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Action plan
for
SOMALIA

INDEX

	Page No.
A. GENERAL INTRODUCTION	3
Political situation	3
Peace process	5
Economic situation	5
Human rights	7
B. STATISTICAL BASES AND INITIAL SITUATION	9
I. Statistical information	9
II. Analysis of the causes of migration and flight	10
C. EXISTING MEASURES AND ACTIONS	12
I. Rundown on existing Member State measures and actions	12
Politics	12
Economics	13
Development co-operation	13
Humanitarian aid	13
Justice and Home Affairs	14
Returns	14
II. Rundown of existing Community/Union measures and actions	15
Politics	15
Economics	16
Development-co-operation	16
Humanitarian aid	17
Justice and Home Affairs measures	17
III. Measures and actions by UNHCR, IOM, ICRC and other inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations	18
UNHCR	18
IOM	18
ICRC	19
D. ASSESSMENT OF THE STATE OF PLAY	19
E. ACTION REQUIRED BY THE COMMUNITY/UNION	21
Foreign Policy	21
Development and Economic Cooperation	24
Migration	26

ANNEX I : Statistics on Somalia

**ANNEX II : Rundown of existing Member States measures
and actions**

ANNEX III : Contributions from UNHCR and ICRC

A. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Political situation

1. Somalia has been without a central government since President Mohammed Siad Barre fled the country in 1991. The widespread chaos and insecurity that ensued resulted in the international intervention of Unified Task Force UNDP (UNITAF). That operation was enlarged by the United Nations Operations in Somalia (UNOSOM), which ended in March 1995. Following the departure of UNOSOM II, instances of inter-clan conflict, violence and banditry continued to occur regularly in some areas of the country.

2. According to international law, the collapse of the central government does not mean that Somalia has ceased to exist as a State. Somalis should not, therefore, be considered as stateless. Citizenship is connected to a state and the Somali legislation on citizenship is valid until new legislation enters into force. In the case of state succession, legislation passed by the former government is valid until replaced. No region in Somalia is internationally recognised as an independent state.

3. Different conditions prevail in different parts of Somalia, which is divided into four major zones: the North-West, or “Somaliland”, which is conducting an experiment in democracy combined with centuries old cultural traditions; The North East, or “Puntland”, which has lived in a “peaceful” situation since 1991 which marked the end of hostilities against former President Siyad Barre. The central region, from Galkayo to Belet Weyne, populated by the Marehan clan and numerous Hawiye sub-clans, has its own share of problems, and serves as a passageway between the stable northeast and the war-torn south, especially on the commercial level. The situation in the Central and Southern regions has recently deteriorated as outside parties are now playing an active role in both political and security issues in central and southern Somalia. The political and security situation in the central region is now fluid and is expected to remain so for some time to come.

4. The central and southern parts of Somalia are less homogeneous in terms of clans compared with the northern parts of Somalia. The heterogeneity is reflected in the large number of clan-based militia. Reportedly, in the central and southern regions, an individual is safest in areas controlled by his own clan. Somalia being a clan based society, individuals generally live in areas where their clan is based.

North-Western Somalia ("Somaliland")

5. The Isaaq-dominated Somali National Movement (SNM) declared the independence of the Northwest as the "Republic of Somaliland" with its capital Hargeisa in 1991. A new constitution for "Somaliland" became effective in February 1997 and shortly thereafter Mr. Egal was re-elected as President for a five-year term. Clan tensions in NorthWest, "Somaliland" have diminished and a tenuous peace has been secured, enabling the Administration to gradually expand its presence in portions of Togdher, Sanaag and Sool. Meanwhile, capacities of local administrative structures throughout the Northwest are deepening.

North-Eastern Somalia ("Puntland")

6. North-eastern Somalia, with its largest town Bosasso, has been the most stable part of the country since the collapse of the central government in 1991. Apart from a conflict with Islamic fundamentalists in 1992 and isolated clashes in 1993 there has been no fighting in the North-East. The autonomous "Puntland State of Somalia" was proclaimed on 23 July 1998. A "Puntland" charter released in September 1998 advocates Puntland remaining part of a federal Somali State.

Central and southern Somalia

7. Central and southern Somalia, including Mogadishu, witnessed the heaviest factional fighting in the aftermath of Siad Barre's overthrow in 1991. The political situation in many areas remains unresolved and the level of fighting has recently increased. Large parts of central and southern Somalia are much less homogeneous in clan terms than the North-East and North-West, which is reflected in the large number of clan-based militia, some of which control only a small area. The administration for the Benadir region (Mogadishu) established in 1998 has broken down, due to renewed conflict in May 1999. Conflict arose over the control of a shipment of arms and ammunition thought to have links with the Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict.

8. While there can be long periods of relative stability in Mogadishu, the political landscape of the city is complicated and can at times, be subject to sudden changes. Security conditions vary widely in different areas of the city. While most areas are firmly under the control of one particular faction or another, there are also violent armed bandits who operate independently of the political clan factions. Economic conditions are difficult and the main air and seaports are closed due to disputes between the militia and factions over control.

9. The Gedo region bordering Kenya and Ethiopia is mainly controlled by the Marehan-based administration and militia. Compared with many other regions in southern Somalia, the clan elders in the Gedo region enjoy a higher degree of respect and authority. This has resulted in a local administration, which is functioning relatively well.

Peace process

10. Since 1996 several peace initiatives have been initiated at national level, which have tried to break the political deadlock and reopen the dialogue and negotiations between the different faction leaders. Meetings were convened in Mogadishu, Nairobi, Kenya and Sana'a in Yemen. In the second half of October 1996, Ethiopia, which has a mandate from both the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) ¹ to assist in the search for peace in Somalia, organised a conference in Sodere, Ethiopia. This brought together 26 different political factions and resulted in the establishment of the National Salvation Council.

11. The Government of Egypt took the initiative to arrange a conference in Cairo in November 1997, in which most of the main Somali leaders took part and resulted in the Cairo Agreement. The agreement builds upon the agreements of Nairobi, Sodere and Sana'a. However, the expectations arising from these agreements have not yet been met. The planned, all-inclusive, National Reconciliation Conference, has yet to materialise. In order to co-ordinate the different initiatives, a Standing Committee was established in the autumn of 1998, and includes representatives of the IGAD Countries and Secretariat, the members of the IGAD Partners Forum (IPF) liaison Group, the OAU, the League of the Arab States and Yemen.

Economic situation

12. The events of 1991 and the ensuing armed conflict had disastrous consequences for the economy of the entire country, such as the widespread destruction of physical infrastructure, lack of investment and rampant unemployment. Somalia's economy is pastoral and agricultural, with livestock consisting principally of camels, cattle, sheep, and goats, representing the main form of wealth. At present, remittances from migrants represent the second source of income for the North-West ("Somaliland").

13. Saudi Arabia is Somalia's main commercial partner. However trade between the two countries ceased in February 1998 when Saudi Arabia banned the import of livestock from Somalia following an outbreak of Rift Valley fever. The ban was lifted in May 1999 but has caused a serious economic crisis in Somalia.

14. A small fishing industry has begun in the north. Minerals are found throughout the country, in particularly in the south, but none have so far been exploited commercially. Several oil companies are exploring for petroleum. Small industries such as textiles, handicrafts, meat processing and printing have been established.

¹ Established in 1986. Members are Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Somalia, Sudan, Kenya and Uganda.

15. While it is difficult to state a figure to represent even an estimate of the value of the internal economy of present-day Somalia, it is reasonable to assume that it is not below one billion Euro per year. In 1998, for example, the aggregate domestic production was estimated to be around 75% of 1990 GDP, or approximately Euro 750 million. Private investment in both urban and rural areas was estimated at Euro 35 million. Exports and imports of goods and non-factor services are estimated respectively at Euro 220 and 400 million. The livestock trade remains the main source of income countrywide and usually accounts for approximately Euro 25-50 million. In parts of the country where political conflicts remain unsolved security remains the greatest impediment to economic growth in general terms.

16. There is little information available on the volume and value of the so-called informal sector. However, extensive trade has taken place between Somalia and land-locked Ethiopia since the outbreak of the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea. Due to congestion of the port of Djibouti, commercial goods at an estimated value of no less than Euro 100 million have crossed through the sea port of Berbera and by land into Ethiopia. Somalia, however, obtained only an extremely meagre portion of this value in the form of customs and duties at the port, as well as in transportation. Smuggling of charcoal is another important trade from Somalia to the Gulf States, and estimations of value indicate a figure fluctuating between Euro 100-200 million per year. Security in the south remains the greatest impediment to economic growth in general terms, but existing private business seems unaffected and markets continue to provide for almost the total needs of the population.

North-Western Somalia

17. The economy has demonstrated surprising resilience, with expanding interregional and export-oriented trade. Berbera has become the most active Somali seaport and the second most important seaport for Ethiopia, after Djibouti.

North-Eastern Somalia

18. As in the north-west, the economy is gradually increasing and economic activity in 1998 for both the North-Western and North-Eastern areas is believed to have equalled or even surpassed pre-war levels. The air and seaports of the main town Bossaso are fully functioning, providing an important source of revenue for local authorities and encouraging economic development.

Central and southern Somalia

19. Economic activity has increased in central and southern Somalia, despite the unresolved and fluid political situation. Goods are increasingly traded across clan and regional boundaries, although banditry remains a problem. Mogadishu and Kismayu ports remain closed. The main town in the Hiran region, Belet Weyne, is an important trading post, both within Somalia and neighbouring Ethiopia. A conference in Belet Weyne, aiming for the creation of a Hawiye region with a certain degree of autonomy, was held during the Spring of 1999. This conference ended in confusion but is planned to be reconvened at a later stage.

Human rights

20. There is no central legal system in Somalia to ensure respect for human rights and international humanitarian law. However, perpetrators of serious violations against the latter and of crimes against humanity are individually responsible under contemporary international law. These crimes are under universal jurisdiction and any state may try persons alleged to have committed such crimes, wherever they have occurred.

21. The lack of respect for the above-mentioned principles has led to violations, particularly in the form of arbitrary and summary executions, mutilation and other cruel and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and violence, particularly against women and children. Reports of breaches of human rights come above all from the areas of conflict. There have been reports that Somalis and international humanitarian relief workers have been taken hostage and abducted. There is no effective judicial system, which is essential to ensure the right to a fair trial in accordance with international standards. However, there are various forms of administration of justice including, in some regions, local sharia courts which deal with civil and criminal cases, or with criminal cases alone.

22. Somalia had ratified the two covenants on civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights as well as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment.

23. At a Commission on Human Rights (CHR) meeting, held in Geneva from 22 March to 20 April 1999, a resolution on technical assistance to Somalia was adopted by consensus. The CHR condemns widespread abuses of human rights and humanitarian law, urges all parties in Somalia to respect these rights and calls upon all parties to the conflict to work towards a peaceful solution to the crisis. The CHR further calls upon sub-regional, regional and international organisations and concerned countries to continue intensifying co-ordinated efforts aimed at facilitating the national reconciliation process. The CHR also welcomes the decision of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to appoint a human rights officer in the framework of the office of the United Nations Resident Humanitarian Co-ordinator for Somalia.

24. Gender discrimination is deeply rooted in certain traditional socio-cultural structures and remains a formidable barrier to women's participation in decision-making processes or access to and control of resources. Female genital mutilation is common in Somalia. Rape and other sexual violence occur mainly in the areas of conflict.

25. Somalia remains one of the two countries in the world that has not ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child. There are certain vulnerable groups of children. These include displaced children, youth living in camps in extreme poverty and unknown numbers of children attached to militia groups.

26. Since the collapse of the central government, certain minority groups of non-Somali ethnic origin, are disadvantaged and targeted by clan militia.

