



Jamhuuriyadda Soomaaliya
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Midoobey ee Geneva
Xafiiska Safiirka

جمهورية الصومال
البعثة الدائمة لجمهورية الصومال بمكتب الأمم
المتحدة بجنيف والوكالات المتخصصة بسويسرا
مكتب السفري

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA

**The Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Somalia to the United Nations Office at Geneva and specialized institutions in Switzerland
The Ambassador**

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Geneva February 03, 2014

*Statement by H.E. Mr. Yusuf Mohamed Ismail Bari-Bari
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Somalia on the occasion of
The Universal Periodic Review of the State of Eritrea at the 18th Session of the United Nations
Human Rights Council*

Je Vous remercie Monsieur le Président.

Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good afternoon.

Somalia would like to welcome the delegation of Eritrea led by H.E. Mr. Tesfamichael Gerathu the Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

My delegation has carefully listened to the presentation made by the Eritrean delegation.

Somalia has been a strong supporter of the rights of the Brotherly Eritrean people during their struggles for self-determination, even though this support came at a cost to Somalia. Somalia is greatly concerned, therefore, at the deteriorating human rights situation in Eritrea. After such a long struggle, the Eritrean authorities' highest priority must be the rights of their people.

My delegation would like to quote the former Ambassador of Eritrea to the European Union H.E. Mr. Andebrehane Welde Giorgis. I quote: "*the wartime Eritrean became ill-suited to run the affairs of the state in peace*". End of quote.

Somalia is strongly calling on the Brotherly people of Eritrea to get positive advantage of their rich ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious diversity and to work toward a lasting and honorable peace among all the people in the Horn of Africa.

It is in this Brotherly spirit that Somalia would like to make the following recommendations:

- 1) Grant the request made by the Special Rapporteur on torture in 2005 and 2007 to visit the country;
- 2) Grant the request made by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea to visit the country;

- 3) Extend a standing invitation to all special procedures and give a positive response to the pending visit of Special Rapporteurs on freedom of opinion and expression and the right to food;
- 4) Provide unlimited access to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to all detention facilities and to provide independent monitors to access all Eritrean detention facilities, in particular the Djiboutian detainee, and ensure that international standard of law in the treatment of prisoners are respected in Eritrea;
- 5) Fully cooperate with the regional and international human rights bodies;
- 6) Expeditiously and fully implement the 1997 Constitution and the rights that this document enshrines in order to end the 23 years of one-party state led transitional period and to seek technical assistance from the regional bodies and the international community;
- 7) Fully implement the UN resolution 2023 (2011) which condemns Eritrea's use of the "diaspora tax" to destabilize the Horn of Africa region and to violate the sanctions regime.

Somalia sincerely wishes a prosperous future to the Brotherly people of Eritrea!

I thank you for your kind attention.

