



## **Somalia Non-State Actors (SONSA)**

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**May 1, 2025**

### **Somali Civil Society Communique**

#### **The Position of Somali Civil Society on the Political, Security, and Electoral Situation in the Country**

**Mogadishu, May 1, 2025:** A two-day consultative meeting was convened by members of Somali Civil Society Organizations to discuss the current state of the country and the role civil society can play in resolving the ongoing challenges. The recurring political disputes between the Federal Government and some Federal Member States have had a significant impact on security, the economy, national unity, and public confidence in governance.

Civil society is deeply concerned that the widening gap among political leaders could further encourage foreign interference by countries with vested interests in Somalia, which may hinder the process of state-building. We recognize that the political conflict has greatly affected political stability and the electoral systems at both the federal and state levels.

Therefore, civil society emphasizes that the dialogue initiative announced by the President should be inclusive and participatory, so as to address the obstacles facing the nation's governance and stability.

The civil society representatives who attended the meeting focused their recommendations on the following key issues:

#### **1. Achieving Political Stability**

Civil society believes that dialogue among political leaders is both a duty and a necessity for national unity, stability, and the strengthening of security and peace efforts. Accordingly, civil society calls for the cessation of all actions that hinder the convening of such dialogue, to help the country overcome its current challenges.

#### **2. National Elections**

Considering the diversity of political perspectives, civil society stresses the importance of Somalia holding transparent, free, and fair elections. Elections are essential for political stability and for establishing a trustworthy government capable of rescuing the country.

Participants in the meeting underlined that there must be no return to the selection-based electoral process used in the 2021–2022 elections. Therefore, it is essential to develop an electoral system that is broadly agreed upon and reflects the will of the people.

### **3. National Security Situation**

Federal and State authorities are responsible for the security of the citizens and the country. Therefore, civil society urges the Federal Government and the Federal Member States to work together to ensure the security of the public, and to establish a system in which the community can actively contribute to security efforts.

Finally, civil society will work towards establishing a coordination office to facilitate cooperation between the Federal Government and the Federal Member States, with the aim of resolving misunderstandings and improving collaboration between the two levels of government.

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