

## **Somalia: U.S. Dual-Track Policy**

### **BACKGROUND**

The United States remains committed to supporting the Djibouti Peace Process and Somali-led efforts to stabilize Somalia. This includes supporting the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) -- the key vehicle of Djibouti Peace Process -- and helping it implement the various transitional tasks for which the TFG is responsible, such as ratifying a new constitution. We also remain committed to supporting the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and urging others in the international community to support AMISOM and the TFG's efforts to stabilize Somalia.

As envisioned in the lead-up to the creation of the current TFG in early-2009, the TFG is supposed to be making headway on expanding Somali reconciliation efforts and making preparations for a permanent government structure aligned with the wishes of the Somali people. To date, however, the TFG has demonstrated very little progress in pursuing a transitional agenda focused on stabilizing Somalia, and corruption within the TFG remains a major concern. Meanwhile, Mogadishu remains under siege by the Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) al-Shabaab and other extremists, and the majority of South Central Somalia has fallen under the control or influence of al-Shabaab. While we continue to support the TFG due to its primacy under the Djibouti Peace Process, the TFG's lack of progress compels us to seek ways to expand engagement with groups beyond the TFG and to expand the umbrella of the Djibouti Peace Process.

### **DUAL-TRACK POLICY**

The United States is committed to the Djibouti Peace Process and, along with the African Union (AU), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, and the international community, supports the efforts of Somalia's Transitional Federal Government (TFG). We will continue to provide all feasible support to the TFG in order to enable it to make progress in completing the transitional tasks laid out by the Djibouti Peace Process, such as ratifying a new

constitution. We will also continue to support the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) as it does important work to provide the necessary space for governance and development to take hold in Somalia.

However, in order to expand the Djibouti Peace Process, we are working to broaden our engagement beyond the TFG with groups who share the same goals of peace and stability. Such engagement, for which many others in the international community are also calling, will strengthen implementation of the Djibouti Peace Process and set the stage for post-August 2011 Somalia, which is when the TFG's mandate expires.

Moving forward, the United States will work with the international community to pursue this dual-track approach in Somalia to help ensure no voices are excluded from the peace process. We will work with all those in Somalia who reject the ideologies of hate and terror spread by al-Shabaab and other extremist organizations. We will expand our engagement with pockets of stability throughout Somalia through greater support to responsible regional and local administrations, civil society groups, and clan and sub-clan leaders who seek a voice in Somalia's future.

**TRACK ONE:** We will continue to support the Djibouti Peace Process and the institutional development of the TFG to help it become more effective, make it more inclusive, improve its financial transparency, and give it the ability to provide services to its people. We will also continue to support AMISOM through continued training, equipment, and logistical assistance for the Mission, which has played a key role in keeping the TFG afloat amidst constant al-Shabaab attacks in Mogadishu. The United States has "stepped up to the plate" and delivered. Now all members of the international community must step up and provide assistance to the TFG and AMISOM in order to bring stability to Somalia, create space for the TFG to make progress, and prevent terrorist organization al-Shabaab from expanding even further.

The U.S. Government has provided more than \$30 million to the TFG in budgetary support, in-kind material support, and support for security training. We have provided media advisors to the TFG's Ministry of Information, helped set up the PriceWaterhouseCoopers



financial mechanism, and we are looking to provide financial advisors to the Ministry of Finance. We have also provided more than \$185 million in equipment, training, and logistical support to AMISOM, in addition to our assessed funding at the UN, and we continue to support the TFG's National Security Force as it works to create the space necessary for governance and development activities to take hold in Mogadishu. We have provided more than \$180 million in humanitarian assistance and more than \$60 million in development assistance to Somalia since 2009 and plan to continue this assistance as security conditions permit.

**TRACK TWO:** We will also pursue a second track, which we and many others in the international community consider increasingly important. This will include increasing our engagement with the regions of Somaliland, which is emerging from a successful presidential election, and Puntland, as the international community called for at the September 23 Mini-Summit on Somalia hosted by the UN Secretary General in New York. In addition, we will increase outreach to regional and local governments, and clans and sub-clans in South Central Somalia that oppose al-Shabaab but are not allied formally or directly with the TFG. We will look for opportunities to help these groups provide services to the Somali people and support their sustainable development wherever it can take hold. We hope to have more American diplomats and aid workers going into the regions of Somaliland and Puntland to support these initiatives. We also hope that others in the international community will support this approach through increased assistance of their own.

Somaliland completed a free and fair presidential election and deserves to receive a dividend from the international community to set an example for the rest of Somalia. We plan to increase our direct, bilateral engagement with Somaliland and explore increased assistance in the areas of economic development, infrastructure, media development, private investment, and other areas.

In Puntland, we are working with NGO partners to build the capacity of governance institutions and we are exploring other opportunities to address root causes of instability and piracy.

In South Central Somalia, we are expanding our outreach and engagement with moderate groups, such as Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jama, which is actively engaged against al-Shabaab and interested in peace, as well as the administrations in the city of Galdayo and Galguduug Region.

The United States recognizes the AU position on Somaliland independence. We do not recognize Somaliland as an independent state and have no intention to do so. However, we fully support dialogue and engagement between Somaliland and the international community, as well as between Somaliland and the TFG.