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Summary prepared by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1

## Somalia\*

The present report is a summary of 26 stakeholders' submissions¹ to the universal periodic review. It follows the structure of the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), nor any judgement or determination in relation to specific claims. The information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes and, to the extent possible, the original texts have not been altered. Lack of information or focus on specific issues may be due to the absence of submissions by stakeholders regarding these particular issues. The full texts of all submissions received are available on the OHCHR website. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the four-year periodicity of the first cycle of the review.

<sup>\*</sup> The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services



# I. Background and framework

### A. Scope of international obligations

- 1. PHRN recommended that Somalia ratify those international instruments to which it was not a party and incorporate them in the process of reconstruction and re-building.<sup>2</sup>
- 2. GIEACPC stated that Somalia signed but did not ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).<sup>3</sup> KARAMA recommended the ratification of CRC.<sup>4</sup> CWS urged Somalia to demonstrate its commitment to ratifying CRC through the creation of appropriate domestic legislation.<sup>5</sup>
- 3. CWS urged Somalia to sign and ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).<sup>6</sup>

## B. Constitutional and legislative framework

- 4. PHRN recommended that the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) commit itself to (1) observing international human rights and humanitarian law as pledged in the Transitional Federal Charter and the 'old' Constitution, as well as regional and international human rights instruments to which Somalia was a party;<sup>7</sup> and (2) drawing up a new constitution which will protect and promote the human rights of all Somalis and lay the foundation of a new Somalia based on democracy and social justice for all, including the minority.<sup>8</sup>
- 5. SFS stated that it was crucial for Somalia as whole to have a functioning constitution that protected the rights of people regardless of their age, sex, religion, or clan affiliation. It also stated that principles of checks and balances in relation to Parliament and legislative and judicial branches were core to the achievement of a strong state and progressive nation.<sup>9</sup>
- 6. NUSOJ stated that the TFG should finalise the review of the December 2007 media law to bring it in line with international standards. "Somaliland" should review its media bill, and "Puntland" should refrain from developing repressive media laws.<sup>10</sup>
- 7. STP stated that the strict application of Sharia law in some areas of Somalia has led to many concerns about the respect of basic human rights.<sup>11</sup>

## C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure

8. JSI stated that in "Somaliland", a human rights commission had been formed but that its mandate remained unclear and it had limited independence from political influence.<sup>12</sup>

# II. Promotion and protection of human rights on the ground

## A. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

### 1. Cooperation with special procedures

9. CSW urged Somalia to issue a standing invitation to the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council and in particular to the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief.<sup>13</sup>

#### 2. Cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

10. HRW recommended that the TFG invite the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to increase the number of staff monitoring and reporting on human rights abuses.<sup>14</sup>

# B. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

## 1. Equality and non-discrimination

11. JS1 stated that people with disabilities remained among the most marginalized groups in "Somaliland". They had no access to inclusive education and information and to public transport and buildings.<sup>15</sup>

#### 2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

- AI stated that none of the parties to the conflict appeared to take the necessary 12. precautions to avoid loss of civilian life and injury, in violation of their obligations to do so under international humanitarian law. It asserted that armed opposition groups continued to launch attacks from areas inhabited or frequented by civilians in Mogadishu and AMISOM forces and to some extent TFG forces were repeatedly accused of responding by firing mortars and using other artillery weapons in the direction of the attackers. 16 JS2 expressed concerns about indiscriminate shelling in densely populated areas.<sup>17</sup> AI recommended that the TFG (1) publicly order its security forces, and all militia and forces affiliated to it, not to commit unlawful attacks, including those targeting civilians, and those which, although aimed at a legitimate military target, have a disproportionate impact on civilians or civilian objects; and (2) seek international assistance to ensure that all TFG security forces, including troop commanders, are rigorously trained with operational rules to carry out their duties in conformity with international human rights and humanitarian law principles and international best practice standards. 18 ARM recommended that the TFG do more to prevent the death and injury of civilians in Mogadishu and that the civilians should not be seen as mere collateral damage.19
- 13. Similarly, HRW recommended that TFG (1) issue clear, public orders and take all necessary steps to ensure that its security forces and allied militias comply with international humanitarian and human rights law; and (2) halt the firing of mortars into populated areas of Mogadishu unless measures were implemented to ensure that their use complied with the principles of distinction and proportionality under international humanitarian law.<sup>20</sup>
- 14. SNHRC stated that during public demonstration in "Somaliland" in 2008, the police shot live ammunition at the demonstrators resulting in two deaths and several injuries.<sup>21</sup> On two other occasions, demonstrators were shot resulting in three deaths and many injuries.<sup>22</sup>

