

**Universal  
Periodic Review  
Somaliland Civil  
Society  
Organizations  
Submission**

July 1

2015

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## Table of Contents

<b>I.</b>	<b>Methodology and preparation of the report</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>II.</b>	<b>Economic and Social Rights</b> .....	<b>4</b>
A.	Right to health.....	4
B.	Right to education.....	4
C.	Right to water and food.....	4
<b>III.</b>	<b>Access to Justice and Constitutional and Legal Framework</b> .....	<b>5</b>
A.	Electoral Framework.....	5
B.	Independent human rights institutions.....	5
C.	Access to justice.....	5
D.	Death penalty.....	6
<b>IV.</b>	<b>Protection of civilians and compliance to IHL</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>V.</b>	<b>Women and Children</b> .....	<b>7</b>
A.	Children.....	7
B.	Women.....	7
<b>VI.</b>	<b>Youth</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>VII.</b>	<b>Freedom of expression and protection of human rights defenders including journalists</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>VIII.</b>	<b>Vulnerable people</b> .....	<b>10</b>
A.	People living with HIV and AIDs.....	10
B.	People with Disabilities.....	10
C.	Internally Displaced People.....	11
<b>IX.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b> .....	<b>12</b>
<b>X.</b>	<b>Annex: List of participated organizations</b> .....	<b>13</b>

## **I. Background and Methodology**

1. Somaliland British Protectorate gained its independence from Britain in 26<sup>th</sup> June 1960 and united with Italian Somalia to establish Somali Republic in 1<sup>st</sup> July 1960. However, the corrupted military dictatorship of Siyad Barre committed serious human rights violations in Somaliland where thousands of civilians were massacred and killed by the government of Siyad Barre. After the dictatorship of Siyad Barre regime was overthrown, the people of Somaliland declared their independence in 1991 and over the past 24 years Somaliland succeeded to maintain peace, stability and home-grown democracy. But the Republic of Somaliland has not yet been recognized by the international community, although international community deals with Somaliland as de facto state.
2. The civil society organizations (CSOs) in Somaliland have prepared this report which was the first time in its kind. It was drafted and developed through inclusive and participatory process. 40 civil society organizations took part the preparation of the report (see the annex). The methodology which was used the development of report was a qualitative approach whereas some consultative workshops, focus groups discussions and interviews conducted in between 12<sup>th</sup> March to 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Literature review was also extensively made.
3. The CSOs were divided into seven thematic working groups. Consultative teams were also sent to all regions of Somaliland from March to June 2015. Moreover, it is remarkable to mention that the CSOs of Somaliland are undertaking wider policy advocacy initiatives on human rights issues; accountability, good governance and promoting access to justices. The CSOs in Somaliland are instrumental to advocate the issues of human rights at all levels.
4. This report would have not been possible without the technical support of United Nations Assistance Mission in Somaliland/Somalia (UNSOM). The CSOs are very grateful to UNSOM, particularly to the Human Rights Section of UNSOM in Hargeisa Office. Special thanks to Anita Mongane and Ahmed Osman for their tireless support and hardworking.
5. CSOs express their gratitude to Somaliland Human Rights Centre which compiled and coordinated the report and Somaliland Non State Actors Forum (SONSAF) for its leadership, and facilitating the process of the report.

## **II. Economic and Social Rights**

### **A. Right to health**

6. According to Somaliland constitution<sup>i</sup> the state is responsible the provision of free medicine and the care of the public welfare. It further stipulate that the state shall combat communicable diseases and to promote and extend the healthcare centres. Somaliland does not have health law, but the health policy has been approved. The number of new health centres increased over the last four years.
7. The health services are not extended beyond the main towns. Rural and remote areas in particular do have very limited health services. The health professionals are inadequate and majority of them work privately. These private services are available at the main towns and for those who can to afford the high costs. Poor and vulnerable people cannot access to the private health system because of the high costs of the health services.

### **B. Right to education**

8. Right to education is fundamental right stipulated in Somaliland constitution<sup>ii</sup>. Somaliland has drafted Education Policy and Education Bill that is not yet approved. The government introduced free primary education in the country, giving access to the poor people and increasing girls' enrolment in education.
9. Due to poor quality of public schools, private schools highly dominated the educational system of the country and increase disparity between the rich and poor in education. Educational facilities available for rural and nomads are limited, impeding accessibility of children at rural and nomads. Education is not structured in a method that allows nomads to attend and continue education. Secondary and tertiary education is not free. This disrupts students from poor families, IDPs and refugees to continue education. Children from marginalized groups face challenge in accessing to education while protective policies are not in place. Because of language barrier, refugees (mostly from Ethiopia) are inaccessible to Somaliland education system.

