



WEEKLY STATEMENT OF THE ELECTION SITUATION ROOM

Mogadishu 28 October 2021: The civil society welcomes efforts to quell the fighting in Guriel, which has resulted in the deaths, injuries, displacement and destruction of many civilians and the provision of social services in Guriel.

The civil society calls it unfortunate that the Galmudug leaders and the Ahlu Sunna leadership led by Sheikh Shakir have ignored calls for peace by the civil society seeking to end the Guriel dispute with dialogue to avert a bloody conflict.

The civil society believes that the fighting was evitable and regrets that the two warring factions have not shown their responsibility to the people of Guriel and the surrounding areas.

The civil Society Coalition congratulate the leadership of the Puntland State of Somalia, political parties in Puntland, the Puntland Electoral Commission and the people for making it possible a one person one vote election to elect local government members in Qardho, Eyl and Ufayn districts. In fact, it was a historic event to hold direct elections in the country after the 1967 elections.

The civil society views local government elections as the foundation of a democratic state and it is incumbent on all federal member states to implement them in their constituencies in order to complete state-building.

The civil society encourages the steps to ensure the quota for women in the upcoming House of the People of the Parliament and proposes to the National Consultative Council to outline in a special document the participation of women in the elections to the House of the People.

The civil society is calling on the National Consultative Council in consultation with the civil society to produce a clear and accountable timetable for the elections to the House of the People.

Finally, the civil society extends its condolences to those who lost their lives in the fighting at Guriel and wishes recovery to those who were injured. We also call on the federal government, the Somali intelligentsia and the Galmudug administration to provide immediate assistance to resettle those displaced in the fighting and rebuild the health and education services destroyed in the fighting so that life in Guri El can be restored.

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