27. The major factions in Mogadishu and the authorities in Somaliland operate small radio stations. The Somali Independent Journalists Union (SIJU) has over 200 members across Somalia. There are about 20 newspapers published in Mogadishu, mostly clan-based and privately owned. Journalists have experienced harassment, including detention, from various factions.

28. Most Somalis are Muslims and Islam has been made the “official” religion by some local administrations. The tiny Christian population maintains a low profile.

29. Freedom to travel is restricted in some areas, particularly in those in which the political situation remains unresolved. There is however, relatively free movement between the north-eastern and north-western regions, and even between the north-east and the neighbouring areas in the south.

30. Most Somalis will generally be able to receive the protection of their own clan in areas controlled by their clan. The Majerteen-led SSDF administration in North-Eastern Somalia (Puntland) has permitted Somalis from all clans and non-Somali minority groups, even former supporters to Siad Barre, to move freely through and settle in the area under its control. The administration in North-Western Somalia (“Somaliland”) has allowed Somalis from the North East and qualified Somalis who originated from other parts of Somalia to settle in its territory.

B. STATISTICAL BASES AND INITIAL SITUATION

I. Statistical information ²

31. Population statistics for Somalia are relatively unreliable because of a large number of nomads, the famine and especially recent clan warfare. Only about 7 million people are estimated to live in a relatively wide territory (nearly twice the size of Italy). It has a rather extreme demographic pattern, where the highest natality far exceeds the (also high) mortality. This would ensure, in the absence of conflicts or other 'disturbing' causes, a very rapid rate of population increase. As a consequence, Somalia's population could double and become even younger in the next 20 years.

32. Statistics collected by Eurostat show that around 120 000 Somali citizens are estimated to live within the EU, between 30 and 40% in United Kingdom, others mainly in the Netherlands, Sweden and Italy. They represent a higher share of non-EU foreigners in Finland (8%) and Denmark (5%). Few tertiary education students from Somalia are recorded in the EU Member States, 151 in Italy for example and just under 100 in Finland and the UK for the school year 1996/97.

33. It can be concluded that the emigration of Somalis for non-asylum purposes is low; it is in the area of asylum and subsequent family reunion applications that significant numbers are encountered. There are a large number of Somali political and other organisations based in the Member States. In one Member State alone, more than 160 Somali groups have established themselves. These groups normally have links to their respective region in Somalia.

34. According to UNHCR the total recognition rate for Somali asylum seekers in 1998 reached 44,5%, the lowest since 1990. During 1990-1998, Somalis constituted 9% per cent of all asylum seekers granted refugee or humanitarian status in Europe. Whereas in Finland, Norway and the United Kingdom, Somalis constituted more than 20% of the total number of recognised asylum seekers, in Austria, Belgium, France and Germany, their share was less than 2%. During 1990-1998, the United Kingdom granted refugee or humanitarian status to more than 18 000 Somali asylum seekers, 30% of all Somalis granted refugee or humanitarian status or temporary protection in Europe. The Netherlands accounted for 29% followed by Denmark, 14%, and Sweden 13%.

35. The total recognition rate (refugee or humanitarian status) for Somali asylum seekers was some 80% or higher in Denmark, the United Kingdom and Finland, but less than 10% in Germany and Austria. The statistics do not provide a precise indication of the total immigration effect of Somali refugees in Europe since some countries grant residence permits to asylum seekers who have not been granted refugee or humanitarian status, due to the lack of return possibilities.

² This section is based on the material presented by Eurostat. The entire contribution from Eurostat is found in ANNEX I.

II Analysis of the causes of migration and flight

36. Somalis are among the most widely dispersed refugee populations in the world. Somali asylum applications were recorded in 61 countries world-wide during 1997. Large Somali communities are present in Western Europe (especially Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, UK and the Scandinavian countries). According to some estimates around 120 000 Somalis live in the EU Member States. The United States of America received some 8 000 Somali asylum applicants during 1990-1998. In Canada, around 19 000 Somali nationals applied for asylum during the same period. At the end of 1998, Ethiopia hosted the largest Somali refugee population (195 000) in the region, followed by Kenya (130 000), Yemen (57 000), Djibouti (22 000), Egypt (3 500) and the United Republic of Tanzania (4 200). As regards durable solutions, the total number of Somali refugees in Kenya, Ethiopia, Yemen and Djibouti has fallen since 1995, mostly as a result of spontaneous returns, but also due to UNHCR's organised repatriation. During 1997-98 more than 90 000 Somali refugees returned from Ethiopia and Kenya.

37. Somalia is the country of origin of a considerable percentage of asylum cases in Europe. Almost all asylum seekers claim that they come directly from Somalia and since 1993, they have claimed to come from the southern part of Somalia including the capital, Mogadishu. Applicants may in reality have made shorter or longer stays in various countries, mainly in Central Europe, but also in Eastern Europe and in some African countries, such as Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Yemen or Djibouti.

38. The large ethnic Somali communities in Ethiopia, Kenya and Djibouti may have the nationality of those countries. Many, however, will have taken the opportunity to blend in with genuine Somali refugees. Owing to the difficulty in establishing the exact country of origin of these cases, language analysis has been used in some Member States to determine country of origin.

39. The first large group of Somali asylum seekers arrived in Europe in 1988-89 as a result of the armed conflict/civil war in North-western Somalia and Siyad Barre's repression mainly of the Isaaq clan. The second exodus of Somali refugees occurred during the Somali civil war (1989-1991) caused by the conflict in the southern parts of the country. Somalis were the third largest group of asylum seekers in some Member States in 1992.

40. Since 1993, the most frequently cited cause for flight from asylum seekers is belonging to the Darood Marehan clan and fleeing factional fighting in and around Mogadishu. Many claim persecution on the grounds that they have been in the service of the former government of Siad Barre. There is also a large group of asylum seekers who claim to be from the Hawiye clan and to be fleeing factional fighting. Since 1995 a frequently cited cause of flight has been the general situation of hardship inside Somalia as well as with clan affiliation. In one Member State 90% of all Somali asylum seekers claim to be from the Bajun clan. It has been found that almost all of these applicants are most likely of Kenyan origin. The difficulty in obtaining appropriate medical care has also been given as a cause for flight.

41. With regard to applications for residence permits made from abroad, the applicants often refer to economic difficulties. Many of the applicants have been elderly people who have had problems surviving on their own and consequently would like to be reunited with their grown-up children in a Member State. Such cases often cite family division as a result of the war and the general situation in the country. Some Member States use DNA tests to detect fraud in cases of application for family reunion.

42. While it is very difficult to obtain a clear picture on secondary movement, it has been assumed, in the framework of police co-operation on illegal migration, that considerable numbers of the Somali population in Member States have applied for asylum in more than one Member State. In 1997 a test carried out showed that 10% of asylum seekers in a Nordic country had applied for asylum in another Member State before arrival.

43. Documents issued in the absence of a central government are normally not recognised in the Member States. Somali passports are being issued by Somali missions in existence prior to 1991 in Bonn, London, Nairobi and several other locations, and are normally their only source of income. Somali documents of all sorts, including passports, can easily be obtained at markets in the region. Somalis have travelled to Member States with travel documents from Kenya and Ethiopia, which have been unofficially issued.

44. The situation of unaccompanied minors and abandoned children seeking asylum differs in Member States. In some Member States more than 50% of all unaccompanied minors are of Somali origin. The existence of trafficking in children has been known to take place. It is assumed that some asylum seekers claim to have children that they do not have in reality. They might then apply for reunification with these children. The children are then sent further to another Member State to apply for asylum. In one Member State there have been at least 65 instances where the alleged parents of these Somali children have failed to report that the children were missing.

45. With regard to reasons for leaving Somalia, in general terms

a) the push factors are:

- Extreme poverty,
- Insecurity, the ongoing civil strife in some areas of the south,
- Recurring difficulties in the food situation i.e. drought,
- Lack of facilities, especially education and health facilities,
- Lack of gainful employment.

b) the pull factors are:

- The possibility of sending remittances to sustain family members who remained behind in Somalia. UNHCR estimates that Euro 180-500 million made their way into Somalia in 1998. Another recent study on the flow of remittances through Northwest Somalia showed that Euro 300 million were sent into and via that region in 1998.
- Normal provisions in the welfare societies, such as safety and security, welfare support, work opportunities, medical support, education, especially for children
- The lack of possibilities to return rejected asylum seekers.

C. EXISTING MEASURES AND ACTIONS

I. Rundown on existing Member States measures and actions

Politics

46. Diplomatic relations broken off with Somalia by Member States when the central Government fell in 1991 have still not been re-established. In the absence of a central government in Somalia, presently some Member States currently have informal dealings with the Northwest ("Somaliland") and some other regional administrations. "Somaliland"'s independence as a sovereign state has not been diplomatically recognised by any Member State. At present there are no Member States missions in Somalia

47. Member States missions exist in Ethiopia [A, B, D, E, FIN, GR, I, IRL, NL, S, UK], Kenya [A, B, D, E, F, FIN, GR, I, NL, P, S, UK], Eritrea [D, DK, I] and Djibouti [F]. Most Member States are members of the IGAD Partners Forum and its Committee on Somalia. Some Member States contribute to the IGAD peace fund. 13 Member States have embassies in Nairobi. Representatives of Member States attend general co-ordinating meetings on Somalia, organised either by the Somalia Aid Co-ordination Body (SACB) or by the Commission.

48. Some Member States obtain information on "Somaliland" from their Addis Ababa missions, or – in the case of France from Djibouti. This complicates the development of a co-ordinated approach in Nairobi, particularly since "Somaliland" is one of the safe regions of Somalia. As and when a common EU approach emerges on returning Somalis, a co-ordinated approach among the mission of Member States will be crucial.

Economics

49. The per capita GDP of Somalia is Euro 83. Trade between Somalia and the Member States remains very limited and consists mainly of food. Somalia exports mainly bananas (93% total exports), fish and seafood to the EU. Somali imports from the EU have decreased from Euro 53 million in 1994 to Euro 14 million in 1997 (see Annex I Table A and B).

Development co-operation

50. Member States mostly provide development aid to Somalia through the UN organisations, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS (UN Operations Services), UNDOS (UN Development Office for Somalia).

51. According to UNDOS and SACB, the aid co-ordinating bodies for Somalia based in Nairobi, it is difficult to separate emergency and development aid for Somalia for two reasons. Many aid projects include portions of emergency and development aid. Many donor countries classify aid projects as humanitarian/emergency even though they are in practice development projects. UNDOS and SACB have made a general classification of different aid project as follows:

Emergency	100% Humanitarian
Food security	100% Humanitarian
Rehabilitation	50% Humanitarian 50% Development
Reintegration	100% Development
Governance	100% Development

52. By using this classification to evaluate aid to Somalia, SACB and UNDOS assess that 40% of all aid projects are humanitarian and 60% are development aid. SACB has also noted that one of the reasons for the derailment of interventions in the recent past has been due to the unchecked infusion of external resources in a region with limited absorption capacity.

53. Further information regarding Member States' support and development agreements is to be found in Annex II.

Humanitarian aid

54. Member States provide humanitarian aid to Somalia mainly through the UN organisations.

55. A United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal covering the period January through December 1999 was launched in late 1998. The Appeal requested a total of Euro 65,7 million to cover life-saving and emergency needs for affected populations. Besides humanitarian assistance needs for which support is requested in the Appeal, agencies have identified activities to a value of Euro 29,3 million. These additional activities are complementary priorities, with emphasis on rehabilitation and recovery essential to create a sustainable environment. UN agencies received only about 28,5% of the Euro 79 million requested in the appeal for 1998, hardly enough to pay for necessary interventions in providing food security, emergency assistance, rehabilitation and support for governance.

