

**Ministerial Meeting on the High Commissioner's Global Initiative on
Somali Refugees, Addis Ababa, 20th of August 2014**

Remarks by H.E Mohamed Siad Douale, Ambassador of Republic of Djibouti

At the outset, Djibouti would like to express its appreciation to the High Commissioner for the launching of the High Commissioner's Global Initiative on Somali Refugees and thank him for the tireless efforts in ensuring that the plight of Somali refugees in protracted refugee situations does not fall into oblivion because of the cutthroat competition for attention and resources due to so many unfortunate political, security and humanitarian crisis in many places in the world.

While it is to be noted that the causes and consequences of prolonged refugee situations go far beyond the scope of UNHCR mandate, the office has a key role to play in coordinating efforts aimed at designing a comprehensive and collaborative approach.

Ministers had an opportunity to share information draw lessons learnt and analyze possible solutions to some of the challenges faced in each of the host countries.

Djibouti reiterates its commitment to continue supporting Somali refugees until such time when conditions for a voluntary, safe and dignified return are met in the country.

While noting that tangible progress has been made, Ministers deplored the precarious nature of the security situation, because of the armed terrorist groups including Al-Shabat hell-bent on undermining the chances for hosting peace for the benefit of the Somali people.

The Ministers from the region reiterated their commitment to continue supporting the Somali Government in its efforts to achieve peace and security.

The meeting offered an opportunity to own the process and foster sustained dialogue with the Somali authorities.

**Mission Permanente
De la République de Djibouti
Auprès de L'office des Nations – Unies
et des autres Organisations Internationales à
Genève**



Unité – Egalité – paix
سلام – مساواة – وحدة

المبعوثية الدائمة لجمهورية جيبوتي
لدى مكتب الأمم المتحدة
والمنظمات الدولية الأخرى
سويسرا - جنيف

Ministers agreed on an outcome which is reflective of the seriousness of purpose that drove the process and would certainly constitute a first strong pillar in a collaborative endeavor.

The Addis- Ababa commitment is indeed a landmark achievement. Let's just hope that the call from the region will be heard by our partners and the international community at large.