

**Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group****REFERENCE: S/AC.29/2016/SEMG/OC.46****CONFIDENTIAL**

9 June 2016

Excellency,

I have the honour to address you in my capacity as Coordinator of the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group (SEMG) mandated pursuant to paragraph 31 of Security Council resolution 2244 (2015).

The SEMG has a responsibility to investigate, *inter alia*, matters that have the potential to impact peace and security in the region. In this regard, the SEMG has been conducting an investigation into Soma Oil & Gas Limited (“Soma Oil”) since 2013 when an agreement was signed between the company and the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS). As part of its investigation, the SEMG has sought information on the background of individuals associated with the company, including its directors and shareholders.

On 10 March 2016, the website *Buzzfeed* published a story indicating that the SEMG was investigating links between the director of Soma Oil and shareholder Mr. Hassan Khaire and extremist groups including Al-Shabaab.

The SEMG has investigated links between Mr. Hassan Khaire and extremist groups. I wish to confirm that the SEMG has not found credible evidence of such links and that, in the absence of any new information received by the SEMG clearly demonstrating such links, we now consider this line of inquiry to have reached a conclusion.

/...

His Excellency
Mr. Awale Ali Kulane
Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Somalia
to the United Nations
New York

cc: H.E. Mr. Rafael Darío Ramírez Carreño, Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea, New York

Hon. Mohamed Aden Ibrahim, Ministry of Finance, Federal Government of Somalia

Gen. Abdirahman Sheikh Issa, National Security Advisor to the Somali President, Office of the President, Federal Government of Somalia

Excellency, please allow me to offer you the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by a vertical line and a horizontal stroke.

Christophe Trajber
Coordinator
Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group
Security Council resolution 2244 (2015)