



NORTHERN SOMALIS for PEACE & UNITY (NSPU)

August 1, 2007

Awdalnews' Irresponsible Editorial Comment: A Rebuttal

In a recent [editorial note](#), Awdalnews in bold headlines proclaimed the discovery of a “clandestine conspiracies” against Somaliland, the secessionists’ enclave in Northern Somalia. The “clandestine conspiracies” supposedly uncovered by Awdalnews is a copy of an advocacy letter sent by the Northern Somalis for Peace and Unity (NSPU) at the wake of the AU Summit in Accra to Ghanaian officials, local media and civic society groups, educating them on the true color of the secessionist movement and the reality on the ground in that part of the Somali Republic.

It is not a secret that NSPU lobbies and will continue to lobby publicly and in private for the noble cause of preserving the unity and territorial integrity of our country. The content of the letter is consistent with the organization's pro-unity advocacy policy statements, publicly announced and adopted in its [most recent Conference held at the Center for Strategic and International Studies \(CSIS\), Washington DC in December 2006](#).

It is the right and duty of every Somali to fight for the unity of our country and expose the false claim of the secessionists that the entire North of Somalia espouses secession. Nothing could be farther from the truth. It is also naive on the part of those who live in the glass house of secession to expect the forces of peace and unity to remain hand-folded in the face of their wanton and treacherous machinations. Like Awdalnews they may bury their heads in the sand, close their eyes to the glaring realities on the ground and pretend, among other things, that there is no opposition to their clan-driven secessionist project.

But the flocking, in broad daylight and in defiance of the roadblocks and the threats of the secessionist Administration in Hargeisa, of Northern clan Elders from Awdal to Sool and Sanaag and in between to the National Reconciliation Congress, being held in the national capital, Mogadishu, indicates beyond the slightest shadow of doubt the thirst of our people for peace and unity, not for division and discord.

On that note, perhaps the Editor of Awdalnews instead of engaging in a futile cyber stunt, should muster enough courage to expose and condemn the secessionist administration for prosecuting and restricting the basic rights of citizens, in this case the afore-mentioned notable Traditional Leaders, to speak on an important issue detrimental to their identity, security, and personal welfare as well as to those of future generations. Unless, of course, the Editor as a new inductee to the secessionist cult, would rather remain quiet in the face of these gross human rights infringements lest his secessionist credentials be questioned.

As before, NSPU calls upon our brothers and sisters in the secessionist camp to once again see the light and forgo their elusive and potentially dangerous project and jump on the bandwagon of reconciliation, peace and unity.

On behalf of NSPU Communication and Public Relations Committee,
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Please direct your Comments and Feedback to:

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***NORTHERN SOMALIS FOR PEACE & UNITY (NSPU)** is a grass-roots Somali advocacy organization with Branches in Somalia, United Arab Emirates, Canada, USA, UK, Sweden, and South Africa. We are dedicated to the promotion of peace and unity among the long suffering people of Somalia. We believe the ‘Somalia problem’ can only be dealt with within the framework of a holistic strategic approach aimed at the empowerment of a central government to rebuild national democratic governance institutions and restore law and order throughout the country. NSPU believes the balkanization of Somalia is a recipe for future conflicts and a bleak future for the Somali people, who are bonded by ethnicity, language, religion, and shared centuries-old culture and traditions.*
