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Country/ entity	Somalia
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Sodere Declaration, comprising the Declaration of National Pledges and Commitments, and Solemn Declaration, adopted on 3 January 1997 by the High-level Consultative Meeting of Somali Political Movements, held at Sodere, Ethiopia
Date	3 Jan 1997
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict (Somali Civil War (1991 -))
Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Somalia Peace Process

Parties	<p>Somali Afrikans Muki Organization/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Mohamed Ramadan Arbow; Somali Democratic Alliance/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Ali Haji Hersi; Somali Democratic Movement/Bonkai, Signed by Abdulahi Mohamed Idris "Lesto"; Somali Democratic Movement/Somali National Alliance, Signed by Issaq Malaq Ibrahim; Somali Democratic Movement/Rahanwein Resistance Army, Signed by Hassan Mohamed Nur; Somali Democratic Movement/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Abdi Musa Mayow; Somali Democratic Union, Signed by Abukar Abdi Osman; Somali National Democratic Union, Signed by Ali Ismail Abdi; Somali National Democratic Union/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Mohamed Adan Yusuf; Somali National Front/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Omer Haji Mohamed; Somali National Union/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Mohamed Rajis Mohamed; Somali Patriotic Movement/Somali National Alliance, Signed Ahmed Hashi Mohamud; Somali Patriotic Movement/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Adan Abdulahi Nur; Somali Salvation Congress, Signed by Abdullahi Moallin Mohamed; Somali Salvation Democratic Front, Signed by Mohamed Abshir Musa; Somali Salvation Democratic Front, Signed by Abdilahi Yusuf Ahmed; Southern Somali National Movement/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Abdullahi Shiek Ismail; SUDO/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Abdi Abdulahi Ibrahim; United Somali Congress, Signed by Osman Roble Mohamud; United Somali Congress/Somali National Alliance, Signed by Osman Hassan Ali, Ato; United Somali Congress/Patriotic Movement/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Abdi Osman Farah; United Somali Congress/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Ali Mahdi Mohamed; United Somali Congress/Upper Jubba, Signed by Yusuf Sheekh Mohamed; United Somali Front/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Abdi Omer Ahmed; United Somali Party, Signed by Ahmed Gure Adan; United Somali Party/Somali Salvation Alliance, Signed by Mohamed Abdi Hashi; USR, Signed by Mohamud Hussein Farah</p>
Third parties	-
Description	Short agreement aimed at finding common ground to begin reconstruction and rebuilding projects and re-establish a secure environment, also has the aim of creating a National Reconciliation Conference.

Agreement document

[SO_970301 Sodere Declaration.pdf](#)  | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth No specific mention.

Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/national group	Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge: 9. To place national interest above clan selfishness, personal greed and ambition;
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	No specific mention.
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender	Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following: C. NATIONAL RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE AND CONCLUDING NATIONAL CONFERENCE We have also agreed to convene a National Reconciliation Conference at Bossasso, Somalia, to approve the charter of the Transitional Central Authority or the Provisional Central Government. The National Reconciliation Conference will be attended by delegates representing a cross-section of Somali society including elders, intellectuals, women, political and religious leaders.
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Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge:
3. To reaffirm the unity, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Somalia;
...
9. To place national interest above clan selfishness, personal greed and ambition;

Page 2, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge:
14. To promote friendly relations with all nations and actively to pursue a policy of good-neighbourliness and mutual cooperation with the member countries of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development.

State configuration Page 12, Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:
F. OUR VISION FOR SOMALIA
[Summary] Talks about establishing a new political system with check and balances.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession No specific mention.

Accession/
unification No specific mention.

Border
delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-
border
provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)	<p>Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→Temporary new institutions</p> <p>Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council ...</p> <p>Page 10, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:</p> <p>A. THE OUTCOME OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MEETING,</p> <p>At Sodere we have established a National Salvation Council whose forty-one (41) members have been selected from the twenty-six (26) political movements participating in the High-level Consultative Meeting and a National Executive Committee with eleven (11) members led by five (5) member Co-Chairmen with the authority to act and speak on behalf of the National Salvation Council.The National Salvation Council will embark on a preparatory course of action leading to the establishment of a Transitional Central Authority or Provisional Central Government of Somalia and in this connection will pursue a five (5) point programme:</p> <p>Page 11, Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:</p> <p>C. NATIONAL RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE AND CONCLUDING NATIONAL CONFERENCE</p> <p>... A Concluding National Conference will be convened following the completion of the National Reconciliation Conference to announce the formation of the Transitional Central Authority or the Provisional Central Government in the presence of the representatives of the international community.</p> <p>Page 12, Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:</p> <p>F. OUR VISION FOR SOMALIA</p> <p>Taking into account of the fact that the collapse of the national institutions was due in part to structural defects and in part to the mismanagement of previous regimes, we have decided to construct a system of State and form of government that are suitable for our socio-political conditions and realities. We envisage in this restructuring approach a system of checks and balances ensuring not only the proper functioning of the Government, but also guaranteeing individual liberty and the democratic rights of the citizenry. Under such a system, propelled and fostered by the Somali people, a new Somalia that is strong, democratic and prosperous can be created.</p>
Elections	No specific mention.
Electoral commission	No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge:
6. To promote the cultural values and age-old traditional wisdom and tolerance of Somali society;
7. To reaffirm our deep attachment to the Islamic faith, teachings and moral values;

Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:

C. NATIONAL RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE AND CONCLUDING NATIONAL CONFERENCE

We have also agreed to convene a National Reconciliation Conference at Bossasso, Somalia, to approve the charter of the Transitional Central Authority or the Provisional Central Government. The National Reconciliation Conference will be attended by delegates representing a cross-section of Somali society including elders, intellectuals, women, political and religious leaders.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making
Page 10, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:
A. THE OUTCOME OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MEETING,
... Provisional Central Government of Somalia [...] in this connection will pursue a five (5) point programme:
3. To carry out other preparatory programmes including drafting a Transitional National Charter for the Transitional Central Authority and the Provisional Central Government, as well as preparing such other documents as are deemed necessary.

Page 12, Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:

F. OUR VISION FOR SOMALIA

During this interim period our focus will be on the achievement of reconciliation and the restoration of law and order as well as the preparation of a new constitutional arrangement for Somalia.

Power sharing

Political power sharing	Power sharing→Political power sharing→General State level Page 10, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following: A. THE OUTCOME OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MEETING, At Sodere we have established a National Salvation Council whose forty-one (41) members have been selected from the twenty-six (26) political movements participating in the High-level Consultative Meeting and a National Executive Committee with eleven (11) members led by five (5) member Co-Chairmen with the authority to act and speak on behalf of the National Salvation Council.The National Salvation Council will embark on a preparatory course of action leading to the establishment of a Transitional Central Authority or Provisional Central Government of Somalia and in this connection will pursue a five (5) point programme:
Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.
Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
Military power sharing	No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge: 8. To devote ourselves to the safeguarding of fundamental democratic principles and human rights;
Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship Rights related issues→Citizenship→Citizens, specific rights
Page 12, Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:
F. OUR VISION FOR SOMALIA
We envisage in this restructuring approach a system of checks and balances ensuring not only the proper functioning of the Government, but also guaranteeing individual liberty and the democratic rights of the citizenry.

Democracy Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge:
8. To devote ourselves to the safeguarding of fundamental democratic principles and human rights;

Page 12, Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:
F. OUR VISION FOR SOMALIA
We envisage in this restructuring approach a system of checks and balances ensuring not only the proper functioning of the Government, but also guaranteeing individual liberty and the democratic rights of the citizenry. Under such a system, propelled and fostered by the Somali people, a new Somalia that is strong, democratic and prosperous can be created.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures	Rights related issues→Protection measures→Other Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following: A. THE OUTCOME OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MEETING, ... Provisional Central Government of Somalia [...] in this connection will pursue a five (5) point programme: 4. To coordinate and facilitate the provision of emergency relief and rehabilitation programmes as well as other social services such as education, health care, environmental protection and the reactivation of the productive sectors.
Other	No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI	No specific mention.
Regional or international human rights institutions	No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law	No specific mention.
State of emergency provisions	No specific mention.
Judiciary and courts	No specific mention.
Prisons and detention	No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development
Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge:
10. To work with determination and resoluteness for the revival of our nation and its renaissance;

Page 10, Appendix III, A. Background:
... having realized that the main obstacle to progress in Somalia is the lack of a central authority capable of providing vital public services, including public safety, economic opportunity, and social justice; having further realized that the international community cannot provide adequate assistance to the Somali people without the necessary security in the country and without the institutional mechanisms through which to channel aid;

Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:
A. THE OUTCOME OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MEETING,
... Provisional Central Government of Somalia [...] in this connection will pursue a five (5) point programme:
4. To coordinate and facilitate the provision of emergency relief and rehabilitation programmes as well as other social services such as education, health care, environmental protection and the reactivation of the productive sectors.

Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:
A. THE OUTCOME OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MEETING,
... Provisional Central Government of Somalia [...] in this connection will pursue a five (5) point programme:
5. To act as the counterpart to the international community in its efforts to assist in the reconciliation process and the rehabilitation of Somalia.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds Page 10, Appendix III, A. Background:
... having realized that the main obstacle to progress in Somalia is the lack of a central authority capable of providing vital public services, including public safety, economic opportunity, and social justice; having further realized that the international community cannot provide adequate assistance to the Somali people without the necessary security in the country and without the institutional mechanisms through which to channel aid;

Page 12, Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:

G. APPEAL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

During the course of the Consultative Meeting, two themes have dominated the discussions around the conference table. One theme was the plight of the Somali people, whether at home or abroad, suffering under extremely difficult conditions.

The other theme centred on our failure to bring about any meaningful progress in the fulfilment of our obligations to our people.

However, we have resolved solemnly to pledge our commitment to carry out the terms of the agreements we have signed at Sodere and to discharge our responsibilities to our people.

