



THE MINISTRY OF FAMILY AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENT

WASAARADDA QOYSKA IYO
HORUMARINTA XUQUUQQUL INSAANKA

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

The Path To A Just, Stable And
Prosperous Somalia

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MINISTER'S MESSAGE

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I am pleased to present this month's edition of our Ministry's newsletter, an essential update that reflects our progress and highlights our commitment to transparency at the Ministry of Family and Human Rights Development.

This newsletter captures a particularly meaningful period for us, marked by several key legislative milestones, including the recent approval of the Disability Bill. This legislation underscores our dedication to creating an inclusive, rights-based framework that ensures equal opportunities and accessibility for individuals with disabilities across Somalia.

In addition to these legislative successes, our Ministry has advanced initiatives aimed at strengthening family welfare, promoting gender equality, and protecting human rights. We have engaged in productive partnerships with local and international organizations, enhancing collaborative efforts to support vulnerable communities and improve service delivery.

Among our achievements this month are impactful awareness campaigns, capacity-building programs, and strategic policy developments targeting marginalized populations. These efforts reflect our unwavering commitment to building a society that upholds the dignity, rights, and well-being of all citizens.

As we continue this journey, we remain dedicated to fostering an equitable society and to keeping our stakeholders informed through regular updates. Thank you for your support and partnership as we work toward a stronger, more just Somalia for all.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ministry of Family and Human Rights Development is pleased to share the October edition of our newsletter, providing an in-depth look at our recent achievements and progress aligned with our Annual

This month, our focus has been on advancing legislative achievements, notably the landmark approval of the Disability Bill, which underscores our commitment to an inclusive and accessible society. Our collaborative efforts with Federal Member States (FMS), various Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), as well as international partners, continue to drive impactful changes that enhance family welfare and promote human rights.

The Ministry has been actively engaged in discussions and partnerships that support a wide range of initiatives, from empowering marginalized communities and strengthening social welfare systems to promoting gender equality. Through participation in conferences, workshops, and policy forums, we have also worked to share knowledge and integrate best practices that address the evolving needs of Somali citizens.

This newsletter is designed to keep our stakeholders informed about our accomplishments and ongoing projects as we build a society that respects the rights and dignity of all its members. We extend our gratitude for your ongoing support and collaboration in these endeavors, which are essential to fostering a more equitable and just Somalia.



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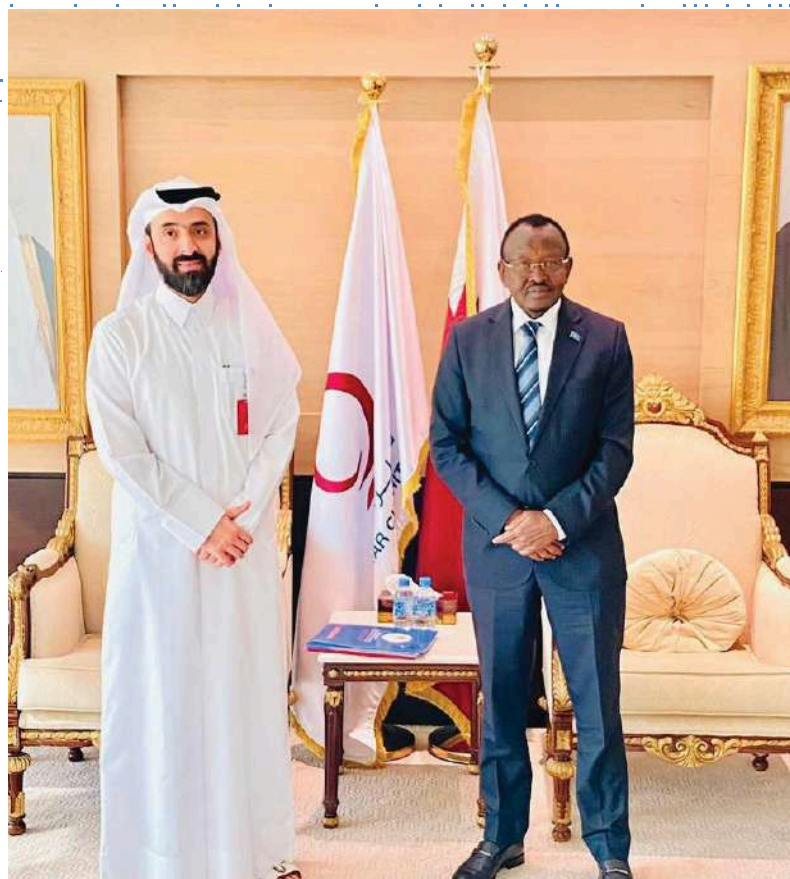
Minister Bashir and Qatar Charity Collaborate to Elevate Inclusive Education in Somalia