56. Furthermore the severe floods of late 1997, the poor harvests, the Saudi ban on livestock exports in 1998 and the ongoing fighting, mostly in the southern parts of Somalia will continue to have negative repercussions on Somalia in 1999. There is an urgent need to improve health and nutrition, water supply and sanitation, and primary education. Priority will be given to about 300 000 people who run an extreme risk of death from starvation or disease. Interventions for rehabilitation and recovery with a longer-term scope are targeted at four million people, and concentrated in areas of relative stability, chiefly in the northern parts of Somalia.

57. UNMAS, United Nations Mines Action Service, has carried out two evaluations of the mine situation in Somalia. Both focused on North-Western Somalia (Somaliland) which is the area with the highest concentration of mines. According to information from UNMAS, north-eastern Somalia is also very heavily mined. Yet, the mine situation is not considered to be the most serious humanitarian problem since large movements of people do not occur and there is general awareness of where the mines have been placed. The number of victims are declining. In 1997, a pilot project was initiated in the Burao area of North-Western Somalia which at that time was mined and a real obstacle for return. The project was implemented by UNDP and supported by Member States. Member States have also supported other mine clearing initiatives. To sum up, the situation can to some extent be considered a humanitarian problem because it partially prevents people from returning to their homes.

58. Member States' contributions in the field of humanitarian assistance are found in Annex II.

Justice and Home Affairs measures

Returns

59. Few Somalis have been returned from Member States in recent years. In contacts with representatives of Member States, local communities (elders and local administrations) have stated that some sort of assistance is needed in order to enhance their capacity to absorb large numbers of returnees.

60. Four Member States have started to devise or have implemented return arrangements for unsuccessful asylum seekers. In order to do so, they have all accepted to embrace a regional approach. Such arrangements are:

- “Agreed minutes” regarding the obligation to take back own nationals, the fact that returnees should be able to go back in safety and dignity. In these programmes the returnee will have travel expenses covered and on arrival receive a small allowance,
- package in which the returnee has travel expenses covered and a small allowance on departure and on arrival. This package also includes a larger sum for the local community,
- offer to the returnee to receive vocational training on arrival together with persons from the local community and does not include any cash allowances.

61. Several Member States also run voluntary return programmes for persons with residence permits in the Member State concerned wishing to return to Somalia. These programmes often contain travel expenses and a cash allowance for the returnee and the family.

62. Member States' contributions in the field of return are to be found in Annex II.

II. Rundown of existing Community/Union measures and actions

63. The EC Political Strategy for Somalia, as well as the Strategy for the EC Co-operation Programme in Somalia, are found at Annex III.

Politics

64. At present, there is no European Commission delegation in Somalia. However, a Somalia Unit has been set up within the delegation in Kenya, with a view to monitoring the implementation of EC programmes and, in a number of cases, programmes co-financed or financed in parallel with Member States. The Commission has also established three offices in Somalia.

65. Contacts between Member States' diplomats and Commission officials and local leaders/authorities take place frequently, either to discuss the general situation in Somalia or specific projects. Given the fact that there is no central government in Somalia, Somalia has been unable to sign any international agreements in the last 8 years. The Commission is still working on the basis of the Lomé III Agreement, which was the last to be signed. Each of the neighbouring countries, Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya has signed the last Lomé Agreement (Lomé IV bis).

66. As there is no national government, it is difficult to foresee an agreement between the EU and Somalia. However, informal agreements on the delivery of rehabilitation aid have been reached by the Community and Member States through consultations mainly with the local or regional authorities present.

67. The Presidency in a statement of 18 June 1999 on behalf of the EU called on Ethiopia and Eritrea to stop military intervention in Somalia and to re-establish their co-operation within IGAD and the Standing Committee.

Economics

68. Exports of Somali products to the Community which fell strongly in 1991 due to the civil war, are now on the increase. Although the quantities imported during the last few years remain low compared to the levels reached in the past, total imports originating from Somalia in 1996 amounted to almost Euro 19 million, bananas accounting for 57% of this trade before the El Niño floods, followed by fish and shell fish with a share of about 32%.

69. Given the absence of a central government, Somalia has no authority in the area of trade and economics, which would allow recognition by the Community. The Community has, however, continued to apply the preferential trade arrangements of the Lomé Convention to imports originating from Somalia as an ACP country. Moreover, as one of the least developed developing countries included in the United Nations list, Somalia also benefits from the Community system of generalised preferences granted autonomously to this group of countries. For bananas, Somalia, as a traditional ACP banana supplier, had an import allocation of 60 000 tonnes duty free in the framework of the common organisation of the banana market (Council Regulation 404/93). Under the new regulation, Somalia will continue to have access to the quota set aside for all traditional ACP suppliers. Somalia is also included on the list of traditional ACP suppliers eligible for funding under the framework of technical and financial assistance.

Development co-operation

70. At present the Community is the biggest donor in Somalia with regard to the relief-rehabilitation-development continuum. During the period 1993-1998, Euro 184 million were committed by the European Development Fund and under the budget lines including food aid, the remaining funds for rehabilitation, human rights and the de-mining budget lines, another Euro 43 million were spent on emergency and refugee aid. However, given that Lomé IV and IVbis had not been signed by Somalia as a consequence of the absence of a central government, there will be serious financial constraints in the future since the EDF funds under Lomé III have almost been depleted.

71. The Commission is trying to reduce the push factors as causes of migration as far as the lack of facilities is concerned. In regions with more stable conditions the Commission continues its support related to health facilities, schools, water supplies, creation of jobs etc. This work has become increasingly difficult, however, since the number of other donors, and their available funds for assistance to Somalia, are decreasing as well. Given the current situation, it is very difficult to mobilise new funding for Somalia.

Humanitarian aid

72. Somalia remains susceptible to three types of emergency situation requiring immediate international response; natural disasters, such as floods, droughts and pestilence; epidemics, particularly of cholera and also those affecting livestock, and man-made disasters, typically war-related casualties, population displacements and famine. Currently the Community, together with 13 UN agencies in collaboration with 50 international and 10 national non-governmental organisations, provide emergency humanitarian relief assistance.

73. Throughout 1998 Community-funded humanitarian assistance had to continue throughout the year in the more insecure and unstable areas of southern and central Somalia, much as it had done in 1997. In more secure and stable areas of the country the Commission was able to pursue more ambitious rehabilitation and development programmes.

74. Help is also given to Somali refugees in Kenya, Ethiopia, Yemen and Djibouti. A slow but steady repatriation of refugees from Ethiopia to NorthWest Somalia is going ahead with UNHCR's support. The activities of the Community in North West Somalia ('Somaliland') are quite important in preparing the ground for this repatriation. In 1997/1998 ECHO funded a water programme through UNHCR (Euro 1,4 million in Ethiopia which was designed to address the water needs of the local host population and the refugees themselves).

75. Refugees in Kenya face less immediate prospects of large repatriation because their area of origin, mainly southern Somalia, is much less secure than the North West. Consequently ECHO will continue to focus its attention in Somalia on those areas and regions where the basic pre-conditions for longer-term, more ambitious rehabilitation and development activities do not exist. In practice, this means the southern half of the country, in particular Mogadishu, the Lower Juba and Bay/Bakool. Additional funds are provided because of the aftermath of the El Nino floods.

Justice and Home Affairs measures

76. Somalia is a country selected on the list of third countries whose nationals must be in possession of a visa when crossing the external borders of the EU Member States (Council Regulation 574/1999).

III. Measures and actions by UNHCR, IOM, ICRC and other inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations

77. Reports from UNHCR and ICRC are at Annex III.

UNHCR

78. The major thrust of UNHCR's programme for Somali refugees is to continue with the implementation of organised voluntary repatriation from neighbouring countries to, and sustainable refugee reintegration in, safe areas in Somalia. In Somalia itself, up to half a million Somalis including returnees, internally displaced persons as well as local populations, benefit from community-based reintegration projects in the sectors of water, health and education, and the reinforcing and rehabilitation of infrastructure. Promotion of food security is pursued through agricultural and livestock projects, which also serve as income-generating activities.

79. A pilot voluntary repatriation programme from the camps in eastern Ethiopia was initiated at the beginning of 1997 and though the original target figure had to be revised downwards, the programme did not encounter difficulties unlike the repatriation programme in Kenya. Repatriation from Kenya encountered problems due to the security situation in some of the potential returnee areas.

IOM

80. In IOM view many parts of Somalia have been restored to a reasonable level of stability over the past few years. Large numbers of refugees and irregular migrants are still outside the country and in neighbouring regions. The return of these people is increasingly becoming possible due to improved conditions in many areas of origin and intended destinations. Addressing the needs of returning migrants will, according to IOM, require innovative strategies.

81. In this context, IOM's assistance services are aimed at increasing the present local absorption capacity to support refugees as well as returning migrants. Two main schemes should be considered:

- Assisted Return scheme and,
- Assisted Return for Highly Qualified and Skilled Somalis of the Diaspora

82. The IOM proposed programmes are intended to support the effective return and reintegration of target groups. IOM's assisted return concept includes conveying information on the availability of support mechanisms in the country of origin as well as cooperation with other agencies in the host countries to gather information on the profile of the potential returnees and secure the match between existing workforce and actual opportunities.

83. IOM will facilitate the necessary arrangements, collaboration and agreements with host governments, Somali authorities, implementing partners and returnees, with a view to maximizing co-operation, efficiency, cost-effectiveness accountability, and maximum sustainable returns.

ICRC

84. Since April 1998, when a serious security incident forced ICRC to suspend its expatriate presence in Somalia, ICRC has maintained various lifesaving activities in the country, focusing primarily on medical assistance implemented nation-wide through the Somali Red Crescent (SRCS) and ICRC Somali field officers.

85. After close monitoring and careful evaluation of the security context in Somalia, ICRC has decided to increase its field activities in the south of the country, using a limited expatriate field presence. Activities will continue pursuing a two-pronged approach:

- a) An emergency response to the direct effects of conflicts combined with natural disasters,
- b) A medium-term response with programmes aimed at maintaining local coping mechanisms and ensuring basic living conditions for specific target groups,

D. ASSESSMENT OF THE STATE OF PLAY

86. In the absence of a central government, clan-based factions and militia in different areas of the country have established various local administrations. In some areas, notably the North-West ("Somaliland") and in the North-East ("Puntland"), local administrations function effectively. Somalia is, generally speaking, a country in the process of reconstruction, with the exception of some areas in southern and central Somalia where the political situation remains unresolved. The security situation remains unstable in Mogadishu with a recent upsurge of fighting between warring factions. Kismayu and Baidoa have witnessed fierce fighting between rival clans, such as the Marehan and the Ogaden. Clashes flare up repeatedly also in parts of Hiran and in the Bay and Bakool regions as a result of constant shifts in the relative power of the fighting warlords and of the attempts by dispossessed clans to recover lands taken by other clans during the civil war.

87. Economic activity continues to grow both at a local level and across clan and faction boundaries. Many regional administrations have functioning administrations, including courts and civilian police forces.

88. Today, parts of southern Somalia remain in crisis while other parts, mainly in the North, have established relative peace and stability and are experiencing some social and economic recovery. In central Somalia (Hiran and Galgadud regions and the Mudug region) the situation is relatively calm, more akin to conditions prevailing in the north than those in southern Somalia. Large parts of the country, however, are in transition, somewhere between crisis and recovery. Throughout Somalia the population remains heavily armed and the security situation volatile.

89. The general situation in the areas in crisis has deteriorated recently due to the influx of weapons, ammunition and military equipment largely as a consequence of the war between Eritrea and Ethiopia in spite of the UN Security Council embargo of January 1992. The Report of the Secretary General of the UN on Somalia of 18 August 1999, reflecting the stands of OAU, IGAD, IPF, the EU and the Standing Committee, reaffirms the support to the principles of unity and territorial integrity of the Country and the “bottom-up – building blocks” approach for the reconstruction of the State.

