



HORUSCOD! FORWARD SOMALIA!

Horuscod! offered the Somali public an opportunity to discuss the London Somalia Conference objectives and themes. This pre-event, held in Mogadishu on 2 May, allowed for consultations with a wide range of Somali actors not attending the Conference. Participants used the event to convey their messages to Federal Government of Somalia, UK and UN decision makers in an interactive and informal manner.

OBJECTIVES

1. Facilitate discussions and collect views on issues related to the objectives of the London Somalia Conference from a wide group of Somali actors.
2. Provide information to the general public on the London Somalia Conference and international support to Somalia.
3. Facilitate an open and creative space for discussion and informal exchange on the priorities for Somalia over the coming years.



PARTICIPATION

152 people (including civil society organisations, private sector, women and youth groups, advocates for human rights and disabilities, and media) joined the pre-event from Puntland, Galmudug, South West State, Hirshabelle, Benadir and Jubbaland on 2 May. They made contributions through post-panel discussions or in the Visioning Corner, where people could take their photos with written statements or record their message via video.

In addition, Federal Ministers, Ambassadors and Foreign Representatives from the UK, Finland, Sweden, and Kenya, as well as IGAD and UN senior leadership engaged in the discussions. The Somalia NGO Consortium (which has Observer status at the London Somalia Conference plenary sessions) was also represented.

OUTCOME

This booklet sets out the key messages and themes from the pre-event consultation. It offers decision makers an insight into the priorities and concerns of civil society, women, youth, diaspora, national and international NGOs, private sector and media.



TOWARDS A MORE INCLUSIVE AND SAFE SOCIETY

How can we make the Constitutional Review Process a success and ensure the Somali people own the result? How do we make security forces in Somalia more effective and accountable? How can we prevent conflict around power-sharing in the context of the federal structure? What are the top three priorities to firmly put Somalia on the road towards a more inclusive and safe society?

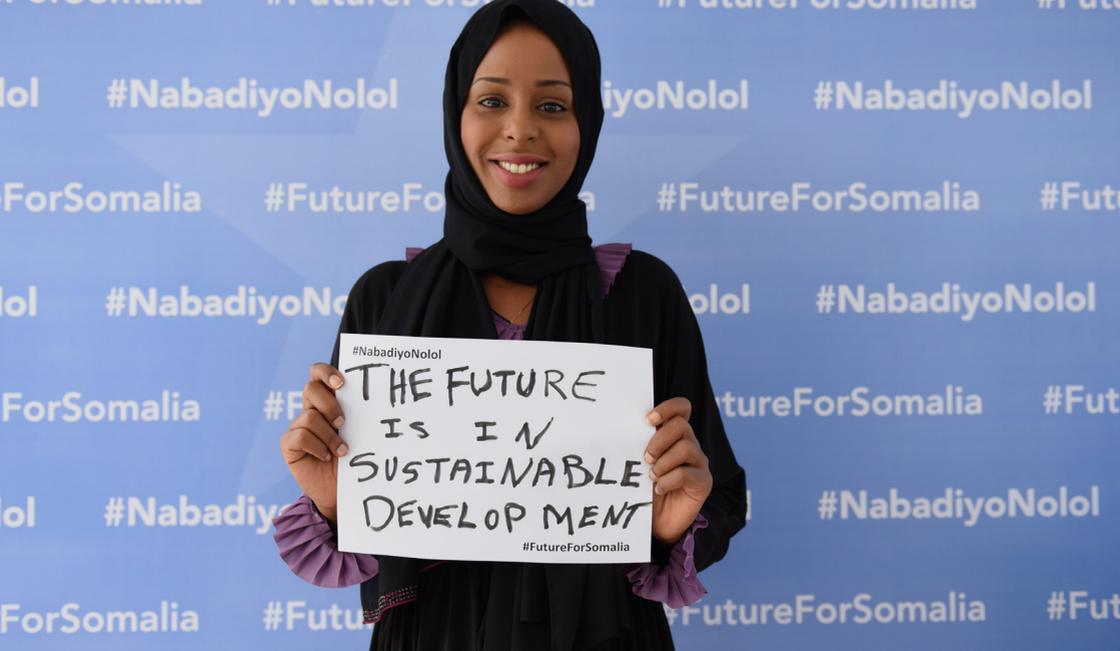
It is critical that the democratisation process in Somalia is inclusive and transparent with all parts of society involved. This is key to restoring trust between the Government and its people.

Security is a prerequisite for investment and economic growth.

Ensuring a participatory and inclusive consultative process on the constitutional review will be an opportunity for reconciliation and strengthening of Rule of Law and Human Rights.

Let us approach federalism with a commitment to finding solutions rather than perpetuating old grievances.

Somalia needs better, more representative forces in order to protect its people from internal threats to stability.



