

ETHIOPIA IN SOMALIA – 2006

SC Resolution 1725 6 December 2006

The Security Council, ...

Reaffirming its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, and unity of Somalia, ...

Reiterating its insistence that all Member States, in particular those in the region, should refrain from any action in contravention of the arms embargo and related measures, and should take all actions necessary to prevent such contraventions, ...

Deploing the bombing in Baidoa on 30 November 2006 and *expressing* the Security Council's concern regarding the continued violence inside Somalia, ...

Taking note of the note verbale dated 16 October 2006 from the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations to the President of the Security Council transmitting the text of the Deployment Plan for a Peacekeeping Mission of IGAD in Somalia (IGASOM),

Determining that the situation in Somalia continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, ...

1. *Reiterates* that the Transitional Federal Charter and Institutions offer the only route to achieving peace and stability in Somalia, *emphasizes* the need for continued credible dialogue between the Transitional Federal Institutions and the Union of Islamic Courts, and *affirms* therefore that the following provisions of the present resolution, based on the decisions of IGAD and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, aim solely at supporting peace and stability in Somalia through an inclusive political process and creating the conditions for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Somalia; ...

3. *Decides* to authorize IGAD and Member States of the African Union to establish a protection and training mission in Somalia...with the following mandate drawing on the relevant elements of the mandate and concept of operations specified in the Deployment Plan for IGASOM:

- (a) To monitor progress by the Transitional Federal Institutions and the Union of Islamic Courts in implementing agreements reached in their dialogue;
- (b) To ensure free movement and safe passage of all those involved with the dialogue process;
- (c) To maintain and monitor security in Baidoa;
- (d) To protect members of the Transitional Federal Institutions and Government as well as their key infrastructure;

- (e) To train the Transitional Federal Institutions' security forces to enable them to provide their own security and to help facilitate the re-establishment of national security forces of Somalia;
4. *Endorses* the specification in the IGAD Deployment Plan that those States that border Somalia would not deploy troops to Somalia;

Statements during the vote on Resolution 1725

Mr. Bolton (United States of America): The United States is pleased to co-sponsor this resolution on Somalia with all of our African colleagues on the Security Council. In Somalia, the security situation is deteriorating and tensions continue to run high, which is of deep concern to the United States. Like many other Member States, we are concerned about the prospects for a wider regional conflict. However, the United States views the deployment of a regional force to Somalia as a key element in preventing conflict.

The United States strongly believes that a sustainable solution in Somalia should be based on credible dialogue between the TFI and the UIC, and we continue to work with our African and other partners towards that end. The continued military expansion by the UIC, however, has not helped to promote dialogue and, in fact, has created the need for deployment of a regional force to stabilize the situation inside Somalia. ...

The United States welcomes the recommendations of the United Nations Somalia Monitoring Group regarding ways to strengthen and improve the effectiveness of the United Nations arms embargo on Somalia. We continue to work with our partners in the Security Council on these and many other issues as we seek a solution to the Somali crisis.

Statements

"We have overrun their troops," said Abdirizak Adam Hassan, chief of staff for the transitional president, Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed.

After initially playing down the fighting, Sheik Hassan Dahir Aweys, the leader of the Islamist forces, announced Thursday over national radio that Somalia was at war and said, "All Somalis should take part in this struggle against Ethiopia."

[12/22/06 NYT A8]

Statement of the President of the Security Council 22 December 2006

The Security Council *expresses* its deep concern over the continued violence inside Somalia, in particular the recent intensified fighting between the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC) and the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs).

The Security Council *calls upon* all parties to draw back from conflict, recommit to dialogue, immediately implement resolution 1725 (2006) and refrain from any actions that could provoke or perpetuate violence and violations of human rights, contribute to

unnecessary tension and mistrust, endanger the ceasefire and political process or further damage the humanitarian situation. ...

The Security Council *reiterates* that the Transitional Federal Charter and Institutions offer the only route to achieving peace and stability in Somalia, and *emphasizes* the need for continued credible dialogue between the Transitional Federal Institutions and the UIC. ...

Further Statements

Ethiopia has acknowledged that it has dispatched several hundred military advisers to help the transitional government repel the Islamists. But on Friday, Ethiopian officials continued to deny that their troops were engaged in combat.

"Tanks? What tanks?" said Zemedkun Tekle, spokesman for Ethiopia's Information Ministry. "We have not sent any heavy arms into Somalia. Such talk is just propaganda to stir up the people."

Ethiopia's Foreign Ministry issued a statement late on Friday warning the Islamists to end their "hostile anti-Ethiopian activities." "The situation in Somalia has turned from bad to worse," the statement said. "Ethiopia has been patient so far. There is a limit to this."

[12/23/06 NYT A8]

Ethiopia's prime minister, Meles Zenawi, said in a televised broadcast that he had ordered the action because he had no choice. "Ethiopian defense forces were forced to enter into war to protect the sovereignty of the nation," he said. "We are not trying to set up a government for Somalia, nor do we have an intention to meddle in Somalia's internal affairs. We have only been forced by the circumstances."