- 15. AI also stated that the fighting had dire consequences for the provision of medical and humanitarian aid. Insecurity and indiscriminate violence put both humanitarian operations and infrastructure at risk.<sup>23</sup>
- 16. COGWO stated that people were detained in secret facilities in areas controlled by the TFG, some merely for the purposes of a ransom.<sup>24</sup> JS2 stated that the police force remained mired in deeply entrenched patterns of extortion, torture, and other forms of ill treatment and that impunity from prosecution remained the biggest single obstacle to ending such abuses.<sup>25</sup> It also stated that the police continued to be implicated in numerous extrajudicial killings in the course of police operations in TFG controlled areas.<sup>26</sup> JS2 stated that in "Puntland" civilians and political rivals were tortured by the military.<sup>27</sup>
- 17. JS1 stated that in "Somaliland" there were reports of children being detained for minor cases, such as parental disobedience, with hard-core criminals, which exposed these children to abuse, physical and psychological trauma. Almost all of the police stations and local prisons in "Somaliland" lacked separate cells for child offenders.<sup>28</sup>
- 18. JADO stated that in Jubaland there was a need for people to be educated in relation to domestic violence as this conduct was embedded in tradition.<sup>29</sup>
- 19. KAALO stated, in relation to gender-based violence in the "Puntland", that the authorities fund and implement compulsory training programmes for officials, including police, lawyers, judges and medical personnel, social workers, immigration officials and teachers, on (1) the identification of cases of violence against women and girls both in the home and the community; (2) on how to deal with victims and ensure their safety; and (3) on how to effectively collect, safeguard, consider and present evidence in a court of law.<sup>30</sup>
- 20. JS1 stated in relation to "Somaliland" that sexual and gender-based violence commonly occurred and that rape was common among the disadvantaged communities.<sup>31</sup> The laws were ineffective in protecting victims of rape and that these matters were mostly solved through traditional mechanisms which, in some instances, resulted in the victim being forced to marry the perpetrator.<sup>32</sup>
- 21. KARMA stated that rape continued to be used as a tool of war in Somalia. The number of rapes inflicted by police has decreased, but the use of rape by armed groups to punish and intimidate rivals persisted. These incidences are rarely prosecuted. Victims of rape have no recourse.<sup>33</sup> It recommended that Somalia prosecute rape as a crime of war in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008).<sup>34</sup>
- 22. SSWC stated that "war-related rape" was widespread and women in Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps were particularly vulnerable, as the rape of women and girls by the militia and bandits was a common phenomenon.<sup>35</sup>
- 23. JS4 stated that women and girls that were engaged in "pastoralism", were at risk of attacks from militia groups and armed gangs, mainly in southern Somalia.<sup>36</sup>
- 24. SSWC stated that even though women were essentially neutral when it came to clan affiliation they were still the targets of clan-related reprisals and attacks.<sup>37</sup>
- 25. JADO stated that many under age young girls in Jubaland were forced to marry "Mujahidin of Alshabab (Jihadist: Holy warrior)" against the will of their parents. Resistance to such marriages resulted in execution.<sup>38</sup> This was also stated by JS4.<sup>39</sup>
- 26. JS1 stated that female genital mutilation was a deeply rooted traditional practice.<sup>40</sup> COGWO stated that this practice was rampant and that gender based violence was a common problem which remained a secret.<sup>41</sup> SWC stated that young girls between the ages of 4–8 were subjected to "infibulations" to ensure their chastity until they were married.<sup>42</sup>

SSWC indicated that many girls die from the shock and pain of the procedure which was normally done without anesthesia, as well as from infections and massive blood loss.<sup>43</sup>