90. Since there is no central government in Somalia, there is in practice no national guarantee for the protection of human rights on the basis of international law and a Constitution. Reports of human rights abuses exist mainly in the areas of conflict in the southern parts of Somalia. Cases of summary executions have been reported in those areas. Somalis and international aid workers have been taken hostage; there is ill treatment of prisoners, torture and rape. Many people in these conflict areas, including civilians, have been killed in clan fighting. Outside the area of conflict the human rights situation is better.

91. This state of no peace-no war/crisis with human rights abuses inflicted by all parties in areas of conflict has led to economic deprivation and poverty and have created a powerful incentive to migrate or resulted in flight abroad or relocation within the country. As regards the applicability of the concept of the internal relocation alternative, such an alternative exists only in the North-West and the North-East regions and the Central Provinces of Hiran and Galgadud, provided the persons concerned are members of any of the clans (e.g. Isaaq, Dir, Darood) living in these regions. There is no such alternative in Southern Somalia. In assessing the safety and viability of an internal relocation alternative, the absence of a well-founded fear of persecution needs to be analysed. In the more resourceful group that has applied for asylum in Member States, recognition rates (refugee or humanitarian status) were on average 57,6% although they decreased to 44,5% in 1998, still well above the general average recognition rate for all asylum seekers.

92. The primary causes of migratory flows could in general terms be described as insecurity and the on-going civil strife in some areas of the south, lack of facilities especially education and health facilities and the possibility of sending remittances to those who have remained behind. Another factor is the fact that few Member States are currently able to return rejected asylum seekers.

93. During the period 1990 – 1998, on average only 8,6% of Somali asylum-seekers were granted Convention refugee status as an indication of their long-term protection needs, whereas 49% received a humanitarian status. Although the latter is not necessarily an indication of the short-term nature of their protection needs, a considerable number of Somali nationals residing in EU Member States on a temporary basis would be eligible for return provided local authorities would agree to take them back. The latter, however, are worried that large groups of returnees might threaten stability in their respective area of return. The reasons given have been that the local communities lack the capacity to absorb returnees: instead of sending remittances from abroad they fear returnees will become a burden to their relatives in the local community.

94. The primary causes for flight are inter-linked: unresolved political situation which leads to armed conflict and human rights abuse and a weak infrastructure and economy. Action by the EU Member States must therefore seek to address all of these areas if the linkages are to be weakened and the incentive to migrate diminished. In the context of Somalia, it is required to apply a coherent, holistic approach that incorporates aspects of external policy, the relief-development continuum as well as migration issues.

E. ACTION REQUIRED BY THE COMMUNITY/UNION

95. Foreign Policy

- a) Continue to assist and facilitate conflict resolution and the peace process in Somalia and consider ways and means to revitalise and strengthen the IGAD process, *inter alia* through the IGAD Partners Forum. Continue with a policy of explicit non recognition, bearing in mind the importance of preserving the territorial integrity of Somalia

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Council/Commission

Financial implications: no

- b) Continue to look for ways to find a political solution in areas with unresolved conflicts through the appropriate bodies

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Council/Commission

Financial implications: no

- c) EU Member States should consider appropriate measures with the aim of upholding the respect for the Security Council resolution 733 on an embargo of all deliveries of weapons and military equipment to Somalia

Target date: ongoing
Responsible: Council/Member States
Financial implications: no

- d) Reinforce a constructive dialogue between the EU and de facto authorities/leaders in the different regions of Somalia, without recognising the regions

Target date: ongoing
Responsible: Council
Financial implications: no

- e) Agree on arrangements for identification and documentation of returnees to respective area. It should however be emphasised that this would in no way imply international recognition since such recognition during the present circumstances could have a negative influence upon the peace and security in the regions of Somalia

Target date: mid 2000
Responsible: Council/Member States
Financial implications: yes
Possible Community budget line: no
Member States:
Experts Member States needed: yes

- f) Explore scope for effective action with the US and Canada, through the transatlantic dialogue

Target date: beginning 2000
Responsible: Council/Commission
Financial implications: no

- g) Monitor and prevent human rights violations (leading to the need for international protection) *inter alia* by supporting the High Commissioner for Human Rights and special educational programmes

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: Human Rights and Democracy in developing countries, in particular the ACP countries (B7- 7020)

Member States:

- h) As relative stability is created in major areas, the EU should consider how to encourage and support the emergence of regional administrations that are trying to rebuild an institutional framework and a form of local governance.

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Council/Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: European Development Fund (B7 – 1 0)

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: no

- i) EU Member States should consider appropriate measures with the aim of trying perpetrators of serious violations of international humanitarian law and of crimes against humanity and support the work carried out by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Target date: 1999

Responsible: Council/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- j) The EU should continue to meet the humanitarian needs of Somalia and should consider ways of supporting Somalis in achieving sustainable development of peace, stability and economic development

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Commission/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: European Development Fund
(B7 – 1 0)
Aid, including emergency food aid, to help the population of the developing countries and others hit by disasters or serious crisis
(B 7- 2 1 0)

Member States:

- k) Measures to promote tolerance and the protection of minority rights

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Commission/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: Human Rights and Democracy in developing countries, in particular the ACP countries
(B7- 7020)

Member States:

96. Development and Economic Cooperation

- a) Clarify the situation of Somalia in the post-Lomé context

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Commission

Financial implications: no

b) Continue efforts with regard to mines awareness and surveys

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Commission/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: European Development Fund
(B7 – 1 0)

Member States:

c) Continue/strengthen education and health systems, job creation and economic infrastructure

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: European Development Fund
(B7 – 1 0)

Member States:

d) Facilitate exports of live stock from Somalia, thus making it possible for regional authorities in the north east and north west to raise revenue through export

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: European Development Fund
(B7 – 1 0)

Member States:

e) Explore the potential for partnerships in development co-operation to strengthen peace building measures and reduce conflict

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Council/Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: European Development Fund
(B7 – 1 0)

Member States:

- f) Assist Somalis in reconstruction of the civil society; logistics, legal and administrative capacity building; Demobilisation and reintegration of ex combatants, returnees and IDPs

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Commission/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: European Development Fund
(B7 – 1 0)
Human Rights and Democracy in
developing countries, in particular the
ACP countries
(B7- 7020)

Member States:

97. Migration

- a) Consider measures to facilitate voluntary repatriation of refugees from the region

Target date: mid 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- b) Assess and evaluate programmes for returning failed asylum seekers/illegal immigrants and consider vocational training programmes for the benefit of returnees and local communities

Target date: mid 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- c) Measures to address the reception and protection capacities of countries in the African region

Target date: mid 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- d) Enhance practical co-operation with *de facto* authorities in the region to tackle illegal immigration racketeering

Target date: beginning 2000

Responsible: Council/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- e) Draw up a plan specifically targeted at a reduction in trafficking in children and enhance co-operation with NGOs in the region with the aim of running information campaigns on the destructive effects of trafficking in children

Target date: end 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

f) Controls by Airline Liaison Officers at airports in the neighbouring region

Target date: mid 2000

Responsible: Council/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

g) Agree administrative arrangements with the de facto authorities for the return of failed asylum seekers /illegal immigrants. It should however be emphasised that this would in no way imply recognition since recognition during the present circumstances could have a negative influence upon the peace and security in the regions of Somalia

Target date: beginning 2000

Responsible: Council/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

h) Assist the integration into society of Somali nationals legally residing in the Member States.

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Council/Commission/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

SOMALIA⁽¹⁾**Capital:** Mogadishu**Location:** Eastern Africa, bordering the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean, east of Ethiopia**Border countries:** Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti**Other surrounding countries:** Eritrea, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman**Area:** 637 660 km²**KEY FIGURES ON POPULATION⁽²⁾****Population:** 6 841 700 ⁽³⁾**Age structure:** 0-14 years 44%, 15-64 years 53%, 65 years and over 3%**Density:** 10.2 hab./km²**Urban population:** 26% (est. Eurostat)**Total population increase:** 44.3 per 1000 population**Net migration rate:** 16.1 per 1000 population**Infant mortality rate:** 125.8 infant deaths per 1000 live births**Life expectancy at birth:** 46.2 years**Total fertility rate:** 7.0 children per woman**Ethnic groups:** Somali 85%, Bantu, Arabs 30 000**Religions:** Sunni Muslim**Languages:** Somali (official), Arabic, Italian, English**Literacy:** 24% of population aged 15 years and over**OTHER KEY FIGURES⁽²⁾****GDP:** purchasing power parity—\$8 billion (1996 est.)**GDP—real growth rate:** 4% (1996 est.)**GDP—per capita:** purchasing power parity—\$83 (1996-United Nations)**GDP—composition by sector:** agriculture 59%, industry: 10%, services: 31% (1995 est.)**Inflation rate—consumer price index:** NA**Labour force:** 2.3 million (25.2% by the total population and 50.6% by the population aged 15-64 years)**Unemployment rate:** NA

(1) The sources of data for this national portrait are mentioned at the bottom of each table/figure

(2) Data within this current summary (above) are mainly from the United Nations, the U.S. Bureau of the Census and Eurostat. When not indicated data/estimates refer to 1998. Figures on population are mainly from the U.S. Bureau of the Census, International Data Base: further information is provided in Table 1 and Figure 1

(3) This estimate was derived from an official census taken in 1987 by the Somali Government with the cooperation of the UN and the US Bureau of the Census; population estimates are updated year by year between census years by factoring growth rates into them and by taking account of refugee movements and of losses due to famine; lower estimates of Somalia's population in mid-1996 (on the order of 6.0 million to 6.5 million) have been made by aid and relief agencies, based on the number of persons being fed; population counting in Somalia is complicated by the large numbers of nomads and by refugee movements in response to famine and clan warfare

Trade between Somalia and the EU

Table A – Imports from Somalia into the EU: Principal goods ('000 EURO)⁽¹⁾



	1995	1996	1997	1998
TOTAL	18 732	18 734	24 174	9 454
Of which:				
BANANAS, INCL. PLANTAINS, FRESH OR DRIED	8 884	10 699	11 870	4 059
CRUSTACEANS	792	1 702	1 358	2 393
FROZEN FISH (EXCL. FISH FILLETS AND OTHER FISH MEAT)	4 415	3 404	5 783	1 968
LAC, NATURAL GUMS, RESINS, GUM-RESINS, AND BALSAMS	476	422	631	482
TURBO-JETS, PROPELLERS	:	:	3	163
RAW HIDES	34	:	:	102
MOLLUSCS AND OTHER AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES	2 503	678	3 560	98
OTHER RAW HIDES	33	39	22	39
COFFEE	286	:	5	38
ELECTRONIC INTEGRATED CIRCUITS	:	:	:	27
Other	1 309	1 790	942	86

(1) Goods listed in descending order of 1998 value in Euro
Source: EUROSTAT (Comext2)

Table B – Exports to Somalia from the EU: Principal goods ('000 EURO)⁽¹⁾



	1995	1996	1997	1998
TOTAL	20 091	15 061	14 364	14 170
Of which:				
WHEAT OR MESLIN FLOUR	2 472	0	5 060	3 974
PASTA	1 670	555	1 819	1 616
CIGARS, CHERROOTS	:	109	901	1 508
MILK AND CREAM, CONCENTRATE	2 738	95	460	731
COMPRESSION-IGNITION PISTONS	47	118	:	443
MEDICAMENTS	197	104	265	413
MOTOR/GOODS VEHICLES	74	32	99	381
TRACTOR/MOTOR PARTS	333	118	269	366
WHEAT AND MESLIN	:	:	:	301
AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES	9	4	11	225
Other	12 552	13 925	5 479	4 211