### **C. Right to food and water**

10. Recurrent droughts and poverty aggravate accessibility to food in Somaliland for the poor, IDPs, nomads and refugees. Most of food items are exported and expensive to those who cannot afford. Absence of available local food production and lack of national budget in supporting food for the underprivileged harden the lives of many people in Somaliland. Somaliland is a semi-desert land with very minimum annual rain fall. Water is critical and very scarce, particularly for rural and nomads. In some urban areas, water distribution of the state is not equally available for the inhabitants. For instance, in Hargeisa (the capital and most populous city in Somaliland) certain

localities receive water while other areas should depend on their own endeavour and payment to get water. Availability of water is hard for the poor people.

### **III. Access to justice and constitutional and legal framework**

#### **A. Electoral Framework**

11. Since 2001 Somaliland has been undertaking competitive elections.<sup>iii</sup> In the last 15 years Somaliland held six elections and now has planned to conduct two concurrent elections in 2016. However, strengthening multiparty democratic elections was not a straightforward, but there were a lot of challenges including institutional, legal<sup>iv</sup>, and financial and lack of civic education. Elections postponements and extension of terms prevent the citizens to periodically exercise their right to vote. Furthermore, women face dramatic challenges, especially cultural, economic and political barriers that are reducing women's political participation. But youth or young people have succeeded to win most local government election seats in 2012.

#### **B. Independent Human Rights Institutions**

12. Somaliland has approved an Act establishing National Human Rights Commission. The Act was not properly observed in the process of selecting the commissioners. Somaliland civil society had no role in the process of the establishment of the current government run National Human Rights Commission which was not founded on the basis of Paris Principles. As a result the Commission's independence and impartiality needs to be improved.

#### **C. Access to justice**

13. Access to justice is guaranteed by Somaliland constitution and the Judiciary Organization Act. According to article 28 of Somaliland constitution<sup>v</sup>, every person is entitled to institute proceedings in a court and to defend him/herself in a court. The constitution<sup>vi</sup> states that the state shall provide free legal defence and court fees may be waived for the indigent. Somaliland has judicial system in all regions. There are private legal aid providers who assist those who cannot afford attorney fees. Somaliland government approved Legal Aid Policy and drafted, but not yet approved, Legal Aid Act.

14. Nevertheless, courts are not extended to all parts of the country particularly at rural and remote areas. Rural and pastoral people immensely rely on traditional ways of conflict resolution and do not have access to state courts. The numbers of judges are limited. Women, poor people, IDPs and vulnerable people in general face obstacles in accessing to justice. Personal favourism, political influence and lack of transparency are constraints in obtaining free and equal access to justice.<sup>vii</sup>

15. Customary law application is prevalent in the country particularly at rural and remote areas. Such informal justice impedes many people to access to the formal system.
16. Weak enforcement of existing laws and insufficient information on the justice system hampers access to justice. Delay of cases trials is another challenge. Laws that hinder access to justice are not reviewed. For instance laws that predate the constitution such as the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code are still in place.

#### **D. Death penalty**

17. Somaliland government rejects putting moratorium or abolishing death penalty. It contends that Somaliland is a Muslim country that upholds Sharia principles which ordain death penalty. Article 24 of Somaliland constitution and Somaliland Penal Code legitimize death penalty. Six people were executed in 2015, the first execution since 2006.
18. Somaliland civil society organizations raise a concern on the due process of law, the capacity of judges, prosecutors and police investigators, and trial effectiveness of the judiciary and customary law interventions of cases. The military courts conduct summary trials which would not allow defendants to bring enough evidence and sufficient time to defend themselves. At the same time military courts hear cases against members of the Police and Prison Guards contrary to Somaliland constitution which gives the military courts special jurisdiction only in hearing criminal charge brought against the members of the military.
19. Standardization and harmonization of the criminal justice system of Somaliland is very critical if the state's responses against human rights violations are to be made fair, effective and consistent with the democratic values enshrined in the Constitution. The current Penal Code is outdated and predates the constitution. Therefore, it is imperative for Somaliland to review, amend and modernize the current Penal Code for ensuring a pertinent compliance with the human rights upheld by the democratic nations of the world.