- 27. JS1 stated that in "Somaliland" there were reports of an increase in human trafficking. In this regard, the challenges included the absence of law prohibiting human trafficking and the limited resources available to the police.<sup>44</sup>
- 28. JS4 stated that recruitment of child soldiers was highly rampant.<sup>45</sup> STP stated that the recruitment of children as soldiers by militias and the regular army was facilitated by the plight of IDPs, the humanitarian crisis and increasing poverty.<sup>46</sup>
- 29. SSWC indicated that children were being recruited, trained and used in the armed conflict. While recruitment of girls was rare and was generally regarded as socially unacceptable, there were documented accounts of girls working for armed opposition groups, particularly for cooking and cleaning. Girls also transported detonators, for logistics, and engaged in intelligence collection.<sup>47</sup>
- 30. ARM stated that there was compelling evidence of widespread recruitment of children by the warring factions, and that the TFG was accused of recruiting children many of whom have been found to be openly serving in combat in Mogadishu.<sup>48</sup> It recommended that the recruitment of child soldiers should stop.<sup>49</sup> AI recommended that the TFG establish effective and impartial vetting procedures to ensure that the TFG armed forces and the police do not recruit persons under the age of 18.<sup>50</sup> HRW recommended that the TFG conduct rigorous screening and take other active measures to ensure that no children were recruited in its armed forces. HRW also called for the release all previously recruited children.<sup>51</sup>
- 31. JS1 stated that there were many children in "Somaliland" living on the streets, often begging and sometimes engaged in criminal activity for survival. Some children have little or no contact with their families and cope without adult support. JS1 stated that there was an increase in orphaned children in "Somaliland" and that institutions to care for these children were virtually non-existent.<sup>52</sup> Presently, there is only one operational institution located in Hargeisa and that the conditions in this institution were poor.<sup>53</sup>
- 32. GIEACPC stated that, pursuant to Article 439 of the Penal Code (1962), corporal punishment was lawful in the home<sup>54</sup> and in schools.<sup>55</sup> In the penal system, there was no provision for corporal punishment as a sentence for crime, but it was lawful under Somali Islamic Law.<sup>56</sup> In alternative care settings, corporal punishment was lawful.<sup>57</sup> In "Somaliland" corporal punishment was unlawful in the home,<sup>58</sup> in schools,<sup>59</sup> and in alternative care settings.<sup>60</sup>

## 3. Administration of justice, including impunity and the rule of law

- 33. KARAMA stated that Somalia's justice system was virtually non-existent with no effective national governance or functioning courts for the prosecution of crimes. As a result, the criminalization of offenses worked within a sharp dichotomy of either violating international law, or ignoring the most gruesome of violent crimes. KARAMA recommended the development of a functioning justice system in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325.<sup>61</sup>
- 34. NUSOJ stated that there was no functioning justice system in South-Central Somalia. Courts applied "Sharia" law and its verdicts were in variance with Article 14 of the ICCPR.<sup>62</sup> JS2 stated that these courts did not respect due process even as defined by Sharia law.<sup>63</sup> NUSOJ stated that, in "Puntland", the justice system lacked independence and the authorities mainly predetermined judicial decisions.<sup>64</sup> NUSOJ recommended inter alia the strengthening of the justice system with an independent judiciary and the full implementation of guarantees as stipulated in Article 14 of the ICCPR.<sup>65</sup> JS1 stated that

women in "Somaliland" were denied their rights to access justice as cases, and men through the traditional systems resolved conflicts.<sup>66</sup>

- 35. IPDO stated that the Somali people were subjected to the cruellest and most degrading human rights violations, which were inflicted in a culture of impunity. Many of these violations could qualify as war crimes and crimes against humanity because of their widespread and systematic character.<sup>67</sup> PHRN recommended that gross human rights violations must be openly and sincerely addressed with individual cases tried.<sup>68</sup>
- AI stated that impunity continued to prevail in Somalia for serious human rights 36. abuses, some of which constituted war crimes. No one has been held accountable for the human rights abuses committed over the past two decades of armed conflict.<sup>69</sup> AI added that little progress has been made by the TFG in fulfilling its commitment to address justice and reconciliation under the 2008 Djibouti Peace Agreement.<sup>70</sup> AI recommended to the TFG that it (1) support the establishment of an independent and impartial commission of inquiry, or similar mechanism, to investigate and map violations of international human rights and humanitarian law committed in the conflict; (2) suspend from duty any member of its security forces reasonably suspected of serious violations of international and human rights law, pending independent and effective investigations;<sup>72</sup> and (3) ensure prompt, independent and impartial investigation into all serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, and to bring those responsible to justice in fair trials without application of the death penalty.<sup>73</sup> HRW also recommended that the TFG ensure that all credible allegations of humanitarian law violations by its forces were promptly, impartially, and transparently investigated and that those responsible for serious abuses, regardless of rank, are held to account.74
- 37. JS4 stated that an international commission of inquiry should be established to investigate reports of violations of human rights and humanitarian law; identify alleged perpetrators; map the most serious crimes that might require further future investigation; and formulate recommendations on appropriate mechanisms for justice and accountability, including criminal prosecutions.<sup>75</sup> HRW recommended that the TFG request the UN Secretary-General to establish such a commission, and fully cooperate with that commission once it is established.<sup>76</sup>
- 38. HRW recommended that TFG consider implementing a system of meaningful payments for civilian loss of life, injury, and property damage. This system should not be limited to compensation for violations of the laws of war but should also include condolence or ex-gratia payments for losses stemming from AMISOM troop activities. The system should not be considered a substitute for training and other measures to ensure that AMISOM military personnel comply with international humanitarian law.<sup>77</sup>

