



UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN SOMALIA (UNSOM)

PRESS STATEMENT 30/2015

UN Envoy for Somalia commends youth on International Youth Day

Mogadishu, 12 August 2015 – The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Somalia (SRSG) Nicholas Kay extends his warmest regards to the youth of Somalia on the occasion of International Youth Day.

SRSG Kay stated that youth have a very important and active role to play in rebuilding a prosperous and peaceful Somalia. “Young people can bring renewed energy, talent and creativity to economies and make vital and often catalytic contributions as entrepreneurs and agents of change,” he said.

He welcomed the recently approved Federal Government and UN Joint Programme on Youth Employment and underlined the vital need to tackle Somalia’s dangerously high levels of youth unemployment. “I urge donors and the Government to prioritise youth employment to help cement the peace and political progress Somalia is increasingly enjoying”, he said.

He praised the Ministry of Youth & Sports for the National Youth Policy and reiterated the UN’s support for young men and women of Somalia to ensure they are meaningfully involved in the current peace and state-building processes.

END

For more information, please contact UNSOM Spokesperson Cassandra Nelson

Tel: + 254 41 350 6606 • Email: unsom-spokesperson@un.org

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