

DOWLADDA PUNTLAND		PUNTLAND STATE and I ar
EE SOOMAALIYA		OF SOMALIA
XAFIISKA MADAXWEYNAHA		OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
<i>Ref MW/DPS/368/06</i>	FILE No.1	MAY 20,2006

To: Ali Mohamed Gedi,
Prime Minister,
Transitional Federal Government of Somalia

I refer to your letter dated 18 May 2006 (which despite being addressed to me as the President of the Government of Puntland was never received) regarding several assertions purported to be made by you in respect of the Transitional Federal Government's view of the contract of work entered into between the Puntland Government, Consort Private Limited and Range Resources Limited. I found your letter quite disturbing on a number of fronts namely:

- I am unsure as to whether your letter is representing the views of the Transitional Federal Government as a representative body or alternatively, the letter is a personal communication by you on your capacity as Prime Minister.
- The issues raised in your letter are directly inconsistent to previous written correspondence and verbal assurances provided by you to the Puntland Government and I am obviously intrigued as to what has actually changed over the last 8 months with respect to your views of the Consort/Range Contract of Works. You were well aware 8 months ago that the Puntland Agreement covered the development of oil and gas wells the subject of previous concessions granted by the former Somali Republic which had expired in accordance with the term of the agreements as verified by legal opinion received by the Puntland Government.

Given the sensitive nature of the contents of the letter and the fact that the letter was publicly available on various websites despite

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never being received by my office, I would question your respect for the Puntland Government and its people as the Puntland Government strives for the economic and social development of Puntland and its people

On the assumption that you did authorize the letter addressed to me, your actions have left me with little choice other than to inform you officially that the Puntland Government has decided to withdraw its support for the pretensions role of your office in unifying Somalia whilst you remain in the position of Prime Minister.

Your actions have seriously jeopardized and undermined Puntland's position and the perception and its ability to exploit its natural resources and directly assist with the provision of employment and vital social infrastructure required for our people.

Your Sincerely,

Mahamoud Muse Hersi
President,
Puntland State of Somalia



Cc: Range Resources

Cc: H.E Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed
President
Transitional Federal Government of Somalia

Cc: Sherif Hassan Sh.Adan
The Speaker of the Somali Parliament
Transitional Federal Government of Somalia