### 4. Right to privacy

39. JS5 stated that Somalia maintained criminal sanctions against sexual activity between consenting adults of the same sex.<sup>78</sup> JS5 recommended that all laws be brought in conformity with its international human rights obligations, by repealing all provisions which may be applied to criminalise sexual activity between consenting adults.<sup>79</sup>

# 5. Freedom of religion or belief, expression, association and peaceful assembly and right to participate in public and political life

40. OD stated that on 10 May 2009, the TFG approved the implementation of Sharia law throughout the country. OD recommended inter alia (1) the incorporation of international human rights standards in the constitution, including freedom of religion or belief; (2) the protection of the Christian minority and other religious minorities; and (3) a climate of religious tolerance and respect. See the constitution of the Christian minority and other religious minorities; and (3) a climate of religious tolerance and respect.

- 41. JS2 stated that freedom of expression was diminished and those who criticised Islamic armed groups were silenced by threats, violence and intimidation. <sup>83</sup> JADO stated that in Jubaland clergies who expressed the view that rulings of a particular Islamic group were contrary to Sharia law, were normally detained. <sup>84</sup>
- 42. SSC stated that journalists have come under increased pressure from the TFG amid a government crackdown on the independent press. In the areas controlled by the TFG, authorities continued to commit infringements against freedom of expression despite their responsibility to ensure that this right is respected. SSC stated that security forces entered radio stations harassing and threatening journalists. SSC stated that in "Puntland", the authorities maintained a tight hold on the media via restrictions and harsh sanctions. Journalists, other media professionals, intellectuals, community elders and ordinary citizens who try to express their views were often subjected to arbitrary arrests, mistreatment and other violations of constitutional rights. SSC stated that the authorities in "Somaliland" have also maintained a tight hold on the press, with journalists frequently being threatened, arrested or otherwise silenced. SSC stated that the authorities in "Somaliland" have also maintained a tight hold on the press, with journalists frequently being threatened, arrested or otherwise silenced.
- 43. NUSOJ stated that the killing of journalists and other attacks against the media were politically motivated in a direct attempt to muzzle freedom of expression and to obstruct the public's right to know and to force self censorship upon media practitioners. <sup>89</sup> NUSOJ recommended that the eradication of the continuing impunity against freedom of expression and other human rights violations be prioritized, especially among law enforcement agents and the armed forces. NUSOJ also stated that journalists were regarded as legitimate targets since militias were persuaded that journalists were "spies". <sup>90</sup>
- 44. ARM and JS3 indicated that the media was subjected to violence and intimidation, with several journalists being killed in 2010. IS3 stated that a number of journalists have fled to neighbouring countries. AI stated that parties to the conflict have systematically prevented journalists from carrying out their work and providing information to the public. AI recommended (1) prompt, effective and impartial investigations into the killings of all Somali civil society actors and journalists, and to investigate all threats of violence against them; and (2) respect and protect freedom of expression and to end all practices that threaten the right to freedom of expression, including threats against journalists and media outlets by the TFG authorities and armed groups associated with the government.
- 45. JS1 stated that journalists have been arbitrarily arrested in "Somaliland" and detained for short periods of time. SNHRC stated that there were several politically motivated detentions of press media personnel and closure of newspapers and a TV station, as well as a ban on opening radio stations.
- 46. SNHRC indicated that there were also times when the opposition party Kulmiye was not able to conduct its meetings, as the authorities had instructed all hotel owners not to rent meeting halls to Kulmiye.<sup>97</sup>
- 47. JS1 stated that the women in "Somaliland" were marginalized from the decision making process of society due to the patriarchal cultural practices. Women's role in society was neither acknowledged nor promoted. The clan system which was the pinnacle upon which Somaliland culture and practices were based was a barrier against women exercising their rights of political participation. JS1 stated that only men had the right to ascend the leadership ladder and make decisions in the political and public life of the Somaliland society. JS2 stated that only men had the right to ascend the leadership ladder and make decisions in the political and public life of the Somaliland society.
- 48. SNHRC stated that in "Somaliland" in 2008, prominent politicians were detained for several months for exercising their political rights. These politicians formed a political association with opposing ideological ideas to those of the ruling party. In previous years there were similar detentions. <sup>100</sup>

