

## **International partners welcome the formation of the Juba regional assembly**

**Mogadishu, 22 April 2015** –The United Nations, Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the European Union (EU), African Union Mission in Somalia, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom welcome the formation of the Juba regional assembly. We encourage further dialogue to ensure that all clans, communities and minority groups from the Jubas feel represented.

“We welcome this important development. We urge the Interim Juba Administration (IJA) to coordinate with the Federal Government of Somalia to resolve any issues arising from the process.

Forming the Assembly is a positive and important step in the implementation of the August 2013 Addis Ababa Agreement and the Juba state formation process, and in building a Federal Somalia. Ensuring a fair and inclusive process will help build a just, peaceful society that can serve as a model for the rest of the country.

We commend the Federal Government and the IJA for their contributions in the formation of the assembly.

We stand ready to support the authorities and the regional assembly. We urge all parties to engage in constructive consultation and reconciliation with all stakeholders, ensuring that the interests of all communities are protected. Somalia’s international partners remain committed to supporting the nation’s peace and state-building process.”