



Press release

29 June 2019

Launch of the Somaliland SDG16+ Progress Report

The Somaliland SDG16+ Coalition launched the first ever civil society SDG16+ Progress Report in Hargeisa on June 29, 2019. The Chief Justice of Somaliland, Adam Haji Ali Ahmed, the Minister of Parliamentary Relations and Constitutional Affairs, Mohamed Sheikh Adam, Deputy Minister of National Planning and Development, Eng. Hussein Buuni, and the Director General of the Ministry of Justice, Abdirahman Sheikh Hassan, and other government officials, civil society leaders and activists attended the launch.

The report will be submitted to the United Nations High Level Political Forum (UN HLPF) on Sustainable Development in July this year. A delegation of civil society leaders will travel to New York to share the findings with the UN community. This is the first time ever Somaliland has submitted a report to the UN HLPF. The UN HLPF was mandated in 2012 by the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to meet annually under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council for eight days to review sustainable development progress around the world.

The SDG16+ Progress Report is a document produced and owned by the Somaliland SDG16+ Coalition – a group of civil society organisations working to implement SDG16+ in all regions of Somaliland. The report itself is a result of an inclusive and comprehensive consultation process involving civil society and relevant government organs and departments. The purpose is to outline the progress that has been made towards implementing SDG16+ in Somaliland, to identify gaps and to provide recommendations to ensure that progress can be furthered.

As the government of Somaliland remains unable to share this progress with official UN mechanisms due to its political status, the Somaliland SDG16+ Coalition have taken this step to ensure that Somaliland's efforts to implement the SDGs are shared with the rest of the world. The report is split into three main sections. The first analyses the process to integrate SDG16+ into national development activities. The second reviews progress on four chosen SDG16+ targets and the third and final section offers conclusions and recommendations for the involved actors in Somaliland.

The report finds that there are examples of positive action on selected SDG16+ targets with substantial scope to make further progress in the coming years. The realization of this progress will require consistent and more strategic funding from the government and other sources including donors and the private sector. Existing limited funding sources are not well coordinated and are rarely allocated on the basis of SDGs targets. There is a need to support the capacity of government agencies and civil society organizations to cope with the demands of implementing and monitoring an ambitious agenda like SDG16+.

Ultimately, despite the positive work of some government agencies and civil society organisations in Somaliland, technical and financial challenges pose a big barrier to effective implementation of SDG16+. This is compounded by the inability to collect reliable, up-to-date disaggregated data on the impact of many implementation efforts, which is hindering overall efforts.