(1) Goods listed in descending order of 1998 value in Euro
Source: EUROSTAT (Comext2)

Figure A - Trade between Somalia and the EU

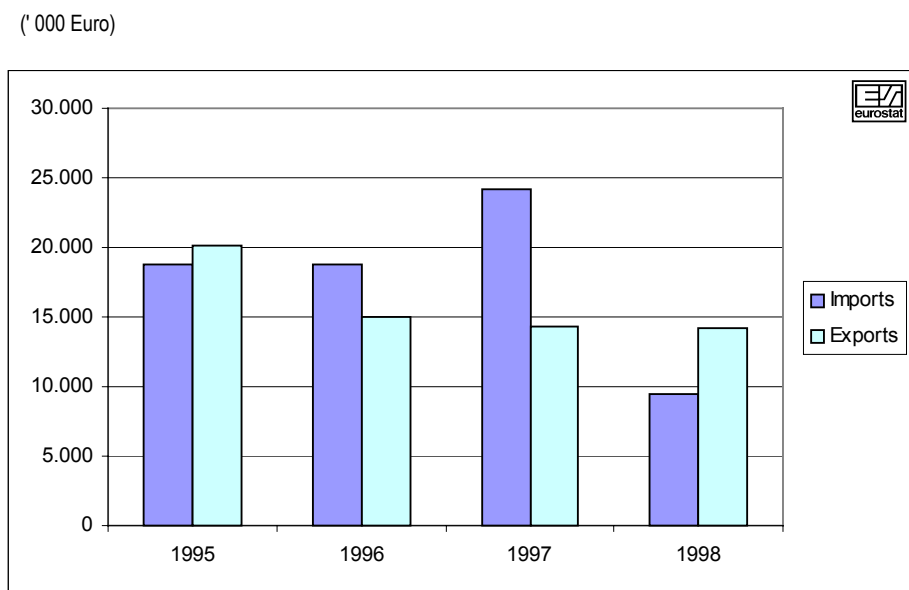


Table 1 – Main demographic indicators for Somalia



	Mid-year population	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Total fertility rate ⁽¹⁾	Life expect. at birth	Infant mortality rate ⁽²⁾	Age depend. ratio ⁽³⁾
	(1 000)	(per 1 000 population)								(%)
1960	2 955.8	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
1975	4 127.8	44.5	18.2	26.3	-0.3	26.0	:	46.8	183.1	99.2
1980	5 790.7	46.5	16.6	29.9	10.1	40.0	:	49.6	161.2	99.1
1990	6 675.1	47.9	19.3	28.6	-38.6	-9.9	7.25	46.2	125.8	91.6
1995	6 256.4	43.0	18.1	24.9	5.0	29.9	6.28	46.2	125.8	88.6
1996	6 420.3	44.3	18.2	26.1	-4.2	21.9	6.52	46.2	125.8	88.7
1997	6 590.3	45.5	18.3	27.2	3.1	30.3	6.76	46.2	125.8	88.5
1998	6 841.7	46.8	18.5	28.3	16.1	44.3	7.01	46.2	125.8	89.0

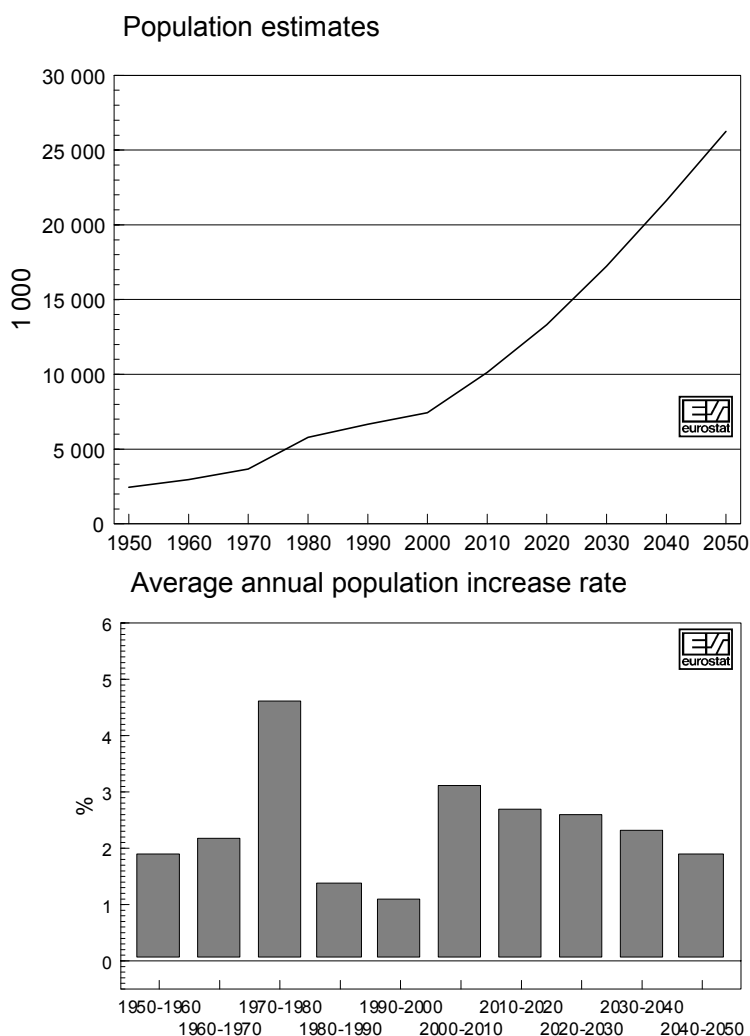
(1) Children per woman

(2) Infant deaths (under one year of age) per 1 000 live births

(3) Proportion of population aged 0-14 and 65 and over on the population aged 15-64

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, International Data Base

Figure 1 – Evolution of the population of Somalia



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, International Data Base

Table 2a - Resident population of Somali citizens in EU Member States

(Population on 1st January of each year)⁽¹⁾



	1990 ⁽²⁾	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	1997 or Census as % of	
								non-EU pop.	all non-nat. pop.
B	63	:	:	217	200	208	:	0.06	0.02
DK	393	3 638	5 125	6 925	9 683	11 890	:	5.13	4.07
D	:	9 101	8 358	8 248	8 649	9 035	8 849	0.16	0.12
EL	:	68	67	60	52	:	:	0.04	0.03
E	:	7	6	7	12	172	:	0.00	0.00
F	1 077	:	:	:	:	:	:	0.05	0.03
IRL ⁽³⁾	13	21	45	149	307	208	:	0.93	0.27
I	3 744	7 675	8 919	9 948	10 787	:	:	1.44	1.22
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	1 930	13 042	16 453	17 223	15 385	13 648	:	3.13	2.26
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	1	:	:	:
FIN	:	2 883	3 538	4 044	4 555	5 238	:	7.64	6.24
S	551	7 530	10 480	11 332	12 163	13 122	:	3.49	2.31
UK ⁽⁴⁾	:	10 000	20 000	20 000	40 000	40 000	:	3.03	1.89

(1) The population is that on 1st January of each reference year. For some Member States, 31st December of the previous year is taken as the equivalent

(2) 1990/91 Census round results for B and F

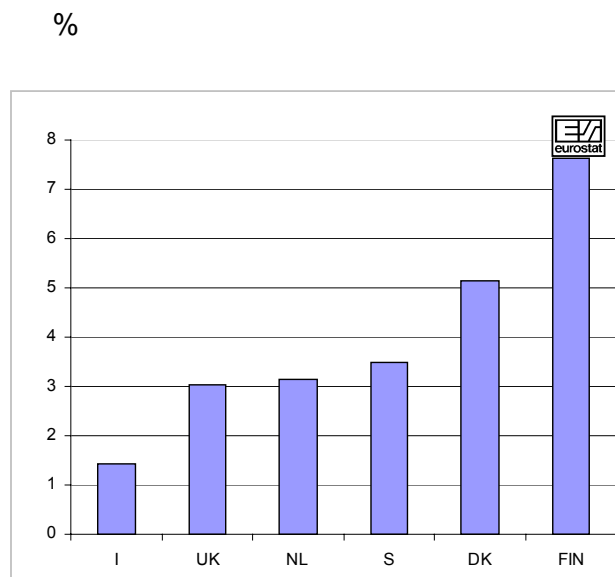
(3) Number of legal residents over age 16 plus number of asylum applicants

(4) Labour Force Survey, Spring data, figures rounded to the nearest thousand

Source: EUROSTAT

Figure 2 - Resident population of Somali citizens in EU Member States as a percentage of the total non-EU population in 1997

(main countries of residence of those Member States for which data are available)



Source: EUROSTAT

Table 2b – Valid residence permits held by Somali citizens in EU Member States by type of permit

	1996			1997			1998		
	Total	Long	Short	Total	Long	Short	Total	Long	Short
B	:	:	1	:	:	0	:	:	1
DK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
D	:	338	5 310	:	355	5 554	:	449	5 662
EL	1	:	:	1	:	:	1	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F⁽¹⁾	754	667	87	852	698	154	:	:	:
IRL⁽²⁾	10	:	:	49	:	:	133	:	:
I	7 833	:	:	7 224	:	:	7 357	:	:
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	17 223	:	:	15 385	:	:	13 648	:	:
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	:	:	:	:	:	:	4 785	:	:
S	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

(1) Long term residence permits are for a duration of more than 1 year; short term and provisional permits are for a maximum of 1 year. Figures refer to valid residence permits held at the end of the year

(2) Number of Somali citizens, over the age of 16 registered with the police, and with permission to remain, excluding asylum seekers

Source: EUROSTAT, Ministries of the Member States

Table 2c - Residence permits issued to Somali citizens in EU Member States by type of permit⁽¹⁾

	1996			1997			1998		
	Total	Long	Short	Total	Long	Short	Total	Long	Short
B	1	1	0	1	1	0	6	2	4
DK⁽²⁾	3 301	:	:	2 528	:	:	1 744 ^P	:	:
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F⁽³⁾	30	:	:	50	:	:	:	:	:
IRL⁽⁴⁾	10	:	:	49	:	:	133	:	:
I	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL⁽⁵⁾	3 635	1 263	2 372	1 183	757	426	875	501	374
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN⁽⁶⁾	648	647	1	442	436	6	535	522	13
S	1 175	:	:	1 522	:	:	1 063	:	:
UK	680	:	:	990	:	:	2 940	:	:

(1) This table shows how many permits have been issued during each year

(2) Number of residence permits issued to first time applicants. Includes asylum or other status in an asylum case, family reunification and other immigration residence permits including E.C. residence certificates

(3) Number of first residence permits issued to Somali citizens born outside France

(4) Number of Somali nationals, over the age of 16 registered with the police, and with permission to remain, excluding asylum seekers

(5) Long-term permits are for permanent residence, short term permits are for temporary residence and include refugees

(6) First issue residence permits. 20 first permits were also issued from Finnish missions during the period 1996-1998

Source: EUROSTAT, Ministries of the Member States

Table 3a – Legal immigration of Somali citizens into EU Member States⁽¹⁾



	1990	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1997 ⁽²⁾ as % of	
							non-EU imm.	all imm.
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	201	1 321	1 624	2 650	1 889	1 358	9.53	3.77
D	:	804	1 123	1 455	1 160	:	0.25	0.14
EL	11	1	3	0	3	:	0.02	:
E	:	5	5	19	3	:	0.01	0.01
F	34	74	6	8	23	:	0.04	:
IRL⁽³⁾	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
I	713	1 009	983	1 049	:	:	0.78	0.61
L	:	:	:	1	1	:	0.09	0.01
NL	2 011	3 232	2 244	1 272	350	:	0.82	0.32
A	:	:	:	54	50	:	0.16	0.07
P	:	:	:	:	0	:	0.00	:
FIN	34	474	312	295	457	:	6.80	3.37
S	805	2 808	965	913	1 064	:	4.06	2.37
UK	4 330	5 120	5 720	5 560	4 490	:	3.59	1.58