"What did you expect us to do?" said Zemedkun Tekle, a spokesman for Ethiopia's information ministry. "Wait for them to attack our cities?"

[12/25/06 NYT A1]

SC Meeting of 26 December 2006

Statement of Mr. François Lonseny Fall (Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia)

Since my last briefing to the Security Council in November, the crisis in Somalia has escalated dangerously as the hostilities between the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC) have now expanded across a 400-kilometre-wide front. The conflict now involves foreign forces and the use of heavy weapons and aircraft. ...

The adoption of the resolution [1725] was warmly welcomed by the Transitional Federal Government but rejected by the Union of Islamic Courts, which claimed that it could lead to fighting in the region, adding that the deployment of foreign forces in Somalia was tantamount to an invasion of the country. In any event, neither IGAD nor the African Union has identified potential troop contributors or possible sources of funding for the IGAD Peace Support Mission in Somalia, as authorized by resolution 1725 (2006).

In the days and weeks leading up to the adoption of resolution 1725 (2006), there had been a gradual escalation in war rhetoric and tensions between the two sides. As a result, on 7 December, intermittent clashes began between militiamen loyal to the Islamic Courts and the Transitional Federal Government forces in various locations in the Bay administrative region south of Baidoa. At the same time, the Union of Islamic Courts accused Ethiopia of illegally deploying troops to Somalia in support of the Transitional Federal Government.

On 12 December, Yusuf Mohamed Siyad Indhaade, the Defence Secretary of the Union of Islamic Courts, announced that Ethiopia had seven days to withdraw its forces from Somalia or face a major conflict. ...

There have been consistent reports of the presence of troops from Ethiopia inside Somalia and their involvement, together with heavy artillery and aircraft, in the fighting on the side of the Transitional Federal Government. Both Mogadishu airport and a military airfield in Baledugle have been subjected to Ethiopian air strikes. ...

On 23 December, leaders of the Union of Islamic Courts issued a call for jihad against the Ethiopian troops, whom they accused of invading Somalia, and appealed to foreign fighters to join that jihad. The Ethiopian Government, on 24 December, admitted the presence of its combat troops inside Somalia. In an official statement, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi declared that his country had taken self-defensive measures and started counter-attacking the aggressive extremist forces of the Islamic Courts and foreign terrorist groups. ...

Further Statements

A spokeswoman for the State Department, Janelle Hironimus, said Ethiopia was trying to stem the flow of outside arms shipments to the Islamists. Ms. Hironimus added that Washington was concerned about reports that the Islamists were using child soldiers and abusing Ethiopian prisoners of war.

Maj. Marie Boughen of the Army, a spokeswoman for the United States Central Command, which has military responsibility for the horn, said no American troops were participating in the Ethiopian offensive or working as advisers for it.

{12/27/06 NYT}

SC Resolution 1744 20 February 2007

The Security Council,...

Reiterating its appreciation of the efforts of the African Union, the League of Arab States and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development to promote peace, stability and reconciliation in Somalia, and *welcoming* their continued engagement in this regard, ...

Taking note of the communiqué of the African Union Peace and Security Council of 19 January 2007, which states that the African Union shall deploy for a period of six months a mission to Somalia (AMISOM), aimed essentially at contributing to the initial stabilization phase in Somalia, and that the mission will evolve into a United Nations operation that will support the long-term stabilization and post-conflict restoration of Somalia,

Welcoming the decision of Ethiopia to withdraw its troops from Somalia, *taking note* of the fact that Ethiopia has already started withdrawing its troops, and *underlining* that the deployment of AMISOM will help avoid a security vacuum and create the conditions for full withdrawal and the lifting of emergency security measures currently in place, ...

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, ...

4. *Decides* to authorize member States of the African Union to establish for a period of six months a mission in Somalia, which shall be authorized to take all necessary measures as appropriate to carry out the following mandate:

(a) To support dialogue and reconciliation in Somalia by assisting with the free movement, safe passage and protection of all those involved with the process referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3;

(b) To provide, as appropriate, protection to the Transitional Federal Institutions to help them carry out their functions of government, and security for key infrastructure;

(c) To assist, within its capabilities, and in coordination with other parties, with implementation of the National Security and Stabilization Plan, in particular the effective re-establishment and training of all-inclusive Somali security forces;

(d) To contribute, as may be requested and within capabilities, to the creation of the necessary security conditions for the provision of humanitarian assistance;

(e) To protect its personnel, facilities, installations, equipment and mission, and to ensure the security and freedom of movement of its personnel;

5. *Urges* member States of the African Union to contribute to the above mission in order to create the conditions for the withdrawal of all other foreign forces from Somalia;...

10. *Emphasizes* the continued contribution made to Somalia's peace and security by the arms embargo, *demands* that all Member States, in particular those of the region, fully comply with it, and *reiterates* its intention to consider urgently ways to strengthen its effectiveness, including through targeted measures in support of the arms embargo; ...