

Designation of Individuals and Entities under UNSCR 1844 and U.S. EO 13536 (Somalia)

-- The United Nations Security Council, in its resolution 1844 of November 20, 2008, reaffirmed its condemnation of all acts of violence in Somalia and incitement to violence inside Somalia, and expressed its concern at all acts intended to prevent or block a peaceful political process.

-- United Nations Security Council resolution (UNSCR) 1844 (2008) also expressed grave concern over the increase in acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea against vessels off the coast of Somalia, and noted the role piracy may play in financing violations of the arms embargo on Somalia imposed by UNSCR 733 of January 23, 1992.

-- In UNSCR 1844 (2008), the United Nations Security Council determined that the situation in Somalia poses a threat to international peace and security in the region and called on all UN Member States to apply certain measures - asset freeze, travel ban, and targeted arms embargo - against individuals and entities responsible for the continuing conflict.

-- The targeted sanctions shall apply to individuals and entities designated by the UNSC Somalia/Eritrea Sanctions Committee:

(a) as engaging in or providing support for acts that threaten the peace, security or stability of Somalia, including acts that threaten the Djibouti Agreement of 18 August 2008 or the political process, or threaten the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) or the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) by force;

(b) as having acted in violation of the general and complete arms embargo;

(c) as obstructing the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Somalia, or access to, or distribution of, humanitarian assistance in Somalia.

-- The United States also has the legal authority to pursue designations under domestic law, which obviously does not require the agreement of our UN partners. The United States has sufficient information to designate the additional three individuals.

-- The consensus based sanctions process at the United Nations resulted in the designation of eight individuals and one entity. While there are technical reasons why other Members of the Council did not agree on all of the names, we do NOT believe they represent any difference of opinion as to the need to take action to prevent financial support to those who destabilize and threaten the peace, stability, and security of Somalia.