



# Somali President's Roundtable Conference, Central Hall Westminster

KARIMIA INSTITUTE

Tuesday 9 March 2010

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Introduction speech by **Dr Musharraf Hussain al-Azhari OBE**

*Mr President and distinguished guests, it gives me a great pleasure to welcome you here this morning.*

*Today we live in a global village, we are truly interdependent, the whole world is now linked and inextricably interconnected.*

*Mr President since your election as the president there has been optimism about Somalia. The world looks on you as a champion who will challenge the evil forces of extremism and terrorism. Your stand against the terrorists and other extremist groups gives hope that Somalia will come out of the crisis as a strong stable democracy.*

*Law and order will produce the conditions for economic growth and better opportunities for the people of Somalia. Brother Sharif Sheikh and the British Muslims would like to extend a hand of brotherhood, love and humanity to the people of Somalia.*

*We support you in your fight against the dark forces of terrorists who have not only disgraced the name of our beautiful religion of Islam but blighted your wonderful country of Somalia.*

*I believe that you are a man of Islamic knowledge and wisdom; you are the man of spiritual heritage who can lead Somalia into a new era of peace of prosperity.*

*Your struggle for Somalia is a great Jihad, against tyranny and lawlessness, bigotry and extremism.*

*As a Brother I would like to give you some Nasihah, a few suggestions and recommendations.*

*Firstly you have to try and work with the opposition for peace and reconciliation and to create unity. We recognise that for you to carry out this tremendous task you need support. We would like our British Government to support the president's government, by empowering and provide generous aid.*

*Finally, we would like the British Government to lead other European parties in supporting the Somali Government.*

*Thank you.*

