



UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN SOMALIA (UNSOM)

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Statement by the UN Special Representative for Somalia on the state-building conferences in Baidoa

Mogadishu, 3 March 2014 – The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Somalia, Nicholas Kay, is closely monitoring developments in Baidoa, including the outcome of today's conference, and has taken note of the Federal Government's response.

"I urge all parties to observe maximum restraint and refrain from any action that could pose a threat to security," said SRSG Kay. "This year is critical for consolidating a united and stable federal Somalia. The country has overcome many recent challenges through compromise and dialogue."

"I encourage traditional leaders, politicians and stakeholders in Baidoa to commit to serious, inclusive and continued political dialogue guided by respect for the Provisional Federal Constitution and existing agreements," he added. "The UN will continue to support the Federal Government of Somalia's efforts to lead a reconciliation process."

"The situation in Baidoa highlights the need for the Federal Government to accelerate its work on the state-building process in Somalia in an inclusive manner, including the development of a detailed plan and timetable for the formation of Federal States, a final Constitution and democratisation by 2016," SRSG Kay noted.

SRSG Kay continues to work closely with international partners on this important issue, including AMISOM, IGAD and the EU.

For more information, please contact UNSOM Spokesperson
Tel: + 254 41 350 6623 • Email: unsom-spokesperson@un.org

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