H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama met with Abdiiaziz Jasim, Director of Development Programs at Qatar Charity, to discuss advancing inclusive education across Somalia. This collaboration, which focuses on both modernizing traditional Quranic madrasas and supporting vulnerable communities, highlights a shared vision to improve educational access for all Somali children.

The discussions centered around enhancing educational facilities, particularly for under-resourced areas, with a goal to expand learning opportunities to marginalized groups. Minister Bashir introduced a new accessibility program designed to support learners with disabilities, emphasizing that Somalia is fully committed to inclusive education. Backed by international partners, this initiative aims to create an environment where all Somali students, regardless of physical or socio-economic barriers, can access quality education. This step signifies a transformative approach to establishing a more inclusive educational framework that empowers all students, providing them with the tools to contribute meaningfully to society.

02 Somalia and Qatar Build Partnership to Advance Human Rights Initiatives

The Federal Government of Somalia's Ministry of Family and Human Rights Development (MFHRD), led by H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama, met with H.E. Mrs. Maryam bint Abdullah Al-Attiyah, Chairperson of Qatar's National Human Rights Committee. The meeting was a pivotal moment for the two countries as they explored joint human rights initiatives focused on both legislative advancements and community empowerment.



During their discussion, the leaders examined best practices that could strengthen human rights policies and foster a rights-respecting culture within government bodies. The partnership also seeks to provide essential support for human rights advocates, equipping them with the tools to protect vulnerable communities. By sharing resources and expertise, both parties aim to cultivate an environment that prioritizes human dignity, social justice, and respect. This collaboration represents a powerful step forward in Somalia and Qatar's commitment to human rights, aiming to inspire systemic change and benefit the broader society.



03 Somalia and Qatar Fund Foster Support for Family Welfare and Human Rights

In a strategic dialogue, H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama met with Abdiaziz Jasim, Director of Development Programs at Qatar Charity, to discuss advancing inclusive education across Somalia. This collaboration, which focuses on both modernizing traditional Quranic madrasas and supporting vulnerable communities, highlights a shared vision to improve educational access for all Somali children. The discussions centered around enhancing educational facilities, particularly for under-resourced areas, with a goal to expand learning opportunities to marginalized groups. Minister Bashir introduced a new accessibility program designed to support learners with disabilities, emphasizing that Somalia is fully committed to inclusive education. Backed by international partners, this initiative aims to create an environment where all Somali students, regardless of physical or socio-economic barriers, can access quality education. This step signifies a transformative approach to establishing a more inclusive educational framework that empowers all students, providing them with the tools to contribute meaningfully to society.



04 Minister Bashir Engages in Global Family Dialogue at Doha Conference

H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama represented Somalia at the International Year of the Family Conference in Doha, where global leaders gathered to discuss crucial themes affecting families worldwide. Over the two-day event, attendees delved into topics such as family development, the impact of technology on family life, shifting demographics, migration, urbanization, and climate resilience.



Minister Bashir contributed insights on Somalia's strategies to bolster family welfare amid these global trends, drawing attention to policies that protect and nurture families through economic empowerment, social support, and resilience-building programs. The conference served as a unique opportunity for Somalia to share its approaches and learn from international best practices, reinforcing the nation's commitment to family-oriented policies that adapt to evolving societal needs. This participation highlights Somalia's proactive role in advocating for family stability, demonstrating its dedication to promoting well-being and strengthening family structures in the face of changing global dynamics.

