



## European Union Delegation in Kenya – Somalia Unit

### EU SUPPORT TO SHEIKH TECHNICAL VETERINARY SCHOOL AND REFERENCE CENTRE

8 March 2011



The European Union is providing specific support for Sheikh Technical Veterinary School and Reference Centre (STVS) within the Joint Strategy Paper (JSP 2008 – 2013) for Somalia.

STVS, which has been supported by the EU since 2002, aims to enhance delivery of professional services for the *extensive livestock production system* in Somalia and the Horn of Africa region, where 57 million agro pastoralists, over 25% of the total population of 207 million people in the IGAD region, reside.

By providing trained technicians who play a crucial role in the Somali livestock value chain, the school also contributes to regional food security and sustainable development of natural resources and environmental protection, an important mission for the Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD). To enhance the sustainability of the school, the IGAD secretariat is in discussions with member states for the school to be adopted as a core institution of IGAD. The school has had multi-donor funding by EU, Italian Government and DANIDA and has technical support from the Italian NGO Terra Nuova, the African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU/IBAR), and one of the oldest African universities, the Makerere University from Uganda.

The current EU support for the school, €500.000, is from the Economic Development programme for Somalia under the 10th European Development Fund (EDF), a programme that aims to reduce food insecurity, promote sustainable private sector-led economic growth and reduce poverty in Somalia.

The school has currently 87 students coming from all regions of the Somali ecosystem, of which 20 are women. There are 2 Makerere University - accredited diplomas: Diploma in *Livestock Health Sciences* (DLH) and Diploma

in *Livestock Products Safety and Quality Control* (DLQ).



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