



NEWS LETTER

August - October 2018

Support an effective, transparent and accountable constitutional review process, through strengthening inclusive political processes at all levels, to develop a new social contract that meets the needs of Somali people

CRSP - News Updates

Norway Contributes USD 25 million to Constitutional Review Process, Human Rights and Local Governance



Representatives from Ministry of Constitution and Foreign Affairs Somalia, Norway and UN at Project Signing Ceremony, Mogadishu, 26 September, 2018 (Photo: UNDP)

On 26 September 2018, a ceremony was held in Mogadishu to mark Norway's contribution of 25 million USD to the Constitutional Review, Human Rights, and Local Government Projects through the United Nations Multi Partner Trust Fund. The event was attended by high level dignitaries from the Federal Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Somalia, the Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Somalia, Mr. Peter de Clercq, and by the Country Director of UNDP Somalia, Mr. George Conway.

The State Minister of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Abdulkadir Ahmed Kheyre, welcomed the contribution from the government of Norway to the constitutional review process. He stressed the importance of a new federal constitution in providing the foundation for the strong federal system in Somalia. He thanked Norway's for

their commitment to state and peace building as well as to the development of Somalia.

Mr. Mohamed Abukar Zubeyr, Director General of the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs (MoCA) reiterated that the Federal Government of Somalia is focused and dedicated to completing the review process within the given time-frame in 2019, and highlighted that this would not have been possible without sustained support from the government of Norway. He restated the Ministry of Constitution Affairs' commitment to achieving the milestones in the review processes, as laid out in the integrated political roadmap. He also expressed appreciation for the technical, financial, and administrative support provided by the UNDP to the review process.

The UN Deputy Special Representative

of the Secretary-General for Somalia (DSRSG), Mr. Peter de Clercq thanked the Government of Norway for its support to the constitutional review process and for continuing to be a strong donor to the state building process in Somalia. He reiterated the UN's commitment to the constitutional review and expressed appreciation for the ongoing cooperation between the governments of Somalia and Norway on the process.

The representative from Norway, Mr. Stian Christensen, highlighted that the contribution is part of Norway's ongoing commitment to supporting the Government of Somalia in building stability, democracy and peace across the country.

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Project Board Meeting for Constitutional Review Support Project (CRSP II)



Representatives from MoCA, ICRC, OC, UNDP, UNSOM, donors, partners at Project Board meeting, Mogadishu, 13 September, 2018 (Photo: UNDP)

Advisor, UNDP Inclusive Politics Portfolio, presented the key achievements of the CRSP II project, which included the completion of the review of the first five chapters of the constitution. She informed those attending that joint public consultations involving the three key players will be conducted soon in FMSs and CSOs. She further said, to ensure inclusivity and wider participation in the review process, three platforms have been created listing MoCA Forum, Oversight (OC) Forum, Joint Meeting by key players.

On 13 September 2018, the Project Board meeting of the Constitutional Review Support Project was held in Mogadishu to discuss the progress, achievements and challenges in the constitutional review process as well as to provide inputs to improve the implementation of the project. The Board meeting was attended by Mr. Raisedon Zenenga, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General (DSRSG) for the United Nations in Somalia, the Federal Minister of Constitutional Affairs, Mr. Abdirahman Hosh; the Chairperson of the Joint Parliamentary Constitutional Review Oversight Committee (OC), Hon. Abdi Hassan Awale; and the Deputy Chairperson of the Independent Constitution Review and Implementation Commission (ICRIC), Hon. Mumina Sheikh Omar. Donor partners Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Switzerland also attended the meeting.

Minister Hosh briefed the participants about the significant progress following the signed MoU and the political roadmap. He highlighted that the National Constitutional Convention, which held in May 2018, was followed by a series of public education and engagement activities with civil society,

youth, women, academia and business communities in Mogadishu and in the Federal Member States. During the meeting Minister Hosh expressed his appreciation for the ongoing commitment and support from the UN and international partners and donors to the process.

The ICRC Commissioner Ms. Mumina Sheikh Omar, informed participants that the Commission had completed the technical review of the first five chapters of the provisional constitution and that these had been submitted to the Oversight Committee for review.

DSRSG Zenenga stressed that inclusivity and reaching all Somalis should be a key part of the constitutional review process, and expressed appreciation for the work of the Federalization Negotiations Technical Committee (FNTC) in holding technical negotiations between the Federal Government of Somalia and regional levels on key political constitutional matters. He reiterated that all three constitutional review bodies should fulfill their responsibilities as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and Political Roadmap.

