

## Statement

UPR Pre-session on [SOMALIA]

Baidoa, [25-26] 2021

Delivered by: [INISKOY FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION]

### 1- Presentation of the Organisation

This statement is delivered on behalf of [INISKOY FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION], - IPDO- was established by intellectuals from the regions of Bay, Bokol, Gedo, Lower/Middle Shabelle and Benadir Regions.

The foundation of this organization was behind by many problems seen in the country and encountered by the civil society of Somalia since the central government collapsed in 1991, soon after the collapse, the country has faced lots of crisis, devastation in any side.

As this result Somalia has missed the rule of law and more than twenty years of destructive civil wars happened those simplified all the people's prestige and privilege to be fully destroyed and damaged by unkind cruel gunmen those took the control of the country, so IPDO members have agreed the necessity of such organization in the region in order to improve and promote Peace, Human Rights, and Development in Somalia in general and in Bay, Bokol, Gedo, Lower/Middle Shabelle and Benadir regions.

[INISKOY FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION] has participated in 3rd UPR processes at the national level submitted 2020.

Prior to the UPR review session : what are the benefits of being involved?

UN Country Team and International Community can support the civil society in building their capacity to more actively engage with the UPR prior to the review, through awareness-raising and advocacy.

The International Community including embassies are powerful allies in the UPR and can provide support and funding for CSOs activities. For example, encourage them to participate in country Pre-session that provide a platform for an increased number of CSOs to engage with advocacy at the UPR.

The pre-session is a broad consultation among national UPR stakeholders, prior to the review in Geneva.

In Geneva, fewer CSOs have the opportunity to speak in the Pre-session. I am lucky, as I will participate in the pre-session on 25 and 26 March 2021 in Geneva.

I will address concerns and recommendations on the Economic and Social Rights:

The CSOs have urged the government to put in place legislative frameworks to address the lack of safe delivery, to invest in the capacity of medical professionals (both at public and private institutions) and to increase public health awareness to support more prevention. The CSOs have also advised the government to ensure that vulnerable communities have better access to affordable health care and services, particularly those in rural areas. They have warned that health care should not become a service only for those with means.

The governments use of the security situation as a reason why the health and medical services in

Somalia are so poor, is not sufficient nor credible, according to the CSOs. More can be done by the government, using the limited resources Somalia has at its disposal. The CSOs state that this is unacceptable and that the government should seriously re-evaluate its priorities in the area of health care.

Recommendations:

1. Health:

- The government should provide access to free health care, particularly for those most vulnerable in society
- Healthcare professionals should be qualified, those without medical license should not be allowed to treat patients and should be liable to prosecution if they do so

2. Right to education

- The government needs a long-term plan to battle illiteracy in Somalia by providing free primary school education for all
- Invest in teachers by strengthening their capacities and offering better wages

3. Right to work and to just and favorable conditions of work

- Raise awareness and have policies in place to tackle sexual harassment and exploitation in the workplace
- Economic empowerment of women, especially IDPs, those from marginalized communities and persons with disabilities