



**Statement by
H.E Mr. Abukar Dahir Osman
Ambassador Permanent Representative
of the Federal Republic of Somalia
to the United Nations
on Monday, May 23rd, 2022
at
“Security Council Briefing on UNSOM”**

Madam. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like at the outset to thank you, Madam, to congratulate you on your assumption of the presidency of the Council for this month and I wish you all the best in fulfilling your mandate. I thank the briefers for their briefing on recent development in my country.

Madam. President,

The Presential election took place on the eve of seventy-ninth anniversary of the founding of the first political party in Somalia – the Somali Youth League (SYL), which Indeed was singularly instrumental in achieving the independence and unity of the Somali

people in 1960. In the process, it helped to create one of Africa's first democracies. The optimism and hope created by the Somali Youth League nearly a century ago are also a major source of our current optimism for achieving peace and prosperity, thereby leading towards a better Somalia.

With the election of President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, we continue our proud longstanding tradition of peaceful transition of power in Africa. The newly elected President and Parliament now are prepared to continue to deepen Federalism, and to tackle the socioeconomic, structural, and political issues that millions of Somali women, men and children face in their daily lives. Those tasks will not be easy, but we are confident in our partners' support, especially, in clearing Somalia's arrears to allow us to move along a path towards debt relief and access to International Financial Institutions, which are essential ingredients for economic development and the improvement of the living conditions of the people of Somalia.

The more immediate challenge is the insecurity, namely, the threat of Al-Shabaab, which has caused major losses both in terms of human life and wealth in Somalia. There is no doubt that we are succeeding in the fight against Al-Shabaab in a multi-pronged approach, embedded in the political strategy. The brave Somali National Forces are dismantling Al-Shabaab hideouts and financial networks as we

prepare to assume full security responsibility from African Union Transition Mission In Somalia to pave the way for their agreed exit by 2024. I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Troop and Police Contributing Countries personnel and recognize their sacrifices.

Madam. President,

As you are aware, my country is facing protracted and recurring humanitarian crisis coupled with converging in 2020 into a triple threat of flooding, desert locusts and Covid-19. We thank the humanitarian partners' generous recent appeal to assist in our response to life threatening needs. Nonetheless, humanitarian assistance alone cannot provide a sustainable or cost-effective solution to recurring shocks in Somalia as it requires substantial development investment through our National Development Plan and strengthened the nexus between humanitarian and developmental assistance. This will help us in achieving medium- to long-term solutions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and target our citizens who are experiencing vulnerability.

In conclusion,

We are committed to continue to work together to overcome any obstacles in our path in a democratic way in-line with our

constitution. We wish to reiterate our appreciation to the African Union and United Nations for their steadfast support of the Somali people and we look forward to working with international and regional partners towards a peaceful, secure, and prosperous Horn of Africa.