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Cover and page layout: Mangaïa, Paris

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Printed in France  
SHS-2010/WS/6

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# FOREWORD

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In line with its core mandate aimed at ‘building peace in the minds of men’, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) officially launched the Greater Horn Horizon Forum (GHHF) in November 2007 in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti. The Forum is to use a forward-looking approach in addressing the problematiques of social transformations, sustainable development and peace in the region.

This initiative, which benefits from the support of the African Union (AU) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), testifies to UNESCO’s commitment to concerted anticipatory work in Africa. Our Organization, and particularly its Social and Human Sciences Sector, develops standards, supports research and policy formulation, assists in capacity-building in such areas as human rights, anti-poverty, democracy, ethics of science and technology, migration or regional integration, urban development, etc. All these areas are grouped under the umbrella of the management of social transformations. The focus is on the challenge of research-policy linkages including the setting up and managing of autonomous think tanks, especially in developing countries, and on assisting scholars in advocating their research in front of decision-makers.

The Greater Horn Horizon Forum is a fully independent research-policy Forum, gathering scholars, intellectuals and other interested professionals from the Horn of Africa and the diaspora to actively participate in the analysis and search for sustainable responses to the region’s root problems. Based in Djibouti, the Forum was created to support reflection on current and future regional common challenges,



through multidisciplinary policy research, and to create/reinforce dialogue among researchers and with policy-makers and other actors (business community, media, youth organizations, NGOs, etc.).

I sincerely hope that the GHF will serve as a solid platform to help produce ideas for sustainable development, cooperation and lasting peace. The success of the Forum over the years to come could also echo on the whole continent, paving the way for other similar structures.



**Pierre Sané**  
Assistant Director-General for Social  
and Human Sciences, UNESCO

# INTRODUCTION

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In November 2007, UNESCO and a group of intellectuals from the Greater Horn region (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda) and from the diaspora decided to establish a new forum, the Greater Horn Horizon Forum (GHHF).

The Forum has come at a time when the people of the region are confronted with some decisive and urgent challenges such as conflicts, poverty and identity problems. It aims at interacting with the communities of the region thus soliciting their ideas and taking into consideration their vision of the future.

The GHHF is an independent forum/think tank for policy research and dialogue aimed at building consensus on a new vision for the region. The Forum intends to produce studies and analyses to contribute to the formulation of peace-driven regional integration policies and to build capacities leading to a new culture of dialogue instead of a culture of violence.

Since the establishment of the Greater Horn Horizon Forum, several activities have been carried out.

A first **Workshop entitled ‘The Greater Horn of Africa: Review of Available Literature and Planning Future Research’** was held in Djibouti in May 2008, around the presentation and discussion of a review of literature prepared by Professor Mohammed Salih from the University of Leiden, the Netherlands.

A **Policy Dialogue between the GHHF and the Business Community of the region** took place on 7 November 2009 to explore proposed avenues for future cooperation.

A **High-Level Round Table on ‘Somalia – Perspectives for getting out of the crisis and building the state: the roles of the regional and international organizations’** took place on 8 November 2009 in Djibouti.



**A Conference on 'Identity, Citizenship and Regional Integration in the Horn of Africa'** took place on 8 and 9 November 2009 in Djibouti. The main paper, prepared by Professor Kidane Mengisteab, from Pennsylvania State University, United States, was presented and discussed, together with a series of additional papers prepared by experts and researchers from the region and the diaspora.

Future activities, to take place in Djibouti from 1 to 3 May 2010, include:

**Youth in the Horn of Africa and the Greater Horn Horizon Forum (GHHF)** - Addressing research priorities for youth policies in the region. A dialogue between intellectuals and youth;

**Policy Dialogue between the Media of the Horn of Africa and the Greater Horn Horizon Forum (GHHF)** - Explore avenues for future cooperation between the intellectuals and the media of the region; and

**Dialogue between the Media, Youth and NGOs of the Horn of Africa and the Greater Horn Horizon Forum (GHHF)** - Exchange between intellectuals and the media, youth and NGOs of the region around a policy paper on 'Strengthening IGAD-AU Peace and Security Agenda in the Horn of Africa'.

### **Acknowledgements**

The Greater Horn Horizon Forum wishes to express its profound appreciation to UNESCO for its efforts in establishing the Forum and for its constant support in the implementation of the GHHF activities, and to the Government of the Republic of Djibouti for hosting the Forum and facilitating its activities.

The Forum also wishes to warmly thank all those who have supported its action so far: the Japan Funds-in-Trust, the French Government, IGAD, ISESCO and SIDA-SAREC. It is hoped that the GHHF can continue to count on their support, as well as that of other donors.

# ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI

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AT THE LAUNCHING OF THE GREATER HORN HORIZON FORUM (GHHF),  
DJIBOUTI, REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI, NOVEMBER 2007

Honourable guests, I should like first to express the friendship and the fraternity of the people of Djibouti in relation to the participants in this important Forum.

I should also like to express our gratitude and acknowledgements to UNESCO and to the organizers who have chosen our country as a land for encounters and exchanges between intellectuals. It is a choice that honours our country and our entire population. Allow me to confirm this sentiment here.

Allow me also to extend my sincerest and most fraternal thanks to our friend Pierre Sané who has honoured this Forum with his presence despite his health problems.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Horn of Africa was dispossessed of its history and its past; it should not be dispossessed of its future and above all its progression. This Forum of intellectuals draws its energy and legitimacy from a simple idea, which is to ensure that our region moves into a prosperous economic future for all who live in it.

This idea is both simple and consensual. It is shared by all the political men and women of our region. It is the *raison d'être* of all the policies of our region. It is the *raison d'être* of all the policies of our states. It is even the motor that drives the socio-economic integration of our regions and our continent.

But, however simple and consensual it may be, in order for this idea to come to fruition and be fulfilled, it needs to be discussed, debated and enriched, otherwise it will remain utopian, that is, placeless and timeless. Our populations cannot live eternally on myths and utopias. These myths





and utopias enchanted us following independence. They enchanted us because we allowed ourselves to be blinded by our enthusiasm and our certainties, without putting into perspective the complexity of the circumstances in which the nation-states, and the societies which make up these nation-states, had come into being. Africa and our region have lacked a critical view. That critical view was long inhibited by ideological promises. It was long confiscated by sociocultural prejudices. It was long stifled by the democratic deficits of our states.