#### **IV. Protection of civilians and compliance to IHL**

20. Article 10(1) of Somaliland constitution<sup>viii</sup> obliges Somaliland to observe all treaties entered into by the former state of Somalia prior Somaliland declared independence in 1991. Somali Republic became signatory of Geneva Conventions before 1991. International humanitarian law is customary practice that is not limited to the signatories of Geneva Conventions.
21. There are occasions armed conflict happened in Sool region and Buuhoodle district of Togdheer region. Clan conflicts that sometimes evolve into armed confrontations also erupts at these regions. There have not been verified reports of any violations of IHL. Nevertheless, the civil society organizations are not well established at these areas and its monitoring capacities are very limited.

## **V. Women and Children**

### **A. Children**

22. Somaliland Juvenile justice act was developed and finalized, and Somaliland is among the countries that have juvenile justice act. Child Right Act was drafted which is under processes at the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. This initiative is positive step forward. Child Protection Policy is also drafted, but not approved. Free primary education is a major achievement made by the Government of Somaliland which enabled thousands of children to have access to primary education. Before 2011, thousands of children were not able to access primary education due to the socio-economic situation of their families. National Plan of actions on child rights and child protection was developed through the participation of both national and international actors. Coordination mechanisms were set up including national child right coordination forum, thematic working groups led by relevant public institutions.
23. Somaliland is not an official signatory of the UN Convention on the Rights of Child. Age of child is not defined in Somaliland. Hence many children are exposed to risks because of lack of legal clarification of who is child. Somaliland children suffer child trafficking, school drop outs, corporal punishment and use of harmful substances including glue sniffing and Khat. Furthermore, children are victims of Female Circumcision (FGM), forced/early marriage, rape and other sexual offences. Forced/early marriage is prevalent at rural areas.
24. The Juvenile Justice Act of Somaliland is not applied. Children are prosecuted and tried as adults. They are jailed with adults. The separate Juvenile Sections of the courts are not functional. The dysfunction of the Juvenile Justice Law violates the rights of the children. Policies and guidelines for alternative child care are missing in Somaliland leading to exposure of children to abuses.

### **B. Women**

25. Article 36 of the Constitution guarantees for women equal enjoyment of rights, and obliges the government to promote and enact laws on the rights of women to be free of customs and practices that are injurious to their person and dignity. These human rights frameworks are not adequately implemented. Women face numerous challenges and are not always treated fairly before the courts of law. 90%<sup>ix</sup> of women do not seek their rights because of fear in accessing to the male dominated justice system. Therefore, victims of rape, domestic violence, or those who are deprived of their inheritance rights are not protected.
26. Regardless of age and marital status women suffer various forms of violence and exploitation including, female genital mutilation, rape including gang collective rape, sexual harassment, forced/early marriage and domestic violence.
27. To address these issues, the civil society organizations in Somaliland submitted to the Parliament Sexual Offences Bill for the first time in Somaliland history. The Bill is not yet presented to the members of the Parliament to debate, but this is a step forward.

28. Discrimination of women in political participation and decision making still exist. Currently, Somaliland civil society proposed 10% quota for women in the Lower House of the parliament for the upcoming elections by presenting drafted bill for quota of women.
29. According to Women's Access to Justice Baseline report<sup>x</sup>, Somaliland regions do not provide sufficient legal services for victims of gender-based violence and other related issues and does not offer the comprehensive assistance that is required. There is a lack of legal service provision specifically for women survivors of violence that is easily accessible, tangible and affordable, and that allows for advice, consultation, and subsequent legal support through the court process. The institutions providing free legal aid services are mainly active within urban areas. 70%<sup>xi</sup> of rural women cannot easily access free legal aid services. Women are underrepresented in private employment. They are involved mostly in unregistered small businesses which as consequences receive limited legal protection.

