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**REPORT OF THE
CONTACT GROUP MEETING ON SOMALIA
HELD ON THE SIDELINES OF THE ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING
OF OIC FOREIGN MINISTERS
NEW YORK
28 SEPTEMBER 2015**

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The OIC Contact Group on Somalia met at Ministerial level on Monday 28 September 2015 on the sidelines of the Annual Coordination Meeting (ACM) of Foreign Minister during the 70th Session of the UNGA (CFM) in New York. The meeting reviewed the latest developments in Somalia. It received a briefing from the Somali Foreign Minister and the OIC Secretary General. It also heard interventions from other members of the Contact Group. During the deliberations focusing on peace and state building process as well as the stabilization of the country, the meeting agreed on the following:

i The meeting reiterated its respect for the unity, stability and territorial integrity of Somalia and urged all countries to do the same .

ii The meeting noted with satisfaction the steady progress being made by Somalia under President Hassan Sheikh Mohamoud and conveyed its full support for the Government led by Prime Minister HE. Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke. It encouraged the Federal Government to maintain internal cohesion and unity and to intensify its outreach efforts in order to achieve comprehensive national reconciliation including with the regions to serve as basis for durable peace in Somalia and implement all the outstanding tasks towards achieving the goals of “Vision 2016”.

iii The meeting commended the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), the Somali Security Forces and AMISOM for the progress made in the stabilization of the country and urged them to sustain the momentum. It appealed to the UNSC to consider lifting the arms embargo imposed on Somalia in order to accelerate the building of Somalia’s capacity in the security sector.

iv The meeting strongly condemned all acts of terrorism and violent extremism perpetrated by remnants of the Al-Shabaab militants who continue to target public officials, institutions as well innocent persons in their desperate bid to destabilize the country and the region and emphasized that such heinous acts of criminality negate the well known Islamic values of moderation and the protection of the sanctity of human life. The meeting called on the militants to head reason and abandon violence by joining the peace building process.

v The meeting recalled the Six Pillar Plan of the FGS and expressed its full support to the Plan which seeks to address the current challenges facing the country. In this context, the meeting further recalled the second Ministerial High Level Partnership Forum (HLPF) on

Somalia convened in Mogadishu on 29-30 July 2015 held as follow-up of the November 2014 HLPF in Copenhagen within the Framework of the Somali New Deal Compact endorsed by the Brussels conference in September 2013 and urged the international community to continue to provide in a coordinated and sustained manner its full support for the implementation of the Plan consistent with the obligations of both the international community and Somalia in the reconstruction process.

vi The meeting called on the Member States and OIC Financial Institutions to step up their assistance to the FGS in its state, institution and peace building as well as the reconstruction efforts.

vii The meeting reviewed the overall engagement of the OIC in Somalia and welcomed the visit on 10th November 2014 of the Somali Foreign Minister to discuss wide ranging areas of cooperation and to explore ways and means to further strengthen bilateral relations between Somalia and the OIC. In this context, it called on the Secretary General to expedite action to transform the OIC Office in Mogadishu into a Development Office in line with earlier CFM decision.

viii The meeting welcomed the recent high level visits to Somalia by officials from some Member States and encouraged others to do the same and to reopen their diplomatic missions in Mogadishu.