The great disenchantment that our societies are currently experiencing is due largely to this lack of a critical view to analyse, to call into question and to propose.

Ladies and gentlemen, this disenchantment is salutary. It is salutary because it serves to measure the gap between the hope raised following independence and the socio-economic circumstances of our region today. This disenchantment is also salutary because it compels us to change our approach to the issues and the challenges of development. For in an era when economic globalization is spreading everywhere, not only must our region not remain on the sidelines of this phenomenon but it must position itself to take the fullest advantage of it.

This need can only be met if the prime movers of our region make their energies converge. For this reason, in my view, this Forum of intellectuals can be a sphere where the dynamics of all can flourish in harmony.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is your role and your mission as intellectuals to be pioneers in this noble undertaking. It is even your duty to guide people's consciences and unify positive energies. There used to be

a time when African intellectuals could only denounce injustices and excesses. They could not do more than use that sphere for the freedom that their consciences drove them to seize, despite the censure and imprisonment that threatened them. We should all be proud of those brave intellectuals who never accepted that their consciences be silenced.

Today however a new era is opening up before us. This Forum is simultaneously symptomatic and emblematic of this new state of mind. Our societies, stimulated by the democratization process and by the requirements of good governance, have entered into a future-oriented momentum. And it is only natural that in this quest for a better future, relieved of all burdens and resistance, intellectuals should play the role of pioneers and trailblazers. Because, ladies and gentlemen, you have the desire, the determination and the mental strength, your altruistic contribution is priceless in these circumstances.

As you are aware, our region is prey to various types of insecurity, be they food or military. Our region is also confronted with poverty and instability. The irredentist inclinations of states and identity- or community-linked claims are continually jeopardizing development efforts.

Given these circumstances, we need to invent a new regional architecture that extends beyond antagonism and self-isolation. This regional integrationist architecture will remain just a good intention if it is not preceded by a vision and reflection on its nature, its content and its objectives. Forums such as the one we are now inaugurating must serve to foster the emergence of a global approach.

This approach is more than ever necessary because it will enable us to fully comprehend the complexity of the challenges ahead of us.

This approach will enable us to understand the need to live together, in a community of destiny.

As intellectuals, you have a heavy responsibility in conceptualizing this new vision of living together. This includes contributing to the materials required to bring about the future development of our populations.

The Fest'Horn event, the eighth of which we are celebrating this year, contributes to our shared commitment to bring together the cultures and traditions of the region and to celebrate them in the name of peace.

I am pleased that the launch of this festival coincides with the inauguration of this Forum of intellectuals. For both events, the artistic as well as the intellectual, you are the messengers of peace and development in our region.

I thank you for your attention and wish you every success in your work.



**Ismaïl Omar Guelleh**  
President of the Republic of Djibouti

# GREATER HORN HORIZON

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A FORUM OF INTELLECTUALS AND SCHOLARS OF THE HORN OF AFRICA – *RAISON D'ÊTRE*

## RATIONALE OF THE FORUM

The Greater Horn of Africa, with its specific anthropological, historical, socio-economic and cultural characteristics, constitutes a distinct region within Africa that has been known for decades for its long-lasting intra- and inter-state conflicts. Due to its geostrategic position, the Greater Horn region (comprising the seven member countries of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development - IGAD)<sup>1</sup> has, since the colonial period, witnessed harsh competition over its territory between different local, national, regional and world powers. These confrontations have led to a culture of violence based on the instrumentalization of myths of origin, an overestimation of territorial claims, a feudal vision of the exercise of power and an oversimplified conception of conflict.

Because of the arbitrary borders inherited from colonial powers, governments of this region have often pursued political strategies that tend to ignore socio-cultural affinities and economic

interdependences between their peoples. Governments' deep attachment to the territorial dimension of the nation-state and their degree of reluctance to explore the potentialities offered by the sharing of common heritage have so far discouraged the development of coherent policies conducive to regional integration.

The geopolitics of the region may generally be characterized by two phenomena rooted in the post-colonial process of nation-building: Firstly, an 'identity-divide' along 'artificial' borders, as inherited from the colonial partition of Africa, in a region rich in ethnic, religious and cultural diversity; secondly, a competition generated by uneven access to natural and economic resources. These two phenomena may explain prevalent prejudices, discrimination and related conflicts experienced by the peoples of the region.

Currently, the Greater Horn of Africa is witnessing a period of upheaval marked by new rivalries

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<sup>1</sup> Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda.



for identity domination and the control of resources. Subsequent to the independence of Eritrea, the chronic instability generated by civil wars in Somalia and Sudan, the armed struggle in northern Uganda, and the so-called global war against terrorism following the events of 11 September 2001, the regional stakes focus more than ever on the issues of security, peace dialogues, power and resource sharing, as well as access to infrastructure.

These challenges have resulted in more complex strategic agendas for local, regional and international actors. The prevailing concepts and paradigms on the Greater Horn of Africa, notably those inherited from the Cold War, have shown their limits in properly seizing the new trends in the region. Thus, the current situation demands for new approaches differentiating themselves from analysis caught up in the 'blame game', creating antagonism and division among the different peoples of the region.

Beyond the imperative of intellectual integrity, which involves acknowledging mistakes in the past, the plight of war-torn

societies no longer allows a focus on issues that stir up hatred and exacerbate division. Hence, the time has come to concentrate efforts on ways and means of facilitating a peaceful and mutually beneficial coexistence. The current circumstances urgently call for the development of new visions on the future of the Greater Horn of Africa, emphasizing peace and stability, regional integration and development, as well as common ideals, values and interests among its peoples.

Intellectuals of the Greater Horn of Africa region should therefore shift from ethnocentric, 'primordialist' and hegemonic visions to the building of a more holistic approach which takes into consideration the common aspirations of the region's inhabitants, generally overlooked by the circles of power and by research centres in the region. This new reflection should highlight the various commonalities of the peoples of the region in order to further the transition from a culture of confrontation to a culture of peace.

To that end, UNESCO, through its *Greater Horn Horizon Initiative*,

has engaged in accompanying the scholars and intellectuals of the Horn of Africa in exploring the possibility of establishing an independent Forum to debate on the common future of the peoples of the Greater Horn of Africa. This Forum, which responds to

the wishes strongly expressed by numerous scholars and intellectuals from both the region and the diaspora, aims to offer a suitable framework to exchange their visions on the future of their region.

