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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5083rd meeting of the Security Council, held on 19 November 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Somalia", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council reaffirms all its previous resolutions and the statements of its President concerning the situation in Somalia, in particular the statement by its President dated 26 October 2004.

"The Security Council reiterates its commitment to a comprehensive and lasting settlement of the situation in Somalia, and its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and unity of Somalia, consistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

"The Security Council welcomes the progress made in the Somali national reconciliation process, in particular the establishment of the Transitional Federal Parliament, the election of the Speaker of the Parliament and the President, and the appointment of the Prime Minister, which provides a sound and solid framework to achieve a comprehensive and lasting solution to the Somalia situation. The Council reiterates its expectation of the establishment of a broad-based, all inclusive and effective government inside Somalia that will continue the reconciliation efforts with all Somali parties.

"The Security Council stresses that it is the responsibility of all Somali parties to work together to consolidate the gains made so far and to achieve further progress. The Council calls upon them to seize this historic opportunity for peace in Somalia by developing a programme of action and timetable for the transitional period, creating a favourable environment for long-term stability and making determined efforts to rebuild the country.

"The Security Council commends member States of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), in particular the Government of Kenya, as well as other countries and organizations for all their constructive efforts to facilitate the Somali national reconciliation process.

"The Security Council reaffirms its support for the commitment of the African Union to assist the transitional process in Somalia, in particular the planning for a Mission in Somalia, including options for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.

"The Security Council encourages and urges donor countries, regional and subregional organizations to provide support to the future Somali government's and institutions' efforts to ensure their ability to function inside Somalia, and to assist in the reconstruction of Somalia. The Council encourages a dialogue between the international donor community and the future Transitional Federal Government on the principles and modalities of international coordination under discussion, including at the Stockholm meeting of 29 October 2004, and welcomes the United Nations lead facilitating role in that dialogue and in the subsequent coordination arrangements.

"The Security Council reaffirms its full support for the peace process in Somalia and the commitment of the United Nations to assist the regional and subregional efforts in this regard.

"The Security Council expresses its determination to continue to monitor the situation closely."

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