## **VI. Youth**

30. To increase youth political participation, the civil society organizations advocated for the amendment of important electoral law. The amendment of the Act (Presidential and Local Elections Law, Act No. 21.2001) reduced age requirement to run for local government councillor from 35 to 25 years. This has increased youths' exercise of their political rights and many of them won the seat of local council election in 2012. In 2014 the government announced the establishment of a youth development fund. This fund aims to pool financial resources from different stakeholders in order to achieve the ambitious goals of the national youth policy and to be able to finance larger employment programs
31. Unemployment is one of the major challenges facing the youth in Somaliland. Approximately 65% of the country's population are youth<sup>xii</sup> and a large percentage is unemployed. Career guidance, vocational education, internship programmes, and training in entrepreneurship are some of the measures that may be taken to promote employment and livelihood opportunities for the youth.
32. Allure and false promises of a better life outside of Somaliland fuel irregular migration and human trafficking (Tahriib). Youth who attempt Tahriib are transported from their homes to Libya and other places by middlemen or human traffickers who then ask for large sums of money from the youths' families back home. This journey is extremely dangerous and some of the youth lose their lives in the process or end up engaged in other illegal activities.
33. There is a need to encourage youth to positively engage in decision-making processes on matters that affect their lives. This will help promote responsibility and positive participation of the youth in development.
34. Due to their vulnerabilities, youth may be instrumentalized to propagate violence and escalate conflict. Therefore, it is important to ensure that youth are involved as part of the solution in addressing any conflict. Additionally, they can be susceptible to participation in criminal activities, organized crime or gang groups.<sup>xiii</sup>
35. Drug addiction, particularly to khat, is a major cause of family destruction, dropping out of schools, health problems and poverty to youth in Somaliland. Availability of



sports and recreation is limited hindering youth's rights to leisure. It also contributes the exposure of youth to crimes.

## **VII. Freedom of expression and protection of human rights defenders including journalists**

36. The constitution of Somaliland clearly stipulates principles of freedom of expression and independence of media. There are 18 independent newspapers, 4 independent TV stations and approximately 80 websites and blogs. More than 1400 journalists practice journalism and work either for media station or are self employed (free license journalists). Additionally, there is government owned media: Radio Hargeisa, Somaliland National Television and two newspapers; Dawan and Horn Tribune. Independent radios are not allowed in Somaliland. Media is growing in Somaliland.
37. Radios take important role in dissemination of information particularly to the nomads and rural people. There is a government radio (Radio Hargeisa). However, independent local radios are not allowed. The ban over licensing of radio stations minimized Somaliland media coverage and brought about information disparity among citizens according to economic status and geographical location of citizens. The coverage of Somaliland media is limited to specific urban locations while the poor citizens who live in rural and urban areas who lacks TVs sets in their homes have no access to internet or unable to purchase daily physical newspapers due to financial constraints are lacking now public information.
38. Somaliland media is facing legal challenges posed by laws that predate the constitution. For example journalists are prosecuted in accordance with the Somali Penal Code which is outdated and is contrary to Somaliland constitution in respect to freedom of expression and decriminalization of journalism.
39. Detention of Somaliland journalists is major challenge to freedom of expression. The number of journalists arrested has been increasing continuously over the last four years. According to Somaliland Journalists Association's reports 90 journalists have been arrested over the last four and half years. The number of journalists arrested since 2011 is higher compared to previous years. The detention of journalists was followed by frequent closures of media stations. Over the last four and half years two TV stations (Universal & Horn Cable) and two newspaper stations (Hubaal & Haatuf) were closed by the Somaliland Government. Despite TVs stations were re-opened again; newspaper station of Haatuf is still in suspension.
40. The abuse of power by government officials specifically Somaliland judges is another challenge to freedom of expression. Nonetheless, Somaliland media are not censored. Somaliland officials are susceptible to media reports and they exercise the state power to silence journalists who report the issues of corruption and nepotism by state officials. The vast majority of Somaliland journalists are arrested as a result of reporting corruption by state officials. The growing habit by government officials

undermines the freedom of expression as well as the role of media to oversight good governance and the right to information.

41. Human rights defenders are refused to access to information, detention centres, prisons and other key areas necessary to perform their duties. Because of absence of legal frame work that protects human rights defenders and past experience of suppression of human rights defenders, human rights defenders are intimidated impeding effective performance of their duties. Financial constraints also challenge human rights defenders in Somaliland. Journalists<sup>xiv</sup>, human rights defenders<sup>xv</sup> and whist blowers are harassed, detained and prosecuted in last four years.