## SPECIFICITY OF THE FORUM

The originality of this Forum is that it will focus on future-oriented studies and articulate anticipatory approaches and scenario-building methodologies in the analysis of regional issues. It will encourage exchanges that will go beyond the usual analysis of the past and current situations and explore the different possible future scenarios for regional integration and sustainable peace through multidisciplinary research. Offering a space for dialogue among researchers and with policy-makers, this initiative also aims at fostering research-policy linkages.

### **The asset of future-oriented analysis**

› The Forum will introduce in the analysis of the Greater Horn of Africa the use of anticipatory methodologies and scenario-building techniques to better

grasp the situations and trends in the region.

› Future studies constitute a shift in the way of apprehending problems and proposing solutions. They help decision-makers and leaders to be more proactive by broadening their sources of information, thus integrating new approaches and ideas into their analysis of current events that may challenge their seemingly clear-cut views and expectations.

› As stated by Mr Alioune Sall, Director of the African Futures Institute based in South Africa: 'Future studies are a way of examining the possible future of a human community. The goal of such studies is not to predict the future, but rather to help to build a future that will meet the community's aspirations, and to assist in making better decisions that facilitate the realisation of the

desired future'.<sup>2</sup> As experience has demonstrated, social transformation cannot occur in a society or region if the vision of the future is not broadly shared and embedded within the peoples concerned.

› By taking duly into account both the interests explicitly expressed and the hidden agendas of the various internal and external stakeholders, anticipatory studies facilitate the development of endogenous reflection that challenges the prevailing external discourses on the Greater Horn of Africa.

› Finally, anticipatory methodologies make it possible to go beyond the mainstream ideas and stereotyped analysis on the Greater Horn of Africa because they imply the integration of often neglected positive elements that could foster dialogues and reconciliation dynamics. The anticipatory approach has inter alia been employed in South Africa, Colombia and Guatemala to assist in the reconstruction of post-conflict societies.

› Among elements of future-oriented analysis, the use of scenario-building techniques also appears appropriate for the

Greater Horn of Africa. According to Mr Koosom Kalyan, a member of the South African Mont Fleur Scenario and Changes Team who worked in 1991-1992 on possible alternatives to apartheid, the scenario-building approach is 'a new methodology which encourages disciplined, systematic thinking about the future. A critical role of scenarios is to present different possible pathways into the future to challenge conventional thinking and encourage debate in a process of learning'.<sup>3</sup>

› Mr Jean Freymond, Director of the Centre of Applied Studies in International Negotiations in Geneva, finally underpinned the usefulness of this approach in 'knitting together social fabric, seeking reconciliation and creating a common vision in fragmented societies'.<sup>4</sup>

› Avoiding standard interpretations of the region's past and current challenges, these forms of future-oriented analysis privilege long-term sustainability in their responses, as they enhance public awareness of the need to think regionally and develop common, future-oriented strategies. By taking into consideration various possible scenarios for the future

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<sup>2</sup> Ian Cairncross, 2002, *A Guide to Conducting Futures Studies in Africa*, Phyllos International Political Economy.

<sup>3</sup> Pieter le Roux, Vincent Maphai et al., 1999, The Mont Fleur scenarios: what will South Africa be like in the year 2002?, *Deeper News*, Vol. 7, No. 1, p. 9.

<sup>4</sup> Nicklas Svensson and Abdillahi Jama, 2004, *Horn of Africa: Transforming Itself from a Culture of War into a Culture of Peace*, Somalia International Rehabilitation Center, p. 162.

of the Greater Horn of Africa and thus respecting a variety of different opinions and approaches, one of the Forum's objectives is to underline the need for commitment and cooperation between the peoples of the region.

### **Building a new culture of dialogue**

› The Forum aims at building and promoting a new vision of dialogue, integrating the principles and methodologies developed by scholars deriving from experiences in different war-torn societies. This new conception of dialogue would lead to overcoming the usual barriers to greater recognition and understanding of one another's views, discovering hidden common ground and building the necessary trust for moving ahead.

› One of the main obstacles to dialogue is a false polarization which occurs in situations of contradictory debate.<sup>5</sup> Generally, when trying to explain the main statements that support our viewpoint, we often overlook or minimize those aspects which we perceive as ambivalent or to which we have some objections. As a result, the public debate that rages often seems more polarized than it actually is; each side appearing

to the other as more extreme and monolithic than is actually the case. In real dialogue, it is important to voice the uncertainties and doubts held by both sides and explore the common ground that may have been overlooked.

› Acknowledging this false polarization would help in developing our capacity to freely debate, manage divergent views and seek common ground.

### **Reinforcing research-policy linkages**

› The Forum invites researchers and policy-makers to engage in a long-term process of learning in order to establish the appropriate conditions for open and constructive dialogues.

› Based on the principles of equality, reciprocity, dignity, integrity, independent thinking, tolerance and mutual respect, dialogues among researchers and with policy-makers will be engaged in order to overcome the legacies of ethnocentrism, dogmatism and intolerance of their societies. Political leaders of the region, economic stakeholders, civil society actors, journalists and other opinion leaders (religious, elders, professionals, artists,

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<sup>5</sup> Walid Salem and Edy Kaufman, 2007, *Proposed Guiding Principles for Israeli/Palestinian Academic Cooperation: Translating the Shared Adherence to Academic Freedom into Action*, PANORAMA/CRC/UNESCO.



athletes, etc.) should also be involved in these dialogues.

› Further to intensive dialogues among scholars and intellectuals, concerning issues related to the desirable options for the future of the region, dialogue with policy-makers and civil society actors should then be strengthened in order to discuss the concrete implementation of related policies.

› By offering these different stakeholders an independent and autonomous space for dialogue, to share ideas and visions on regional issues, the Forum aims at contributing to the reinforcement of the linkage between research and policy formulation for this region.

› Furthermore, the Forum aims at supporting the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and governments of the region in responding to current and future challenges through multidisciplinary policy research and strengthening of dialogue among researchers and with policy-makers. These research-policy dialogues should facilitate the formulation and implementation of regional integration policies conducive to development and peaceful coexistence in the region.

› Ultimately, it is to be expected that the studies and analyses promoted by the Forum are

action-oriented; as its main objective is to influence policy-making through the promotion of strategic action that fosters participative development, peaceful cooperation and mutually beneficial integration for the peoples of the Greater Horn of Africa.

