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Mogadishu, Somalia

COMMUNIQUE

STATEMENT FROM CABINET MINISTERS AND PARLIAMENTARIANS, AND POLITICIANS AT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA

1. INTRODUCTION

The people of Somaliland waged a long struggle to gain their independence from the United Kingdom, which had governed the Somaliland British Protectorate for nearly 80 years. There was a widespread anti-colonial uprising led by the Somaliland people, including traditional leaders, prominent poetry writers, and religious scholars. However, in later periods, pro-independence political parties also emerged, such as the Somali National League (SNL), National United Front (NUF), and United Somali Party (USP). After a long pro-independence effort, Somaliland achieved its independence on June 26, 1960. Somaliland voluntarily united with Somalia on July 1, 1960, although the voluntary union was never ratified by both houses of the two united states nor the newly formed parliament under the new Somali Republic, which coincided with the day the former Somali Italian Trusteeship gained independence from the Italian colony. It is worth noting that when the two states united, each had a fully functioning governmental structure.

When the union government was established under the official name of the Somali Republic, unfortunately, it became a government only for the former Italian colony (*Somalia Italiana*) for deliberate political exclusion, and the people from Somaliland saw that political power was not distributed fairly in a way that reflected the voluntary union of the two countries that had agreed de facto Union. It was made worse during the period when the military government ruled the country (1969-1991), during which the people of Somaliland experienced social, economic, and political oppression. The mismanagement of the military government eventually led to genocide, massacres, mass atrocities, widespread destruction, and displacement caused by the Somali Republic against the people of Somaliland. This led to the fragmentation of the Somali people. Since the day the central government of the country collapsed, which was 34 years ago, the unity of the Somali Republic has been destroyed.

2. CURRENT SITUATION IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA

When the Mogadishu-centred government collapsed in the early 1990's, instead of searching for a Somali Republic structure with a shared leadership that could remedy the existing problems, what happened was that the south once again took control and moved forward with building a government from which the people of Somaliland were totally excluded. This led to Somaliland declaring its independence.

The transitional governments that have succeeded each other in the past 25 years in the country were based on the interests of the south-central Somalia (Former Italian Colony), and the dreamed non-ratified voluntary union of the two states of Somalia Italiana and Somaliland.

OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

During this long period up to the year 2000, the Federal Government of Somalia had six presidents who succeeded each other within the federal arrangement and 15 prime ministers, all of whom came from the south-central Somalia, except for Dr. Ali Khalif Galaydh (RIP), who held office for a few months. There was no president, prime minister, or parliament that had a plan for the unity of the federal government of Somalia. No change will certainly occur until a national unity initiative that brings the Somali people together is found at the federal government.

The long-standing dialogue's basic principle between the successive federal governments of Somalia and the Republic of Somaliland was based on the states that aimed at a separate two separate states aimed constitutionally defective union(Somaliland and Somalia), reflecting on the struggle of the Somaliland's people for the unity of the Somali Republic, and acknowledging the genocide and mass atrocities committed in the name of the Somali Republic. Unfortunately, all the points agreed upon in the successive dialogues were breached from the side of the successive Federal Governments.

3. SUGGESTION

Therefore, as cabinet ministers, parliamentarians, and politicians from Somaliland in Mogadishu, we recommend the following matters:

1. As politicians from Somaliland, we stand for unity, and we believe that the interest of the Somali people lies in togetherness.
2. The Somali government that was established on July 1, 1960, consisted of the two states of Somalia Italiana and Somaliland. The way to restore that unity is to return to the voluntary, unratified union agreement and redefine the political system that can reunite Somalia.
3. To prevent problems that would be regrettable for the unity and cohesion of the Somali people, we call on both sides (Federal Government of Somalia and Republic of Somaliland), especially the community leaders, to stop using hateful rhetoric that further divides the Somali people.
4. We never consider it wise or appropriate for the solution to the Somali problem to ignore the history and political history of the people of Somaliland, the abuses and political exclusions they faced, and to direct current political conflicts through a tribal lens.
5. International terrorism severely affects the stability of the Federal Government of Somalia and the Horn of Africa. Therefore, political disputes among the various Somali communities should not be framed in violent religious terms to avoid creating security problems that will be difficult to resolve.
6. The Federal Government of Somalia should refrain from taking actions that impact the

OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

economy, movement, and security of Somalis living in Somaliland, as unity can never be achieved through force.

7. We call on the Somaliland Government to return to the negotiating table to find a lasting solution to the existing conflicts.

All praise is due to Allah