05 Somalia and Norway Commit to Joint Human Rights and Social Welfare Initiatives



The Ministry of Family and Human Rights Development (MFHRD) of Somalia welcomed a delegation from Norway, led by H.E. Tonje, Norway's Minister of Labour and Social Inclusion, to discuss collaborative efforts on human rights and social welfare. This high-level meeting underscored both nations' commitment to upholding human rights and advancing social welfare through shared goals and mutual support.



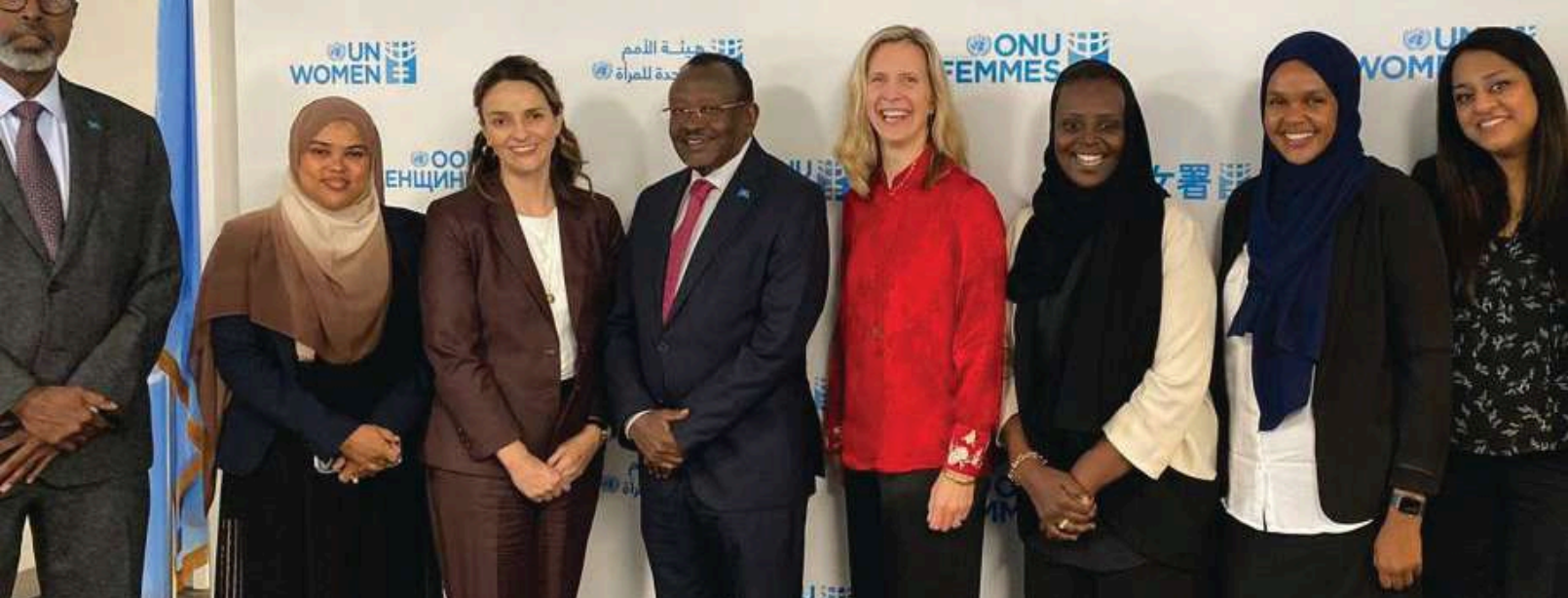
Key discussions included strategies for supporting Somali diaspora integration, enhancing child protection policies, and empowering women's rights initiatives. The ministers exchanged insights on current challenges and potential areas for collaboration, emphasizing that both governments value inclusion and equal opportunities for all citizens. By working together, Somalia and Norway aim to implement actionable plans that support vulnerable groups and enhance social cohesion. This collaboration is set to yield meaningful benefits for communities in both countries, with a focus on creating safer, more inclusive societies.