### **Multi- and transdisciplinary approaches**

› The Forum will facilitate the integration of multiple perspectives and visions into the analysis of the various issues facing the region. To that end, all the disciplines of the human and social sciences will be applied. Furthermore, the contributions of the transdisciplinary approach will be privileged in order to achieve the paradigm shift that is needed to transcend the currently prevalent and stereotyped analyses of the region.

The use of the above-mentioned anticipatory approaches and scenario-building methodologies would facilitate such innovative thinking.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE FORUM

› The major objective of the Forum is to facilitate reflection on the common future of the peoples of the region, in order to contribute to the search for and agreement on mutually accepted solutions to the problems of the Greater Horn of Africa region. More specifically, it aims at:

a) building strong consensus on a long-term vision in favour of stability, sustainable development and regional integration;

b) generating studies and analyses which may contribute to the formulation of proactive policies responding to the new challenges in the region;

c) building capacities in the field of intercultural dialogue and regional integration for various stakeholders;

d) encouraging universities and research institutions to develop focused studies on the main trends in the region, integrating anticipatory approaches and scenario-building methodologies.

› Finally, the Forum aims at creating a circle of committed scholars and intellectuals tied by the sentiment of solidarity and mutual assistance, which should guide the sharing of ideas and visions on their common fate.

## STATUS AND AUTONOMY OF THE FORUM

› Autonomy and self-determination of the Forum must be considered crucial, given the sensitivity of the issues to be discussed. Thus, the credibility of this type of Forum lies in its independence from governments and other institutions, allowing it the necessary space for decisions and initiatives to withstand possible pressures and constraints, and

guaranteeing the objectivity of the studies it conducts. As regional ownership is paramount for the credibility of the Forum, it should further be perceived as one emanating from the scholars and intellectuals of the region.

› To that end, an ethical code of conduct for participating scholars and intellectuals was adopted.

The democratic structure of the Forum will allow its functioning as an open exchange network on an international scale and will gather scholars, intellectuals and other interested professionals from IGAD Member States as well as from the diaspora.

› Given the Forum's role in contributing to shaping the direction and destiny of the region from the common will of its citizens, the participants in the endeavour cannot, therefore, represent any particular government. Rather, they are part of the scientific community of independent scholars and intellectuals (both from the region and the diaspora) acting in their individual capacities. Conceived as an embodiment of free thought

in promoting real exchange and debate, the network should not exclude anyone who wishes to participate in it, provided that he/she subscribes to the Forum's code of conduct. Special attention should be given to aspects such as gender, age mix and geographical distribution of the countries in the region.

› Although autonomous and independent, the Forum is in line with the concerns of the main African regional bodies and initiatives, including the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)<sup>6</sup> and the African Union (AU),<sup>7</sup> of developing early warning and conflict prevention systems and sustainable policies at the regional level.

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<sup>6</sup> As stated, among other objectives, IGAD aims to 'promote peace and stability in the region and create mechanisms within the region for the prevention, management and resolution of inter-state and intra-state conflicts through dialogue' ([www.igad.org/about/mission.html](http://www.igad.org/about/mission.html), accessed 27 July 2007).

<sup>7</sup> 'The AU is based on the vision of a united and strong Africa and on the need to build a partnership between the governments and all segments of civil society [*inter alia* aiming] to promote peace, security, and stability on the continent; to promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance; ... to coordinate and harmonize the policies between the existing and future Regional Economic Communities...' ([www.africa-union-org/root/au/AboutAu/au\\_in\\_a\\_nutshell\\_en.htm](http://www.africa-union-org/root/au/AboutAu/au_in_a_nutshell_en.htm), accessed 27 July 2007).

## ACTIVITIES OF THE FORUM

➤ A step-by-step approach is recommended in order to better manage the usual obstacles, build confidence and make the appropriate decisions and adjustments. In the first phase, a two/three year programme is envisaged for the Forum.

➤ This first two/three year programme will include the following specific activities:

**a) Organization of seminars**  
Biannual research-policy seminars will be organized to discuss particular issues related to resource and facilities sharing, peace-building, security, dialogue and regional integration in the Horn of Africa. The exact topics are to be defined by the governing body of the Greater Horn Horizon Forum. Researchers, policy-makers and leaders from the private sector and civil society of the region will participate in these seminars.

**b) Research and elaboration of thematic studies**  
Policy-related thematic studies will be developed by regional and/or international experts and then discussed at each of the seminars focusing on crucial issues facing the region or specific countries of the region. The exact issues again remain to be identified by

the governing body of the Greater Horn Horizon Forum.

**c) Transformation of thematic studies into policy papers**  
Further to the discussions/outcomes of the seminars, these studies will be transformed into policy papers, including concrete recommendations for decision-makers.

**d) Organization of annual capacity-building training workshops**  
Capacity-building training workshops will be organized with a view to assisting local, national and regional policy-makers as well as civil society actors in the implementation of the recommendations of the seminars and as set out in the policy papers.

**e) Translation, publication and wide dissemination of policy papers**  
The outcomes of the meetings and policy papers will be available in French and English, hence published and widely disseminated to policy-makers, civil society actors, as well as other targeted groups. Printed and electronic versions of the various publications will be made available through the website of the Greater Horn Horizon Forum.

**f) Production and broadcasting of radio and television programmes (in local African languages)**

The research results and major outcomes of the various activities of the Greater Horn Horizon Forum will further be disseminated through the production and broadcasting of radio and television programmes at local, national and regional levels. These programmes will be produced in some local languages (to be determined by the governing body of the Forum).

**g) Networking and partnership-building**

Contact and cooperation with similar forums or think tanks in Africa and in other regions of the world will be promoted. The Greater Horn Horizon Forum will also closely cooperate with IGAD, NEPAD and the African Union.

## PAST ACTIVITIES

UNESCO has contributed to the implementation of the following preparatory activities in order to facilitate the establishment of the Greater Horn Horizon Forum:

**> Feasibility study**

UNESCO commissioned a feasibility study in 2004 to assess existing initiatives and explore the viability of creating a new Research-Policy Forum in the Greater Horn region. The study confirmed the utility of this new project and its complementarity with existing initiatives.

**> Consultations with IGAD and government officials**

UNESCO held consultations at different levels with the political authorities of the IGAD Member States. A mission was undertaken in Djibouti to discuss

with high-ranking government officials, as well as with the Executive Secretary of IGAD, the possibilities and conditions for guaranteeing the independence and autonomy of the Forum. The Djiboutian authorities confirmed their commitment to respect the independence and autonomy of the initiative and to provide some facilities to the secretariat.