In this connection, it is self-evident that the rebuilding of Somalia is of such a magnitude as to call for massive international aid in support of reconciliation, rehabilitation and reconstruction. We, therefore, appeal to the international community to continue to provide the necessary assistance while expressing our gratitude to all donor countries for extending humanitarian relief aid to our people.

Business No specific mention.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/
rights No specific mention.

Pastoralist/
nomadism
rights No specific mention.

Cultural heritage Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Intangible
Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge:
... 7. To reaffirm our deep attachment to the Islamic faith, teachings and moral values;

Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Promotion
Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge:
6. To promote the cultural values and age-old traditional wisdom and tolerance of Somali society; ...

Environment No specific mention.

Water or riparian rights or access No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees Page 10, Appendix III, A. Background:
... having realized that the main obstacle to progress in Somalia is the lack of a central authority capable of providing vital public services, including public safety, economic opportunity, and social justice; having further realized that the international community cannot provide adequate assistance to the Somali people without the necessary security in the country and without the institutional mechanisms through which to channel aid;

Page 10, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:
A. THE OUTCOME OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MEETING,
... Provisional Central Government of Somalia [...] in this connection will pursue a five (5) point programme:
1. To work for the restoration of peace, stability and law and order.

Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:
A. THE OUTCOME OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MEETING,
... Provisional Central Government of Somalia [...] in this connection will pursue a five (5) point programme:
... We have decided to spare no effort to pave the way for the establishment of a Government of national unity as well as the restoration of peace and stability in our country.

Ceasefire	No specific mention.
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/ rebel and opposition group forces	<p>Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge:</p> <p>12. To oppose and resist all forms of terrorism and foreign-inspired disruptive forces;</p> <p>Page 12, Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following: E. A NATIONAL CALL In the same spirit we call upon the Somali National Movement/Egal political groups to joint with us as soon as possible in the search for a lasting solution to the crises in the country. Similarly, we call upon the Aidid group to participate in the ongoing reconciliation process.</p>
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/ organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.

Terrorism Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge:
12. To oppose and resist all forms of terrorism and foreign-inspired disruptive forces;

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon No specific mention.

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release No specific mention.

Vetting No specific mention.

Victims No specific mention.

Missing persons No specific mention.

Reparations Transitional justice→Reparations→Symbolic reparations
Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge:
...
13. To pay homage to all those compatriots who sacrificed themselves and paid the ultimate price for the sake of peace and national salvation, to remember them as heroes of the Somali people;

Reconciliation Page 1, ... signatories of the agreement reached at Sodere to establish the National Salvation Council, hereby solemnly declare by this act our full commitment and pledge:

2. To serve the aspirations of the Somali people for peace, reconciliation and development;

...

4. To work collectively for the enhancement of the dignity of the Somali people and to restore a climate of mutual trust and of self-confidence among all our people;

5. To foster collectively the spirit of brotherhood and social harmony in all spheres of life throughout our beloved country;

...

11. To encourage all efforts directed towards peace and reconciliation among Somali communities;

Page 10, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:

A. THE OUTCOME OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MEETING,

... Provisional Central Government of Somalia [...] in this connection will pursue a five (5) point programme:

2. To help reconcile the differences among the clans in the zones of conflict and to revive and strengthen the national cohesion of the Somali people so as to ensure the return of a lasting peace and the full participation of political groups in the political decision- making process.

Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:

A. THE OUTCOME OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MEETING,

... Provisional Central Government of Somalia [...] in this connection will pursue a five (5) point programme:

5. To act as the counterpart to the international community in its efforts to assist in the reconciliation process and the rehabilitation of Somalia.

Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:

C. NATIONAL RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE AND CONCLUDING NATIONAL CONFERENCE

We have also agreed to convene a National Reconciliation Conference at Bossasso, Somalia, to approve the charter of the Transitional Central Authority or the Provisional Central Government. The National Reconciliation Conference will be attended by delegates representing a cross-section of Somali society including elders, intellectuals, women, political and religious leaders. A Concluding National Conference will be convened following the completion of the National Reconciliation Conference to announce the formation of the Transitional Central Authority or the Provisional Central Government in the presence of the representatives of the international community.

Page 12, Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:

E. A NATIONAL CALL

In the same spirit we call upon the Somali National Movement/Egal political groups to joint with us as soon as possible in the search for a lasting solution to the crises in the country. Similarly, we call upon the Aidid group to participate in the ongoing reconciliation process.

Page 12, Page 11, Appendix III, Have agreed on the following:

F. A NATIONAL CALL

Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	No specific mention.
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/similar	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	Page 7, CHAPTER FOUR, THE TRANSITIONAL FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, ARTICLE 11, 9. In the event that the Transitional Federal Government is unable to complete the process of federalism all over Somalia within the prescribed period of two and half years, the Government shall request Parliament for a vote of confidence, failing which the Transitional Federal Parliament shall withdraw its support and a new Transitional Federal Government shall be formed in the manner set out in this charter;
Related cases	No specific mention.
Source	UN Communiqué de Presse CS/779, February 27, 1997 On file with author S/1997/17
