

NEWS LETTER

January - April 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

Dear reader,

The year 2018 started for Somalia on a high note for the Constitutional Review Process. The Somali Federal Government Cabinet adopted the Somali Government's Political Roadmap which very clearly highlights the importance of constitutional review. This development is most welcome as it gives an unequivocal indication of government's political ownership of the process of review. The adoption by Cabinet of this Roadmap is marks the commitment to conclude the constitution review process within firm timeframe which will facilitate federalization and this will be followed by a series of meeting to develop operationalization strategy of the roadmap.

This comprehensive coordination among government institutions need to respond with strong coordination will assist the engagement and the inclusivity of the political process in Somalia. It worth mentioning that the constitution review process considered as foundation for federalization, national reconciliation and one person one vote universal elections in 2020.

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Joint Visit of MoCA, OC, ICRC to Puntland State to Engage Stakeholders on Constitutional Review Process



On 11 February, 2018, the key players in the Somali constitutional review process, the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs of the FGS (MoCA), the Parliamentary Oversight Committee (OC) and the Independent Constitutional Review and Implementation Commission (ICRIC) visited Garowe, Puntland of Somalia led by the Minister of Constitutional Affairs.

The purpose of the visit was to promote political dialogues, negotiations and broad-based consensus-building between all key players and relevant stakeholders involved in the constitutional review and implementation process.

During visit they consulted and met with various stakeholders including vice president and deputy speaker of the Puntland, standing committee of

Puntland Parliament, Puntland cabinet, senior state officials and CSOs to gather their views to put an end the drafting of the constitution.

Finally, to ensure active participation of various stakeholders and create united vision in the constitution review process and agree on the need for a political dialogues on the disputes. Three mandated institutions showed their commitment and unity for the roadmap of the constitutional review process.



Inaugural Meeting of Forum of Federal & Federal Member States Parliamentary Committee on Constitution



The joint parliamentary oversight of constitution review and implementation committee organized a meeting from 18 - 19 Apr 2018 in Mogadishu with the aim of establishing a Forum that brings together all parliamentary constitution committees at the federal and state level. During the meeting, the joint oversight committee of the federal parliament shared updates and progress made on constitution review process with the participants. Similarly,

the FMSs constitution committees also briefed the participants on their work at state level. Also, the independent constitution review and implementation commission attended this meeting and made remarks on previous achievements on the constitution review process and current plans to complete the review process. The forum is expected to serve as platform where constitution mandated parliamentary committees of both Federal and State level can

meet to discuss progress, concerns and challenges faced during the review process.

At the end of the two days meeting, the participants issued communique and signed memorandum of understanding (MoU) to formally establish OC Forum to have working relationship, share information regularly, cooperate and coordinate their efforts with regard to the constitution review process and harmonization of state constitutions with federal constitution.



Joint Mission of National Constitutional Review Bodies to Hirshabelle State



A joint mission of the three National Constitutional Review Bodies MoCA, OC, ICRIC visited Hirshabelle State on 30 January to 01 February 2018 and met with the leaders, politicians and

representatives of civil society. The objective of the mission was to update the leaders, politicians and civil society in Hirshabelle State about Constitutional Review Process,

tripartite agreement and MOU between MoCA, OC & ICRIC as well as the work plan of 2017-2019 for the constitutional review process. The mission also informed the stakeholders about the timeline of constitutional making process which is 2017-2019 and to ensure a mutual commitment to work closely with leaders, politicians and the whole society in clear and transparent manner. The mission met with Deputy President of Hirshabelle State, Speaker of Hirshabelle House of Representatives, the Standing committee and Constitutional committee of Hirshabelle Parliament, the cabinet of the Hirshabelle and representatives of the civil society.



Fourth MoCA Forum - Joint Collaboration between FGS and FMSs on Constitution Review

On 15-16 March, 2018 the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs of the Federal Government of Somalia (MoCA-FGS) has conducted fourth MoCA Forum meeting in Baidoa, South-West State of Somalia. The Forum was attended by MoCA-FGS, Federal Member States (Puntland, Jubaland, South West, Galmudug, Hirshabelle) and Banadir Regional Administration.

The Fourth Forum came up at the time when MoCA is preparing for the National Constitutional Convention whereby a unified vision and general understanding regarding review of the constitution was highly needed between the Ministries of Constitutional Affairs at a federal and state level.

The purpose of the meeting was also to consult and present the work plans of the Ministries of Federal Member States and Banadir Regional Administration for the next three months, sharing implementation plans of Civic Education and Public Outreach programs, preparation for the upcoming National Convention and final round of consultation with Forum Members on the finalization of the Roadmap in the constitutional review process.

The forum recommended the joint collaboration of the institution on the constitutional review process, and agreed that any conflict on the review process must

be resolved through dialogue.

The Forum applauded the consistent role of the President FRS and the Prime Minister FGS taken on the constitutional review process and the mediation of the institutions involving the review. The Forum has warmly welcomed the decision of the National Security Council that took place in



Mogadishu on 6th 10th February 2018, and agreed to finalize the technical review constitution in 2018.

Outcome of the Fourth Forum Meeting

- ◆ The MoCA Forum has praised the decision of the National Security Council to hold the conference at Baidoa, South West State of Somalia on 28 March 2018, aimed to discuss the issues of the elections and resource sharing.
- ◆ The Forum has agreed MoCA will make

work plan towards the implementation of the civic education & public outreach on the constitutional review process.

