



Somaliland Non State Actors Forum (SONSAF)

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PRESS RELEASE

Somaliland Non State Actors Forum urges all the relevant National Institutions to listen to and address the complaints of the Political Associations (that RAC declared to have failed to meet the accreditation criteria); and the Political Association to seek redress through peaceful manner and legal process.

24 April, 2012

Hargeisa – On 20th April, 2012, the political associations and parties Registration & Approval Committee (RAC) had announced the verification results which revealed that only 6 of the 15 new political associations have qualified by fulfilling all requirements set by the Committee.

This has prompted an outright rejection and denunciation of the results by all the nine political associations that failed to make the approved list, which created a tense atmosphere in the national and regional capitals.

Since then the **Somaliland Non state Actors Forum (SONSAF)** has organized a number of meetings for Somaliland Non State Actors including civil society organizations, media and business community to discuss, analyze and debate the issues raised by the verification results and propose recommendations for the way forward.

The participants of these meetings propose the following strategies and recommendations to help work out the current bottleneck.

- The SONSAF members wish to remind all stakeholders about Somaliland's time-tested tradition of dialogue, consensus building and peaceful resolution of conflicts and disagreements. This tradition has been a cornerstone of Somaliland reconstruction, progress and state building and if it is ignored the Democratic process of the country will be in a danger
- In line with this tradition, we urge the relevant institutions that include the political associations and parties Registration & Approval Committee (RAC) and the national



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Judiciary to provide the Political associations a listening space and credible legal recourse with transparent manner which can convince them.

- We also urge the Political Associations that have been listed as not fulfilling the verification criteria to seek redress through dialogue and legal means.
- The Somaliland Non State Actors are prepared to participate in search for answers to solve this national issue through their mandate.

Endorsed by all members of SONSsaf

Adam Haji Ali Ahmed

SONSAF Chairperson