**> Workshop on scenario-building techniques**

UNESCO organized a workshop on scenario-building techniques in Nairobi from 11 to 15 September 2006. The workshop, which gathered fourteen scholars from the seven IGAD countries, discussed the various future scenarios for the Greater Horn region up to 2015.

› **Two preparatory meetings** for the launching of the Research-Policy Forum (Paris, 7-9 November 2005 and Djibouti, 10-18 March 2007), where the organization, functioning and coordination of the Forum were agreed upon. Furthermore, the draft ethical code of conduct for participating scholars, intellectuals and other concerned professionals was established. Finally, the following working themes, to be discussed during the launching conference of the Forum, were identified:

- a) Identities, multiculturalism and regional integration. Ethnicity, self-determination and federalism;
- b) The future of democracy in the Horn of Africa. What inspiration can be drawn from democratic traditions of the peoples in the region?
- c) Pastoralism, agrarianism, managing competition, and sharing of resources in a new regional environment.

› **Creation of a website and publication of a quarterly online journal**

A website for the Greater Horn Horizon Forum was launched one month prior to the official establishment of the Forum. The website shall announce, update and report on major ongoing activities and include electronic versions of studies, proceedings, policy papers, etc. The publication of a

quarterly online journal, in English and French, on the activities of the Greater Horn Horizon Forum (seminars, studies, policy papers, etc.) will contribute to the wide dissemination of its outcomes. A print format of the journal will also be made available.

› **Workshop on Anticipatory Approaches and Methodologies**

A three-day workshop on Anticipatory Approaches and Methodologies was organized in Djibouti from 8-10 November 2007. Fifteen researchers from the region and the diaspora were trained in the field of anticipatory approaches and scenario-building methodologies.

› **Launch of the Forum**

The launching conference for the Greater Horn Horizon Forum took place in Djibouti from 12-15 November 2007. Around eighty participants, including academics and policy-makers, as well as representatives from regional and international organizations, attended the conference. The following subjects figured on the agenda:

- a) Discussion and Adoption of the Statutes of the Forum;
- b) Discussion and Adoption of the Ethical Code of Conduct for Participating Intellectuals;
- c) Election of the Executive Committee;

d) Discussion and Adoption of the Action Plan 2008-2009 for the Forum.

To conclude, it seems worthwhile to recall that the role of this Forum in building new bridges for dialogues among researchers and

with policy-makers constitutes both its main challenge and principle value. If this experience succeeds, lessons learned from its implementation could serve as a model for analogous future initiatives in other regions.



# STATUTES

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ADOPTED IN DJIBOUTI IN NOVEMBER 2007

## PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Greater Horn Horizon:

- 1) Cognizant that our special responsibility emanates from the privileged access to higher education, the development of the spirit of critical inquiry and independent thinking, and aware of our social, professional and humanistic responsibility;
- 2) Mindful of our particular mission to develop knowledge and promote intellectual practices likely to assist our populations in confronting the challenges of development, peace and regional integration;
- 3) Recognizing that research and intellectual debates, community engagement and public action play a major role in developing mutual understanding between the peoples of the Greater Horn of Africa and in assisting our political and economic decision-makers in their search for appropriate policies and strategies to sustain peace and development in the region;
- 4) Recognizing, affirming and celebrating the achievements and efforts in the region and seeking to promote the values inherent in diversity and pluralism;
- 5) Recognizing that our war-torn societies no longer allow us to focus on issues that stir up hatred and exacerbate division;
- 6) Understanding that the exchange, dialogue and cooperation we wish to promote need to be based on the principles of democracy, good governance, equality, reciprocity, dignity, integrity, independent thinking, tolerance and mutual respect; that, in the pursuit of such principles, we should avoid any forms of intolerance, intimidation, exclusion and discrimination contrary to this ethical commitment;
- 7) Recognizing that constructive dialogue on our common future necessitates competencies that we need to develop, given the legacy of ethnocentrism, dogmatism and intolerance in segments of our respective societies and our personal experiences;





8) Aware therefore that this process is to be considered as a learning exercise which would be of mutual benefit in building our capacity to exchange freely, manage divergent views, share ideas and seek common solutions for the challenges facing the societies of our region;

9) Calling upon all scholars, intellectuals, leaders of civil society, journalists and political and economic decision-makers to

work together for the ownership and sustainability of this Forum of exchange and dialogue on the common future of the peoples of the Greater Horn of Africa.

HEREBY establish the Greater Horn Horizon as a regional, independent, autonomous and non-profit organization that shall operate in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes and national laws.

## NAME, LEGAL STATUS AND LOCATION

### **Article 1 – Name**

The organization shall be called the ‘Greater Horn Horizon’ (hereafter referred to as ‘the Forum’).

### **Article 2 – Legal Status**

The Forum is an independent, autonomous, non-profit organization promoting the cooperation and networking of the scholars and

intellectuals of the Greater Horn of Africa.

### **Article 3 – Headquarters**

The Forum’s headquarters shall be in Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti. It can be transferred to another location within the region following the decision of two-thirds of the General Assembly.

## OBJECTIVES

### Article 4

The Forum's objectives are:

a) to contribute to building a strong consensus on a vision in favour of peace, stability, sustainable development and regional integration;

b) to promote reflection and exchange on specific issues of concern to the region; including intercultural dialogue;

c) to generate studies and analyses which may contribute to the formulation of proactive policies responding to the challenges in the region;

d) to organize periodic training sessions (in the field of intercultural dialogue and regional integration) for the various stakeholders;

e) to encourage universities and research institutions to develop focused studies on the main trends in the region, utilizing anticipatory and scenario-building approaches as well as transdisciplinary approaches;

f) to encourage and support comparative research with a regional perspective expressing the specificity of development processes in the Greater Horn region;

g) to promote and defend the principle of independent thought and research and the intellectual liberty of researchers participating in the initiative;

h) to perform all necessary activities that may be instrumental in achieving the stated objectives of the Forum.

## FUNCTIONS

### Article 5

The Forum shall seek to achieve its objectives through the following means:

a) Organization of seminars on particular issues to be defined by the Forum's governing organs (research-policy linkages, civil-

society engagement, linkage with like-minded institutions);

b) Elaboration of studies or analyses previous to each meeting focusing on crucial issues facing the region, or specific countries of the region;

c) Publication of an online journal in English and French (also to be made available in print format);

d) Publication and wide dissemination of the results of studies and the proceedings of expert meetings to community policy-makers and other targeted groups;

e) Promotion of contact and collaboration with similar forums or think tanks in Africa, and in other regions of the world;

f) Encouragement of translation of important publications and documents into African languages, as the case may be.