06 Somalia's Upper House Passes Disability Bill Unanimously, Marking Historic Milestone

In a groundbreaking decision, Somalia's Upper House approved the Disability Bill, an initiative aimed at ensuring equal opportunities and protections for individuals with disabilities. The Deputy Minister Ms. Hanan Barre, Director General Mohamed Bashir, and a dedicated team from the Ministry of Family and Human Rights Development, along with key members from the National Disability Agency, were present to witness this historic approval.

The bill represents a major step toward inclusivity, with provisions that address accessibility in public services, education, and employment opportunities for those with disabilities. The Deputy Minister extended her gratitude to the Upper House, acknowledging the significance of this milestone. This legislation reflects Somalia's dedication to building a society that values and includes all citizens, especially those with disabilities, ensuring they have the tools and support needed to lead fulfilling lives and contribute to the nation's development.



07 Somalia Champions Women, Peace, and Security Agenda at UN Side Event

Somalia took center stage at the United Nations in New York by co-hosting the side event, “From National Ambitions to Local Realities: Somalia’s Journey in Localizing the WPS Agenda.” Organized in collaboration with the Canadian Mission, UN Women, and She Associates, the event highlighted Somalia’s efforts to implement the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda on a local level.

Attended by representatives from the UN, Norway, Sweden, and Japan, the discussion focused on Somalia’s National Action Plan aligned with UN Security Council Resolution 1325. Somali women leaders, including Sadia Mohamed Nur and Colonel Iman Elman, spoke on the successes, challenges, and lessons learned in bringing the WPS Agenda to life in Somalia. Their contributions underscored the critical role women play in peacebuilding and national security. This event not only showcased Somalia’s commitment to the WPS agenda but also highlighted the country’s unique approach to ensuring that women are integral to Somalia’s peace and security initiatives.



08 Minister Bashir Advocates for Women's Roles in Peace at UN's WPS Meeting

H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama attended the sixth Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) representatives' meeting in New York, part of an international focus on women's critical contributions to peace initiatives. Representing the Somali government's dedication to the WPS agenda, Minister Bashir joined delegates to discuss the transformative impact of women in leadership roles across peacebuilding and national security.

The Ministry of Family and Human Rights Development, which champions women's roles in peace and security, is preparing to host a major event dedicated to strengthening Somali women's involvement in peace processes. Under the #DanQaran government, Somalia is committed to achieving gender equality in decision-making, recognizing women's invaluable contributions to building a peaceful and secure nation.



At the Somali Women Awards ceremony in Mogadishu, H.E. Deputy Minister Mrs. Hanan Abdiasis Barre celebrated the achievements of Somali women who have made remarkable contributions to society. The event, organized by Women Rise Somalia, brought together women leaders, activists, and awardees to recognize their exceptional efforts in fields such as education, healthcare, entrepreneurship, and community development.

In her address, the Deputy Minister praised the dedication and resilience of Somali women and reiterated the Ministry's commitment to furthering women's empowerment and gender equality. This awards ceremony exemplifies Somalia's recognition of women's essential roles in society and reflects the government's ongoing support for women's advancement and achievement.



10 Somalia to Highlight Peace Achievements at U.S. Peace and Security Conference

H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama led Somalia's delegation to the upcoming Peace and Security Conference in the United States, where he will present the country's significant strides in promoting peace and stability. The Minister is set to discuss a range of initiatives, with a particular emphasis on the active roles Somali women play in peace and security efforts.

In addition to highlighting Somalia's achievements, the Minister will share the government's plans to further community support programs, particularly those that strengthen family structures and social stability. This conference provides a platform for Somalia to showcase its commitment to sustainable peace, demonstrating the government's inclusive approach to peacebuilding and development.





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Gender and Human Rights Advisory Council Meeting Emphasizes Collaborative Goals

During the quarterly Gender and Human Rights Advisory Council meeting, H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama reviewed recent advancements and set strategic goals for the upcoming months. The meeting brought together representatives from various government ministries, international partners, and civil society organizations, all dedicated to promoting gender equality and human rights in Somalia.