#### 6. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

- 49. SFS stated that the unemployment rate in "Puntland" was high. <sup>101</sup> As a consequence, youth were idle and prone to illegal activities such as piracy. SFS stated that policies should be implemented to empower youth regardless of gender and clan affiliation by, inter alia, providing equal employment opportunities. <sup>102</sup>
- 50. SFS stated that the available employment opportunities in "Puntland" were highly competitive positions with requirements that, in most cases, were unattainable by the local people, due to their poor level of education. SFS recommended that (1) all the school and technical trainings centres arrange internship opportunities with local NGO's, INGO's, the government sectors and private business sector; and (2) the unemployment rate can be reduced by requiring all sectors to allow new graduates an opportunity to get work exposure. 104
- 51. JS1 stated that child labour was prohibited by Islamic law, formal law and customary law. 105 However, due to factors such as poverty, displacement and negligence, thousands of children worked under exploitative conditions for means of survival. Some of these children were given hazardous tasks. 106

#### 7. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

- 52. AI stated that the movement of humanitarian staff has also been hampered. <sup>107</sup> AI recommended to the TFG to allow safe, timely, unconditional and unimpeded access by aid agencies to all internally displaced persons and civilians in need of assistance in areas under its control. <sup>108</sup> STP stated that humanitarian conditions continue to deteriorate due to increasing insecurity and armed conflict, inter-clan fighting, population displacement, diseases, food insecurity and the deterioration of livelihood. Conflict and increased attacks targeting humanitarian organizations have resulted in food aid suspensions and limited humanitarian access to conflict-affected people. <sup>109</sup>
- 53. IPDO stated that there was acute malnutrition in Somalia.<sup>110</sup> The United Nations and partner agencies have coordinated efforts to improve humanitarian access, but insecurity and targeted attacks against relief staff continued to hinder the provision of emergency assistance to affected people.<sup>111</sup>
- 54. COGWO stated that the hospitals in Mogadishu were ill-equipped and were not able to respond to the medical and psychological needs of the victims of the conflict. Women do not have access to emergency services even in government hospitals or health units, due to the lack of capacity, as well as the lack of knowledge and skills among the health workers. SSWC stated that Somalia had one of the highest maternal mortality and morbidity rates in the world, and that one in every five children was malnourished. SNHRC also stated that malnutrition was common among children in "Somaliland".
- 55. SSWC stated that nutritional deficiencies for mothers and infants were very common and communicable diseases like cholera have been on the rise. Mothers also face the challenge of high infant mortality when they are not able to access clinics where their children can get treatment and immunization. Pregnant women often do not attend antenatal clinics, which leads to complications during childbirth, because they lack basic health education and also because of the difficulty in getting to the few available clinics.<sup>117</sup>
- 56. SFS stated that access to any health facility was a privilege in "Puntland". <sup>118</sup> It stated that there was a scarcity of health facilities, poor quality hospitals that lacked modern medical equipment, lack of medical supplies, inadequate trained health providers and educators, and limited access to drugs and medication. <sup>119</sup>

57. SFS stated only 24 per cent of the population had access to safe water throughout the year in "Puntland", and only 2 per cent of the nomadic community obtained water from protected sources.<sup>120</sup>

### 8. Right to education and to participate in the cultural life of the community

- 58. JS1 stated that there was no legislation or policy providing for free and compulsory primary education in "Somaliland". There was also no unified curriculum or common accreditation or certification.<sup>121</sup>
- 59. SNHRC stated that there was no mandatory education in "Somaliland" and consequently children from poor families missed school. Education in public schools was free, but school head masters charged a nominal fee of \$1.5 per month per student to enhance teachers' salary which is very low. Many families consider the fee expensive and let children go without school. <sup>122</sup> SNHRC recommended a national plan of action to include free mandatory primary education. <sup>123</sup>
- 60. SFS stated that the costs of education, including teachers' salaries was paid and organized by parents groups or by Muslim organizations in "Puntland". Progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goal to eliminate gender disparity in all levels of education by 2015 was slow. 125
- 61. FAWESOM stated that the level of participation of girls and women in the education system in "Puntland" was very low due to various factors which included the lack of role models in schools as most teachers were male; the low budget for education and the lack of allocated funds for educating girls; the necessity for girls to do odd jobs to supplement family income as a result of poverty; the direct and hidden costs of sending girls to school, as the average monthly costs of tuition is far beyond the reach of many families; most educational institutes were inadequately equipped to meet the needs of female students, which lead to an unfavourable learning environment; the traditional Somali society has a high preference for male children, with girls being expected to stay at home and attend to domestic chores. 126
- 62. SFS stated that in "Puntland", 2,500 secondary students attend the 10 secondary schools with girls constituting only 20 per cent of the total secondary enrolment. Ten per cent of males between the ages of 15 and 18 years and only 5 per cent of females between the ages of 15 and 18 year were in school. Fifty-nine per cent of the population was living in nomadic areas but only 1 per cent of them were in school. Only 150 teachers service the secondary schools, and over 90 per cent were males.<sup>127</sup>
- 63. STP stated that in some areas where Sharia law was strictly applied, schools were urged to stop using "un-islamic" textbooks distributed by the United Nations. 128