## MEMBERS

### Article 6

The Forum's membership is composed of the following four categories:

- a) Full individual members;
- b) Associate individual members;
- c) Associate institutional members;
- d) Honorary members.

### Article 7

Full individual membership shall be open to scholars and intellectuals from the Greater Horn region resident in the region or in the diaspora who fully adhere to the Statutes and code of conduct of the initiative.

### Article 8

Associate individual membership shall be open to non-African scholars and intellectuals involved in the development perspectives of the region through

anticipatory, scenario-building and transdisciplinary approaches.

### Article 9

Associate institutional membership shall be open to such universities, institutes and centres within the region that are engaged in the development perspectives of the region, and the coordination and networking of the region's scholars and intellectuals.

### Article 10

Associate institutional membership shall also be open to such non-regional university and non-profit organizations engaged in the analysis of regional issues.

### Article 11

The Forum can from time to time award honorary membership to individuals in recognition of their contribution to regional development perspectives and the objectives of the initiative.

### **Article 12**

Full and Associate individual members are expected to respect the Statutes, participate in the activities of the Forum, and accept and adhere to the code of conduct of the Forum.

### **Article 13**

Only full members shall have the right to vote in accordance with

the relevant provisions of these Statutes. Each shall have one vote.

### **Article 14**

Application for membership shall be made to the Executive Committee of the Forum for decision.

## **WORKING LANGUAGES**

### **Article 15**

The working languages of the Forum shall be English and French.

The use of regional languages will be encouraged as much as possible.

## **GOVERNING ORGANS OF THE FORUM**

### **Article 16**

The governing organs of the Forum shall consist of:

a) the General Assembly;

b) the Executive Committee;

c) the Executive Secretariat.

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Article 17**

a) The General Assembly is the highest authority of the Forum. It shall be composed of such members as defined in Articles 6-14 of these Statutes;

b) The General Assembly shall meet every two years;

c) The quorum for the General Assembly meeting shall be one-third of full members;

d) An extraordinary session of the General Assembly may be convened on the request of one-third of full members, or two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee;

e) The General Assembly shall approve general policy guidelines, programmes, plans of action and

budget of the Forum. It shall also receive and approve reports from the Executive Committee;

f) The General Assembly shall elect a Chair for the duration of the session;

g) The General Assembly shall elect an independent Auditor.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### Article 18 – Composition

The Executive Committee shall be composed of seventeen members, including the Executive Secretary and the Resident Deputy Executive Secretary as *ex officio* members without the right to vote. A UNESCO nominee completes the members of the Executive Committee as *ex officio*.

### Article 19 – Elections

a) Fourteen members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the General Assembly, representing equally the seven national communities of scholars;

b) Each full member attending national community of scholars shall propose two candidates to the General Assembly as full members of the Executive Committee;

c) In electing members of the Executive Committee, adequate attention shall also be paid to

balanced gender, generational and disciplinary representation;

d) Only full members shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee;

e) Members of the Executive Committee shall have tenure of four years and be eligible for re-election only once;

f) The Executive Committee shall elect its Chair and shall adopt its rules of procedure.

### Article 20 – Functions

a) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the realization of the Forum's objectives and shall be accountable to the General Assembly;

b) Between the meetings of the General Assembly, the Executive Committee shall supervise the affairs of the Forum;

c) The Executive Committee shall create international posts and appoint persons to them (Executive Secretary, Resident Deputy Executive Secretary and other essential officers);

d) The Executive Committee shall approve the Forum's biennial budget and programme of activities;

e) The Executive Committee shall have unrestricted access to all the records of accounts and activities of the Forum;

f) The Executive Committee shall delegate powers to the Executive Secretary for the day-to-day management of the Forum;

g) The Executive Committee shall ensure gender, generational,

regional and disciplinary balance in the activities of the Forum.

#### **Article 21 – Meetings**

a) The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year. Between meetings, the Executive Committee may take decisions by correspondence;

b) In the event that a member is absent from two consecutive meetings without good cause, that member shall cease to belong to the Executive Committee and shall be replaced at the next General Assembly;

c) Upon the creation of a vacancy in the foregoing manner, the Executive Committee shall bring in as full member, a substitute member from the same country.

## **EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**

#### **Article 22 – Composition**

The Executive Secretariat shall consist of the following officers:

a) The Executive Secretary;

b) The Assistant(s) of the Executive Secretary.

#### **Article 23**

The Executive Secretary shall report to the Executive Committee.

#### **Article 24 – The Executive Secretary**

a) The Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive Committee for an initial period of four years renewable only once;

b) The Executive Secretary shall, under the authority of the Executive Committee, lead the Secretariat in implementing the programme of the Forum, coordinate and mobilize members in undertaking the activities of the Forum, carry out

relations with other organizations in the interest of the Forum as stipulated in the Statutes, and recruit staff locally for the effective implementation of the Forum's programme;

c) The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Forum;

d) The Executive Secretary shall sign all contracts in the name of the Forum;

e) The Executive Secretary shall be the Secretary to the General Assembly and the Executive Committee;

f) The Executive Secretary shall ensure gender, generational, regional, and disciplinary balance in the activities of the Forum.

## FINANCES

### Article 25

Resources for financing commitments and activities of the Forum shall consist of:

a) Contribution from international organizations;

b) Annual membership fees, to be determined by the Executive Committee and ratified by the General Assembly;

c) Grants from regional organizations and African governments;

d) Donations and grants from any other national or legal persons;

e) Revenues from the Forum's publications and other activities.

## DONATIONS

### Article 26

In all cases, the Executive Committee shall accept donations and grants provided that the

conditions are consistent with the maintenance of the integrity and independence of the Greater Horn Horizon Forum.

## RULES OF PROCEDURE

### Article 27

Modalities for the implementation of these Statutes shall be fixed by

rules of procedure to be worked out by the Executive Committee.

## AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES

### Article 28

a) The Statutes of the Forum may be amended at a General Assembly by a two-thirds majority vote;

b) Notice and text of proposed amendments to the Statutes shall be sent to the Chair of the Forum at least six months prior to the date of a General Assembly;

c) The Executive Committee may similarly propose amendments to the Statutes;

d) All proposed amendments to the Statutes should be communicated to all full members at least three months prior to the General Assembly.

