



## Update on Women, Peace and Security in Somalia 13 May 2024

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The Informal Expert Group (IEG) of the Security Council on Women and Peace and Security has discussed the situation in Somalia once in June 2021 ([S/2021/668](#)). This update summarizes relevant developments since then, but with a focus in the last year.

### Developments in the Security Council

Since the last IEG meeting, the Security Council has adopted 17 resolutions on Somalia. The most recent resolution extending the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) until 31 October 2024, resolution [2705 \(2023\)](#), included strong provisions on women, peace and security. For example, the resolution encouraged the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and Somalia's Federal Member States (FMS) to advance women's political, social and economic empowerment, and ensure the full and meaningful participation of women and their involvement and representation at all levels of decision making, including in peacebuilding, reconciliation and security sector reform, and to ensure that women fill at least 30 percent of the seats in both Houses of Parliament. The resolution also encouraged the authorities to support women's rights, investigate and prosecute individuals responsible for sexual and gender-based violence, ensure that legislation is compatible with international law and commitments on the protection of children and women, and accelerate implementation of the Joint Communiqué and the adoption and implementation of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

The most recent resolution extending the mandate of the **African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS)**, resolution [2710 \(2023\)](#), had no language relating to women or gender-related issues. It also noted that ATMIS' planned exit date from Somalia remains 31 December 2024. Two earlier resolutions on ATMIS only contained a generic reference to the women, peace and security agenda. Resolution [2628 \(2022\)](#) endorsing the decision by the African Union Peace and Security Council to **reconfigure the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) into ATMIS**, did include provisions encouraging the deployment of female uniformed personnel and urging ATMIS to ensure women's full, effective, and meaningful participation across its operations and to integrate a gender perspective throughout the delivery of its mandate.

On 1 December 2023, the Council adopted resolution [2714 \(2023\)](#), which **lifted the general and complete arms embargo on all deliveries of weapons and military equipment to Somalia** and resolution [2713 \(2023\)](#), which **imposed an arms embargo on Al-Shabaab in Somalia** and extended the mandate of the **Panel of Experts until 15 January 2025**. Resolution 2713 (2023) underscored the importance of a holistic, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, including the full participation of women, to counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism. The resolution included a provision that directly requests the Secretary-General to include dedicated gender expertise and requests the Panel to include gender as a cross-cutting issue in its investigations and reporting and to give recommendations to the Security Council Committee on how to address sexual violence in conflict. The resolution requests the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sexual Violence in Conflict to share relevant information with the Federal Government of Somalia and the Committee. Despite the prevalence of sexual violence committed with high levels of impunity and targeted attacks against women in public life in Somalia, none of the listings of the Sanctions Committee in Somalia since 2014 mention sexual violence or women's rights, including for the three Al-Shabaab individuals added in 2021, one added in 2022, and

one added in 2023. The latest report of the Panel of Experts, published in October 2023, did not mention of women or gender-related issues.

**Four Somali women from civil society briefed the Security Council** in its country-specific meetings and thematic briefings since the last meeting of the Informal Expert Group, all in 2021. In addition, a [statement](#) by the Somali Gender Equity Movement (SGEM), a non-partisan socio-political global movement that comprises a diverse group of 9000 Somali women inside the country and in the diaspora, was circulated among the Security Council Members in February 2023 by the Republic of Malta as the president of the Council that month. The statement, which focused on women’s political participation and sexual and gender-based violence in Somalia, called on a 50 percent “gender quota” to be included in Somalia’s legal instruments at Federal and regional levels, including the constitution and electoral laws, adoption by the Federal Parliament of the Sexual Offences Bill (2018) as approved by the Cabinet, and requested the international community’s support for women’s participation through earmarked funding.

Between August and October 2021, **Ms. Batula Axmed**, Chairperson of the Somali National Women’s Organization, **Ms. Shukria Dini**, co-Founder and Executive Director of the Somali Women’s Studies Centre, and **Ms. Asha Siyad**, Executive Director of the Somali Women’s Leadership Initiative – all of whom were part of the advocacy committee for the attainment of women’s 30 percent quota for the federal elections, known as Goodwill Ambassadors – emphasized the importance of this quota, warned that the number of women elected was likely to decline in upcoming elections, and provided details of the mechanisms that should be put in place for the 30 percent quota to be met. The 2020-2022 electoral process did result in a decline from 24 to 21 percent of women’s representation in parliament.