Ms. Nahid Hussein, Chief Technical

Ms. Kristina Svedberg, Norway Representative who spoke on behalf of donors, emphasized that the coming months are very crucial for the constitutional review process and the project donors continued their support to the project. She said it is critical that marginalized voices be included in the process, particularly those of women. Ms. Svedberg also stated that it is imperative for the Somali leadership to assume responsibility for the process to ensure it is Somali-led and Somali-owned.

Mr. Siro Beltrametti, head of the Somalia Office of the Swiss Embassy, emphasized that the Swiss Embassy is committed to supporting both Parliament Support and Constitutional Review Support Projects.

Mr. George Conway, UNDP Somalia Country Director, recognized the commitments and efforts of the key players in the review process and also thanked international donors, in particular Norway, for their generous contribution to the project.

Federal Government of Somalia and International Partners Meeting on Inclusive Political Process

On the 1st October 2018, the Prime Minister of Somalia, Hassan Ali Khayre, hosted a high level review meeting on Inclusive Politics in Mogadishu. The meeting was attended by Cabinet Ministers and officials from the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) and the Federal Government, and by representatives from the United Nations and other members of the international community.

In his opening remarks, Prime Minister Khayre outlined achievements made by his administration under an inclusive politics agenda. He listed electoral model and resource sharing agreements made at Baidoa in May, deepening federalism, and completion of the review of the first five chapters of the constitution, as key milestones achieved along an inclusive political roadmap agreed by the Government and its international partners

in early 2018.

The Federal Minister of Constitutional Affairs, Abdirahman Hosh, said that he hoped the final reviewed Constitutional



text will be submitted to parliament by the end of January 2019, to meet the deadline set by Prime Minister during the unveiling of the Roadmap, adding that political difficulties should not derail progress made thus far.

During the meeting, officials from the National Independent Electoral Commission

(NIEC) reiterated their commitment to holding one-person-one-vote elections in 2020 and called on the international community to continue support inclusive constitutional review, electoral and federalisation processes in the country.

The United Nations Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General for Somalia (DSRSG), Peter de Clercq, said women's representation and participation, particularly in leadership and decision-making, is one of the fundamental underpinnings of inclusive politics and this must be addressed and incorporated both within legal and policy frameworks as well as in operational matters. He further emphasized the United Nations will continue to keenly support the constitutional review, the elections, federalism and reconciliation, as Somali led and Somali owned processes.

Second Forum of Parliamentary Oversight (OC) Committee on Constitution Review held in Garowe - Puntland

From 9-11 October 2018, the second Forum of the Joint Parliamentary Oversight (OC) Committee on Constitution Review and Implementation was held in Garowe, Puntland. The meeting brought together constitutional review committees from the Federal Member State (FMS) parliaments with members of the Independent Constitution Review and Implementation Commission (ICRIC). The forum was also attended by civil society members, women and youth representatives from Puntland State.

The meeting aimed to consult constitution review committees from the Federal Member State parliaments and civil society on the reviewed first five chapters of the constitution. During the meeting, both the OC and ICRIC gave presentations on the reviewed chapters, the timeline and the

roadmap to complete the review process, key achievements made so far, and challenges to the process as well as the way forward.

During the three day meeting, participants from the FMS committees and members of civil society, provided substantive feedback on the reviewed chapters. Those attending emphasised the benefits such amongst review committees can have in ensuring a positive outcome for the process.

Participants also reiterated the importance of widening consultations to include members of state parliaments and the public, in general, to make the process more inclusive.

In the end, the participants in the forum expressed their satisfaction on the work that has been done and achievements made so far, highlighting that the forum helped to develop a common understanding on the way forward for the constitution review process, with participants agreeing to further engage in public consultations.



Glimpses of second Parliamentary Oversight (OC) Committee meeting held in Garowe, 9-11 October, 2018 (Photos: UNDP)



Training of Trainers (ToT) on Civic Education and Public Outreach

Inclusive civic education and public outreach is an essential element in ensuring public participation in the constitutional review process, and in educating Somali citizens on their constitutional rights and duties.

Following the launch of the Constitutional Review Process at the National Constitutional Convention (NCC) in May 2018 by the President of Somalia, the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, Federal Government of Somalia (MoCA-FGS) planned to carry out an extensive civic education and public outreach campaign on the constitution across the Federal Member States.

