



Plenary sitting

B8-0635/2017

14.11.2017

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

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

pursuant to Rule 135 of the Rules of Procedure

on Terrorist attacks in Somalia
(2017/2962(RSP))

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on behalf of the PPE Group

B8-0635/2017

**European Parliament resolution on Terrorist attacks in Somalia
(2017/2962(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Somalia of 14 September 2016, as well as its resolution on the on the Dadaab refugee camp of 16 May 2017,
 - having regard to the ACP-EU Resolution on Somalia of 23 November 2011,
 - having regard to the statement of 15 October 2017 by the HR/VP on the attacks in Mogadishu and the statement of 30 October 2017 of the Spokesperson of the HR/VP on the attack in Somalia,
 - having regard to the Council Conclusions on Somalia of 3 April 2017,
 - having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948,
 - having regard to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,
 - having regard to the UN report on freedom of expression in Somalia released on the 4th of September 2016,
 - having regard to the UN Security Council resolution 2358 (2017) adopted on 14th June 2017,
 - having regard to UNSCR 2372 (30/8/17) on the Situation in Somalia, in particular the AMISOM transition,
 - having regard to the UN Secretary General Report on Somalia to the UN Security Council of 9 May 2017 and 5 September 2017,
 - having regard to the UN Security Council statement of 15 October 2017 on the terrorist attack in Mogadishu,
 - having regard to the statement on 15 October 2017 of the African Union Commission Chairperson on the attack in Mogadishu,
 - having regard to AMISOM statements condemning the terrorist attacks on 14 and 28 October 2017,
- A. whereas Somalia continues to be hit by deadly attacks which cause huge human suffering and loss of live, most recently on 14 and 28 October, and whereas al-Shabaab, the terrorist group, has claimed responsibility for the past attack in Somalia on 28 October and is widely believed to also be responsible for the attack on 14

October; whereas the attack of 14 October was the deadliest such incident in more than two decades of conflict;

- B. whereas Somalia remains unstable, ungoverned, and threatened by terrorism, transnational crime and famine;
- C. whereas the conflict in Somalia has led to more than 800,000 refugees who live in neighbouring countries as well as over 1,5 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Somalia, which poses dreadful humanitarian and security challenges in the Horn of Africa region;
- D. whereas Somali citizens have repeatedly denounced the violence of al-Shabaab and united after the October bombings, marching in the thousands through Mogadishu in defiance of al-Shabaab;
- E. whereas the February 2017 electoral process resulted in a new, widely supported President, and more female and youth representation in parliament; whereas the recent wave of attacks can fragilise the new authorities and pose a threat to the reform process that started after the election of President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed;
- F. whereas a "Somali-owned" processes for political dialogue and reconstruction is needed;
- G. whereas AMISOM, the 22,000-strong multinational African Union force in Somalia, set-up in 2007, is mandated, among others, to reduce the threat posed by Al-Shabaab and other armed opposition groups, provide security in order to enable the political process at all levels, as well as stabilisation efforts, reconciliation and peacebuilding in Somalia, and enable the gradual handing over of security responsibilities from AMISOM to the Somali security forces; and whereas AMISOM is committed o withdraw its forces and hand over the country's security to the Somali military by 2021;
- H. whereas AMISOM is funded up to 80% by EU support and whereas the EU has announced budget cuts for AMISOM and called for larger ownership by the African Union (AU);
- I. whereas the EU is providing through the European Development Fund €486 million (2014-2020) supporting Somalia on state and peace building, food security, resilience and education; whereas the EU is also committed to support the AMISOM through the Africa Peace Facility;
- J. whereas since 10 April 2010, the European Union launched a military training mission in Somalia (EUTM Somalia) in order to contribute to strengthening the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and the institutions of Somalia;
- K. whereas on 16 September 2013, the Somalia New Deal Conference, co-hosted by the European Union and Somalia, has been held in Brussels where the international community and Somalia endorsed the Somali Compact, pledged support to enable its implementation and re-commit to the Somali political process;

