

Country/entity	Somalia
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Declaration by the Leaders of the Somali Political Organisations
Date	24 Mar 1994
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Somali Civil War (1991 -)

Originally spurred by centre-peripheral tensions, fighting broke out in 1981 between the regime of President Said Barre and the Somali National Movement, a militia primarily consisting of members from the northern Ishaq clan. Fighting intensified in the late 1980s as more clan-based militias arose. President Barre's regime collapsed in late 1991 and as a result the UN intervened. However persistent attacks on the UN's forces forced a withdrawal in 1994. From the mid- to late 1990s, the character of the conflict shifted as warlords fought for access to rents. Also during this period, two different peace agreements arose; the Soderre Declaration, which was mediated by Ethiopia and supported by IGAD, and the Cairo Accord, which was brokered by Egypt. Fighting, already noticeably lessened compared to the early 1990s, decreased and the more amicable environment paved the way for the Transitional Government to be formed in 2000 (replaced in 2004 by the Transitional Federal Government).

Nonetheless, opposition to the TFG arose in the form of the Islamic Courts Union (ICU), which by early 2006 had taken control of most of southern Somalia until they were ousted by an armed intervention by Ethiopia in December 2006. As a result, the ICU splintered. Hard-line ICU members formed the Takfiri organization, Harakat al-Shabaab al-Mujahideen, and launched a guerrilla campaign against the TFG. Another faction of the ICU fled to Djibouti and formed the Alliance for the Re-liberation of Somalia, which was absorbed into the ruling TFG after successful negotiations in 2007.

To deal with the new round of fighting, the UN-mandated AMISOM force was deployed in 2007. Since then, insecurity has fluctuated between the urban and rural areas as the al-Shabaab's territorial gains waver. Local militia leaders maintain de facto governance over communities. From 2009 to 2012, insecurity spilled over into the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean when Somali pirates seized, looted and ransomed ships. In 2014, 'Operation Indian Ocean' was launched and in parallel with infighting among al-Shabaab, the organisation's position in Somalia has diminished slightly. However, as evidenced by large-scale attacks by al-Shabaab in northern Kenya throughout 2013-2015, the lack of security continues to destabilize the region. Al-Shabaab continues to launch surprise attacks with the aim of forcing out foreign military presence in Somalia. Targets include both military forces and civilians. The devastating attack in October 2017 in Mogadishu saw 587 fatalities and resulted in a renewed military offensive by the Somali government and African Union allies. Since 2017, the U.S. has increased its air strikes targeting al-Shabaab militants, and in December 2018 they announced to re-establish a permanent diplomatic mission in the country. Al-Shabaab has been characterized as a spoiler in the Somali peace process and have therefore been placed outside of any negotiations.

Close

Somali Civil War (1991 -)

Stage Pre-negotiation/process

Conflict nature Government

Peace process	Somalia Peace Process
Parties	Ali Mahda Mohamed (Group of 12) Mohamed Farah Hassan Aidid (SNA)
Third parties	-
Description	Short preliminary agreement touching on a range of issues, including agreeing to meet to discuss the criteria for participation in a national reconciliation conference, restore peace, form local authorities, establish an independent judiciary and establish a ceasefire.

Agreement document [SO_940324_DeclarationbyLeadersofSomaliPoliticalOrganizations.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [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	No specific mention.
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 No specific mention.

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) Page 1, 1. Following the informal consultations in Nairobi, from 11 to 23 March 1994, the political leaders of Somalia have reached an understanding based on the following principles:

(a) Inviolability of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Somali Republic;

State configuration No specific mention.

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)	Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→Temporary new institutions Page 1, Article 2, (c) In order to restore the sovereignty of the Somali State, a National Reconciliation Conference should be convened on 15 May 1994 to elect a President and Vice-Presidents (the number to be determined) and to appoint a Prime Minister;
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, Article 1, (d) Creation of an atmosphere conducive to brotherly coexistence among all Somalis, using traditional channels, cultural and political means;
Public administration	No specific mention.
Constitution	No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing	No specific mention.
Territorial power sharing	Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Local/municipal government Page 1, Article 2, (d) To complete and review the formation of local authorities, where needed, and establish them, where necessary, as a basis for regional autonomy and respect for community rights;
Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
Military power sharing	No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general Page 1, Article 1, (c) Respect for and preservation of fundamental human rights and democratic principles;

Page 1, 2. In specific terms, the leaders have agreed to implement the following: (a) To restore peace throughout Somalia, giving priority wherever conflicts exist;

Page 1, Article 2, (d) To complete and review the formation of local authorities, where needed, and establish them, where necessary, as a basis for regional autonomy and respect for community 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 No specific mention.

Democracy Page 1, Article 1, (c) Respect for and preservation of fundamental human rights and democratic principles;

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures No specific mention.

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 Page 1, Article 2, (f) To establish an independent judiciary.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds Page 3 of pdf, Page 21 of the document bundle
The Somali leaders wish to express their gratitude to the international community, particularly the United Nations, aid donor countries and countries of the region, for their valuable assistance and to request the continuation of these efforts until Somalia stands on its own feet.

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 No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

Water or riparian rights or access No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees No specific mention.

Ceasefire Security sector→Ceasefire→Ceasefire provision
Page 1, Article 1, (b) Repudiation of any form of violence as a means of resolving conflicts and implementation of cease-fire and voluntary disarmament throughout Somalia;

Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions Page 1, Article 1, (b) Repudiation of any form of violence as a means of resolving conflicts and implementation of cease-fire and voluntary disarmament throughout Somalia;
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, Article 2, (e) To urge SNM to attend the above and all national reconciliation conferences, meetings and consultations;
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	Page 1, Article 1, (e) Rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country to recover from the devastation of the civil war.
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	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	<p>Page 1, Article 2, (b) To hold a meeting of the signatory factions of the Addis Ababa peace agreement and the Somali National Movement (SNM) on 15 April 1994 in Mogadishu to set up rules and procedures of voting and criteria of participation in the National Reconciliation Conference. The meeting will also discuss the ways and the modalities to establish the National Legislative Assembly, which will be formed after the formation of the National Government;</p> <p>Page 1, Article 1, (d) Creation of an atmosphere conducive to brotherly coexistence among all Somalis, using traditional channels, cultural and political means;</p> <p>Page 1, Article 2, (c) In order to restore the sovereignty of the Somali State, a National Reconciliation Conference should be convened on 15 May 1994 to elect a President and Vice-Presidents (the number to be determined) and to appoint a Prime Minister;</p> <p>Page 1, Article 2, (e) To urge SNM to attend the above and all national reconciliation conferences, meetings and consultations;</p>

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 No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source UN Peacemaker - <http://peacemaker.un.org/>; http://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/SO_940324_DeclarationbyLeadersofSomaliPoliticalOrganizations.pdf
