

UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN SOMALIA (UNSOM)

PRESS STATEMENT 14/2015

UPDATE: UN Special Representative for Somalia condemns terrorist attack on UN in Garowe

Mogadishu, 20 April 2015 – The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (SRSG) for Somalia, Nicholas Kay, expressed outrage at today's terrorist attack that resulted in the death of four UNICEF staff and two guards. Several others were injured.

"I am shocked and horrified by what took place today in Garowe. The complete disregard for the lives of people working on the humanitarian and development needs of the people of Somalia is despicable," said SRSG Kay.

At about 8:00 this morning, an explosion took place targeting a UN vehicle in Garowe, Puntland, Somalia. It is suspected that a suicide bomber was used in the attack. Al-Shabaab has claimed responsibility.

"This was a blatant act of terrorism and a desperate attempt to derail Somalia's path towards peace and stability," said SRSG Kay.

"I commend the swift response of Puntland's security forces and medical staff and all of the United Nations team in Garowe," said SRSG Kay. "I would like to express my gratitude to the Puntland government and people for the support and concern they have shared with us.

SRSG Kay offers his deep condolences to the families and friends of those who have been killed as a result of this barbaric act and wishes a swift recovery to those injured.

He expresses his appreciation to United Nations staff in Somalia for their continued dedication under difficult circumstances.