## DISSOLUTION

### Article 29

a) The dissolution of the Forum shall be decided at a General Assembly by a two-thirds majority, subject to any legal implications regarding properties and funds;

b) Any request proposing that the Forum be dissolved shall be supported by at least one-third of full members. The request shall be sent to the Executive Committee which shall communicate it to all full members within ninety days.

An extraordinary session of the General Assembly shall be convened to this effect within six months at least, upon receipt of the request;

c) The General Assembly dissolving the Forum shall also decide on the modalities for the distribution of the Forum's documents, archives and other assets;

d) The General Assembly dissolving the Forum shall also identify African institutions in the Greater Horn of Africa that could inherit the Forum's assets.



## FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

### Article 30

These Statutes shall enter into force as soon as they are approved

by the founding General Assembly in Djibouti and the required registration is satisfied.



Participants at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Greater Horn Horizon Forum, Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti, December 2008

# CODE OF CONDUCT

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FOR PARTICIPATING INTELLECTUALS

## RATIONALE

After years of conflict, distrust and divisive policies, which partly explain the current situation in the Horn of Africa, scholars and intellectuals, within our countries and in the diaspora, express the urgent need to address the problems of the region with a new vision focusing on the commonalities of our peoples. To that end, the establishment of a Forum of scholars and intellectuals is proposed to reflect on the common future of the region. This Forum or think tank is an initiative which emanates from the scholars and intellectuals of the region and is open to participants from the countries of the Horn of Africa identified on the sole basis of their experience and expertise, their scholarly and intellectual excellence, their willingness to dialogue in a spirit of constructive engagement and their concern for the future of the Horn of Africa region.

The main objective of this Forum is to encourage reflection on the common future of the peoples of the region, in order to contribute to the search for and agreement on mutually accepted alternatives to the problems of the region. The originality of this venture is its attempt to focus on anticipatory and scenario-building approaches. The virtue of these approaches lies in facilitating the necessary efforts to go beyond controversial analyses of the past and the current situation, often derailing intellectual debate on this region, and to explore different possible scenarios for the coming decades. This initiative aims at creating a circle of committed scholars and intellectuals tied by the sentiments of solidarity, comradeship and mutual assistance, which should guide the sharing of ideas and visions on their common future.



## PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Greater Horn Horizon Initiative:

- 1) Cognizant that our special responsibility emanates from the privileged access to higher education, the development of the spirit of critical inquiry and independent thinking, and aware of our social, professional and humanistic responsibility;
- 2) Mindful of our particular mission to develop knowledge and promote intellectual practices likely to assist our populations in confronting the challenges of development, peace and regional integration;
- 3) Recognizing that research and intellectual debates play a major role in developing mutual understanding between the peoples of the Greater Horn of Africa and in assisting our political and economic decision-makers in their search for appropriate policies and strategies to sustain peace and development in the region;
- 4) Recognizing, affirming and celebrating the achievements and efforts in the region and seeking to promote the values inherent in diversity and pluralism;
- 5) Recognizing that our war-torn societies no longer allow us to focus on issues that stir up hatred and exacerbate division;
- 6) Understanding that the exchange, dialogue and cooperation we wish to promote needs to be based on the principles of democracy, equality, reciprocity, dignity, integrity, independent thinking, tolerance and mutual respect; that, in the pursuit of such principles, we should avoid any forms of intolerance, intimidation, exclusion and discrimination contrary to this ethical commitment;
- 7) Recognizing that constructive dialogue on our common future necessitates special competencies that we need to develop, given the legacy of ethnocentrism, dogmatism and intolerance in segments of our respective societies and our personal experiences;
- 8) Aware therefore that this process is to be considered as a

learning exercise which would be of mutual benefit in building our capacity to exchange freely, manage divergent views, share ideas and seek common solutions for the challenges facing the societies in our region;

9) Calling upon all scholars, intellectuals, leaders of civil society, journalists and political and economic decision-makers to

work together for the ownership and sustainability of this Forum of exchange and dialogue on the common future of the peoples of the Greater Horn of Africa.

HEREBY voluntary join this Forum without any other expectation than the advancement of knowledge and search for commonly accepted solutions for our region.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Having freely agreed on the following guiding principles for the Forum based on these shared values, we particularly commit ourselves to:

a) Participating in advancing knowledge, a process inseparable from the examination, questioning and testing of accepted ideas;

b) Respecting the outlined principles and values that would guide the conduct of the Forum and promoting the values of academic freedom and independent thinking in our dialogue and exchanges;

c) Giving the highest possible standard of service to this civic cause and providing appropriate and impartial advice to the Forum;

d) Joining the Forum on a voluntary basis and in our personal capacity

without representing any particular group, thought or interest;

e) Being respectful of the confidentiality agreed upon by the members of the Forum and not using for personal gain any private or confidential information obtained in the course of involvement in the Forum or think tank;

f) Refraining from promoting partisan, political and sectarian agendas;

g) Emphasizing the common denominators and elements of consensus rather than differences and divergences;

h) Debating and exchanging views and opinions in a spirit of objectivity, honesty, transparency and constructiveness;

i) Confronting ideas with openness, respect, tolerance, fairness and accepting the challenge posed by divergent opinions;

j) Sharing democratically and openly any concern regarding the process of discussion and the organization of the Forum;

k) Protecting the independence of the Forum from any undue external influences;

l) Respecting internal rules and procedures as collectively defined and agreed for the functioning of the Forum.



Participants at the 'Policy Dialogue between the Business Community of the region and the Greater Horn Horizon Forum', Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti, November 2009

# AGREEMENT

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## BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI AND THE GREATER HORN HORIZON FORUM

### **Parties**

The Government of Djibouti and the Greater Horn Horizon Forum.

### **Purpose**

This agreement between the Government of Djibouti and the Greater Horn Horizon Forum concerns the Secretariat of the Forum and its privileges as well as its duties in the Republic of Djibouti.

### **Article 1 – Definitions**

For the purpose of better understanding this Agreement, the following expressions shall have the meanings assigned to them hereunder:

- a) The ‘Government’ refers to the Government of the Republic of Djibouti;
- b) The ‘Forum’ refers to the Greater Horn Horizon Forum (GHHF or Forum) an independent, autonomous, non-profit organization promoting the cooperation and networking of scholars and intellectuals of the Greater Horn of Africa;

c) The ‘Secretariat’ refers to the buildings, premises or parts of structures that are occupied by the Greater Horn Horizon Forum at any given time. This excludes the premises used as living accommodation for its staff;

d) ‘Staff’ refers to employees of the Secretariat. Temporary hourly employees of the Secretariat will not be considered as staff.

