Arlaadi Council

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Open Letter from the Arlaadi Council

October 19, 2026

To:

The Peace and Security Council
African Union Commission
Roosevelt Street, P.O. Box 3243
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Cc:

United Nations Security Council

European Union External Action Service

Federal Government of Somalia

Subject: Urgent Communication Regarding the Role and Conduct of Ethiopian Troops in Southwest State, Somalia

Excellencies,

The Arlaadi Council presents its commendations to the African Union Peace and Security Council, the United Nations Security Council, and international partners supporting peace and stabilization efforts in Somalia.

We write to bring to your **urgent attention serious concerns regarding the recent conduct and operational alignment of Ethiopian contingent forces stationed in Southwest State, Somalia.** While international peacekeeping mandates were established to **safeguard local populations, bolster governance, and counter violent extremist organizations**, recent developments on the ground indicate a alarming departure from these foundational objectives.

Reports and observations from the region reveal that elements of the Ethiopian troop contingent, rather than fulfilling their mandate to protect civilians and stabilize key sectors in Southwest State, have **increasingly engaged in coordinated activities and tactical collusion with Al-Shabaab elements aligned with factions loyal to former Southwest State President Abdiazis Hassan Mohamed (Laftagareen)**. Such actions severely undermine local security, compromise the integrity of the peacekeeping mission, and embolden extremist networks at the expense of local communities.

The Arlaadi Council strongly condemns this duplicitous role and the weaponization of peacekeeping presences to serve factional interests. These actions undermine international efforts toward regional stabilization and violate the core principles of the multilateral mission.

In light of these critical developments and **the loss of local public trust, the Arlaadi Council respectfully requests that the African Union, the United Nations Security Council, and key international stakeholders take immediate action to order and facilitate the prompt withdrawal of Ethiopian troop contingents from all areas within Southwest State and across Somali territory.**

We urge your **esteemed bodies to review these operational practices, enforce accountability, and ensure that peacekeeping mechanisms strictly adhere to their mandates for the safety and sovereignty of Somalia.**

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Respectfully,

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