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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

PRESS RELEASE

Ref. No.

Our attention has been drawn to reporting in the print and electronic media of a meeting between His Excellency the President Mwai Kibaki and the Ambassador of the State of Eritrea to Kenya, H.E. Beyene Russom, on 29th October, 2012 at Harambee House.

It was reported that His Excellency President Mwai Kibaki had informed the Ambassador of Eritrea Kenya was willing to assist Eritrea rejoin the Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) if the State of Eritrea ceased to propagate its extremist agenda within the region.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which was represented at the meeting and indeed was recording the Minutes, wishes to categorically state that no such statement was made at the meeting.

Instead, His Excellency the President asked the Ambassador of the State of Eritrea to reassure his President, His Excellency Isaias Afwerki of Kenya's desire to maintain warm, friendly and forthright relations with the State of Eritrea and welcomed Eritrea's return to IGAD.

We call upon the media houses that misrepresented what was said at the meeting to retract by printing or broadcasting what actually transpired at the meeting as clarified above.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

NAIROBI

31st October, 2012