In September 2021, **Ms. Ilwad Elman**, Chief Operating Officer of the Elman Peace and Human Rights Centre, focused her briefing on the connection between climate and security in Somalia, noting that peacebuilding and mediation efforts cannot “succeed or be sustained unless we address the broader environmental issues related to security — whether it be the locust- and drought-induced scarcity of resources that multiplies the threat of intra-clan conflict, the decrease of tuna swarms that drives Somali fishing communities towards piracy, or the flooding that continues to drive regional displacement and vulnerable people to violent extremist groups.” She highlighted the need for bottom-up solutions and community-led processes and the need for the Security Council “to ensure there is a genuine effort to co-create policy and peace processes with the people affected”.

### **Women’s participation in politics and peacebuilding**

Somalia’s 2021-2022 national electoral process concluded with the formation of the Parliament and the election of the tenth President of the Federal Republic of Somalia, Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, on 15 May 2022. Sadia Yasin Haji Samatar was elected as the First Deputy Speaker of the House of the People, becoming the **first woman Deputy Speaker** in the history of Somalia. **Women were allocated approximately 13 percent (10 of the 75 seats) of the seats in the Federal Cabinet** (Council of Ministers) formed in August 2022 – a slight increase from 11.7 percent in the previous Federal Cabinet.

In March 2023, the Federal Cabinet approved the appointment of five members of the Independent Constitutional Review and Implementation Commission, including one woman. Women civil society leaders have expressed frustration over the slow pace and lack of inclusion of the constitutional review process.

The **National Consultative Council** (NCC) continued to be the vehicle through which many political decisions were taken. Women are not represented in this NCC. The UN in Somalia supported the creation of a Technical Committee for Women working with the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Women Human Rights and Development. The Technical Committee’s aim is to advocate for the inclusion

of women's issues on the agenda of the NCC and for a woman to be represented at the NCC. Some modest success has been achieved regarding the inclusion of women's issues on the NCC's agenda but having a woman included in the NCC is unlikely to be achieved in the near future.

The federal elections saw a decline in women's parliamentary representation, despite the enormous advocacy efforts from many fronts to attain the 30 percent quota for women. The 2016 Electoral Law requires political parties to nominate at least 30 percent women candidates, but it does not require seats to be allocated to women. The **total number of women in both Houses of the Parliament declined** from the 24 percent reached in 2016 to 20 percent in 2022. In the **House of the People, women represent 20 percent** (54 women of the 275 seats in total) of the seats and in the **Upper House, 26 percent** (14 women of the 54 seats in total) of the seats. The United Nations has called for the codification of women's participation and representation in relevant legal frameworks, including the constitution.

The state of Puntland aimed to make history and shift away from the clan-based model by organizing universal one-person, one-vote district council elections in 30 out of 33 planned districts in May 2023. In the elections, 17 percent of those elected were women – down from 27 percent in the first phase. However, following internal disagreements over the model and the timing of the upcoming State Assembly and presidential elections, the President of Puntland issued a decree stating that the State Assembly elections would be held using a clan-based model. Out of the 66 new parliamentarians who were sworn in on 1 January 2024, **only one is a woman –which represents a mere 1.5 percent**. In Somaliland, there are currently **no women members** in the parliament.

Somali women in politics continue to be **subject to violence and harassment**. In March 2022, Al-Shabaab carried out a targeted attack that killed an incumbent parliamentary candidate, Ms. Amina Mohamed Abdi. Ms. Abdi had been an advocate for an investigation into the disappearance of Ikran Tahlil Farah, who disappeared a year earlier while working for the Somali national intelligence. The attack killed 50 people in total and injured 106 more. A few months earlier, Al-Shabaab killed Ms. Hibaq Abukar, an adviser on women's affairs in the office of the Prime Minister.

