

Country/entity	Somalia
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Communique: The Mogadishu Declaration of the National Consultative Forum
Date	16 Dec 2015
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Somali Civil War (1991 -)

Originally spurred by centre-peripheral tensions, fighting broke out in 1981 between the regime of President Said Barre and the Somali National Movement, a militia primarily consisting of members from the northern Ishaq clan. Fighting intensified in the late 1980s as more clan-based militias arose. President Barre's regime collapsed in late 1991 and as a result the UN intervened. However persistent attacks on the UN's forces forced a withdrawal in 1994. From the mid- to late 1990s, the character of the conflict shifted as warlords fought for access to rents. Also during this period, two different peace agreements arose; the Soderre Declaration, which was mediated by Ethiopia and supported by IGAD, and the Cairo Accord, which was brokered by Egypt. Fighting, already noticeably lessened compared to the early 1990s, decreased and the more amicable environment paved the way for the Transitional Government to be formed in 2000 (replaced in 2004 by the Transitional Federal Government).

Nonetheless, opposition to the TFG arose in the form of the Islamic Courts Union (ICU), which by early 2006 had taken control of most of southern Somalia until they were ousted by an armed intervention by Ethiopia in December 2006. As a result, the ICU splintered. Hard-line ICU members formed the Takfiri organization, Harakat al-Shabaab al-Mujahideen, and launched a guerrilla campaign against the TFG. Another faction of the ICU fled to Djibouti and formed the Alliance for the Re-liberation of Somalia, which was absorbed into the ruling TFG after successful negotiations in 2007.

To deal with the new round of fighting, the UN-mandated AMISOM force was deployed in 2007. Since then, insecurity has fluctuated between the urban and rural areas as the al-Shabaab's territorial gains waver. Local militia leaders maintain de facto governance over communities. From 2009 to 2012, insecurity spilled over into the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean when Somali pirates seized, looted and ransomed ships. In 2014, 'Operation Indian Ocean' was launched and in parallel with infighting among al-Shabaab, the organisation's position in Somalia has diminished slightly. However, as evidenced by large-scale attacks by al-Shabaab in northern Kenya throughout 2013-2015, the lack of security continues to destabilize the region. Al-Shabaab continues to launch surprise attacks with the aim of forcing out foreign military presence in Somalia. Targets include both military forces and civilians. The devastating attack in October 2017 in Mogadishu saw 587 fatalities and resulted in a renewed military offensive by the Somali government and African Union allies. Since 2017, the U.S. has increased its air strikes targeting al-Shabaab militants, and in December 2018 they announced to re-establish a permanent diplomatic mission in the country. Al-Shabaab has been characterized as a spoiler in the Somali peace process and have therefore been placed outside of any negotiations.

Close

Somali Civil War (1991 -)

Stage Framework/substantive - partial

Conflict nature Government/territory

Peace process	Somalia Peace Process
Parties	<p>Somali representatives gathered in Mogadishu for the second plenary session of the National Consultative Forum.</p> <p>Among the attendees were the President of the Federal Republic, Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, the Prime Minister of the Federal Republic, Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke, the Speaker of the Federal Parliament, Mohammed Osman Jawari, the President of Puntland, Abdiweli Ali “Gaas”, the President of the South-West Administration, Sharif Hassan Sheikh Adan, the President of Jubbaland, Ahmed Islaan “Madobe,” and the President of Galmudug, Abdulkarim Guled, as well as Federal ministers, members of the Federal Parliament, representatives from the executives of the regional administrations, the Deputy Governors of Benadir, Hiraan and Middle Shabelle and of Somali civil society, including women and youth.</p>
Third parties	-
Description	An agreement of the National Consultative Forum as to elections principals and a road-map.

Agreement document [SO_151216_The Mogadishu Declaration.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth Groups→Children/youth→Rhetorical
Page 1, Untitled preamble,
...It was underlined that the Somali population is united in its desire to see a political transition when the mandates of the legislature and the executive end in August and September 2016, respectively. The active participation of women and youth was welcomed and it was emphasised that the electoral process must reflect the diversity of Somalia...

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Page 2, 3. There shall be a minimum fixed number of seats reserved for women in both houses. There shall be enhanced representation of youth and marginalised groups.

Disabled persons No specific mention.

Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/ national group	No specific mention.
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	No specific mention.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender Page 1, Untitled preamble, Somali representatives gathered in Mogadishu for the second plenary session of the National Consultative Forum. Among the attendees were the President of the Federal Republic, Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, the Prime Minister of the Federal Republic, Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke, the Speaker of the Federal Parliament, Mohammed Osman Jawari, the President of Puntland, Abdiweli Ali “Gaas”, the President of the South-West Administration, Sharif Hassan Sheikh Adan, the President of Jubbaland, Ahmed Islaan “Madobe,” and the President of Galmudug, Abdulkarim Guled, as well as Federal ministers, members of the Federal Parliament, representatives from the executives of the regional administrations, the Deputy Governors of Benadir, Hiraan and Middle Shabelle and of Somali civil society, including women and youth.

Page 1, Untitled preamble, Paragraph 5, It was underlined that the Somali population is united in its desire to see a political transition when the mandates of the legislature and the executive end in August and September 2016, respectively. The active participation of women and youth was welcomed and it was emphasised that the electoral process must reflect the diversity of Somalia.

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) No specific mention.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession No specific mention.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)

No specific mention.

Elections

Page 1-2, Untitled preamble, The National Consultative Forum took note of the outcome of the regional consultations that there was no single electoral option that is preferred by all Somalis. The conclusion was endorsed that given the divergent views on the four electoral models, only a model combining the elements from each of them could ensure an electoral process that reflects the preferences and critical conditions stipulated by the Somali people. The spirit of compromise that had governed deliberations was welcomed.

Page 2, Against this background, the National Consultative Forum agreed the following important principles and actions:

1. Parliament as a whole will have representation based on balance between the constituency and clan.
2. Electoral colleges will convene and vote in the Federal member state capitals. They shall be diverse and contain representation from women, youth and civil society.
3. There shall be a minimum fixed number of seats reserved for women in both houses. There shall be enhanced representation of youth and marginalised groups.
4. A political roadmap shall be developed and agreed for (1) the period between now and the implementation of the electoral process in 2016, and (2) the period 2016 to 2020 to deliver universal suffrage elections in 2020. This roadmap shall be an integral part of the final agreement on the electoral process for 2016.
5. The details of the electoral model and the implementation plan shall be discussed with constituencies and agreed and launched at a ceremony in Kismayo on 10 January 2016.

Electoral commission

No specific mention.

Political parties reform

No specific mention.

Civil society Page 1, Untitled preamble, Somali representatives gathered in Mogadishu for the second plenary session of the National Consultative Forum. Among the attendees were the President of the Federal Republic, Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, the Prime Minister of the Federal Republic, Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke, the Speaker of the Federal Parliament, Mohammed Osman Jawari, the President of Puntland, Abdiweli Ali “Gaas”, the President of the South-West Administration, Sharif Hassan Sheikh Adan, the President of Jubbaland, Ahmed Islaan “Madobe,” and the President of Galmudug, Abdulkarim Guled, as well as Federal ministers, members of the Federal Parliament, representatives from the executives of the regional administrations, the Deputy Governors of Benadir, Hiraan and Middle Shabelle and of Somali civil society, including women and youth. The National Consultative Forum reviewed the conclusions from the public consultations held across Somalia on 15, 16 and 22 November and with Somalis in the diaspora on 5 December.

Page 2, Untitled preamble, The National Consultative Forum expressed its thanks to the members of the Task Force and to the Technical Support Team, which prepared and assisted the public consultations across Somalia and the plenary meetings of the National Consultative Forum.

Traditional/religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles
Page 1, Untitled preamble, Paragraph 4, The National Consultative Forum welcomed the free expression of many different and often divergent views in the course of the public consultations.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business No specific mention.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

Pastoralist/nomadism rights No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

Water or riparian rights or access No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees No specific mention.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR No specific mention.

Intelligence services No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces No specific mention.

Withdrawal of foreign forces No specific mention.

Corruption No specific mention.

Crime/organised crime No specific mention.

Drugs No specific mention.

Terrorism No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon No specific mention.

Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source On file with author. Also available at: Goobjoog News (2015) The National Consultative Forum Communiqué, <https://goobjoog.com/english/the-national-consultative-forum-communicue/> (Accessed 31 January 2020).
