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## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

with request for inclusion in the agenda for the debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure

by John Bowis, Mario Mauro, Filip Kaczmarek, Charles Tannock, Colm Burke, Bernd Posselt, Eija-Riitta Korhola, Laima Liucija Andrikiene

on behalf of the PPE-DE Group

on Somalia : routine killing of civilians

**European Parliament resolution on Somalia : routine killing of civilians**

*The European Parliament,*

- **having regard to its previous resolutions on human rights abuses in Somalia,**
  - having regard to previous statements made by the EU Council Presidency on the recent Djibouti peace agreement,
  - having regard to the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon's reports of concern regarding the persisting humanitarian catastrophe in Somalia,
  - having regard to the AU initiatives and statements relating to the situation in Somalia,
  - having regard to the plan for national reconciliation put forward in UN Security Council resolution 1744, adopted in February 2007, in the aftermath of the victory by Ethiopia over the Union of Islamic Courts,
  - having regard to Rule 115(5) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. concerned by the prolonged civil war in Somalia and its implications for the peace and reconciliation process in that country, as well as for the security and stability of the Horn of Africa as a whole,
- B. whereas members of civil society in Somalia, in particular the media, have been singled out for attack and assassination and deploring the targeted brutal murder of Nasteah Dahir Farah, Vice President of National Union of Somali Journalists' (NUSOJ), who was gunned down by gunmen in the southern town of Kismayu (Somalia) on Saturday 7 June 2008,
- C. whereas UN Refugee Agency estimates that Since February 2007, 340,000 people have fled fighting in Mogadishu between the insurgents of the Union of Islamic Courts and allied Ethiopian and Transitional Federal Government (TFG) troops while 1.9 million Somalis - about 20 per cent of the population - are in need of humanitarian assistance,
- D. whereas the UN Secretary General has expressed concern at the increase in the recruitment of child soldiers, particularly in Mogadishu, and the widespread use of children in almost all fighting forces in the country,

- E. whereas the UN Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution in May 2008, calling for the possible deployment of a 28,500-strong UN Peacekeeping force, pending an improvement in political and security conditions on the ground and whereas the proposed UN force would replace a small contingent of African Union peacekeepers deployed in Somalia since March 2007,
- F. whereas both the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and anti-Government groups are accused of committing serious violations against children that include rape and other sexual assaults, killings and maiming as a result of military actions by Ethiopian troops in confrontations with the anti-Government forces as well as with civilian demonstrators,
1. Strongly condemns the continued fighting, targeted killings and other serious violations of human rights committed by all parties to the conflict, which results in the loss of life of numerous Somali civilians and a humanitarian catastrophe;
  2. Welcomes the peace deal agreement reached between the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG) and the Alliance for the Re-liberation of Somalia (ARS) at the Inter-Somali talks in Djibouti on 9 June 2008, facilitated by the UN Secretary General's Special Representative, Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah, the AU and other regional organizations and international partners;
  3. Recalls that the international community and all parties to the present conflict have a responsibility to protect civilians, to allow delivery of aid and to respect humanitarian space and the safety of humanitarian workers; demands, therefore, that pirate activities against vessels carrying humanitarian provisions by the World Food Programme cease immediately;
  4. Urges the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and its opposition- the Alliance for the Reliberation of Somalia (ARS) to follow up the implementation of the recent Djibouti peace agreement and engage in a genuine reconciliation process with all factions and individuals within the country to create conditions for security and stability;
  5. Urges all Somali stakeholders, whether party to the agreement or not, to commit to concrete steps to implement this agreement, including committing to a cessation of hostilities, establishing a Joint Security Committee on security arrangements and a High Level Committee on political issues related to justice and reconciliation, and undertaking efforts to ensure unhindered humanitarian access to affected populations in Somalia;
  6. Calls for the strengthening of the role of the civil society in the process of national reconciliation, particularly women and children;

7. Calls on the international community, and the EU in particular, to increase the provision of humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons and the population in need;
8. Reiterates its support for the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Somalia, Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, in his efforts to coordinate the action of the international community and to facilitate inter-Somali political dialogue and calls on the AU to spare no efforts in contributing to the successful implementation of this agreement, whose principles and objectives are consistent with the effort it has been making in the political process as well as in stabilizing the situation in Somalia through the deployment of AMISOM;
9. Calls on the international community and the EU in particular, to provide strong diplomatic and financial support for the effective implementation of the Djibouti June 2008 agreement;
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Secretaries-General of the African Union, UN, IGAD, the President of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, the Government of Ethiopia and the Pan-African Parliament.