CIVIL SOCIETY'S ROLE IN ECONOMIC RECOVERY

What should government do to stimulate private sector growth? What is the role of civil society or not-for-profit sector in economic recovery? What are the most likely growth sectors in the Somali economy that can reduce poverty?

Reforms are necessary to enable more resources to flow directly to Somali institutions and non-governmental organisations, build capacity, increase ownership, enhance efficiency and reduce wastage.

Somalia has enormous potential to benefit from renewable and affordable energy.

Civil society is slowly moving its focus from humanitarian relief to development work – Cawi Walaal has already shown how civil society can come together to invest in humanitarian response. The same needs to be done for development and sustainable investment.

An important conversation that should happen in London is how the Somali Government and the International Community can promote partnership with the private sector.



A PARTNERSHIP FOR SOMALIA

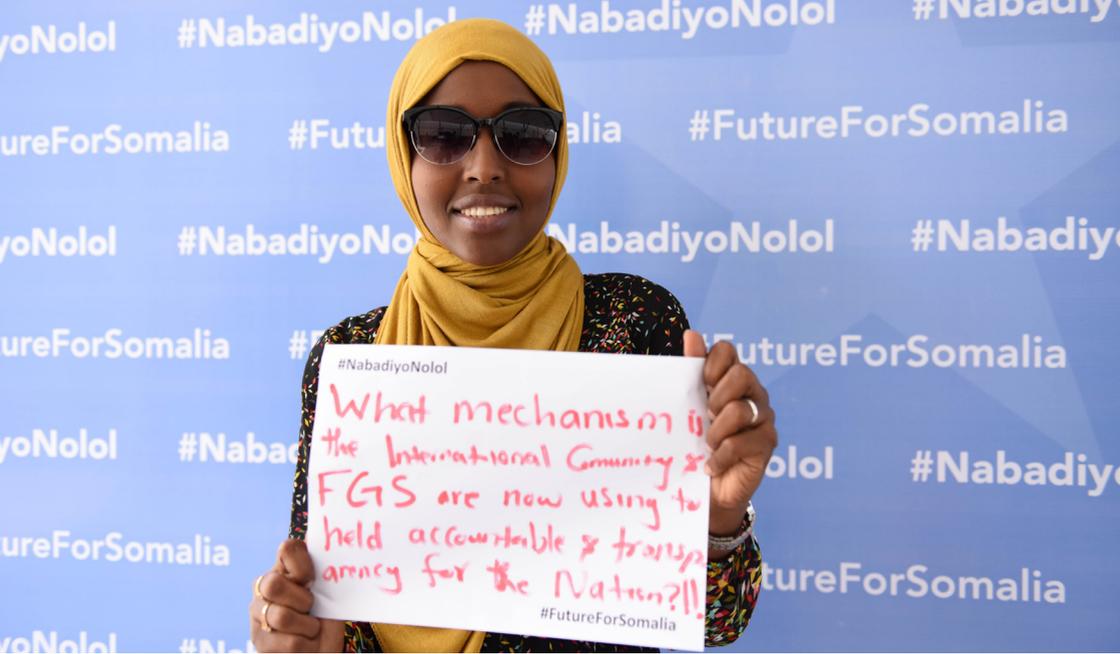
What is different about the New Partnership? Will it be as successful as the New Deal? What are the obstacles and how can the Somali government and the international community enable greater cooperation and coordination? What is the role of non-state actors in holding the Government to account for Somalia's development?

London should be used as an opportunity to clearly communicate on the role and purpose of the New Partnership for Somalia, including its relationship to the National Development Plan and Compact.

The New Partnership for Somalia should reflect priorities highlighted under the National Development Plan and clearly articulate the role of civil society in its implementation.

We want to see the next major international conference on Somalia taking place in Somalia.

It is time for the International Community to start focusing on investments with a long-term positive impact on the lives of Somalis whilst humanitarian, life-saving assistance remains a necessity for Somalia.



THE ROLE OF DIASPORA IN DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

How can the FGS make better use of the diaspora and civil society? What lessons can be learned from the experience of diaspora communities on politics, social reform and education? How can we strengthen the links between the diaspora and civil society, youth and women in Somalia?

The global network of Somali diaspora communities represents an invaluable and largely untapped resource for the country. The diaspora has played a key role in drought response and famine prevention through initiatives such as Famine Resisters or Cawi Walaal to support people in need.

Fostering partnerships between the diaspora, local networks on the ground and institutions in Somalia can leverage the impact of the diaspora's contribution.

Diaspora communities can provide key inputs on political and social reforms and can share lessons learned from their experience abroad.

Important to celebrate the contributions from the diaspora. Fostering true partnership between the diaspora and local communities can support tackling "tarhiib" (illegal migration).



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