PRESS RELEASE

(For immediate release)

AU Special Representative congratulates Abdi Farah Shirdoon, the new Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Somalia

Mogadishu 7th October, 2012 – The Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on Somalia, Ambassador Boubacar Diarra has congratulated Abdi Farah Shirdoon on his appointment as the new Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Somalia.

Ambassador Diarra described this as a significant step forward on the path to peace and stability for Somalia.

AMISOM also paid tribute to the newly elected President Mr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud for his announcement which is in line with the Provisional Constitution and the roadmap process.

Ambassador Diarra applauded the Somali government for successfully accomplishing this critical step towards the formation of an inclusive new government and stressed that the real work begins now.

“Today is the culmination of years of hard work by the Somali people who have showed great determination and commitment in creating a new political framework based on transparency and accountability,” said Ambassador Diarra.

The African Union Mission in Somalia also looked forward to the formation of a new cabinet by the Prime Minister, which will then set out to work on the 6 Pillar Policy Framework set out by the President.

AMSIOM pledged the continued support of the African Union to the Somali government, and praised the key contributions made by the International Community in their bid to end the transition and called on the parties involved to continue their support as Somalia enters a new phase.

The African Union Mission in Somalia paid special tribute to the Somali people for their participation and overwhelming support of the political process noting that it reflects the desire of the Somali people to put their country on a path toward improved governance, stability, and prosperity.

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