## 9. Minorities

- 64. SNHRC stated that in "Somaliland" some minority groups were considered to be of "low caste" and can only work in most undesirable and low-paying jobs. They live in substandard accommodation. Minority children did not attend school, as parents could not afford to pay the nominal fees, and minority children feared being bullied in school. 129
- 65. SOMRAF stated that after the collapse of Somalia's central government, the country disintegrated into regions and was controlled by majority tribes. Clan protection became the only way to safeguard individuals and their property, but minority groups were unable to mobilize this protection and they have thus been subjected to various forms of human rights abuses. SOMRAF stated that minorities were denied justice. In "Somaliland" and in "Puntland" the justice system was corrupt and it marginalized minority groups and the poor. 131

- 66. MRG stated that minority groups suffered from social segregation, economic deprivation and political manipulation. Often, they were also excluded from mainstream government positions and the few minorities who held those positions had no real power to represent their communities. MRG stated that there was a need for appraisal and replacement of the clan-based power-sharing system known as the '4.5 formula' of representation, a discriminatory approach whereby minorities combined were considered to make up only half of one majority clan. It recommended that (1) the future constitution of Somalia must specifically entrench country's minorities' rights to equality and non-discrimination, in line with international human rights standards; and (2) promote the participation of minorities in public life, including their representation in the civil service, local governmental bodies, the judiciary, police and security forces.
- 67. MRG stated that minorities have little chance of obtaining justice if they complain of crimes against them or are accused of crimes and arrested. Police, who invariably belong to majority clans, commonly refuse to investigate complaints by minorities and hardly ever investigate allegations of rape. Courts neglected to guarantee defendants' rights, including the right to legal defence representation, appeal and petition for clemency in regard to a death sentence. Minorities also have little access to justice when customary law was applied. MRG recommended equal access to justice be assured for members of minorities. 136

#### 10. Internally displaced persons

- 68. AI stated that the armed conflict and associated human rights abuses continued to cause massive displacement in Somalia. "Somaliland" and "Puntland" hosted tens of thousands of IDPs from Southern and Central Somalia. IDPs in "Somaliland" and "Puntland" have limited access to health services and education and are vulnerable to evictions. COGWO indicated that internally displaced persons did not have access to basic needs such as food, water, shelter and medical care, as well as psychological support services. Some process of the support services.
- 69. ARM recommended that "Puntland" and "Somaliland" must stop returning internally displaced persons back to conflict areas. 140
- 70. STP stated that the worsening security situation has led to a withdrawal of many aid agencies. In the Afgoye Corridor near Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, more than 400,000 IDPs were now supported by a few aid agencies. The number of cases with measles, malaria, respiratory diseases and whooping cough were on the rise. Hospitals lacked enough medicine, fuel for generators and food for mothers with malnourished children.<sup>141</sup>
- 71. JS1 stated that there were at least six settlements of displaced persons in Hargeisa in "Somaliland". These settlements were over crowded and there was inadequate food, health care, education, shelter or jobs. 143

# III. Achievements, best practices, challenges and constraints

72. HRW recommended that the TFG ensure that the personnel of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) receive appropriate training in international humanitarian law.<sup>144</sup>

# IV. Key national priorities, initiatives and commitments

N/A

# V. Capacity-building and technical assistance

N/A

Notes

<sup>1</sup> The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org. (One asterisk denotes a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.)

