



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya  
To the United Nations, New York  
Security Council 2021-2022

## EXPLANATION OF VOTE

### THE RENEWAL OF THE MANDATE OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SOMALIA

AMBASSADOR MARTIN KIMANI

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

MONDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2022

**Mr. President,**

Kenya has enthusiastically voted for this resolution. We thank the UK and fellow members of this Council for the consultative negotiations that led to the vote.

Kenya is confident that the renewal of UNSOM's mandate will accelerate the ongoing stabilisation efforts and bolster the renewed momentum to achieve security and effective governance under President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud in implementing the Somalia Transition Plan (STP) and National Security Architecture, among other initiatives.

**Mr. President,**

Kenya condemns in the strongest terms the heinous terrorist attacks by the Al-Qaeda-affiliate Al-Shabaab in Mogadishu on 29<sup>th</sup> October. We express our heartfelt condolences to the families of those who lost loved ones, wish a full recovery to those injured, and reaffirm our full support for Somalia's counter-terrorism efforts.

Al Shabaab's brutal terrorism is intentionally undermining peacebuilding, state-building, economic development and humanitarian responses to the greatest drought in decades. Standing against Al Shabaab is standing for the most vulnerable and for Somalia's and the region's urgent need for security and stability.

Members of this Council must today ask themselves how much more brutality do we need to witness without toughening our actions against this group? How many more need to die before we act like this is one of the world's most atrocious terrorist groups and deserves the toughest measures the Council can deploy?

**Mr. President,** we must be able to undertake several actions at the same time. One is to lend UN support to Somalia as we have done by adopting this resolution renewing the mandate of the UNSOM. We must also lend every support to the government of Somalia, at the national level especially, but including the Federal States. This means enabling more arms purchases and their effective storage and management to enable the military and police to exceed Al Shabaab's armaments. We must simultaneously apply greater pressure on Al Shabaab through sanctions that frustrate its funding, access to weapons, travel, organisational structure and recruitment. To achieve these two latter actions, within Resolution 751 sanctions, will not be easy but it needs to be done. More openness to innovation is needed if we are to be equal to our outrage against this latest terrorist attack against the innocent.

Kenya will continue to play its rightful role as a neighbour and a troop contributing country in providing the necessary support to peacebuilding and security efforts in Somalia.

**Thank you.**