

The European Union Delegation issues the following statement in agreement with EU Heads of Mission in Nairobi

The European Union Delegation welcomes the adoption of the Provisional Constitution of the Somali Republic by the National Constituent Assembly on 1 August 2012. This is a key achievement and will open the way for new, more legitimate and accountable institutions in Somalia. The Roadmap Signatories are praised for the important progress made in implementing the Roadmap to end the transition in Somalia by 20 August 2012.

The EU Delegation congratulates the Elders on their important contribution to the successful adoption of the Provisional Constitution and calls upon them, with the support of the Technical Selection Committee, to proceed with the selection of the members of the new Federal Parliament in a transparent and legitimate manner. The Somali people deserve representation in a Parliament that meets the highest standards of probity and integrity.

There are, however, strong concerns regarding allegations of corruption and intimidation surrounding this selection process. As one of the international observers to the Technical Selection Committee, the EU Delegation will monitor closely the selection process and will, if deemed necessary, and together with its international partners take action against anyone involved in such activity.

The EU Delegation strongly condemns the continuous attacks against journalists and other media workers in Somalia and calls upon the authorities to not only protect these journalists, but also to investigate rigorously such crimes.

The EU Delegation emphasises the historic moment in which Somalia and its people now find themselves and assures the Somali people that it will remain constructively engaged as the country enters a new era.