Civil society

COGWO Coalition for Grassroots Women Organisations, Mogadishu, Somalia

NUSOJ National Union of Somali Journalists, Somalia SSWC Save Somalia Women and Children, Somalia

SSC Somali-Speaking Centre of P.E.N International, London, United Kingdom

STP Society for Threatened Persons, Göttingen, Germany

JADO Jubaland Aid & Development Organization, Dhobley, Somalia JS1 Somalilamd Civil Society Coalition for the Universal Periodic Review,

comprising Nagaad Umbrella, Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in "Somaliland", Hargeisa University Legal Clinic, Somaliland Women Lawyers association, "Somaliland" youth development association, "Somaliland", Somaliland

SFS Somali Family Services, Minnesota, USA

IPDO Iniskoy Peace and Democracy Organisation, Somalia PHRN PEACE & Human Rights Network, Mogadishu, Somalia

JS2 Centre for Democracy and Dialogue, Mogadishu, Somalia; Puntland Human

Rights Association, "Puntland", Somalia; Wanlawayn HR Organization, Somalia; Khalif Hudaw HR Organization, Mogadishu, Somalia; Hiran Women Action, Beletweyne -Hiiran Region, Somalia; Gashan Human Rights Organization, Mudug Region, Somalia; Hogol Social Development Association, Bay Region, Somalia; Center For Democracy & Human Rights, Mogadishu, Somalia; Iniskoy Peace and Democracy Organisation, Bay and Bakol Regions, Somalia; Isha

Human Rights Organisation, Bay Region, Somalia.

JS3 Somali Coalition for Freedom of Expression, Mogadishu, Somalia

Kaalo NGO, Garowe, Somalia

GIEACPC Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children

AI Amnesty International, London, United Kingdom.\*

MRG Minority Rights Group International

FAWESOM Forum for African Women Educationists, Somalia Chapter, Garowe, Somalia

HRW Human Rights Watch, New York, United States of America.\*

JS4 International Fountain of Hope Kenya; IIDA Women Development Organization;

Alla Magan; Kalsan; FEPMA (Female Paramedical Association); FATXA; SWEA(Somali Women Entrepreneur Association); Somali Women Diaspora

Network; and IIDA Italia.

JS5 Arc International, Geneva, Switzerland; International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,

Trans and Intersex Association; International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association –Europe, (Consultative Status); Pan Africa - International

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association.

SOMRAF Somali Minority Rights and Aid Forum

CSW Christian Solidarity Worldwide

OD Open Doors, Harderwijk, The Netherlands

ARM African Rights Monitor, Somalia

KARAMA KARAMA
National human rights institution

SNHRC Somaliland National Human Rights Commission, "Somaliland", Somalia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> PHRN, p. 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> GIEACPC, p. 2, para. 2.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> KARAMA, p. 6.

