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**PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
146TH MEETING
8 AUGUST 2008
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

PSC/PR/BR(CLVI)

PRESS STATEMENT

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The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 146th meeting held on 8 August 2008, was briefed by the Commission on the situation in Somalia.

Council expressed deep concern at the difficulties facing the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), in particular the resignation of a number of Cabinet Ministers, and its impact on the ongoing peace and reconciliation efforts.

Council appealed to the Somali leaders to show unity of purpose and take all steps required to enhance the cohesion of the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) in order to consolidate the progress made following the Djibouti Agreement of 9 June 2008 and facilitate its early signature and implementation.

Council expressed appreciation for the efforts being made by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), to support the implementation of the Djibouti Agreement.

Council called on the UN Security Council to fully assume its responsibilities by authorizing the early deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping operation that would take over from AMISOM and, in the meantime, the establishment of an international stabilization force as called for by the Djibouti Agreement.

Council strongly condemned the attacks perpetrated by armed elements against AMISOM and humanitarian workers, as well as all other acts of violence aimed at undermining the ongoing process in Somalia and furthering instability in the region as a whole. In this respect, Council appealed, once again, to the UN Security Council to take appropriate measures against all those bent on undermining the peace and reconciliation process in Somalia and stability in the region as a whole.

Addis Ababa, 8 August 2008

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