

# **Institute for Strategic Insights and Research**

## **Quarterly Report**

Date: 16/07/2025

Reporting period: June- August 2025

### **1. Short Introduction**

**Provide short description of the report, timing and purpose not more than one paragraph**

**Quarterly debate took place in Asod hotel about “Breaking Barriers: Women’s Strength in Parliamentary Politics in Somaliland”** this event brought together experienced and emerged women, leadership, academicians and politicians in Somaliland.

Civil society organization coordination meeting took place in HoR department of planning the aim of the coordination meeting is to share information about different activities that CSOs implemented in a quarter and introduce HoR different departments and Gender Advocacy Office which is established recently.

### **Project Updates**

#### **2. Key Activities Completed/Achievements (bullet points)**

- Activity 1 Quarterly Debate
- Activity 2 CSOs coordination Meeting
- Activity 3 Parliament Oversight
- Activity 4 Meeting with Secretary, Communication department, Planning department and Gender Advocacy Office
- Activity 5 Published Gole Watch

#### **3. Stakeholder Engagement**

- **Meetings/Events: List significant meetings, workshops, or events organized /attended with CSO, parliament or citizens**

## Quarterly Debate

On July 22, a quarterly debate organized by the Siraad Initiative took place at Asod Hotel, centered around the theme “Breaking Barriers: Women’s Strength in Parliamentary Politics in Somaliland.” The debate highlighted the crucial role of women in Somaliland’s parliamentary landscape and featured contributions from women actively involved in politics.

### Recommendations from the Debate:

1. **Enhancing Women’s Economic Access:**

Create programs that improve women’s access to financial resources, business development opportunities, and targeted funding. This will empower women to overcome economic barriers and engage confidently in electoral and political activities.

2. **Challenging Socio-Cultural Constraints:**

Address harmful gender stereotypes and traditional roles that limit women's political participation by promoting inclusive narratives, advancing gender equity, and fostering environments where women can express their political agency freely.

3. **Investing in Leadership and Skills Development:**

Provide training, mentorship, and leadership development initiatives that equip women with the necessary tools, knowledge, and confidence to run for office, campaign effectively, and contribute significantly to decision-making processes.

Link: [Breaking Barriers: Women’s Struggles & strength in parliamentary politics in Somaliland. – Gole Watch](#)

[Breaking Barriers: Women’s Struggles & strength in parliamentary politics in Somaliland. – Gole Watch](#)  
full report

## Third Civil Society Coordination Meeting

On August 28, the House of Representatives held its third coordination meeting, aimed at sharing information on the activities implemented by Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) during the quarter. Participants included representatives from various CSOs and departments of the House of Representatives, such as the Planning, Communication, Social Affairs, and the newly established Gender Advocacy department. The meeting focused on discussing the quarterly activities undertaken by the CSOs.

### ISIR

The ISIR Institute presented discussions and debates, particularly highlighting "Nala Shaah," which took place in Hargeisa and Burco. These discussions raised significant concerns regarding the budget and women's roles in politics.

### Soydavo

Soydavo reported on activities related to organizing debates and enforcing laws aimed at facilitating the work of the House of Representatives.

## **CDG**

Central Democracy and Governance shared details about their recent focus on election debates for new candidates in the upcoming parliamentary elections scheduled for 2026. CDG expressed its commitment to pressuring election stakeholders to ensure timely elections without delays.

## **Gender Advisory Office (GAO)**

The newly established Gender Advisory Office aims to address gender issues within the House of Representatives. Deputy Advisor Hamda emphasized the office's role in advocating for gender-related legislation and establishing caucuses to promote its agenda. She mentioned that the chairman approved the strategic and work plans for the office, which was launched this month.

## **Communication Department**

Director Abdilahi of the Communication Department outlined its essential role in the House of Representatives, focusing on publishing all activities conducted by the House. The department manages the House's social media platforms and recognizes the importance of connecting with CSOs. Abdilahi promised to support CSOs and facilitate connections with committee members and representatives.

## **Department of Planning**

Director Foodcade welcomed the CSOs, highlighting the Planning Department's crucial role as the entry point for CSOs into the House of Representatives. He promised ongoing support for CSOs working with the parliament and encouraged them to reach out whenever collaboration is needed.

Link: [THIRD CSOs COORDINATION MEETING – Gole Watch](#)

## **Parliament Oversight**

The House of Representatives is currently continuing its Session 12, engaging in various activities and sub-sessions to implement the session's agenda. The executive committee, led by the chairman, discussed the budget of the House and how it can effectively support all of its activities.

During Session 12, the House approved the general auditor and other government officials after reviewing their CVs and experiences.

Additionally, the House is debating several acts, including the Rahanka iyo Hantida Maguurtada ah Act, the Diplomacy Act draft, the Energy Act, and the Industries Development and Investment Act, among others. Some of these acts have been passed, while others are under review for amendments.

Parliament approved session before session 12 closed the important act “ Policy Act” which house of representative made amendment.

## **Meeting with Secretary, Communication department, Planning department and Gender Advocacy Office**

The meeting with the secretary, communication department, planning department, and gender advocacy at the House of Representatives was both impressive and productive. The primary focus was on how to sustain project-related activities while prioritizing the departments' needs. The communication department welcomed the Gole Watch websites and suggested that Gole Watch assist them by analyzing meeting and event reports and creating brief articles on parliamentary oversight activities, similar to how Gole Watch has previously articulated such articles.

The secretary provided a brief introduction to the gender office and expressed support for participation in various activities through this office. Advisor Selma Awad and Deputy Advisor Hamda detailed their work and outlined the planned activities for the next two years.

### **Published Gole Watch**

Gole Watch published articles reflecting on budget decentralization and the quarterly report. They also shared updates on the activities of the House of Representatives on their website, Twitter, and Facebook.

- **Social Media Activity: Summary of social media activity related to the activity**
- Gole watch website published the articles related Decentralization budget debate and the oversight events in the house of representatives.
- Gole watch platform are published the minutes of the coordination meeting and the debates to spread the information in a wider audience

#### **4. Limitation/challenges**

The house of representatives participating in quarterly debates and Nala shaah event were limited due to house of representative lack of willingness to meet the citizens based on the fear of questions and the debate

#### **5. Recommendations/next activities**

- **Planned Activities: here provide the planned activities for the next reporting period**
  - Nala shaah debate
  - Quarterly debate
  - Training with the different department of the house of representatives
  - Parliament oversights
  -

- **Recommendations: provide any recommendations**
  - To prevent overlap, the CSOs share their activities and take coordinated actions to avoid duplicating efforts.
  - To collaborate closely with the Gender Advisory Office, which serves as the main entry point for the CSOs to connect with the parliament (HoR) and engage in various tasks.
- The suggestion is to plan discussions next year about certain activities that can be reshaped while maintaining the project's core essence.

## 6. Annexes

- Annex. Success stories
- Annex. photos (provide high quality photos, printed visibility material)







Third CSOs coordination Meeting at the house of representatives.













Quarterly Debate at Asod Hotel