In a continuing pattern of social media attacks against female elected officials, in February 2023, the South-West State Minister of Women, Family Affairs and Human Rights Development, Fahima Osman Omar, at a press conference, refuted attacks against her made on social media by a former Member of Federal Parliament, who accused the Minister of supporting a project on gender and LGBTQ rights. The Minister described the accusations as misleading and asked South-West State authorities to ensure her safety, given the threats against her. A speech by the First Deputy Speaker of Parliament that highlighted the need to end sexual violence was met with harsh criticism, including death threats, and she has been much less visible and outspoken since. A media analysis conducted by the United Nations Women, Peace and Protection Joint Programme in February 2023 noted patterns of **gendered disinformation and hate speech in both social and mainstream media, targeting women in public and political life**, including activists, leaders, and journalists.

According to a report by the Somali Dialogue Platform and RAAGSAN from August 2023, Somali women's participation in decision-making and politics is **limited by patriarchal norms and stereotypes** that portray women mainly as caregivers and homemakers, as well as by a **“lack of access to financial resources and networks”**. Women also receive **“little to no support from clan leaders, religious entities, and political groups, who often act as gatekeepers** which poses considerable difficulties when they attempt to run for political office”.

The 4th annual conference of the Somali Women's Parliament held in Mogadishu in December 2023 concluded with a Communiqué by women Members of Parliament to the Federal Government of Somalia urging all Somali leaders, both at the Federal and State levels, to uphold a minimum of 30 percent

representation of Somali women in government, enshrining this quota in the Federal Constitution, and enacting legislation in this regard, requesting both the government and parliament to prioritize women's rights in national budget discussions and decisions, and asking the National Consultation Forum to address these concerns, as women lack representation in this forum.

In May 2023, the Federal Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, civil society organizations and women leaders, with support from UN Women, launched **the interim Steering Committee of the Somalia chapter of the African Women Leaders Network**, which promotes women's participation in leadership and advocacy for conflict prevention and resolution.

With the support of the United Nations, Somalia adopted its **first National Action Plan for the implementation of the Somali Women's Charter and United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325** in September 2022. The National Action Plan calls for women's meaningful participation in matters relating to peace and security, and accelerated action towards gender parity among decision makers on peace and security issues, including at the leadership level. The five Federal Member States and Banadir District have initiated the process to develop and launch their localized action plans. At the launch, the Minister of Women and Human Rights Development reaffirmed the important role that Somali women play in conflict prevention and resolution and emphasized the need to address marginalization, the lack of representation of women and protection of women and girls. UNDP, UN Women and UNSOM continue to provide support to the Government in the implementation of the action plan, including through capacity-building activities.

Through the **United Nations Women, Peace and Protection Joint Programme**, UNDP, UN Women and UNSOM support the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda in Somalia, including women's full political participation. This includes the establishment of women's peace networks across the federal member states (six networks in five federal member states and Banaadir to date) and wide consultations with women's groups across the country.

### **Human rights issues, including conflict-related and sexual and gender-based violence and female genital mutilation**

In 2023, UNSOM **verified cases of conflict-related sexual violence**, including rape, gang rape and attempted rape, perpetrated against 24 women and 6 girls, the majority of whom were displaced. As part of the monitoring of **grave violations against children**, the United Nations verified close to 200 incidents of rape and other forms of sexual violence in 2023. Difficulties in accessing areas controlled by Al-Shabaab, prevailing insecurity and clan protection for alleged perpetrators contributed to **significant underreporting**. Perpetrators often attacked girls in isolated areas, such as farming and grazing fields outside villages. Sexual violence was perpetrated in the context of the abduction of 49 girls. Most incidents were attributed to unidentified armed perpetrators, as well as Al-Shabaab, clan militia and community defense forces. The Somali National Army and Police, the Hirshabelle police, Puntland forces, Jubbaland police and the Liyu Police were also implicated.

In connection with the military offensive launched against Al-Shabaab, service providers reported increased risks of gender-based violence against girls, members of female-headed households, widows, divorced women, women living with disabilities and women and girls from minority clans and marginalized communities. In the context of inter-clan disputes, members of clan militia perpetrated sexual violence, principally in Galmudug State. The deteriorating household economy, increased displacement and continued conflict are presumed to be the driving factors for **an increase in reported intimate partner violence** (52 percent in 2023 compared to 37 percent in 2022) **and rape** (15 percent in 2023 compared to 11 percent in 2022).