- L. whereas on 12 December 2016, the Council of European Union agreed the 5th Mandate for EUTM Somalia extending the mission until 31 December 2018 with a budget of close to €23 million;
- M. whereas the European Commission announced an initial emergency aid of €100 000 in the aftermath of the 14 October 2017 bombing in the Somali capital ;
- N. whereas the U.S. military has intensified its combat against al-Shabaab this year in Somalia, carrying out nearly 20 drone strikes and whereas the U.S. mission in Somalia condemned the latest attacks;
- O. whereas on 11 May 2017, the U.K. hosted a major international conference in London, co-chaired by the U.K., Somalia and the United Nations, to accelerate progress on security sector reform, build on the international response to the ongoing drought and humanitarian crisis, and agree the new international partnership needed to keep Somalia on course for increased peace and prosperity by 2020/21;
- P. whereas a summit by Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) was held on 25 March 2017 in Nairobi on with the aim of identifying durable solutions for Somali refugees and foster the reintegration of returnees in Somalia;
- Q. whereas the AU, UN and Somali Federal Government held a crisis meeting on Mogadishu bomb attack on 26 October 2017;
- R. whereas Somalia suffers from extreme weather conditions, which have led to the severe drought and famine in 2011 and 2016/2017, which resulted in the death of over 300,000 people and has led to loss of livelihood and resulted in displacement; whereas country is in the grip of its worst drought in decades given that four successive rainy seasons have failed;
- S. whereas, according to Transparency International, Somalia is the most corrupt country in the world for the 10th year running;
- T. whereas Véronique Lorenzo was appointed as Special Envoy and Head of EU Delegation in Somalia in December 2016;
- U. whereas the EU is the largest donor in Somalia and is engaged in Somalia through a comprehensive approach based on active diplomacy, support for political change, improving security, development assistance and humanitarian aid, and whereas for the period 2015-2020, the EU and EU Member States cooperation including development aid, humanitarian aid and peacekeeping operations amounts to €3.4 billion;
1. Expresses its most sincere sympathy with the victims and their families; deeply deplores the loss of civilian life; condemns in the strongest terms the recent attacks which with high probability can be attributed to the al-Shabaab insurgent group;
 2. Calls upon the Somali government, all international as well as regional actors to intensify their cooperation to combat terrorist structures and financing in order to

combat terrorist groups like al-Shabaab who are responsible for the murder to hundreds of innocent people;

3. Welcomes the European Commission's quick and adequate emergency response and calls upon the international community to continue to provide emergency relief to the victims of terrorist attacks as well as development support to help restore the country;
4. Highlights the plight of the appalling high number of refugees and IDPs in Somalia and the region and calls on the EU and the international community to maintain, and if possible increase their funding to support those most in need;
5. Calls for continued and intensified support by the EU and the international community for the efforts of Somali federal and regional governments and AMISOM to establish peace and stability, and highlights the strong need for AMISOM to live up to its mandate to protect the civil population and fight terrorism; in this context encourages a consolidation and fostering of a Somali owned security structure to protect the civil population;
6. Strongly encourages the EU and the international community to continue their efforts to help Somalia with the setting-up of national institutions and a Somali owned security architecture to combat terrorism and provide protection to the civilian population; emphasises that this is the key for a constructive future development in Somalia and the region as a whole;
7. Highlights the need for stronger regional cooperation in order to overcome the persisting instability and fragility, and in this contexts commends the efforts of the AU and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD);
8. Welcomes the electoral process organised in February this year, which led to the election of a new President, and expresses its hope that the election will foster political stability and encourage the adoption of necessary reforms, and move the federal project forward in close coordination and collaboration with the Federal Member States (FMS); stresses the importance of fighting the endemic corruption in the country and of providing options for the country's youth in order to reduce the risks of recruitment by Al-Shabaab;
9. Expresses its solidarity with the Somali people and commends their courage and perseverance, as shown by their recent demonstrations denouncing terrorism and Al-Shabaab;
10. Commends the important and courageous work of international development actors, EU and international staff on the ground;
11. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Governments of Somalia the African Union and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.