## **VIII. Vulnerable people**

### **A. People living with HIV and AIDs**

42. There are no laws and policies that protect the rights of the people living with and affected by HIV and AIDS. Stigma and discrimination<sup>xvi</sup> against the people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS impede access to services including education, health and security. Children orphaned by HIV/AIDS or their parents live with HIV/AIDS are discriminated at schools and as consequence discontinue their education.<sup>xvii</sup> At the health providers both public and private, people living with HIV/AIDS are discriminated. They cannot find jobs if the employer is aware of their health status. Accessibility to the law enforcement agencies and the judiciary is hampered by the discrimination and the lack of proper and workable legal and policy frameworks for the protection for the people living with HIV/AIDS. People living with HIV/AIDs at regions (outside of the capital) are more vulnerable and face shortage of medicine and health services.
43. Nonetheless, progress has been made. Somaliland National Aid Commission<sup>xviii</sup> has been established. The government budget for working on the national initiatives against HIV/AIDS has been slightly increased in the fiscal years of 2014/2015. Information on HIV/AIDS has been mainstreamed into a recently-launched (not yet implemented) Civic Education Curriculum intended to be provided to the secondary schools students in Somaliland.

### **B. People with Disabilities**

44. Somaliland has experienced the impact of civil wars including land-mines; unexploded remnants plus disease make many people disabled. According to Somaliland constitution, the state is responsible for the health, care, development and education of the people with disability who have no one to care for them.
45. Somaliland National Disability Policy has been drafted and ready for cabinet approval. People with disability inclusion in democracy has been promoted and advocated. The Somaliland government has pledged to employ 40 persons with disability every year. It also distributed wheel chairs last two years.

46. People with disability (PWD) face many challenges and the state does not provide enough support. Due to a variety of societal barriers, persons with disabilities are overrepresented among the poor, are more likely than nondisabled persons to be excluded from education, productive employment and decent work, health services, economic and financial resources, infrastructure and participation in all aspects of society such as political participation. People with disability lacks accessible architect at both public and private buildings. There are local and international organizations that do assist the people with disability. Many civil organizations were created by Somalilanders including the disability people organizations (DPO's) and disability service providers concerning different areas of disabilities.
47. Disabled people face impediments during elections; no representation in the electoral manpower is a major issue regarding the constitutional guarantees of the rights to vote or to be voted for.
48. PWD are almost absent from the civil servants sector and the Labour Law of Somaliland is unfriendly as, for example, there are provisions that seem to be hindering the physically-challenged people from entering into the civil service.
49. People with disability are discriminated and their accessibility to services including health and education is hampered by stigma and unfriendly infrastructure in place. People with mental illness in particular are severely neglected.

### **C. Internally Displaced People**

50. Internally displaced peoples (IDPs) live in overcrowded centres in the main towns of Somaliland. These people consist of Somalilanders forced to flee by recurrent droughts, 1990s war displaced people, etc. IDPs Policy has been approved, and number of IDPs were relocated and reintegrated. Definition of IDPs is a controversial in Somaliland due to the status of Somaliland. People who fled Somalia (south-central Somalia) are recognized by Somaliland as refugees, but the international organizations deal as IDPs.
51. IDPs continue facing risks to their lives, safety, security and dignity. The livelihood situation of IDPs is very poor. They are economically disadvantaged people. Moreover, shelters of IDPs are the Somali traditional houses (aqalsoomaali/buul) that are not able to protect from the dangers of the environment including heavy rains, wintry and temperature.
52. In the rainy season, transmittable diseases spread in the IDPs centres/camps. Approximately 15 families share one toilet which deprives the privacy of individuals and contributes to the probable risks of transmissions of infectious diseases. There is also a shortage of water; families get unclean water from the ponds.
53. The IDPs centres are unstable. Some centres have no police stations, and other government institutions. Occurrences of serious crimes those centres are very

common. Violence cases include criminal gang engagements, rapes, thefts, robbery and sometimes murders.

54. The Somaliland government does not usually allocate adequate resources for enhancing its disadvantaged IDPs living in Somaliland. The already-poor situation of those IDPs is expected to worsen mainly because of the rising influx of the refugees fleeing from the wars going on in Yemen who join IDPs centres because of absence of refugee camps. The large number of Ethiopian migrants living in Somaliland is yet another burden on the extremely limited opportunities for the IDPs as well as the impoverished people in Somaliland.

55. The refugees live disturbing conditions worsened by the limited resources of the state. Majority of refugees are Ethiopians, but now Yemenis joined in a big number as the war in Yemen continues to displace more people.