The Council members shared updates on current projects, addressing challenges in key areas such as child protection, gender-based violence, and social justice. This session underscored the Ministry's commitment to fostering an environment that upholds human rights and advances gender equality, reflecting Somalia's dedication to creating a more just and equitable society for all.



12 Somalia Advances Gender Representation in Electoral Processes

H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama recently met with the UNSOM Integrated Electoral Support Group to discuss implementing the Proportional Representation (PR) electoral model, a key priority set by Somalia's National Consultative Council (NCC). The discussions focused on how PR can improve gender representation, particularly for women. The UNSOM team provided insights on the role of Temporary Special Measures, which can ensure equitable representation in elected bodies. Minister Bashir underscored the Ministry's dedication to creating an inclusive electoral system that promotes women's voices in governance, shaping a more representative democracy.





13

Somalia's National Action Plan Showcased at Nairobi Women's Peace and Security Forum

Representatives from Somalia's Ministry of Family and Human Rights Development (MFHRD) presented their National Action Plan at the Women's Peace and Security Forum in Nairobi. Organized by IGAD Gender and UN Women Africa, this forum focused on promoting peace and gender equality in the Horn of Africa.

Somali officials highlighted key achievements, including advances in gender-focused policies and peacebuilding efforts. The event provided a platform to discuss existing challenges, as well as Somalia's ongoing commitment to developing institutions that address women's needs, ensuring they are active participants in peace and security initiatives.



14 Minister Bashir Advocates for Deaf Education in Collaborative Meeting with School Principals

In a meeting with principals of deaf schools and the Association of Somali Scholars, H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama discussed initiatives to improve educational support for students with hearing impairments. The Minister emphasized the need for inclusive resources, support structures, and greater community awareness to foster a supportive environment. Minister Bashir underscored the value of accessible education, advocating for the rights and achievements of deaf students. This collaboration marks a step toward a more inclusive society that empowers students with disabilities to thrive academically and socially.

Minister Champions Visual Inclusion on World Sight Day at Somali-Turkish Event



H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama led a commemorative sports event at the Turkish Embassy in Somalia, in celebration of World Sight Day. The event aimed to promote awareness and inclusion for individuals with visual impairments, with dignitaries such as Amb. J. Swan and the Turkish Ambassador in attendance.

Minister Bashir called for enhanced services for the visually impaired and reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to advocating for their rights. This celebration signifies Somalia's dedication to fostering a society that values and supports the well-being of all its citizens.



16 Somalia and Qatar Charity Plan New Support Center for Individuals with Special Needs

In a meeting with Qatar Charity's AbduFattah Adam, H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama discussed the construction of a new support center dedicated to individuals with special needs. This initiative is part of Somalia's 2024-2029 National Development Strategy, focusing on inclusivity and accessibility.

Minister Bashir highlighted the significance of this center, which will provide essential resources and support systems for individuals with special needs. The project reflects Somalia's commitment to fostering a society that promotes equal opportunity and dignity for all, especially its most vulnerable citizens.



In a meeting with Hirshabelle's Minister of Women and Human Rights Development, H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama explored key areas of cooperation to enhance human rights services across Somalia. Together, they reviewed initiatives aligned with the 2024-2029 National Development Strategy, reinforcing a collaborative approach to achieving shared goals. Minister Bashir praised Hirshabelle's dedication to defending human rights, stressing the importance of intergovernmental partnerships. This collaboration is crucial for creating a national human rights framework that upholds the dignity and rights of all Somali citizens.



18 Enhanced Human Rights Cooperation with Hirshabelle

In a strategic meeting with directors of the Ministry of Family and Human Rights Development, H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama emphasized the importance of aligning departmental goals with the National Development Strategy for 2024-2029.

Each department presented updates on their initiatives, highlighting key achievements and addressing challenges. Minister Bashir encouraged regular collaboration and accountability, reiterating the Ministry's dedication to positive and measurable impacts on Somali society.



