Brussels, 09 September 2013
130909/01

PRESS RELEASE

Conference "A New Deal for Somalia"

The conference "A new deal for Somalia" is a high-level event organised jointly by the European Union and Somalia in Brussels.

Why:

Somalia's eight-year transition ended in September 2012, with the peaceful handover to a new Federal Government. The Conference's objective is to sustain the positive momentum in Somalia, to ensure that the country stays on the path to stability and peace and brings prosperity to its people.

The New Deal is the driver of this process. The Brussels Conference will therefore bring together the international community and Somalia to endorse the Compact – a key milestone of the process-pledge support to enable its implementation and, above all, re-commit to this new political process.

When: 16 September 2013

The opening session will include speeches by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton, the President of Somalia, Mr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud and the President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy.

This will be followed by three working sessions, one focusing on the new political order, one on rebuilding the social and economic foundations and one on the rule of law and security. EU High Representative Catherine Ashton, Development Commissioner Andris Piebalgs as well as representatives of various international organisations will co-chair these sessions.

Pledges will be during the working sessions at the end of each speaker's intervention.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:
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The **closing session** will consist in the endorsement of the Compact by the President of Somalia, Mr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, the President of the European Commission, Mr. José Manuel Barroso and EU High Representative Catherine Ashton.

The **press conference**, foreseen at 17.30, will close the event.

**Where:**

The Conference "A new deal for Somalia" will take place in the Egmont Palace, Passage de Milan, Boulevard de Waterloo, 31, 1000 Bruxelles

**Services for the media:**

- **Listening room** (Arenberg room), where the opening and closing sessions will be transmitted live together with the session on "Re-building Somalia’s social and economic foundations"

- **Interview rooms** (President Room and Mandarine room with backdrops for TV interviews and photos) and **two interview corners**. If interested in prearranging an interview with representatives of delegations or high level speakers please contact: michael.mann@eeas.europa.eu or iulia.costea@ec.europa.eu

- **Webstreaming**: images of the opening and closing sessions of the conference together with the session on "Re-building Somalia’s social and economic foundations" and the press conference will be broadcast live on the conference website and **Europe by Satellite**. Audio video materials will be available after the conference on **Europe by Satellite** website as well as on the conference website.

**Media events:**

- **Technical briefing** on "A New Deal for Somalia" by EEAS MD for Africa Mr. Nick Westcott, DEVCO Deputy Director-General Mr. Marcus Cornaro and Alexander Rondos, The European Union Special Representative for Horn of Africa - 13 September from 09:00 in EEAS Press Room (9A Rond Point Schuman, 1046 Bruxelles). All interested journalists can attend. In order to receive accreditation please contact iulia.costea@ec.europa.eu

- **Photo and TV opportunity** upon the arrival of the participants. (outside, in the courtyard of Egmont Palace; entrance via Passage de Milan, Boulevard de Waterloo, 31, 1000 Bruxelles)

- **Press conference** by Somali President Mr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud and EU High Representative Catherine Ashton – 16 September, 17:30, in the Library Room of the Egmont Palace. Only journalists who have registered for the event will be able to attend. This event will be in English only.

**Accreditations:**

For security reasons and because of the limited amount of space in the Palais d'Egmont building, the number of journalists authorised to attend the conference will be strictly limited.


**For more information**

- Conference website: [www.somalia-newdeal-conference.eu](http://www.somalia-newdeal-conference.eu)
- For any media queries please contact: iulia.costea@ec.europa.eu

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