



SOM/MSS/37/19

The Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Somalia ("Somalia") to the United Nations presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations and has the honour to state that it has come to Somalia's attention that the Republic of Kenya ("Kenya") has been making inaccurate statements to the international diplomatic community about Somalia's conduct in the disputed maritime areas between the two countries.

In particular, Kenya has incorrectly claimed that Somalia is offering for bid oil and gas blocks located in the disputed areas. Kenya has moreover presented this unwarranted claim to all Diplomatic Missions and International Organizations accredited to Kenya via a *note verbale* dated 22 February 2019.

Somalia clarified the factual situation by sending the enclosed *note verbale* to Kenya on 25 February 2019, in which Somalia assured Kenya that it is not offering oil or gas blocks in the disputed maritime areas at this time.

The maritime boundary dispute between Somalia and Kenya is pending before the International Court of Justice ("ICJ"), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, which will hold oral hearings on the matter in September 2019. The judgment of the Court, which is expected sometime in 2020, will be binding on both States. Somalia has already assured Kenya that it will comply with the Court's decision. Somalia here again reiterates that it has not authorized, nor does it have any plans to authorize, any oil or gas-related activities in the disputed area until the ICJ has delimited the maritime boundary.

The Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Somalia to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, March 5, 2019.

All Permanent Missions
to the United Nations
New York.