As a next step in this plan, the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, with the support of UNDP Constitution Support Project, conducted two separate Training of Trainers (TOTs) on Civic Education and Public Outreach on 25-28 August in Adado (Galmudug) and 1-4 September in Jowhar (Hirshabelle).

The trainings were aimed at building the capacity of the civil society organizations and government officials of Galmudug and Hirshabelle regions on civic education and public outreach, as well as

to prepare civic educators to carry out wide ranging civic education and public outreach activities on the constitutional review process.

The trainings included modules on civic education overview, the significance and benefits of civic engagement, elements and steps of implementing civic education, basic principles of informing

networks, and which tools to use to ensure public participation in the constitutional review process.

As a result of the training, it is expected that trained civic educators will be able to carry out civic education campaigns to inform Somali people about the constitutional review process.



Participants from Galmudug & Hirshabelle attending Training of Trainers (ToT) on Civic Education and Public Outreach, Adado & Jowhar, September, 2018 (Photo credit: MoCA)

Monitoring Mission to Federal Ministry of Constitution Affairs

On 9 September, a team from the UNDP Constitution Support Project visited the Ministry of Constitution Affairs (MoCA) in Mogadishu to assess project implementation. The goal of the monitoring mission was to identify issues which need to be addressed to ensure on-track implementation of the project, and to make recommendations for next steps. The monitoring mission also assessed the level of satisfaction with the technical, advisory and financial support received by the Ministry

from the project.

During the monitoring mission, the Minister of Constitutional Affairs expressed his appreciation for the support provided by the UNDP project team, the consistent collaboration and engagement with the ministry, as well as for the progress made in achieving the outcome of the project. The Ministry also commended UNDP for their support of running costs, and construction and renovation of MoCA Offices.

The follow up recommendations from the mission are: to provide ongoing capacity building trainings on monitoring and evaluation, report writing, outreach and constituency, procurement and financial management, and on development of guidelines and policies for the Ministry.

Capacity Building Training on Constitution Review Process for MoCFAD Staff

From 21-22 October 2018 in Garowe, the Ministry of Constitution, Federal Affairs and Democratization (MoCFAD) of Puntland, with the support of the UNDP Constitution Review Support Project, provided a training on key policies and processes in the Constitution Review Process (CRP) to 30 staff (21 men and 9 women). The objectives of the training were to build the capacity of the Puntland MoCFAD staff to further deliver training for public and partner institutions on the CRP, to enhance staff awareness around key policy and political issues related to the CRP, and to enable Puntland to play an effective and leading role in this vital national constitutional review process. During the training, the established guiding principles of the constitutional review process were outlined, along with the best approaches in negotiating political

settlements on key issues in the federalism process. The key steps involved in harmonizing the two constitutions (Puntland and Federal), the steps and components of public consultation and civic education and the role of MoCFAD in the Constitution

Review Process were also presented.

Recommendations from the training included to organize public consultations and civic education trainings, as well as strengthening cooperation among stakeholders.



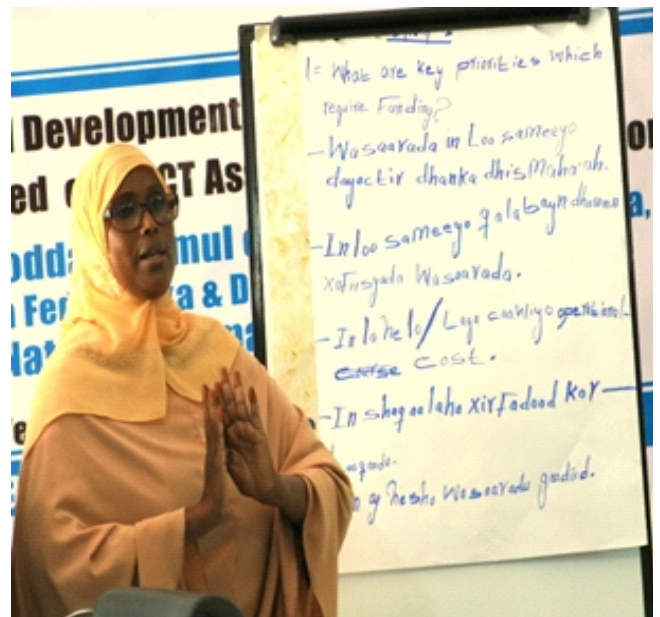
Participants from MoCFAD engaged in group work exercise during training on Constitution Review Process, Garowe-Puntland, 21-22 October 2018, (Photo UNDP)

Organizational Development Training on Operations Management for MoCFAD Staff

From 23-24 October 2018, in Garowe, the Ministry of Constitution, Federal Affairs and Democratization (MoCFAD) of Puntland, with the support of the UNDP Constitution Review Support Project, conducted a training on management and operations procedures, and on the HACT Framework of the United Nations for 30 members of its staff (21 men and 9 women). HACT (Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers) is a common operational framework for transferring cash to government and non-government implementing partners.

