



## **Summary: UN Security Council resolution 1846 (2008)**

December 2, 2008

Through the unanimous adoption of resolution 1846 (2008), and acting under the Charter's Chapter VII, the Council decided that during the next 12 months States and regional organizations cooperating with the Somali Transitional Federal Government (TFG) may enter Somalia's territorial waters and use "all necessary means" -- such as deploying naval vessels and military aircraft, as well as seizing and disposing of boats, vessels, arms and related equipment used for piracy -- to fight piracy and armed robbery at sea off the Somali coast, in accordance with relevant international law. States and regional organizations cooperating with Somali authorities were also requested to provide the Council and the Secretary-General with a progress report on their actions within nine months.

Key points of the 20 paragraphs of Resolution 1846 are as follows:

1. *Reiterates* that it condemns all acts of piracy and armed robbery against vessels in territorial waters and the high seas off the coast of Somalia;
2. *Expresses* its concern over escalating ransom payments that are fuelling the growth of piracy;
3. *Welcomes* the efforts of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to prevent and suppress piracy and armed robbery at sea and to provide this guidance to all;
4. *Calls upon* States to issue, in cooperation with industry, guidance on avoidance, evasion, and defensive techniques and measures to take if under the threat of attack or attack;
5. *Further calls upon* States and interested organizations (including IMO) to provide technical assistance to Somalia to ensure coastal and maritime security, including combating piracy;
6. *Welcomes* initiatives by Canada, Denmark, France, India, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, Spain, the United Kingdom, the United States of America to counter piracy off the Somalia coast, including by escorting vessels of the WFP, and in particular the EU operation Atalanta;

7. *Calls upon* States and regional organizations to coordinate, and share information;
8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report, in three months, on ways to ensure the long-term security and leadership role for the United Nations;
9. *Calls upon* States and regional organizations that have the capacity to deploy naval vessels and military aircraft;
10. *Decides* that for 12 months States and regional organizations cooperating with the TFG in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea may: (a) enter into the territorial waters of Somalia for the purpose of repressing acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea, and (b) use, within the territorial waters, all necessary means to repress acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea;
11. *Affirms* that this resolution applies only with respect to the situation in Somalia
12. *Affirms* measures imposed on paragraph #5 on technical assistance;
13. *Requests* that there is no practical effect of denying or impairing the right of innocent passage to the ships of any third State;
14. *Calls upon* States and all interested parties to cooperate in determining jurisdiction, and in the investigation and prosecution of persons responsible for acts of piracy;
15. *Notes* the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (SUA Convention) and urges States to fully implement their obligations and cooperate with the Secretary-General and the IMO to build judicial capacity;
16. *Requests* States and regional organizations cooperating with the TFG to inform the Security Council and the Secretary-General within nine months on progress (based on the authority provided in paragraph 10);
17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council within 11 months of adoption of this resolution on its implementation;
18. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the IMO to brief the Council on the basis of cases brought to his attention by the agreement of all affected coastal States on piracy;
19. *Expresses* its intention to review the situation and consider renewing the authority provided in paragraph 10 for additional periods upon the request of the TFG; and,
20. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.