STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson on the signing of the agreement on the South West administration in Somalia

"We welcome the agreement reached on 23 June in Mogadishu to establish an interim South West State of Somalia. It represents an important milestone in Somalia's state building process. We call on all parties to ensure its speedy implementation and on all stakeholders of the South West State to establish an inclusive administration.

We welcome the good broker role of the Federal Government of Somalia in facilitating the Agreement. The EU encourages the Federal Government to continue reaching out to other regions of Somalia, to consolidate the security gains made and to provide the people of Somalia with the deserved return to sustainable peace and stability.

As observer to the Agreement, the EU is committed to support and monitor its implementation with other key partners, in particular IGAD, the UN and AU and respond to the immediate needs of the population of the South West State."

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