The objectives of the training were to allow staff to grasp key concepts and components of operational and management functions (human resource management, finance, procurement, planning, monitoring & evaluation and Information and Communication Technology) in order to enable them to effectively manage the operations of the ministry. The training also discussed how to carry out a HACT assessment and how to overcome capacity gaps. The training was also an opportunity to outline and promote a common understanding of the Ministry's mandate, missions, and strategic plan.

As a next step, the trainers recommended the establishment of support teams for each thematic area of the training, to ensure knowledge exchange, and to ensure compliance with the UN HACT Framework and other standards as well as mechanism to ensure the effective implementation of HACT.



One of the participants from MoCFAD presenting group work during training on Operations Management 23-24 October, 2018, Puntland (Photo UNDP)

Retreat on Agreements and Legislation of Constitution Review Process

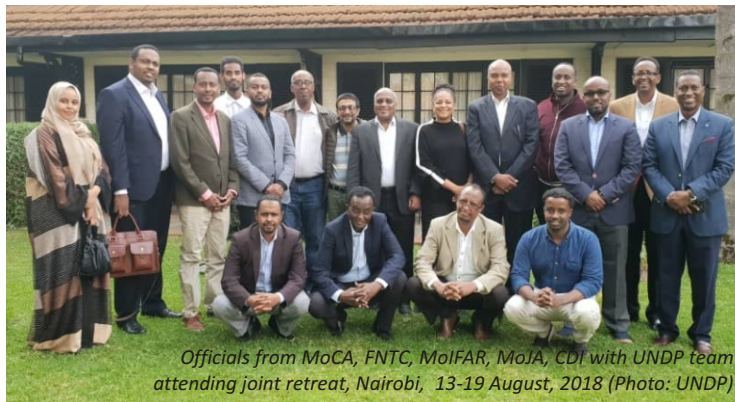
From 13-19 August 2018, with support from UNDP, a joint retreat was held in Nairobi to bring together the Federalization Negotiation Technical Committee (FNTC), the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs (MoCA), the Ministry of Interior and Federalization Affairs (MoIFAR) and the Ministry of Justice (MoJA), to discuss the next steps for the Constitutional Review Process. Representatives from the UN, donor partners, and from international organisations Conflict Dynamic International (CDI) and the Forum of Federations also attended. The objective of the retreat was to reach further agreements on specific areas of the constitutional review process, to identify legislations required, as well as to build consensus on the tasks needed to meet the December deadline set by the Federal Government. A second

aim of the retreat was to discuss the key political issues surrounding the allocation of powers and the justice model, in order to prepare the ground for the next national

reached on the electoral model and natural resource sharing in Baidoa. The FNTC and Ministry participants agreed on key elements that would be included in a proposal for the allocation of powers and federal justice model, based on the agreement reached in Jowhar in early 2018.

On the way forward, the participants stressed the importance of interpreting and translating these agreements into laws and constitutional text. They also highlighted that, legitimize the process as well as the outcomes, more engagement between FNTC

and line ministers has to be facilitated, and follow up meetings will be held in Mogadishu before agreement is presented to the NSC meeting.



Officials from MoCA, FNTC, MoIFAR, MoJA, CDI with UNDP team attending joint retreat, Nairobi, 13-19 August, 2018 (Photo: UNDP)

security meeting, where the leaders are expected to discuss the recommendations of the FNTC.

In addition, the technical committee discussed the legislative and constitutional implications of the political agreements

Some Reflections of Project Activities during August - October 2018



On 13 September 2018, Project Board Meeting for Constitutional Review Support Project held in UN office, Mogadishu



On 26 September, a signing ceremony for CRSP II held in Mogadishu



On 13-19 August, Retreat on the way forward of Constitutional Review Process



On 11 October, New UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) H.E. Nicholas Haysom meeting with Ministry of Constitution on Review Process



On 1-4 September, a ToT on Civic Education and Public Outreach held in Gulmudug



On 9-11 October, 2nd Forum of Parliament Oversight (OC) Committee in Garowe, Puntland