In December 2023, the **Federal Cabinet approved a new Offences of Rape and Indecency Bill**, which aims to protect all persons from sexual violence. The new bill is very different from the Sexual Offences Bill approved by the Federal Cabinet in 2018, which was never tabled in Parliament. While the bill defines a child as a person under 18 years of age, other provisions, such as those defining rape and indecency crimes, are not in line with international standards and norms. In August 2023, to strengthen the protection of children against sexual violence, the **Federal Cabinet approved the Child Rights Bill, and the Juvenile Justice Bill**, both of which are yet to be enacted by Parliament, in spite of the UN's efforts and investment in this pending legislation. Somalia **has not ratified** the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (**CEDAW**) nor the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (**Maputo Protocol**).

**Accountability for sexual and gender-based violence, including conflict-related sexual violence, remains limited**, with investigations rarely leading to prosecution. UN Women's data shows that 80 percent of the sexual and gender-based violence cases do not reach the judiciary, and when they do, they are often met by judges with no awareness or training on how to integrate a gender perspective or manage GBV cases, in a system where less than one percent of judges are women. For instance, in December 2021, a girl was gang raped and murdered and while the alleged perpetrators were detained, no trial date has been set yet. Cases continue to be handled according to customary justice practices, known as *xeer*, that do not take into consideration the needs and rights of the survivor.

**Gender-based violence (GBV)** in Somalia primarily affects women and girls. The need for GBV response and referral services far outpaces availability: **3.2 million people are estimated to be in need of GBV response services in 2024, while only a fraction of the referral mechanisms are operational**. 51 percent of households report a lack of services for women and girls, including psychosocial support, quality reproductive health services and GBV services, in their communities. In 2023, **925,978 individuals accessed gender-based violence response services**, a significant increase compared to 2022, as a result of increased resources being allocated to programming support and enhanced efforts to reach remote location. In collaboration with the Government, the United Nations supported "**one-stop centres**", providing survivors with emergency medical and psychosocial support, as well as temporary shelter. In 2023, the United Nations provided medical and psychosocial support to 115 survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, some of whom had been forced to marry members of Al-Shabaab.

In August 2023, the First Instance of the Military Court in Mogadishu began the **trial of four wives of alleged Al-Shabaab members**, arrested in April alongside their driver who was accused of transporting material destined to make explosive devices. The women denied any knowledge of their husbands' affiliation and the transported materials. The driver was sentenced to three years in prisons, while the women were sentenced to two years' imprisonment each but were later released on parole. UN human rights experts have expressed concern about the use of military courts to try civilians.

UNSOM and the International Organization for Migration have continued to support the implementation of the **Federal Government-led defector rehabilitation programme**. The roll-out of the programme for newly graduated low-risk defectors commenced in Baidoa and Kismaayo in October 2023. The programme has recently come under the oversight of the Federal Government's Tubsan Initiative, which is a new unit within the Office of the Prime Minister mandated to oversee a new government strategy on prevention and countering violent extremism, within which defector rehabilitation is one of five pillars. **Five rehabilitation centres** in Mogadishu, Kismaayo and Baidoa and one multifunctional reception centre in Galmudug are operational, providing support to 215 female and 502 male beneficiaries as of 24 January 2024.

Child marriage is prevalent with an estimated 17 percent of girls married before the age of 15, and 36 percent married by 18 years old. In addition, Somalia has one of the highest rates of **female genital mutilation (FGM)** in the world, with an **estimated 99 percent of women** aged 15-49 years having

undergone the procedure. The majority of them were cut between the ages of five and nine, according to the 2020 Somali Health and Demographic Survey. Recent estimates indicate that more than 2.1 million girls in Somalia are at risk of FGM between 2015-2030. In Somalia, social drivers and root causes of FGM stem from gender inequality, including a desire to control female sexuality, support for religious narratives, limited access to education and economic opportunities for girls and women and assurance of girls' or women's social status, chastity or marriageability. As part of the Constitution Review process initiated in January 2024, the article on FGM has been reverted to the 2012 provisional constitution formulation prohibiting all forms of FGM, following advocacy by all stakeholders including the UN and women-led civil society organisations. The Federal Member State of Galmudug passed an anti-FGM law in 2024.

The current legislation does not allow for Somali women to pass their nationality to their children, which puts those children at risk of statelessness, with the concomitant barriers to accessing basic rights and freedoms. There is no accurate data on the estimated number of stateless persons in Somalia.