(1) Asylum seekers are included in the figures for Portugal and partially included in the figures for all other Member States, according to national asylum procedures and recording systems

(2) 1996 for Italy

(3) Statistics on legal migration are not available. There figures are for asylum seekers only

Source: EUROSTAT

Table 3b – Somali citizens granted permission to stay in EU Member States for reasons of family reunion



	1996	1997	1998
B	6	2	14
DK⁽¹⁾	1 560	775	714 ^P
D	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:
E	0	0	:
F	0	4	:
IRL⁽²⁾	3	19	15
I	498	574	943
L	:	:	:
NL	80	62	86
A	:	:	:
P	:	:	:
FIN	52	373	57
S	965	920	939
UK⁽³⁾	20	10	30

(1) Number of residence permits issued to first time applicants

(2) Figures are for family reunion with Convention refugees only. Statistics for other family reunions are not available

(3) Persons admitted as fiancé(e)s or spouses or dependants of work permit holders

Sources: EUROSTAT, CIREFI, Ministries of the Member States

Table 4 – Somali citizens repatriated from EU Member States

	1996			1997			1998		
	Repatriations ⁽¹⁾		Expulsions ⁽¹⁾	Repatriations ⁽¹⁾		Expulsions	Repatriations ⁽¹⁾		Expulsions
	Vol.	Invol.		Vol.	Invol.		Vol.	Invol.	
B	:	1	:	:	0	:	:	2	:
DK⁽²⁾	1	11	:	10	7	:	23	10	:
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	157
EL	:	7	:	:	2	:	:	2	:
E	:	0	:	:	0	:	:	2	:
F	:	:	12	:	:	15	:	:	16
IRL	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	0	0
I⁽³⁾	:	1	50/2	:	:	93/1	:	:	31/9
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL⁽⁴⁾	:	:	80	:	:	62	:	:	32
A⁽⁵⁾	1			1			12		
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
S	:	:	34	:	4	30	:	9	54
UK⁽⁶⁾	:	:	+	:	:	5	:	:	5

(1) Voluntary / Involuntary. Repatriations are back to the country of citizenship. Expulsions are forced removals to other countries

(2) Including monitored departures and removals of asylum seekers and refugees

(3) Notified / recorded (established, since 27.03.1998) expulsions

(4) Expulsions of asylum seekers

(5) Repatriations and expulsions

(6) UK Immigration enforcement removals. Includes voluntary departures following enforcement action. Removals may relate to action initiated in earlier years

Sources: EUROSTAT, CIREFI, Ministries of the Member States

Table 5 – Applications for short and long stay visas from Somali citizens and numbers issued by EU Member States

	1996		1997		1998	
	Applications (S/L)	Visas issued (S/L)	Applications (S/L)	Visas issued (S/L)	Applications (S/L)	Visas issued (S/L)
B	141/:	50/:	126/:	61/:	77/:	26/:
DK	:	:	:	:	:	:
D	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	863	:	958	:	484	:
E	-/-	-/-	4/1	2/1	-/4	-/4
F	:	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:
I	:	:	:	:	:	:
L	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	:/575	172/82	:/660	:/75	296/407	153/90 ⁽¹⁾
A	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN⁽²⁾	:	:	:	:	:	:
S	272	272	187	187	184	182
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:

(1) Long-term visas issued in 1998 until 26.11.98

(2) Finland received 60 visa applications during the period 1996-1998

Sources: EUROSTAT, CIREFI, Ministries of the Member States

Table 6 – Somali citizens refused entry at the borders of EU Member States



	1996	1997	1998
B	8	8	21
DK ⁽¹⁾	85	95	:
D ⁽²⁾	:	:	77
EL	1	1	6
E	24	3	1
F	249	299	169
IRL	:	3	1
I	279	167	234
L	:	:	:
NL ⁽³⁾	258	185	275
A	24	15	10
P	2	2	2
FIN	21	29	47
S	39	36	35
UK ⁽⁴⁾	49	99	167

(1) Covers refusals of entry into Denmark by an administrative decision.

Source: National Commissioner of the Danish Police

(2) Total number of refusals of entry

(3) Refusals of entry at Schipol airport

(4) 99 Somalis were refused leave to enter and removed during the period January 1996 – November 1998

Sources: EUROSTAT, CIREFI, Ministries of the Member States

Table 7 – Asylum seekers and refugees from Somalia

Table 7a – Asylum applications



	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
B	22	77	111	172	101	105	75	123	522
DK	512	280	896	1 044	1 572	1 188	1 420	1 233	617 ^P
D	3 019	1 934	2 751	1 577	896	1 124	1 118	898	1 078
EL	22	10	1	9	11	2	6	6	18
E	:	:	39	39	73	:	40	55	40
F	28	33	190	1 077	223	92	85	81	91
IRL	:	2	1	6	6	30	139	258	75
I	331	1 704	377	33	12	18	10	8	24
L	0	:	1	2	:	:	0	0	:
NL	1 690	1 710	4 246	4 330	5 393	3 977	1 461	1 280	2 775
A	83	46	94	72	67	34	72	87	81
P	1	0	0	1	:	1	1	0	6
FIN	1 441	320	171	155	177	134	140	184	135
S	2 391	1 355	2 699	738	934	869	434	364	228
UK	2 250	1 995	1 575	1 465	1 840	3 465	1 780	2 730	4 685
EU-15	:	:	13 152	10 720	11 305	:	6 781	7 307	10 375^P

Table 7b – Total numbers granted Geneva Convention refugee status


	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
B	8	35	18	11	:	:	16	50	26
DK ⁽¹⁾	0	2	2	3	0	3	23	4	17 ^P
D	172	84	:	5	:	:	1	2	0
EL	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	0	:	5
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	25	23	42
IRL	:	0	:	:	4	12	10	24	:
I	:	:	:	2	5	:	:	2	2
L	:	:	0	0	:	:	:	2	2
NL	74	83	1 896	607	111	75	88	37	19
A	2	6	10	2	8	1	1	5	8
P	0	0	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	:	6	0	0	:	0	0	0	0
S	128	43	22	17	2	:	:	8	5
UK	275	50	25	45	5	10	15	985	2 330
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1 142	:

Table 7c – Total numbers granted humanitarian/de facto refugee status


	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK ⁽¹⁾	130	323	605	934	765	1 053	1 483	1 651	840 ^P
D ⁽²⁾	:	:	:	:	:	:	168	254	170
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	5	0
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	57	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	0	0	0	2
I	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	67	134	2 454	1 032	3 407	1 548	1 263	757	501
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	:	:	:	:	:	:	145	77	103
S	414	1 911	1 398	641	2 018	155	78	123	118
UK	75	225	2 210	3 075	1 575	2 205	3 580	1 015	375

(1) First instance decisions only

(2) Recognition under Article 53 of the 1996 Constitution

Sources: EUROSTAT, CIREA, Ministries of the Member States, IGC

Table 7d – Number of grants of refugee status as a percentage of the total number of asylum applications from Somali citizens



	1996		1997		1998	
	Granted refugee status a/b	% ⁽¹⁾	Granted refugee status a/b	% ⁽¹⁾	Granted refugee status a/b	% ⁽¹⁾
B	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK⁽²⁾	1 506	92.0	1 655	91.0	857 ^P	92.0 ^P
D⁽³⁾	9	0.7	4	0.6	4	0.3
EL	6	:	6	:	18	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	25	21.0	23	37.1	42	50.0
IRL	70	50.0	24	9.3	0	0.0
I	:	:	:	:	:	:
L	:	:	:	:	:	:
	88	6.0	37	3.0	19	0.0
A	:	1.0	:	6.0	:	10.0
P	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	145	:	77	:	103	:
S	:	20.0	:	2.2	:	2.2
UK	15	0.8	985	36.0	233	49.7

(1) The percentages shown in this table are indicators only. Note that grants of Geneva Convention Status for each year often do not relate to applications made within that year. Also figures on applications usually include family members, whereas grants of Geneva Convention status may include only adult applicants

(2) First instance decisions only

(3) Recognition under Article 53 of the 1996 Constitution

Sources: EUROSTAT, CIREA, Ministries of the Member States

Table 7e – Rejected asylum applications



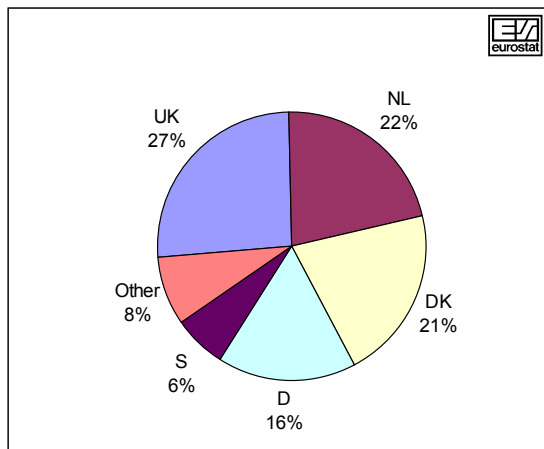
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK⁽¹⁾	199	14	15	54	36	107	134	161	73 ^P
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	1 207	580	1 105
EL	10	19	0	4	4	5	1	9	18
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	94	39	42
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	2	50	131	27
I	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	1 336	1 481	2 192	3 007	3 738	4 501	7 154	1 720	1 305
A	21	19	60	95	114	45	79	70	64
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	:	:	:	:	:	:	0	11	9
S		312	145	65	85	106	59	112	108
UK	25	40	320	210	150	185	235	305	100

(1) First instance decisions only

Sources: CIREA, Ministries of the Member States

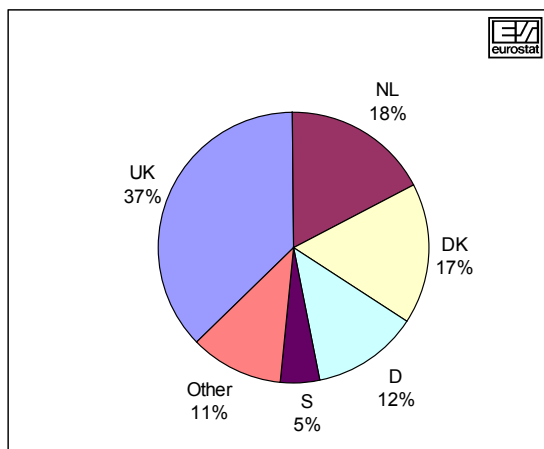
Figure 3 - Asylum applications of Somali citizens in EU Member States

1996



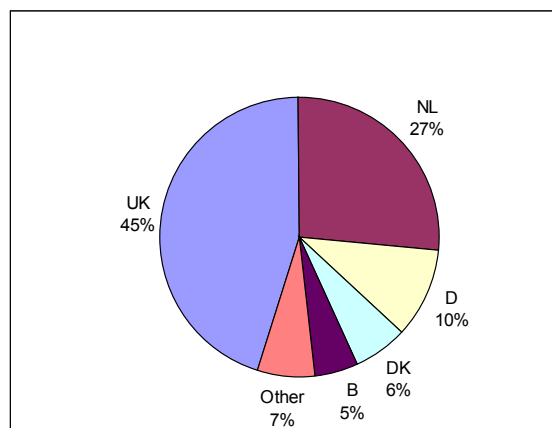
100% = 6 781

1997



100% = 7 307

1998



100% = 10 375^P

Source : Eurostat

Table 8 – Number of Somali tertiary⁽¹⁾ education students in the EU Member States

	B	DK	D	EL ⁽²⁾	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
School-year															
1995/96	:	19	42	:	:	18	0	173	:	:	2	:	66	33	77
1996/97	:	28	42	3	:	25	0	151	:	:	2	:	95	70	92

(1) Tertiary education includes: higher education non-university (ISCED 5); university second stage (ISCED 7); university first stage (ISCED 6)

In Ireland and the UK, students are considered to be non-nationals if they have permanent residence in another country, while for the other Member States non-national students are those holding passports from another country

The data presented do not provide a precise measure of student mobility. On the one hand, the number of students enrolled in an EU Member State other than their own, is underestimated, partly because, in some countries, it is not possible to identify the citizenship of students in certain types of higher education, e.g., ISCED 5 in France. On the other hand, the data may overstate the degree of student mobility, as children of migrants are included

(2) Number of residence permits issued to students in 1996 and 1997

Source: Eurostat

Conventional Signs:

- P Provisional
 - :
 - +
- Indicates «below lowest level of recording»

**RUNDOWN OF
EXISTING MEMBER STATES MEASURES AND ACTIONS
FOR SOMALIA**

1. Politics

Austria

No Austrian embassy in Somalia. No embassy of Somalia in Vienna.