- ◆ The Forum has decided to turn-down the civic education & the public outreach programs to regions, districts and village level and that will take an integral role by Ministries of Constitutions FGS/FMSs and Banadir Regional Administration in collaboration with CSOs.
- ◆ The Forum has jointly agreed to find the fund for the Civic Education & Public Outreach campaign in order every Somali citizen get the opportunity to involved in the constitutional review process.
- ◆ The MoCA Forum proposed to hold the National Constitutional Convention in April 2018 in order to launch the constitutional review campaign.
- ◆ The Forum has agreed to host Galmudug State for the Fifth MoCA Forum on June 2018.
- ◆ Finally, the MoCA Forum has thanked the support of the International Communities, International NGOs and local Somali NGOs on the finalization of the constitutional review process.

Meeting with Jubaland Civil Society on Constitutional Review Process



The Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, the Oversight Committee and the Independent Constitutional Review and Implementation Commission conducted a joint mission on 13-15 April in Jubaland where they held a consultation meeting on Constitutional Review Process with civil society organization. After long discussions and information sharing on the current Constitutional Review Process, the role of Civil Society Organizations and the challenges

they face and also discussions on the best practices to speed up the review process, the participants of the meeting agreed that the importance of the role of civil society in

constitutional review process.

The participants of the civil society also urged MoCA, OC, ICRC and the Jubaland Ministry of Constitution, Justice and Religious Affairs to preserve and implement the MoU agreed by the mandated institutions of the constitutional review process of Somalia in order to avoid delays of the work of CRP, and the common interest of the constitutional review process must be

before the self-interests of each institution. They also underlined that the joint road map of the CRP should be shared with all CRP stakeholders before it be officially launched. Finally, Jubaland Civil Society urged the constitutional mandated institutions to reveal to the public an actual time and plan to complete the constitutional review process.

In conclusion, the Minister of the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs Abdirahman Hosh Jibril welcomed all comments and advices rose by the participants. He assured leaders and the civil society in Jubaland that the review process will be inclusive and transparent and in collaboration with the political leaders of federal and state levels, civil society organizations and entire Somali citizens, we will be able to complete the constitutional review process within the timeline.



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

A three days senior level Training of Trainers (ToT) on Civic Education and Public Outreach was successfully conducted from 17-19 April in Mogadishu. The training was attended by 122 trainers from Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, Parliamentary Oversight Committee (OC), Independent Constitutional Review and Implementation Commission (ICRIC) FMSs, Banadir Regional Administration as well as CSOs.

The purpose of training was to increase understanding of the participants on the importance of civic education and public outreach in the constitutional review process, explore methods of collaboration between MoCA, FMSs, BRA and CSOs, and scrutinize the application of different designs of civic education & public outreach that are tailored to

reach the broader public and minority groups.

In a three day training the participants enhanced their capacity on the broad range of topics through group work, role plays and exercises that included the concept of civic education,



significance and benefits of civic engagement, elements and steps of implementing civic education, basic principles of partnering and forming networks, tools of public participation,

Somalia constitutional provision for public participation, citizen access to information, key principles of lobbying, platforms for public participation, tips for successful roundtable discussion, community forums, benefit of social media, public consultation and the designing a constitution civil engagement campaign.

The first batch of senior officials from the Federal and Regional States Constitution Affairs ministries and civil society members successfully trained and these trained civic educators will be expected to further train other civic educators across Somalia as well as plan and execute the constitution civic engagement

campaigns to sensitize the public about the constitution as well as collect public view ahead of a national constitution review convention.

Induction and Operation Management Skills Training for young graduates and MoCA staff

A three days Induction and Operation Management Skills Training was conducted by the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs (MoCA) from 10-13 April 2018 in Mogadishu. The training was attended by 20 participants from the ministry of Constitutional Affairs team. The participants comprised of newly recruited young graduates and the permanent MoCA staff who were in need of capacity building.

The purpose of the training was to improve the capacity of newly recruited young graduates and program unit / section managers / heads in a bid to boost the effectiveness, efficiency, skills and knowledge on management computers, financial and information management skills.

In three days training the participants enhanced their understanding of computers and information technology skills, promote team work among the employees, basics of financial management information system skills, secretariat skills (memo writing, minutes writing and archive), reporting skills (activity reporting and quarterly reporting), basic computer skills (Microsoft Office, Word 2010, Excel 2-10, PowerPoint), Financial Management Information System (basic concept of budgeting, warrant, voucher, codes and the sub-codes of the ministry and commitment control cycle).

The training was facilitated by MoCA and supported by UNDP Constitutional Review Support Project.

Reporting & Communication training organized for MoCA staff

As part of the overall capacity building activities for national counterparts, a training on reporting skills organized on 31 March, 2018 in Mogadishu by the project. The training was participated by two staff (all male) of Federal Ministry of Constitution Affairs (MoCA). The objectives of the training were to train key MoCA staff on the main guidelines on project reporting, reporting requirements, types of project reporting, timelines and reporting responsibilities, submission procedures and what is required from MoCA. During the training it was discussed the need to have focal point for reporting of project activities at ministry level in a timely manner and importance of using developed reporting templates for reporting activities..



Some Reflections of Project Activities during January - April 2018



18-19 April, Mogadishu: Inaugural meeting of Forum of Federal and Federal Member State Parliamentary Committees on Constitution



17-19 April, Mogadishu: Senior Level Training of Trainers (ToT) on Civic Education and Public Outreach



10-13 April, Mogadishu: Induction and Operation Management Skills Training for young graduates and MoCA staff



15-16 March, Baodía: MoCA Forum attended by MoCA-FGS and Federal Member States and Banadir Regional Administration



11 February, Garowe: Joint Visit of MoCA, ICRIC, OC to Garowe, Puntland State



13-15 April: Joint mission of MoCA, ICRIC, OC in Jubaland



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