes and international navigation, but also jeopardize the prospects of bringing relief to hundreds of thousands of Somalis who already face immense humanitarian problems.

In this connection, the Republic of Korea is deeply concerned about the humanitarian situation in Somalia and its cyclical relationship with piracy. My delegation notes the February report of Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Valerie Amos, warning of a deepening crisis in malnutrition as a result of the crippling drought. With that in mind, the international community should increase humanitarian aid across the board. The \$4.5 million in delivered aid by the United Nations in January and the \$60 million in additional allocated aid are a good start, but more

needs to be done for the people of Somalia as an already dangerous humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate further.

Likewise, recent reports of the International Committee of the Red Cross point to 2010 as the year with the most registered casualties in Mogadishu, further compounding the humanitarian situation on the ground. Quite simply, those who are facing the highest unemployment and malnutrition rates in the world and no viable economic options will continue to join piracy activities and armed groups as a means of survival.

However, sustained development can be achieved only in a stable security environment. In this connection, peacekeeping must continue to play an integral role in buttressing the security environment in Somalia with a view to promoting sustained development. My delegation supports the activities of the African Union Mission in Somalia and calls on the Council and the greater international community to continue to facilitate its mission on the ground with increased resources and political support. Ensuring the deployment of an additional 4,000 troops at the earliest possible date should be a prioritized short-term goal.

With a view towards longer term development and as the Security Council has recognized before,

economic and social opportunities can also be obtained through disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, and can be useful tools to bridge the gap between insecurity and development. Current disarmament, demobilization and reintegration activities in Somalia should be strengthened to this end.

In conclusion, my delegation would like to request that the Security Council continue to remain proactive and vigilant on the complex and interrelated issues in Somalia. The Republic of Korea fully supports the efforts of the Security Council and the international community to continue to implement all relevant resolutions. It is our great hope that peace and security will be attained in Somalia and that a better life, fostered by true economic and political development and a marked improvement in the humanitarian situation, will be achieved for the Somali people.

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): There are no further speakers inscribed on my list. The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.