France

France closed its embassy in Mogadishu in March 1991. A diplomatic mission was briefly re-opened from March to June 1993. French interests, limited in nature, are currently followed from Djibouti for Somaliland and from Nairobi for the rest of the country.

French soldiers have taken part in United Nations operations in Somalia: 2 500 in UNITAF and 1 100 up until December 1993 in UNOSOM II.

As a member, within the IGAD Partners Forum, of the Committee on Somalia and its Liaison Group created in 1998, France supports the mediation efforts of Ethiopia and Egypt.

Germany

Pending the restoration of normality in Somalia, Somali external representations have no possibility for consular activities, no matter whether Somalia can be considered to be a sovereign state or whether Somali citizenship can be considered to exist. In particular the authenticity of documents issued by Somali external representations can no longer be guaranteed. The Foreign Ministry has requested the Somali embassy in Bonn to stop issuing official documents.

Italy

Italy has a Special Delegate for Somalia who is following the events from Nairobi, other capitals in the region and inside the Country through frequent travels in the various areas. He has contacts with political leaders and representatives of forces and groups of the civil society, such as traditional and religious leaders, businessman, leaders of local NGOs and associations. Italy chairs the Committee on Somalia of the IGAD Partners Forum and its Liaison Group and is part of the Standing Committee between IGAD Countries, their Partners and other Countries and Organisations.

Netherlands

There is no diplomatic representation for Somalia in the Netherlands.

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom has informal dealings with the Somaliland administration but the territory has not been diplomatically recognised by the United Kingdom.

Finland

Finland has no bilateral co-operation with Somalia at the moment. Finland is however currently negotiating with some NGOs to send fact-finding missions to Somaliland and Jubaland in order to assess the circumstances for further co-operation.

Finland provided Euro 426 000 through UNICEF.

France

France considers that instability and fragmentation of the country hinders all bilateral co-operation. There are however French NGOs present in Somalia (AICF, Secours Catholique) and France has contributed with Euro 3,6 million to UN projects (through UNDP, UNICEF) and to other nutritional projects.

Germany

Germany has no longer any bilateral co-operation with Somalia, but has since 1997 contributed to a total sum of Euro 2,13 million through various organisations, mainly to environmental projects.

Italy

Italy supports rehabilitation activities in various parts of the Countries and in particular in areas where peace, reconciliation, forms of local governance and institutional building prevails, according to the "bottom-up – peace dividend approach" recommended by IGAD and IPF, though projects co-financed with the Commission, UN Organisations and Italian NGOs.

In the current political environment in Somalia, any cooperation beyond mere humanitarian work is restricted to areas in which peace has really been established. The absence of local Italian facilities and of a government counterpart agency, plus the security situation has led to Italy's decision to concentrate mostly on multilateral operations.

In 1998 work began under the Italian Euro 5,16 million co-financing plan for the second rehabilitation programme for Somalia, set up by the European Commission, specifically designed for the areas where security and stability are best guaranteed, focusing on education and health care. Under the co-financing procedure, Italy has approved numerous projects being promoted by the Italian NGOs which have remained in Somalia even after Operation Restore Hope was concluded. Italian funds have been used specifically for the following projects:

1. "Support for Education and the Rehabilitation of Schools in the Berbera District" (2 years).
2. "Rehabilitation of rural water infrastructure in the Berbera District 799,000" Euro (1.5 years).
3. "Technical and institutional assistance to the municipality of Berbera", entrusted to the Habitat Agency, with its headquarters in Nairobi, for 1,378,677 Euro (2 years).
4. "Development of primary education in the Bosaso District", for a total of 724,000 Euro (2 years).
5. "Support for Primary schools in Merca" for 605,000 Euro (2 years).

6. "Rehabilitation of agriculture infrastructure in the district of Bullo Burti, Hiran Region", for a total of 326,000 Euro (6 months).
7. "Food security analysis unit: expansion of phase II", implemented by WFP.

The funding mechanism, which includes jointly identifying individual activities to be implemented, is so arranged that it guarantees the maximum flexibility in managing the programmes and projects.

In 1998, emergency aid comprised two directly-managed programmes for Somali refugees in Djibouti and Yemen, in addition to the programmes financed by Italy through a voluntary contribution to UNHCR to assist Somali refugees in Ethiopia and Yemen (Euro 723 040). Italy has also authorised WFP to use the balance of earlier contributions to WFP to deal with the flood emergency from which Somalia suffered at the end of 1997, and to embark upon major Food-for-Work activities in the north-western regions to deal with the crisis caused by the ban on livestock imports from Somalia imposed by the Saudi Arabian authorities following the Rift Valley Fever epidemic.

Lastly, Italy granted a number of scholarships to Somali nationals (10 in all), making a contribution of Euro 516 to UNDOS (United Nations Development Programme for Somalia) which operates in Nairobi, collecting data and conducting strategic planning for aid to Somalia.

In 1999 the next instalment (Euro 5,16 million) of the co-financing of the European Union Commission's Second Somalia Rehabilitation Programme will be released, together with Euro 2,58 million in food aid, considering the risk of a food crisis feared by several international organisations present locally because of the poor 1998 cereals harvest.

At the beginning of the year an emergency programme for the direct management of support to the southern populations of Somalia in the social/healthcare sector was approved, for which funds of Euro 258 228 have been allocated to the Italian Embassy in Nairobi.

Sweden

At present Sweden has no bilateral development cooperation with Somalia, but the Swedish government has recently taken a decision with the aim of supporting economic and social rehabilitation and reconstruction in those areas of Somalia where initiatives are being taken towards regional administration. The support - amounting to Euro 2,3 million/year) during a three-year period - will be channelled primarily via UN organisations or Swedish NGOs.

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom has not had a formal bilateral aid relationship with Somalia for many years. Since the crisis began in 1991 Britain has provided a substantial amount of emergency assistance. In 1993/94, because of better security, Britain introduced a modest rehabilitation programme, the major part of which was focused on the Northwest region. However, the rehabilitation assistance had little impact and for this reason, together with the deterioration of the security situation in 1995, it was wound down. The United Kingdom programme is therefore now focused again mainly on emergency interventions, but it will look to support UN efforts to develop a framework within which donors can help competent and committed regional administrations make progress towards the international goods.

4. Humanitarian Aid

Denmark

a) The Danish reconstruction and reintegration programme in Somalia

In early 1998 Denmark started a three-year reconstruction and reintegration programme in Somalia. The overall purpose of the programme was to improve the possibilities for the return of Somali refugees and immigrants staying in third countries. The aid programme was planned to facilitate and support positive regional and local developments, which would contribute to stability and reconciliation. The aid programme includes support for primary education, reintegration schemes, mine clearance and infrastructure. The Danish reconstruction and reintegration programme totals Euro 8 million over three years. The aid is implemented through UN-organisations (UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS and UNDOS), the European Commissions Somalia office, and Danish NGOs in co-operation with local partners.

b) Projects supported through the reconstruction and reintegration programme

UNICEF – primary education programme (Somalia 1998-1999)

Danish Refugee Council – reintegration programme (Somaliland 1998-1999)

EU – rehabilitation of Hargeisa/Berbera road infrastructure (Somaliland 1998-2000)

UNOPS – rehabilitation of power station in Bossasso (North-east Somalia 1999)

UNDP – mine clearance (Somaliland 1998-2000)

Danish De-mining Group – mine clearance (Somaliland 1998-2000)

UNDP/UNHCR – reintegration programme for returned refugees (Somalia 1999-2000)

UNDP/UNOPS – rehabilitation of bridge in Belet Weyne (Central Somalia 1999)

UNDP – Somali Rural rehabilitation programme (SRRP) (South-west Somalia 1999-2000)

ADRA – rehabilitation of irrigation canals (Central Somalia 1999-2000)

c) Assessment of the reconstruction and reintegration programme

Only the UNICEF education programme and the Danish Refugee Council reintegration programme were implemented in 1998. The remaining programmes are either at a preparatory stage or in the process of being implemented. It is still too early to assess the overall impact of the Danish reconstruction and reintegration programme.

d) Total humanitarian aid to Somalia in 1994-2000

The Danish reconstruction and reintegration programme totals (some Euro 8 million) over three years – Euro 1,33 million in 1998, Euro 4,20 in 1999 and Euro 2,60 million in year 2000. In addition, acute humanitarian aid is given for activities such as distribution of water, food and medicine and repatriation of refugees. From 1994 to 1998 Danish aid to Somalia totalled Euro 13,18 million.

France

“Action against Hunger” (“Action contre la faim”), the last of the NGOs present in southern Somalia, carries out nutritional aid programmes to the north and south of Mogadishu. It is also involved in water and sanitation programmes in camps for displaced persons. Away from the capital, it is present in Merca (distribution) and Luuq (nutritional aid programme, since suspended due to recrudescence of fighting). It is assessing the possibility of extending its activities in “Puntland” (Mugdug). Action against Hunger employs 10 expatriates and 300 Somalis. Its programmes are evaluated at almost Euro 2 million.

“Handicap international”, present in Somalia since 1992, manages a rehabilitation centre in Hargeisa (“Somaliland”) as well as a rural development project (irrigation) in Berbera.

“Pharmaciens sans frontières” manages stores of anti-cholera substances with ECHO financing.

France has suspended its activities in the framework of “Médecins sans frontières” since the murder of one of its doctors in Baidoa in June 1997.

Germany

Germany has committed 1998 Euro 0,8 million for humanitarian assistance (including measures for Somali refugees in Ethiopia/Kenya) especially food for victims of flood and drought. Since 1992 Euro 49 million have been allocated for Somalia. The assistance is implemented by Diakonsches Werk der Evangelischen Kirche in Deutschland and international organisations (e.g. ICRC).

Ireland

Ireland provides humanitarian assistance to Somalia: 1996: Euro 408 000; 1997: Euro 363 000; 1998: Euro 1 050 000.

Italy

Apart from rehabilitation activities – for which about Euro 10 million have been earmarked over the years 1998/1999 – Italy committed about Euro 5 million in 1999 for humanitarian assistance to Somalia, mainly in the form of food aid through W.F.P.).

Italy furthermore contributes to programmes of assistance for Somali refugees in Djibouti and Yemen.

Netherlands

In 1998 the Netherlands contributed to a total sum of Euro 4,8 million for aid to Somalia. The figure of Euro 4,6 million is consistent with the aid the Netherlands has contributed every year for the last 8 years. The aid can be divided in three parts.