## **IX. Recommendations**

1. Decriminalize media actions and apply Somaliland Press Law; amend the laws that criminalize media.
2. Stop illegal banning of media houses and remove the ban from Haatuf media house;
3. Establish protective legal framework for Somaliland media including reform of current press law and establishment of Somaliland broadcasting law.
4. Stop government official's use of state power against the freedom of expression and provide trainings to judiciary as an effort that is sustained over long period and develop and put in place training programmes accordingly.
5. conduct large advocacy campaign throughout the country to make the government authorities understand the right to freedom of expression, the right to freedom of association and the right information
6. Facilitate/ allow for unimpeded access for national and international monitoring organizations in Sool and Sanaag;
7. Amend the Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code and the Public Order Law, and enact drafts that are compatible with the human rights;
8. Ban Female Gentile Mutilation;
9. Allow radio stations to be opened ;
10. Implement the Juvenile Justice Act
11. Conduct broad consultations taking into account the special circumstance and needs of the different groups in the society before approving the Education Act;
12. Review the curriculum so that rural and nomads are equally accessible to education by removing obstacles and structuring education system in a manner responsive to their context;
13. Introduce compulsory primary education and enhance public education quality;
14. Introduce schools accessible to refugees who do not speak Somali language;

15. Specific government programs must be put in place to address human rights of marginalized groups, in addition to the government plan awareness programmes for the violations against marginalized groups.
16. Parliament should design laws protecting the rights of the marginalized people;
17. The traditional justice system for rape cases and domestic violence should be halted; and a punishment be imposed for traditional elders who try to solve such cases through traditional ways of solving.
18. Provide massive awareness to women on their legal rights pertaining to violations against them.
19. Stop customary law interventions in cases of sexual violence
20. Appoint female judges and increase female officers in police stations, prosecution office and law enforcement agencies
21. Approve quota for women and minority
22. Improve the legislation on child protection and welfare
23. Enhance capacity of child protection systems and structures to prevent and respond to abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence against internally displaced children and children living and working on the streets
24. Establish a common strategy for implementation of Juvenile Justice Law (J JL), including establishment of all the institutions (e.g. Juvenile Courts), infrastructure, personal capacity mentioned under J JL; -
25. Ensure adequate budget allocation and dissemination of the J JL, especially in rural areas.: -
26. Establish monitoring and follow up of the implementation of J JL and involve children in the implementation process; -
27. Establish effective rehabilitation mechanism for children who are victims of drugs, taking into account the best interest of child;
28. Approve the pending laws and policies, and ensure its compliance with the human rights;
29. Provide effective access to education, health and justice for people with disability ;
30. Establish mental health centre for people with mental illness.
31. Apply Paris Principles in the National Human Rights Commission to establish functioning and independent human rights commission;
32. Approve HIV/AIDS Act and take measures intended to eliminate stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS,
33. Adopt policy for food security for vulnerable and poor people,
34. Implement and enforce the laws and disseminate the laws throughout the country,
35. Establish Anti Corruption Commission and ombudsman

