



Office of the Governor, Gedo region

Xafiiska Barasabka Gobalka Gedo

X: XB/GG018/2016 Tariikh: 22/07/2016

Subject: The desire and request of the people of Gedo to democratically elect their administrations

My office is grateful to share with you our desire to bring your attention and ask for your support into the current situation of Gedo region and a proposed threat plan against the Gedo region which is now underway by individuals in the Jubbaland top leaderships in their bid to breach democracy at the time of need.

Allow us to present your esteemed office a snap summary of the unfolding circumstances in the region before we come to the main point of our concern in this letter for our Gedo region. Despite the difficult situations of the region in the education, health, limited public movements, limited humanitarian accessibility in most parts of the region and as well lack of cooperation. As you know Somalia adopted the federalism system and the Gedo region become part of Jubbaland State of Somalia (JSS). Since i was appointed as the Governor for Gedo region, i and my administration team were successful to extend the recognition and participation of the people of the Gedo in the JSS through community entry, civic engagements and community dialogues, especially the communities in Garbaharey and Luuq district who initially resisted recognizing Jubbaland administration as a legal administration but rather opposing it. I have been also working hard to establish a room for good governance, stability and development for the people of Gedo but due to an avoidable circumstances a lot of our work has been hindered by a spoiler individual, whenever my administration mobilises the local troops and AMISOM in a military operation to sweep the presence of AS in the region who limited a district to another district accessibility, restricted food and commodity supply and who also imposed trade embargoes in the regional administrative district of Garbaharey, then the former district commissioner of Dolow who is guilty of killing innocent civilian in Gedo region also mobilises his militia in Dolow to invade Balad-Hawa district along our military operation plan thus bringing our operation into a halt. My administration has several times complained to the JSS president about this man and asked the presidents to review the situation of the region but it is with profound regret that our enquiries is not lifted up by the president but rather promoted the most corrupted and dangerous man who is well known for his act of killing a lot of innocent civilians as the Minister for Security in the JSS as a reward for his actions in the region. Along with these, my administration also proposed to the president to include the Gedo region in the resource sharing including scholarships, Jubbaland Diaspora aids and the international community humanitarian aids, these proposal was also not lifted up despite the scholarships and aids received by JSS from the federal government and international community, eelie this month the Turkey government donated 850 metric tons of food to the JSS but it is unfortunate

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that the share of Gedo region in the Turkey's food aid to be sold in Kismayo by individuals in the consent of the JSS president.

Gedo region which is the second biggest region in Somalia is also the only region in Somalia which is bordering both of our two neighbouring countries i.e. Kenya and Ethiopia and has a significant importance to Somalia and its people at large and acts as a gateway in trade and people movement in the triangle of these three countries including Somalia.

The main point of our request and concern that my office would like to bring into your attention is the urgent need of democracy and the willingness of the people of Gedo to elect their administration through community representative councils which encompasses all sectors of the community from a district level to a regional. The region is plagued by the lack of democracy and the continues suppressing of the will to practice the power of democracy by the people of Gedo region which makes the people of Gedo region to lost ownership, self dignity and their willingness to contribute to the development of the region. It is unwise for the JSS not to stabilize the region through good governance and public engagements but rather continue bringing a nominated administration that never reflect the interest and the acceptance of our people by keeping their individual political interests but not that one of the wider community who has been trapped in lawlessness for long time. Currently the JSS has a planned to bring a nominated new governor and district commissioners to replace the current existing Gedo administration which is a fine example of a moment outside time. The current Gedo administration is focused with a dedication to drive the people of Gedo into democracy and only be replaced by an elect administration and we will never allow ourselves to watch our community's rights to be continuously abused and made them remain victims like that. My administration therefore strongly condemns the continues injustices in the recourse sharing, poor leadership in the JSS top leaderships and as well the JSS desire to ignore the democratic rights of the people of Gedo at the most time of need.

We acknowledge your continues support for the government of Somalia and its people and your dedication to enable Somalia to stand as strong democratic government where the rights and dignity of every individual is reserved.

Appeal;

We kindly ask for all JSS stakeholders including the Federal Government of Somalia, AMISOM, International community and the UN agencies to remain vigilant on the matters of democracy and continue supporting democracy. My administration also caution the JSS top leadership to abstain from any act that may promote conflict and differences at these times of difficulties

The Governor of Gedo Region

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