

with its timetable, the USA began to withdraw its forces and the UN to prepare for the transition back to a peacekeeping mission.

In January 1993 diplomatic efforts to achieve a stable peace agreement led to the signing by 14 Somali political movements of a declaration establishing a binding cease-fire subject to the creation of a "mechanism for disarmament". In a separate agreement, the factions approved the mechanism, which called for the placing of heavy weapons under international monitoring, cantonment and disarmament of militias and the disarming and "rehabilitating" of bandits and other armed elements.⁶⁵ At the UN-sponsored Addis Ababa Conference of National Reconciliation in mid-March 1993, the parties and international donors agreed to a two-year transition during which local and central government structures were to be rebuilt and the parties to seek to resolve their differences through peaceful means. The Conference also supported the disarmament mechanism agreed at the earlier Addis Ababa meeting.

Against these commitments, however, it was the assessment of the Secretary-General that "the unique features" of the situation in Somalia continued to prevail:

"There is still no functioning Government in the country. There is still no organized civilian police force. There is still no disciplined national armed force. ...[T]he atmosphere of lawlessness and tension is far from being eliminated."⁶⁶

In such circumstances, the Security Council authorized UNOSOM II to operate under Chapter VII with the authority to use force to create a secure and stable environment while, at the same time, seeking to promote and advance the cause of national reconciliation. The new mandate encompassed the whole territory of Somalia and specifically included disarmament. UNOSOM II, therefore, with a predicted total strength of 28,000⁶⁷ personnel, was given a geographic responsibility and disarmament and nation-building tasks beyond the mandate of its much stronger predecessor, UNITAF.

The expanded mandate included the following military tasks:

- monitoring of the cease-fire agreement,

⁶⁵ See "Progress Report of the Secretary-General on The Situation in Somalia", S/25168, 26 January 1993, Annexes II and III.

⁶⁶ "Report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council", Document S/25354, New York: United Nations, 3 March 1993, p.21, para. 100.

⁶⁷ Outside UNOSOM II, and under the sole command and control of the United States were an additional 18,000 troops, including a Quick Reaction Force.