## X. Annex: List of participated organizations

<b>NO</b>	<b>Organizations/Networks</b>	<b>Region</b>
<b>1</b>	Somaliland Non State Actors Forum (SONSAF)	All regions
<b>2</b>	Human rights centre (HRC)	<b>All regions</b>
<b>3</b>	Somaliland National Youth Umbrella (SONYO)	All regions
<b>4</b>	Nagaad Women's Network	<b>All regions</b>
<b>5</b>	Somaliland Journalists Associations (SOLJA)	<b>All regions</b>
<b>6</b>	Community Development and Human rights Organization (COMPAD)	<b>Hargaysa</b>
<b>7</b>	Deegaan Network	<b>All regions</b>
<b>8</b>	Somaliland Youth Development Association (SOYDA)	<b>Hargaysa</b>
<b>9</b>	Somaliland Women Lawyers Association (SWLA)	<b>Hargaysa</b>
<b>10</b>	Candlelight	<b>Hargaysa</b>
<b>11</b>	Talowadaag Coalition (Network for the people living with HIV/AIDS)	<b>Hargaysa</b>
<b>12</b>	Horn of Africa Voluntary Youth Committee (HAVOYOCO)	<b>Hargaysa</b>
<b>13</b>	University of Hargeisa – Legal Aid Clinic	<b>Hargaysa</b>
<b>14</b>	Somaliland National Disability Forum (SNDF)	<b>All regions</b>
<b>15</b>	Somaliland Child Rights Forum (SOCRIF)	<b>All regions</b>
<b>16</b>	Comprehensive Community based Rehabilitation in Somaliland (CCBRS)	<b>Hargaysa</b>
<b>17</b>	Committee Concerned of Somalis (CCS)	<b>Hargaysa</b>
<b>18</b>	Network Against FGM in Somaliland (NAFIS)	<b>All regions</b>
<b>19</b>	Sool Community Development Organization (SCODO)	<b>Sool</b>
<b>20</b>	Stead Fast Voluntary Organization	<b>Sool</b>
<b>21</b>	Link Youth Voluntary Organization (LYVO)	<b>Sool</b>
<b>22</b>	African Youth Voluntary Organization (AYVO)	<b>Sool</b>
<b>23</b>	Kalabadh Youth Link Organization (KAYLO)	<b>Sool</b>
<b>24</b>	Orientaiton Community Civilian Development Organization (OCCDO)	<b>Sanaag</b>
<b>25</b>	Sanaag Charity Organization	<b>Sanaag</b>
<b>26</b>	Dal-kaab Community Development Organization, Sanaag	<b>Sanaag</b>
<b>27</b>	Somaliland Horseed Organization of Humanitarian Development and Environmental Protection,	<b>Sanaag</b>
<b>28</b>	African Youth Development Association (AYODA),	<b>Awdal</b>
<b>29</b>	Somaliland Association Youth Salvation (SAYS)	<b>Awdal</b>
<b>30</b>	Somaliland Humanitarian Relief Association (SOHURA) ,	<b>Awdal</b>
<b>31</b>	Somaliland Skills Training Association (SOSTA)	<b>Awdal</b>
<b>32</b>	Development Youth and Moral Support Organization (DYMON)	<b>Awdal</b>

<b>33</b>	General Assistance and Volunteer Organization (GAVO)	<b>Sahil</b>
<b>34</b>	Youth Volunteers for Development and Environment Conservation (YOVENCO) ,	<b>Sahil</b>
<b>35</b>	Community development Association (CDA)	<b>Saahil</b>
<b>36</b>	Somaliland Education Development Organization (SOMEDO)	<b>Sahil</b>
<b>37</b>	HANAN Women Organization,	<b>Sahil</b>
<b>38</b>	Somaliland Youth Development and Voluntary Organization (SOYDAVO)	<b>Togdheer</b>
<b>39</b>	Somaliland Youth Society (SYS)	<b>Togdheer</b>
<b>40</b>	Solidarity Youth Voluntary Organization (SYVO)	<b>Togdheer</b>

## End Notes

<sup>i</sup> Article 17 of Somaliland Constitution (2001)

<sup>ii</sup> Article 15 of Somaliland Constitution (2001)

<sup>iii</sup> <http://www.sonsaf.org/Files/Somalilanders-speak---web-ready.pdf>

<sup>iv</sup> [http://www.sonsaf.org/Files/Civil\\_Society\\_Position\\_Paper\\_on\\_Voter\\_Registration- April - 2014.pdf](http://www.sonsaf.org/Files/Civil_Society_Position_Paper_on_Voter_Registration- April - 2014.pdf)

<sup>v</sup> Article 28 of Somaliland Constitution (2001)

<sup>vi</sup> Article 28 of Somaliland Constitution (2001)

<sup>vii</sup> <http://www.hrcsomaliland.org/images/HRC%20report%202014>

<sup>viii</sup> Article 10 of Somaliland Constitution (2001)

<sup>ix</sup> Nagaad report, 2011, 2012

<sup>x</sup> Nagaad in base line report, 2013

<sup>xi</sup> Nagaad in base line report, 2013

<sup>xii</sup> SONYO Youth Situation Survey, 2011,

<sup>xiii</sup> SONYO-produced Youth Violence Baseline Survey Report, 2015, and Local Capacities for HIV Prevention and Youth Perception Survey Report, 2014

<sup>xiv</sup> <http://www.somalilandpatriots.com/print-2833-0>

<sup>xv</sup> <http://www.hrw.org/news/2015/04/22/somaliland-activist-who-questioned-executions-detained>

<sup>xvi</sup> <http://www.somalilandsun.com/index.php/community/1887-somaliland-a-generation-with-zero-hiv-aids-infections>

<sup>xvii</sup> <http://www.hrcsomaliland.org/images/HRC%20report%202014>

<sup>xviii</sup> <http://www.solnac.org/>