The representation of local women's organizations in coordination mechanisms, including the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), the Inter Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) and sub-national ICCGs, to address gender-based violence in humanitarian settings increased from 19 to 29 per cent between 2021 and 2022. More than 20 per cent of humanitarian clusters' local partners are local women-led organizations. In addition, the Somalia Humanitarian Fund's Advisory Board has representatives of three local women-led organizations. In 2023, of 144 local partners trained on Country Based Pooled Fund (CBPF) guidelines and procedures, 20 organizations (or 14 per cent) were local women's organizations.

### **Humanitarian situation, including climate, peace and security and women's socio-economic situation**

From 2020 to early 2023, Somalia experienced its most severe drought in over forty years, followed in late 2023 by the most extensive floods in generations. By the end of November 2023, almost half of the country's districts had recorded flooding that caused significant losses to agriculture, livestock and critical infrastructure including bridges, health posts, cholera treatment centers and safe spaces for women and girls, leading to loss of access to life-saving services.

In 2024, an estimated **6.9 million people – almost two in five Somalis – are in need of humanitarian assistance**. 3.4 million are projected to be acutely food insecure between April and June 2024. Out of Somalia's 74 districts, 23 are either hard or extremely hard to reach by the humanitarian community due to the conflict. An estimated **580,000 people, the majority of whom are women and girls**, live in these areas. The drawdown of ATMIS will likely render the security situation more complex, further complicate humanitarian access, and increase the cost of humanitarian operations.

**Protracted displacement:** The climate shocks and conflict **displaced a record 2.9 million people in 2023 alone**. 75 percent of people who fled their homes were displaced by climate shocks (1.7 million by flooding and 529,000 by drought). The number of people newly or re-displaced due to conflict and insecurity also stood at an all-time high – 654,000 people in 2023. More than 80 percent of displaced people are women and children who face significant protection risks and additional barriers to accessing life-saving services.

**Shelter and WASH:** Shelter as well as sanitary and hygiene conditions have **further worsened**, including as a consequence of the floods. Displaced families with pregnant and breastfeeding mothers often find themselves living in overcrowded shelters, which lack privacy and expose them to additional health and safety risks. One in four displaced households (28 per cent) report not having functional sanitation facilities and access to menstrual materials appears to be a significant concern for women, half of whom report lack of access.

**Health:** The recent floods have led to an increase in cholera and other water-borne diseases, which disproportionately impact children, women, the elderly, persons with disabilities and women from marginalized and minority groups. Somalia continues to report one of the highest rates of maternal mortality, with 692 deaths per 100,000 live births, infant mortality of 71 per 1,000 live births, and neonatal mortality of 36 per 1,000 live births. A key reason for these alarming numbers is that a majority of Somali women continue delivering babies at home, with only 42 per cent reported having delivered in a private or public health facility, mainly due to lack of functional health facility or maternity ward nearby. Women and girls with disabilities or from minority communities face even higher risks of maternal malnutrition, complications during pregnancy and childbirth, and additional barriers to accessing reproductive health services.

**Protection Risks of Minority Groups:** Minority-affiliated groups, women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities face particularly high protection risks in Somalia. Minority and marginalized communities in Somalia, estimated to comprise 30 per cent of the population, face a long history of discrimination, exclusion from access to services and participation in decision-making processes. Minority women are particularly vulnerable to violence and abuse, including gender-based violence, perpetrated from within their communities as well as by militias, armed forces and members of majority clans.

**Gendered dimensions of climate change:** A 2022 assessment by UN Women showed that the ongoing conflict, climate change, and severe gender disparities in Somalia have drastically increased vulnerabilities for women and girls, affecting their security, access to resources, and livelihood opportunities. Over 60 percent of the population depends on agriculture, primarily pastoralism, which is severely impacted by climate variability. Women, responsible for securing food and water, face extreme challenges due to frequent droughts and floods, impacting food availability and their ability to sustain livelihoods. As Somali women and girls have to walk longer and further to retrieve food and water, their risks of exposure to gender-based violence, and in particular to sexual violence, sexual harassment and abuse, increases.

**Education:** In Somalia, even though girls and boys dropped out of school in similar numbers as a result of the 2023 drought crisis, with 51 percent girls compared to 49 percent boys, given the low attendance of girls in the later stages of their education, their dropout has a disproportionate impact on girls' education. Previous experience from the 2017 drought showed that 90 percent of children who dropped out of school did not return to school, meaning that most of the girls who dropped out of school in 2023 will likely remain out of school.