### **Article 2 – GHHF Office**

The Republic of Djibouti authorizes the Forum of the intellectuals of the Greater Horn of Africa to open its executive office in Djibouti as well as hold its meetings and exercise its activities.

### **Article 3 – Recognition and Employees**

a) The Government of Djibouti accepts the GHHF as an independent and autonomous entity that recruits its members from countries in the Greater Horn of Africa as well as other parts of the world. The Greater Horn Horizon Forum will function independently, including planning its activities and budget;



b) The Forum can assign to its office any scholars, intellectuals on missions, and any other persons required for performing its duties. The Djiboutian authorities agree to issue entry visas to such scholars and critical thinkers;

c) The Forum will periodically provide to the government the names of scholars and intellectuals on mission, and other persons providing services in its office. The Forum will also inform the government of any change of situation of these agents.

**Article 4 – Temporary Local Hourly Staff – Conditions and Modalities of Employment**

The terms of employment for temporary local staff paid on an hourly basis should comply with the labour regulations of the Republic of Djibouti. The staff recruited locally will benefit from all the necessary facilities and perform their duties without interference.

**Article 5 – Supplies and Equipment of the Forum**

a) The government will issue the necessary authorizations and

licences for the importation of the required items and equipments for the Forum. It will ensure at its own cost custom clearance, reception, off-loading, storage, insurance, transport and delivery of these items and equipment following the arrival of the such items and equipment in the country;

b) Items and equipment intended for the Forum

Intellectuals of the Forum will be exempted from any direct taxes, VAT, excise duties, and fees. The government will in accordance with article 5c below take all administrative measures with a view to reimbursing any taxes or excise duties included in the prices of items, supplies, or equipments purchased locally by the Forum for its official use;

c) Likewise, the Forum will be equally exempted from taxes and customs including those charged on the importation of building materials, educational materials, official vehicles and fuel, and will benefit from all the privileges granted by the Republic of Djibouti to other international

organizations, and diplomatic missions;

d) *Per contra*, the Forum will not sell duty-free imported items within the Republic of Djibouti without the authorization of the Ministry of Finance;

e) Expatriate staff of the Forum will be exempted from customs, taxes and duties for their personal belongings, and other personal effects imported into the country upon their official arrival into the Republic of Djibouti.

**Article 6 – Visas, Permits, and Other Authorizations**

The Forum is free to invite scholars, intellectuals, and eminent national as well as international persons to its meetings, conferences, and workshops in the Republic of Djibouti without any interference from any authorities.

Scholars and intellectuals on mission and persons providing services for the Forum:

a) will obtain prompt and free approval of entry visas, required permits, and other authorizations;

b) will be granted free entry, movement, and exit without any hindrance and will be allowed to travel to places where meetings, conferences, or workshops are held to the extent that such travel is deemed necessary to perform

their duties. The Djiboutian authorities agree to allow entry to such scholars and critical thinkers.

**Article 7 – Communication and Publications**

a) The Forum will enjoy the same privileges granted by the Government of Djibouti to other international organizations and diplomatic missions (or intergovernmental organizations) in Djibouti regarding the installation and operation of the means of communication, priorities, tariffs and taxes on mail and communication services by means of telex, e-mail, telephone and any other means as well as for press and radio publicity;

b) No censorship shall be applied to official correspondence or other communication of the Forum. This immunity also applies to publications, transmission of photographic and electronic data, as well as other forms of communication which can be agreed upon between the relevant parties. The Forum will be authorized to use any codes, and to issue and receive any correspondence through carrier or sealed pouch. These communications are not subject to any censorship;

c) The Forum will be authorized to issue for its radio communication and any other telecommunications official frequencies that will be



assigned to it by the government to ensure communication between its offices within and outside the country;

d) For the establishment and operation of its official communications, the Forum is entitled to the privileges granted by the International Convention on Telecommunication (Nairobi, 1982);

e) For communication and the transfer of its documents, the Forum will benefit from the same privileges granted to other international organizations by the Republic of Djibouti;

f) To equip its library, the Forum shall import books, other publications, pictures, films and other such items duty free and without any censorship.

#### **Article 8 – Transportation Facilities**

The government will not impose any unjustified restrictions on the acquisition, use, and maintenance of civil aircraft by the Greater Horn Horizon Forum, and other means of transportation that are necessary for the execution of the Forum’s activities governed by the present agreement. The government will grant the Forum all the necessary authorization and permits for that purpose.

#### **Article 9 – Infrastructure facilities**

The Republic of Djibouti agrees to provide services and basic infrastructure to the Forum including adequate office space and equipment.

The Forum will benefit from all the privileges granted by the Government of Djibouti to international organizations and diplomatic missions.

#### **Article 10 – Immunities and Privileges**

a) All persons providing services to the Forum:

(i) will enjoy legal immunity for their statements and written communications and for any actions undertaken during the exercise of their official duties. This immunity will continue after the end of their term of service with the Forum;

(ii) will be provided along with the spouse and other family members the same repatriation accommodation granted to other diplomatic staff during an international crisis;

b) In order to enable them to discharge their duties independently and efficiently, all persons providing services for the Forum will benefit from other privileges, immunities and facilities that will be agreed upon by the parties.

**Article 11 – Applicable Law**

In the event of a dispute, the laws of the Republic of Djibouti will apply.

**Article 12 – Entry into Force, Validity, and Termination**

This agreement will enter into force once it has been signed by the two parties and has been ratified by the Forum. While waiting for the Forum to ratify the agreement, the two parties can agree that this agreement can be entered into force on a provisional basis.

This agreement is valid for two years from 28 May 2008 to 27 May 2010 and can be renewed if both parties agree to extend the contract with the same terms and conditions.

This agreement may be terminated by either party provided the party wishing to terminate the contract notifies the other party three months prior to the desired date of contract termination.

**Article 13 – Amendments**

This agreement can be amended through a written agreement between the two parties.

Done by the Republic of Djibouti

Date: 18 May 2008



For the Government of Djibouti  
H.E. Mr Ali Abdi Farah

For the Greater Horn Horizon Forum  
Prof. Abdel Ghaffar Ahmed



**GreaterHorn**  
H O R I Z O N