

**PRESS RELEASE**

**THE UNPRECEDENTED FIGHTS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BLEACHES THE PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES AND CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SOMALILAND PARLIAMENT**

Somaliland makes a year soon, since the inauguration of the second parliament. The election of the 2nd House of Representatives (HoR) restored confidence in democratic participation. The citizens put trust and high hopes to demonstrate exemplary performance as required of them by the constitution of the Republic of Somaliland as elected leadership. The Members of parliament are applauded on demonstration of this ingredient of leaders.

Equally the executive, judiciary and respective agents of government and political organization are expected to live to expectations of citizens. It's by Law 13, mandate of the president of the republic of Somaliland appointed a committee of registration of new political organizations and despite controversies surrounding the elections of president and new political parties. The responsibility of parliament as elsewhere obliged, have to approve or vet the members of the committee to the effect of suitability for the roles and responsibilities of the committee.

While consensus is expected at the floor of parliament on any issues, voting on a matter of contention relieves the policy makers of the controversy that arise out of the differing views. Like in this case 4 to 3 members approved the national registration of political organizations which is a majority. These actions strengthen democratization and good governance in the country. Any actions by the anti-parties is an act of contempt of democracy and procedures.

It's in the mandate of the House of Representatives (HOR) to ensure that they deliver in accordance to the law, make law, review, and amend and oversee implementation of the laws, delivery of services of the institutions, agencies and commissions instituted by the government. Conflict and emerging fighting over bills in the house in recent deliberations by parliamentarians is an embarrassment to the nation though. The country seeks astute administration and strengthening of the rule of law. The country stability and peace values based in agenda 2023, Somaliland NDPII underpin parliament's significant role in anchoring peace by voting in a peaceful manner but more so by implementing and approving laws, approval of cabinet and voting procedures.

<https://cdgsom.org/>

Badacas, behind Statehouse, IDPs,  
Hargeisa, Somaliland.

The parliament is responsible for putting across to the floor ideas including articulating ideas of their political parties, resolve conflict between government and political parties. The parliament should hold national interest in high esteem in regard political direction, governance, and law and service delivery than interests of political parties. Consciousness of this core duty steer the country to a strong nation.

The recent scuffle in the house, marks third time members of the honorable house fight on matters of national concern due to varying views. Difference in opinion can only be handled by debate, in a either a heated debate or arbitrated dialogue. The speaker has all powers and capacity to regularize discussions than approaches contrary to parliamentary procedures set out by the constitution and the rules and procedures of parliament.

Nevertheless, the electorates are getting frustrated with the actions of defecting the responsibility by MPs, executives and justice custodians. It's critical to review the first year of the term assessment of the organs of government with the elected HOR. A 1-year performance evaluation can give rates on the expectation on delivering to the important matters of the country. Accountability to the voters does not stand at good rates due to fighting by the legislators these are actions that downplay adherence to powers and duties of the elected officers.

The disciplinary procedures of parliament are set to regulate the acts of MPs whose conduct of parliamentary business and behavior are contrary to the rules of procedure in parliament. This rests in the speaker who administers disciplinary action in accordance to the law of parliament. This signals gaps that the legislative organ has to address in regard to capacity of MPs to delivery on the matters of political concern, failure of coordination of the government organs, and performance of house duties.

The parliament has respective select committees, which hold responsibility to handle specific national matter from legal to election and constitutionalism. Any action that are unconstitutional burrow into strong democracy and rule of the law. Such acts amount to disciplinary action against MPs like other public agents in respective organs of government. Alternatively, the executive and judiciary mutually reinforce each other in democratic dispensations.

<https://cdgsom.org/>



Center for Democracy and Governance conviction is that the members of parliament have the capacity to redirect their attention to serving the interests of the people of Somaliland, with due respect of the integrity of the house and social contract with the society.

The peoples' forum suggests holding the legislators accountable. It is our plea to the leaders to consider redress of the issues as guided by the rules and procedures. Centers of arbitration on matters of controversy and avenues for engagement are at hands for the parliament to settle the standoff leading to polarization in the House of Representatives.

On the other hand interpretation of the constitutional procedures of the HOR is incumbent on the MPs to avoid contravention of the obligations of the House Representatives related to parliamentary approvals or dissatisfaction will bills or cation including from presidency.

Articles the Republic of Somaliland constitution 76, 77 and 78 (4) & (5) are very clear on matters of legislation and implementation of responsibilities of the bicameral house representatives and elders. The house should honor and respectfully perform their duties in accordance to article 53 of the constitution which requires them to exercise their powers.

Nevertheless, the members of parliament shouldn't abscond their duties of checking council of government, advising and making recommendations to agencies and organs of government. CDG counsel to the parliamentary representatives is based on the building, consolidating and restore the trust of the electorate. As drawn on the procedures of parliamentary meetings stipulated in article 45 of the Somaliland constitution.

<https://cdgsom.org/>

Badacas, behind Statehouse, IDPs,  
Hargeisa, Somaliland.



## **CDG recommends to house representatives that: -**

They rethink the promises they made to the electorate in order to maintain the integrity of the House. It is important to remember that the political direction stirred by legislation and implementation of the law requires that the three organs of government to oversee the efficient effective institutional arrangement and procedures. The Somaliland Laws uphold institutional mutual respect and coordination.

- So, the MPs should reconsider their actions which are contrary to the implementation of law 13 as they guide, advice and recommend to the government and other agencies regarding legislation.
- 
- The constitution and parliamentary procedures stipulate mechanisms that are professional by which MPs should resort to for redress of contentious constitutional and legal matters. It is important to call for dialogue among members of parliament on matters of national concern irrespective of their political identity and affiliations.
- 
- The CSOs as non-state actors propose engagement with stakeholders, where such consultations would level out the political sentiments and prioritize accountability to the voters. Enhancing capacity of legislators on legal, constitutional and procedural interpretation, responsibilities and powers. The respect to the institution of the speaker by the MPs is incumbent on them as delivery to their electorate. This calls for upholding the discipline, conduct of business of parliament and allegiance to the state vis-à-vis respective political parties.

**THE END**

<https://cdgsom.org/>

Badacas, behind Statehouse, IDPs,  
Hargeisa, Somaliland.