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<sup>5</sup> CSW, p.1, para. 2.
 <sup>6</sup> CSW, p.1, para. 2.
 <sup>7</sup> PHRN, p. 5.
 <sup>8</sup> PHRN, p. 5.
 <sup>9</sup> SFS, p. 3, para. 10.
<sup>10</sup> NUSOJ, p. 5.
<sup>11</sup> STP, p. 1.
<sup>12</sup> JS1, p. 2.
<sup>13</sup> CSW, p. 1, para. 2.
<sup>14</sup> HRW, p. 4.
<sup>15</sup> JS1, p. 5.
<sup>16</sup> A1, p.1.
<sup>17</sup> JS2, p. 1.
<sup>18</sup> A1, p. 5.
<sup>19</sup> A1, p. 6.
<sup>20</sup> HRW, P. 4.
<sup>21</sup> SNHRC, p. 2.
<sup>22</sup> SNHRC, p. 2.
<sup>23</sup> AI, p. 2.
<sup>24</sup> COGWO, p. 3.
<sup>25</sup> JS2, p. 2.
<sup>26</sup> JS6, p. 2.
<sup>27</sup> JS2, p. 5.
<sup>28</sup> JS1, p. 7.
<sup>29</sup> JADO, p. 2.
<sup>30</sup> Kaalo, p. 4.
<sup>31</sup> JS1, p. 4.
<sup>32</sup> JS1, p. 4.
<sup>33</sup> KARAMA, p. 3.
<sup>34</sup> KARAMA, p. 3.
<sup>35</sup> SSWC, p. 1.
<sup>36</sup> JS4, p. 2.
<sup>37</sup> SSWC, p. 1.
<sup>38</sup> JADO, p. 1.
<sup>39</sup> See JS4, p. 2; See also COGWA, p. 5.
<sup>40</sup> JS1, p. 5.
<sup>41</sup> COGWO, p. 3.
42 SSWC, p. 1.
<sup>43</sup> SSWC, p. 1.
<sup>44</sup> JS1, p. 7.
<sup>45</sup> JS4, p. 3.
<sup>46</sup> STP, p. 1.
47 SSWC, p. 1.
<sup>48</sup> ARM, p. 4.
<sup>49</sup> ARM, p. 6.
<sup>50</sup> AI, p. 5.
<sup>51</sup> HRW, p. 4.
<sup>52</sup> JS1, p. 6.
<sup>53</sup> JS1, pp. 6–7.
<sup>54</sup> GIEACPC, p. 2, para. 1.1.
<sup>55</sup> GIEACPC, p. 2, para. 1.2.
<sup>56</sup> GIEACPC, p. 2, para. 1.4.
<sup>57</sup> GIEACPC, p. 2, para. 1.6.
<sup>58</sup> GIEACPC, p. 2, para. 1.1.
<sup>59</sup> GIEACPC, p. 2, para. 1.2.
<sup>60</sup> GIEACPC, p. 2, para. 1.6.
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^{61} Karama, p. 2.
 62 NUSOJ, p. 4, para. 26.
 <sup>63</sup> JS2, p. 3.
 <sup>64</sup> NUSOJ, p. 4, para. 27.
 <sup>65</sup> NUSOJ, p. 5.
 <sup>66</sup> JS1, p. 4.
 <sup>67</sup> IPDO, p. 4.
 <sup>68</sup> PHRN, p. 5.
 <sup>69</sup> AI, p. 4.
 <sup>70</sup> AI, p. 4.
 <sup>71</sup> AI, p. 5.
 <sup>72</sup> AI, p. 5.
 <sup>73</sup> AI, p. 5.
 <sup>74</sup> HRW, p. 4.
 <sup>75</sup> JS4, p. 6.
 <sup>76</sup> HRW, p. 4.
 <sup>77</sup> HRW, p. 5.
 <sup>78</sup> JS5, p. 1.
 <sup>79</sup> JS5, p. 3.
 <sup>80</sup> OD, p. 2.
 <sup>81</sup> OD, p. 4.
 <sup>82</sup> OD, p. 5.
 <sup>83</sup> JS2, p. 6.
 <sup>84</sup> JADO, p. 3.
 <sup>85</sup> SSC, p. 3.
 <sup>86</sup> JS3, p. 2.
 87 SSC, p. 3.
 <sup>88</sup> SSC, p. 4.
 <sup>89</sup> NUSOJ, p. 5, para. 30.
 <sup>90</sup> NUSOJ, p. 5, para. 32.
 91 ARM, p. 3; JS3, pp. 1–2.
 <sup>92</sup> JS3 p. 2.
 <sup>93</sup> AI, p. 3.
 <sup>94</sup> AI, p. 5.
 <sup>95</sup> JS1, p. 8.
 <sup>96</sup> SNHRC, p. 2.
97 SNHRC, p. 2.
 <sup>98</sup> JSI, p. 3.
 <sup>99</sup> JSI, p. 3.
<sup>100</sup> SNHRC, p. 2.
<sup>101</sup> SFS, p. 2, para. 6.
<sup>102</sup> SFS, p. 3, para. 14.
<sup>103</sup> SFS, p. 5, para. 27.
SFS, p. 5, para. 30.
<sup>105</sup> JS1, p. 7.
<sup>106</sup> JS1, p. 7.
<sup>107</sup> AI, p. 3.
<sup>108</sup> AI, p. 5.
<sup>109</sup> STP, p. 3.
<sup>110</sup> IPDO, p. 1.
<sup>111</sup> IPDO, p. 2.
112 COGWO, p. 2.
113 COGWO, p. 3.
<sup>114</sup> SSWC, p. 1.
115 SSWC, p. 2.
<sup>116</sup> SNHRC, p. 4.
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- <sup>117</sup> SSWC, p. 2.

- SSWC, p. 2.

  118 SFS, p. 2.

  119 SFS, p. 2.

  120 SFS, p. 3, para. 13.

  121 JS1, p. 9.

  122 SNHRC, p. 4.

- 123 SNHRC, p. 5.
- SFS, p. 4, paras. 19–20.
- SFS, p. 4, para. 21.
- <sup>126</sup> FAWESOM, pp. 3–5.
- <sup>127</sup> SFS, p. 3, para. 13.
- 128 STP, p. 2.
- <sup>129</sup> SNHRC, p. 3.
- 130 SOMRAF, p. 2.
- 131 SOMRAF, p. 6.
- <sup>132</sup> MRG, p. 1.
- <sup>133</sup> MRG, p. 3.
- <sup>134</sup> MRG, p. 5.
- <sup>135</sup> MRG, p. 4.
- <sup>136</sup> MRG, p. 5.

- 137 AI, p. 2. 138 AI, p. 2. 139 COGWO, p. 2.
- <sup>140</sup> ARM, p. 7.

- ARM, p. 7.

  141 STP, p. 3.

  142 JS1, p. 5.

  143 JS1, p. 6.

  144 HRW, p. 5.