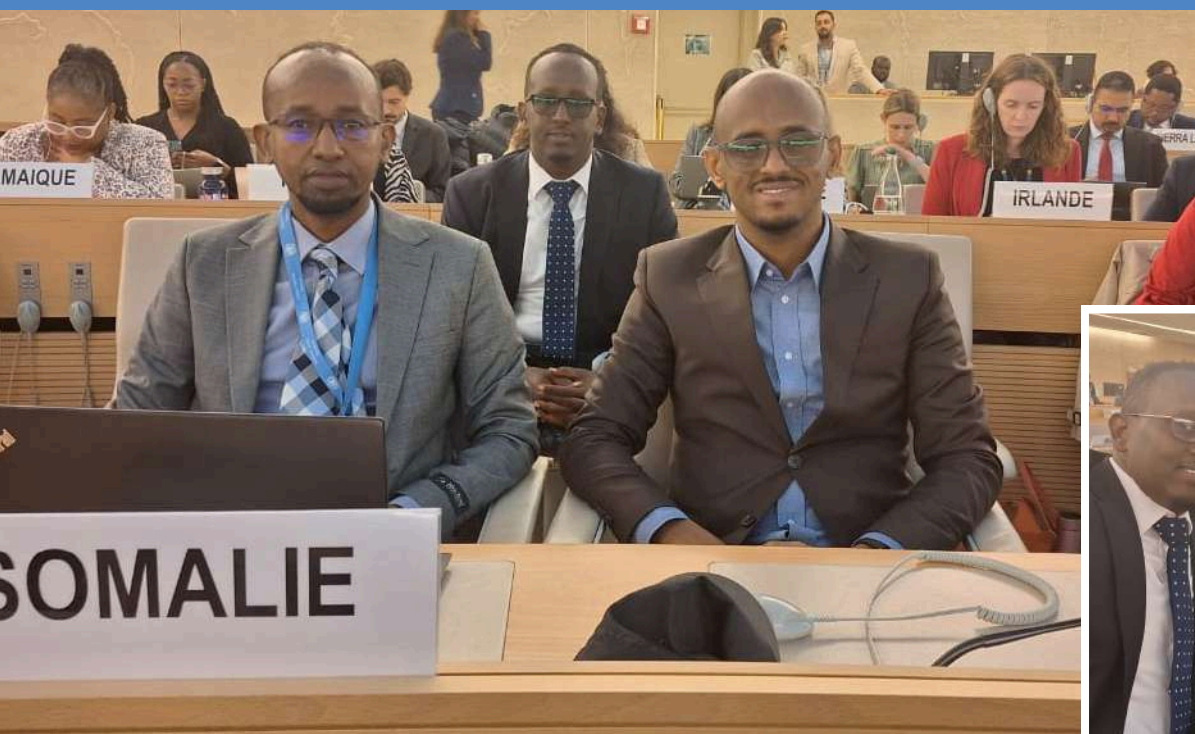
19 Collaboration Between Family and Human Rights and Justice Ministries Sets Foundation for Social Advancement

H.E. Lt. Gen. Bashir Mohamed Jama and H.E. Hassan Sheikh Ali, Minister of Justice, met to discuss critical areas of collaboration aimed at advancing family welfare, human rights, and legislative improvements. Their dialogue covered essential topics like child protection laws, family policy, and conditions within Somalia's correctional facilities.



Both ministers committed to strengthening inter-ministerial cooperation to realize the priorities outlined in the National Development Strategy. This partnership is poised to serve as a cornerstone for achieving mutual objectives that safeguard human rights and support social welfare, contributing to Somalia's broader national goals.

Key Highlights of Somalia's Participation in the 57th Session of the Human Rights Council



1. Participation in the 57th session of the Human Rights Council, marking Somalia's final session as a member since 2018.
2. Engagement in the presentation of the Independent Expert's Report on the Human Rights Situation in Somalia.
3. Deliberation and adoption of Resolution A/HRC/57/L.15, facilitating Somalia's exit from the country-specific special procedures mandate, which had been in place since 1993, successfully approved by the Council.
4. Presentation of the Somalia Human Rights Roadmap for the transitional period (2024-2025) and securing widespread support for the plan, with Somalia's partners unanimously welcoming it and committing to provide the necessary technical and financial assistance to ensure successful implementation.



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