1. About 30% consists of emergency aid (food, medicines, etc.) designated for the southern part of Somalia;
2. In order to support the general stable conditions in the Northern part of Somalia, including the setting up of regional authorities, the aid for the northern part (40% of total Netherlands aid) is focused on rehabilitation and capacity building. For the part of Somalia which calls itself « Somaliland » a sum of about Euro 918 000 has been attributed to UNHCR for the return of refugees from within the region;
3. The remaining part of the Netherlands is also emergency aid, but is not designated for a particular part of Somalia.

Sweden

Sweden's humanitarian assistance to Somalia has been focused on early reconstruction and activities aiming at supporting the peace- and reconciliation process in Somalia. Furthermore humanitarian, emergency assistance were provided to regions of continuing crises. During 1998 Swedish humanitarian assistance to Somalia amounted to about Euro 3,9 million.

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom has committed over Euro 1,5 million in the current year towards humanitarian assistance. In response to current severe food shortages (due to a combination of drought and displacement caused by insecurity) in the Central and Southern region we have recently contributed Euro 463 000 to UNICEF towards specialist feeding materials for its programme in the area. The United Kingdom has also made a Euro 386 000 contribution to the NGO "Action Contre la Faim" ACF for a nutritional programme.

5. Justice and home affairs measures

Returns, voluntary/spontaneous returns, readmission arrangements, practical experience by Member States.

Few, if any Somalis have been returned from EU Member States in recent years due to lack of transport facilities and that local communities (elders and local administrations) have, in contacts with representatives of Member States, made clear that they lack the capacity to absorb large numbers of returnees unless they receive some sort of material assistance.

Denmark

Denmark does not recognise Somali passports/travel documents. Somalis must have visa in order to enter Denmark. Transit visa/airport transit visa is also required.

The Danish asylum authorities have - since the collapse of the central government in Somalia – since 1996 used a regional perspective on the applications from Somali asylum seekers.

Denmark has concluded informal/technical readmission arrangements with three regions in Somalia (Somaliland, i.e. North West, North East Somalia and Hiran, (Central Somalia) in the form of agreed minutes between the regional de facto authorities and the Danish Immigration Service. The arrangements confirm the obligation to take back own citizens, that the return will be in safety and dignity and that both parties should support the use of voluntary return. The identification procedures are also described in the agreed minutes. The returnee gets his/her travel expenditures from Denmark to home region covered and – upon arrival- a small allowance (Euro 100). Denmark has through these arrangements been able to carry out a number of forced return of rejected asylum seekers to North-West Somalia. Returns to North-East Somalia have also been contemplated, but so far it has been impossible to obtain the necessary consent from the local administration. The reason given is lack of reception capacity. Concerning Hiran the matter has never been put to the test.

Germany

Germany has no bilateral readmission agreement. Since the Somali embassy in Bonn is longer in operation, the issuing of documents for repatriation purposes is not possible. The removal of Somali asylum seekers with false or forged Kenyan passports is hindered by the unwillingness of the Kenyan authorities to take such persons back.

In northern and eastern Kenya there are large numbers of ethnic Somalis. It is therefore relatively easy for Somali nationals to obtain a Kenyan passport in Kenya. The large Somali community in Nairobi assists in the obtaining of such passports and also of air tickets and other certificates and documents. There has so far been no known Kenyan intervention to prevent the falsification of Kenyan passports or other documents. The introduction in Germany of a visa obligation for Kenyan passport holders should take place before the end of 1999.

Netherlands

The Netherlands run a voluntary return programme which is based on an agreement concluded between the Dutch Immigration Service and Naturalisation department and North West “Somaliland” authorities. The IOM-plus programme contains an air flight ticket to Hargeisa, about Euro 50 per person on departure, Euro 400 on arrival in Somaliland and Euro 1 200 for the individual reintegration project, plus about Euro 1 000 for a community based reintegration fund.

Sweden

Sweden has received a concept paper from UNDP concerning vocational training and reintegration assistance for Somalis who are returned to their country as a result of having been refused political asylum. Sweden has also received a similar proposal from IOM. The return of Somalis, particularly those with special skills, is seen as an important development resource and opportunity for the country. A Swedish delegation travelled to the Northwest and Northeast (Somaliland and Puntland) during March 1998 and met with traditional leaders and local administrations to discuss repatriation of unsuccessful asylum seekers in the context of the UNDP concept paper. The Swedish government has recently given the Swedish immigration board the mandate to develop a pilot project with UNDP and IOM as implementing partners.

As far as the question of return is concerned, in 1993 the Swedish government decided that it was possible to return asylum seekers to Northwestern Somalia as a result of the increased stability and security in that region. In 1997, the Swedish government took a principle decision establishing that a person can return to an area in which his/her clan is dominant or represented if that individual does not risk persecution on individual grounds. To the extent it is considered that the granting of refugee status or the principle of non-refoulement is depending on the risk for the individual to be subject to persecution by the State, thus not by private actors, "de facto governments" should be placed on an equal footing with a state. If the persecuting "de facto government" is established only on a part of the territory, return could be possible to another part of that territory, given that the individual does not run any risk of persecution.

The Swedish Immigration board runs a voluntary return program open to all nationalities. This program contains travel expenses and Euro 1 161 per person (maximum Euro 4 644 per family) in cash allowance. For Somali return issues, an informal group has been established with representatives from relevant authorities, NGOs and Somali organisations in Sweden to give advice to individuals who wish to return.

United Kingdom

A six-month "Voluntary Assisted Returns" pilot project began in February. It is financed by the Home Office and is run by the International Organisation for Migration in partnership with Refugees Action. It was established to advice and support pending and rejected asylum seekers who wish to return to their home countries. Special consideration is given to unsupported young people, single women, women with families, people with disabilities and those with health problems who may experience more difficulty when leaving. Advice is given on travel arrangements and departure formalities. A small amount of funding has been awarded by the Department for International Development for those who may be destitute on arrival in their country of origin. The pilot project is open to all nationalities and will be reviewed to evaluate its effectiveness.

Apart from this project, passengers refused entry on arrival at a port or those found to be in the United Kingdom illegally can sign a disclaimer (of asylum or any outstanding appeal) and make a voluntary departure. Those who have been served with a notice of intention to deport may, in certain cases, be offered the chance to return voluntarily under supervised departure arrangements if they sign a disclaimer.

**CONTRIBUTIONS
FROM
UNHCR AND ICRC**

NATIONS UNIES
HAUT COMMISSARIAT
POUR LES REFUGIES

UNITED NATIONS
HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR REFUGEES

**PROPOSALS FOR MEASURES TO
ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS OF SOMALI REFUGEES**

**A paper for the
European Union High Level Working Group
On Asylum and Migration**

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This paper is prepared by the Bureau for Africa, UNHCR

PROPOSALS FOR MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS OF SOMALI REFUGEES

I. OVERVIEW

The Somali civil war lasted from 1988 - 1991. However Somalia still remains without a central government. What exists is a complex political situation. The North Western part of the country, "Somaliland" with its capital in Hargeisha, declared its independence in 1991. The North Eastern part "Puntland" also declared its independence in 1998. Similar moves are being made in the southern parts such as in the Middle and Lower Juba "Jubaland" with Kismayo as its capital. None of these entities has been recognised as a sovereign state by the international community. However, each of them have developed relatively functioning administrative institutions with whom UNHCR and the international community can hold discussions. The major thrust of UNHCR's programme for Somali refugees in 1999 is to continue with the promotion of organised voluntary repatriation from Ethiopia, Kenya, Yemen, Djibouti and Egypt to safe areas in Somalia. Today, there are more than 500,000 Somali refugees in these five countries. In 1999, it is planned that 80,000 of them will repatriate from refugee camps in Ethiopia to North West Somalia; 10,000 from Kenya to parts of southern Somalia; 5,000 from Yemen and 1,000 from Djibouti.

II. UNHCR OPERATIONS

UNHCR has offices in the various countries in the sub region hosting Somali refugees. It has also established a sub-office in Hargeisha and has antennas in north eastern, central and southern Somalia. The Somali Cross-Border Unit in Nairobi, Kenya, co-ordinates UNHCR's programmes in eastern, central and southern Somalia. UNHCR carries out community-based re-integration activities in Somalia to enhance the absorptive capacity of returnee areas. The focus is on quick impact projects (QIPs) which relate to the improvement or the construction of community-based infrastructure in returnee impacted areas in sectors such as health, education, water supply, agriculture, income generation for women and support for local administrations. Since women and children constitute about 70% of the returnee population, UNHCR focuses on establishing links between the women returnees and the local and international NGOs so as to ensure that projects developed have an immediate impact on the welfare of women and children. Women education centres have therefore been built in Burao, Kismayo and in other towns inside Somalia. Donor country contribution for special activities particularly in the education, water and other re-integration activities will have immense impact in accelerating the rate of return of refugees. UNHCR's programme needs for 1999 total USD 18,719,800 for operations alone.

III. PROPOSALS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE RESPONSE

(i) Measures to address the causes of continued flight: It is suggested that the Somalia Aid Co-ordination Body (SACB) and the United Nations Country Team for Somalia (UNCT), both based in Nairobi, Kenya be associated when discussing measures to stop the continued flight of Somalis from Somalia and from their first countries of asylum. The growing economic crisis in parts of Somalia can be overcome if the Saudi Arabia livestock import ban is lifted and regional authorities in the northwest and northeast are able to raise revenue through export of livestock. The international community should take active part in the Somali peace building process and not leave it as the responsibility of the Inter Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD) alone. The United Nations arms embargo on Somalia has to be enforced to stop the continued import of arms into Somalia as areas such as the Bay and Bakool, parts of Gedo, Lower and Middle Juba regions and Mogadishu continue to experience insecurity as a result of armed clashes between clan based militias.

(ii) Measures to address the economic and social situation inside Somalia: As restoration of damaged infrastructure remains essential to the reintegration of refugees, integral development aid should be provided in the recovery areas of Somalia viz. North West, North East, and Central Somalia. Essential services should be strengthened in towns and other communities; marketing potential should be enhanced and agricultural production also encouraged. Vital areas that need assistance are education, vocational training and development.

(iii) Measures to address the reception and protection capacities of countries in the Africa region: The protection capacities of host countries can be enhanced by improving on the ability of Governments to provide adequate protection for refugees through enhancing security around refugee camps, patrolling borders to stop the smuggling of arms into their countries. Burden-sharing initiatives should also be considered to help host governments revamp the ecological damage caused in refugee receiving areas. Quick Impact Projects for soil conservation, the provision of seedlings for re-forestation in refugee impacted areas, skills training centres etc. should be discussed with host countries.

(iv) Measures to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of refugees where feasible: UNHCR and member countries of the European Union hosting Somali refugees should develop a concerted and co-ordinated approach as to the voluntary repatriation package presently being provided to returnees. For those repatriating from Europe, a viable assistance package should be provided to enable them start small scale businesses or trade in Somalia. Adequate financial support should be provided for the proposed development programmes for Somalia presented by the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for Somalia (Jan - Dec. 1999) and for UNHCR's programme needs for its Somalia operations in 1999.

IV. CONCLUSION

While security and political stability in all parts of Somalia remains the desired goal, the feasibility of this will depend on the regional entities in Somalia becoming stronger and being able to continue to maintain peace and stability in their areas of jurisdiction. Political and material support should therefore be made available to the economic and social initiatives of the authorities in the Northern regions of Somalia. Programmes aimed at making refugees self-sufficient such as skill and social support programmes should be supported. The economic infrastructure inside Somalia needs to be rebuilt to foster capacity building initiatives.

R. Idowu
Snr Regional Legal Adviser
Africa Bureau
