EU steps up engagement in support of Somali culture

21/05/2015

On the occasion of the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, the EU Delegation to Somalia wants to reiterate its commitment to strengthen Somali efforts to rebuild cultural heritage.

Indeed, moving out of conflict is not just about rebuilding infrastructure & security which are important. It's a broader process whereby communities reflect on how their identity and heritage brings them together and how it can help them to thrive as a society. It enables communities to heal the scars of war and to create spaces for dialogue, exchanges and tolerance.

The EU has been a steadfast supporter of Somali culture by publishing with Unesco a "Scoping Study on the Somali Culture Sector" and by supporting cultural centres in Hargeisa and Mogadishu. Moreover, on May 7th, the EU Delegation has gathered the "Friends of Somali Culture", a wide range of Somali culture actors who will now reflect on how the international community can contribute to the revival of the Somali culture. On the World day for cultural diversity, culture brings the Somali people together. (END)