**Socio-economic vulnerabilities:** According to the World Bank, Somali women's labour force participation is at 31.3 percent (2023). Women are socio-economically disproportionately vulnerable, as they face higher constraints in accessing employment and finance for entrepreneurial activity, more frequently adopt harmful coping strategies, and have higher levels of food insecurity and limited access to critical services, including health care.

### **Recommendations:**<sup>1</sup>

In upcoming decisions on Somalia, the Security Council should retain existing language on WPS, with special attention to OP 6 and OP 11 of resolution 2705 (2023). In addition, the Security Council could:

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<sup>1</sup> These recommendations are prepared by UN Women as the secretariat of the Informal Expert Group, in consultation with other UN entities, including the Office of the SRSG on Sexual Violence in Conflict.

- Reiterate the importance of the implementation of the 30 percent quota for women in politics and the adoption of pending legislation to protect women and girls and end harmful practices, in line with international and regional standards.
- Demand women's meaningful participation in and engagement with decision-making processes in Somalia, including the National Consultative Council, the Independent Constitutional Review Commission, and the Oversight Committee, as well as in the Federal Member States.
- Stress the importance of a gender-responsive transition process and ATMIS drawdown, and request the African Union and the UN to engage meaningfully with women's civil society organizations across the country on all aspects of the transition, ensure that comprehensive gender analysis and technical gender expertise are included throughout the process, and monitor the impact on women and girls, in line with OP 6 of resolution 2594.
- Urge the Federal Government of Somalia to ensure that the Offences of Rape and Indecency Bill adheres to the international human rights law.
- Encourage the UN and the government to work jointly to address women's empowerment and protection under the National Transformation Plan.
- Urge the authorities at federal and state level to provide a safe environment for women's civil society organizations to work freely and protect them from threats and reprisals, and request the UN to take measures to report and respond to reprisals against women in public life.
- Encourage the Federal Government of Somalia to ratify CEDAW and the Maputo Protocol.
- Call on the FGS to fulfill its commitments on gender mainstreaming in the security sector institutions, including developing and implementing gender strategies in all security sector institutions as stipulated in the national security pact, and increasing women's participation and role in the security and defense sectors.
- Urge the Federal Government to expedite the implementation of and allocate budgetary resources for the 2022 national action plan on WPS, which incorporates priorities set out in the 2013 joint communiqué on addressing sexual violence in conflict, and for State-level authorities to do the same for local action plans.
- Call on the authorities and international partners to scale up protection and assistance to women and girls displaced by the ongoing humanitarian crisis, military operations, and climate shocks, including urgently needed sexual and reproductive health and GBV services to address Somali women and girls' increased risks of exposure to sexual violence, child marriage, FGM and other forms of GBV.
- Calls on the authorities to anticipate and address the impacts of counter-terrorism strategies on women's human rights and women's organizations, and ensure that efforts to prevent violent extremism that can be conducive to terrorism is gender-sensitive, complies with human rights standards, and include women's rights organizations in both policy development and implementation.
- Call on the Government to continue taking all appropriate actions to implement the recommendations of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, including promoting laws enabling women to pass nationality to their children, ensuring appropriate support to victims of sexual violence, and adopting a Federal Bill against FGM.

In addition, Security Council Members could request the sanctions committee on Al-Shabaab to hold a dedicated meeting on gender-based crimes and review the inclusion of gender analysis and information in the reports of the Panel of Experts and the consideration of these issues in the listings of the committee.

## **ANNEX: Relevant language in resolution 2705 (2023)**

*Reiterating the importance of inclusive dialogue and local reconciliation processes for stability in Somalia, and underscoring that the full, equal and meaningful participation of women will help to progress national priorities, and support reconciliation, security and transition from international security support, in line with the Somalia Transition Plan (STP) and National Security Architecture,*

*Underscoring the importance of a holistic, whole-of-government and whole-of society approach, including the full participation of women, to counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, conducted in accordance with applicable international law, as well as efforts to address the governance, security, human rights, humanitarian, development and socioeconomic dimensions of the problem, including youth employment and the eradication of poverty, and emphasising the importance of regional and international cooperation to counter terrorism, disrupt terrorist finances and illicit financial flows and stop arms trafficking,*

