



The Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic
Office of the Prime Minister

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Company Announcements Office
Australian Stock Exchange
PO Box H224
Australia Square
Sydney NSW 2000

Range Resources Limited (ASX: RRS) – Exclusive Rights
to All Minerals in Puntland

It has come to the attention of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of Somalia that a company listed on the Australian Stock Exchange, **Range Resources Limited** (ASX: RRS) has announced the entry into a conditional Heads of Agreement to acquire a 50.1% interest in the sole and exclusive rights to all minerals and hydrocarbon exploration and development in the Somali State of Puntland. This is in connection with the Consort Private Limited ("**Consort**") which has entered into a Contract of Work with the Puntland State of Somalia ("**Puntland Agreement**"). Consort Company obtained draft exclusive rights to all minerals in Puntland signed by the Puntland State President Mr. Mohamud Muse Hirsi.

This contract is still under revision by the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia in close collaboration with Puntland authorities.

Under the Transitional Federal Charter of Somalia which was voted and consented by the Delegates of the Somali National Reconciliation Conference concluded in Kenya on September 15th 2003, it states that the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia has the control of overall our country's natural resources including all minerals rights, oil and gas as well as marine resources etc. and that no State or Province of Somalia can enter into any agreement with any party concerning these rights (see the below articles of the Charter):

- ✚ Article 44, paragraph 4 (a): "The President of the Republic of Somalia has the authority to sign International Treaties on the proposal of the Council of Ministers and upon ratification by the Parliament".

- ✚ Article 67, paragraph 1: Natural resources and environment protection, "The natural resources of the country such as the minerals, water, flora and fauna shall be public property and a law shall be enacted which defines the manner of exploitation for the common good". See also "The power of the Transitional Federal Government, Schedule I: paragraphs 1 (Foreign Affairs) & 9 (Natural resources)".

- ✚ Article 69, Paragraph 2: International and bilateral relations – "The TFG of the Somali Republic shall uphold all bilateral agreements concluded by the Somali Republic".

- ✚ Article 71: Transitional period - Paragraph 9: The Present Charter shall be the basis for the federal constitution whose draft shall be completed within 2 1/2 (two and half) years and be adopted by a popular referendum during the final year of the transitional period.

However, I have informed the Puntland authority its obligation under our Transitional Federal Charter and alerted them not to enter into any agreement with any party in relation to the national natural resources.

We understand that this event, if not stopped on time, will have an impact on Ranges Resources Limited and the market of the Australian Stock Exchange and we ask you as a matter of urgency to inform your market of this development.

My office will be available to assist you with any investigation you wish to make, concerning the details of this letter.

Additionally, I would also like to advise your company that I am planning to visit your country in the first week of November 2005, to discuss the future development of our country with Australian Federal Government and I would be more than happy to make time to meet with your organization.

Yours Sincerely,



Ali Mohamed Gedi
The Prime Minister