*Noting importance of effective, strategic communications to the implementation of the UNSOM mandate, and emphasising the need to continue to enhance UNSOM's capability in this regard, particularly concerning peace-building, state-building, reconciliation, conflict prevention, countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism, civic education, women's inclusion in political processes, human rights protection, and the youth, peace and security agenda,*

*Encouraging coordination between the FGS, Somalia's Federal Member States (FMS), donors and OCHA, as appropriate, to ensure distribution of humanitarian aid, including in-kind aid, is gender- and age-sensitive and responsive to the different needs of the population, and targets appropriately those in vulnerable situations, which may face specific barriers in accessing assistance and protection,  
On the mandate:*

*3. Encourages UNSOM to continue to coordinate United Nations efforts, maximise joint approaches and joint programming in relevant areas, in full cooperation with the FGS and FMS, to support the FGS and FMS in their efforts to: a. take a realistic, incremental approach to advance state-building, including the development of its federal system and the constitutional review process, and ensuring the participation and inclusion of all stakeholders, including women, youth and civil society;*

*6. Encourages the FGS and FMS to deepen cooperation and collaboration at all levels, to: (...) recalling resolution 1325 (2000) and all subsequent resolutions on women, peace and security:*

- advance women's political, social and economic empowerment;*
- ensure the full equal and meaningful participation of women, as well as their involvement and representation at all levels of decision making, including in the context of peacebuilding, reconciliation and security sector reform;*
- in the context of elections, and as envisaged in the Somali Women's Charter, meet its commitments to ensure that women fill at least 30% of the seats in both Houses of Parliament;*
- support women's rights, including their social, cultural and economic rights through the elimination of poverty, and provision of education, employment and development opportunities;*
- investigate and, as appropriate, prosecute individuals responsible for violations of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, and sexual and gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict situations (...).*

*7. Expresses its concern about all violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, including those involving sexual and gender-based violence in conflict (...),*

11. *Recalls the need for the FGS to continue to establish and operationalise the National Human Rights Commission, the Constitutional Court and the Judicial Service Commission in line with the Provisional Constitution, Somalia's obligations under international law, and the relevant legislation, and calls on the Federal Government of Somalia to: (...)*

- *implement legislation aimed at protecting human rights and investigating and prosecuting perpetrators of crimes involving violations or abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and sexual and gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict situations;*
- *ensure legislation is compatible with its obligations under international law and commitments on the protection of children and women;*
- *with the support of the United Nations, accelerate the implementation of the Joint Communiqué and the adoption and implementation of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security;*
- *through the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, to promote and protect human rights in Somalia, including protection from sexual and gender-based violence;*

12. *Highlights the importance of the United Nations, and the FGS and FMS considering the adverse implications of climate change, environmental degradation, other ecological changes and natural disasters, among other factors, in their programmes in Somalia, including by undertaking comprehensive, gender-sensitive risk assessments and risk management strategies relating to these factors, acknowledging the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement;*

**Examples of provisions in other resolutions on Somalia (2021-2023):**

OP 3 of resolution 2628 (2022): *Reaffirms the importance of the full, equal, meaningful and effective participation of women, and the inclusion of all Somalis, including, youth, persons with disabilities, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, reconciliation processes, peacebuilding and elections and other political processes, and acknowledges the contribution that civil society can make in this regard and calls on Somalia to provide a safe environment for civil society organisations to work freely and protect them from threats and reprisals;*

PP 9 of resolution 2713 (2023): *Underscoring the importance of a holistic, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, including the full participation of women, to counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism, conducted in accordance with applicable international law, as well as efforts to address the governance, security, human rights, humanitarian, development and socioeconomic dimensions of the problem, including youth employment and eradication of poverty, and emphasising the importance of regional and international cooperation to counter terrorism, disrupt terrorist finances and illicit financial flows, and stop arms trafficking,*

OP 25 of resolution 2713 (2023): *Decides to renew, with effect from the date of adoption of this resolution, until 15 January 2025, the Panel (...), requests the Secretary-General to include dedicated gender expertise, in line with paragraph 11 of its resolution 2467 (2019) and further requests the Panel to include gender as a cross-cutting issue in its investigations and reporting (...),*