

THE REPUBLIC OF SOMALILAND

House of Representatives

Date: 18 January, 2012

Committee Report on Sahil Region

Constituency Consultation



Presented by:

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1. Introduction

Somaliland House of representatives is one of the three factions of the state (Legislation, Judiciary and Executive). The current representatives was elected in late 2005, for free and fair election but the previous representatives were become the seats by nomination.

The present representatives consists of 82 MPs and were selected from the six regions in Somaliland (Saxil, Togdheer, Sanag, Sool , Maroodi-jeex and Awdal,) and every region was ected from an allocated seats.

However, Sahil region locates in the centre of Somaliland and has a long cost, as well a vibrant Port. It's the one of the most important economic source for our nation and Berbera, the regions capital always is a good revenue source for Somaliland government.

Ten representatives were elected from this region who all came from the three different political parties of (UDUB, UCID and KULMIYE).

Nevertheless, On 18 Janaury, 2012, a number of representatives from Sahil went back to their region to oversight and looks deeply the factual situation of their Constituency in a mission named *Constituency Consultation*

The MPs firstly met with the regional officers such as the Governor, the Mayor and the sectary of Berbera Local Council.

When they visited the office of the Berbera Municipality, the city mayor, Mr. Abdalle Haji Ali gave the MPs a short briefing on the region's development and the general situation. Then the governor Hon. Ramah also gave more details about region's current condition.

2. The Region's Security Condition

The regional security condition is very excellent, because the community is alert and keeps their eyes on strangers. On other hand, they can be described as '*all police*' since they are ready with their support to the regional security forces. Whenever they suspect, they immediately contact with the police. Berbera is different from other regions in Somaliland in one aspect. There are no land conflicts, which is always a social problem in the other regions of which people fight and kill each other for it; there are no case like that in here.

3. Health

The Hospital of Berbera is working less than expected. There are no employees in the hospital. There are only two ambulances who work for the accidents that occur in between Sheik and Hargeisa.

There is nurse training program for the MCH's of every small district in Saahil region, said Regions officers.

4. **The Roads**

- Berbera has one of the beautiful roads in the country. Most of them are built after Somaliland broke away from south Somalia in the 1991.
- There is a broken bridge in between Berbera and Sheik of which it's reconstruction was estimated a cost of \$7,000 but the head of the chamber of commerce is the barrier for its reconstruction but now estimated a cost of \$27,000
- There are very poor road for the eastern and western towns of Laasciid and Bulaxaar

5. **Education**

Regional Education level is low due to insufficient trained teachers. On other hand, we can say if well teachers come from the other regions in Somaliland and could not obtain good payments those well-covers their needs, then they left from the region.

6. **The Security Forces (Police)**

A small number of security forces are working in the region. The traditional leaders and regional officers told us if there is a need to recruit someone he must have a gun it's a condition for the new employment the job seekers must have a gun. This obstacle causes that little number of police.

7. **The Central Government**

The central government is not fully active in the region. There are 260 government offices who are all closed and in active. Until now, the offices of government's ministries are not open. There are only small numbers of regional coordinators who are only working.

8. **The Regional Development**

- The current development of the region is good but there are a lot of thing to be done. There are **36** different developmental projects going on and one of the most notable projects is the construction of a new football ground. This project is funded and implemented by the local municipality.



- Other remarkable developmental projects include the construction of municipality staff homes.



- Both Berbera cement factory and NEC fish company needs to be reconstructed. This can create more employment opportunity!
- The Parliament delegation attended a ceremony of which the Berbera Electric Factory was receiving an electric machine from the Chairman of Berbera port Hon. Ali Omer (Ali Xoor-Xoor). There are also two more machines that will be given to Electric factory by the central government which are in the 2011 national budget that was passed by the parliament.

- Berbera was used to be a military zone for the various successive Somali governments. The military camp surrounding the city is a problem for the day-to-day expansion of the city as no building is allowed to get close to 1km.

9. The Election Time

The Regional community complained during the elections and they noted the following concerns:

1. Berbera has less poll stations; it has only 16 poll stations inside the city. There was no single poll station between Berbera and Gelo-Kor, a district outside of Berbera.
2. The Presidential, Parliament and City council elections was always dated on a hot time during the summer season and most of the people migrated to other cold regions



10. The International Donations

- Saahil region normally does not receive an international assistance. The World Food Program (WFP) has a several large stores to keep the food donations for the East Africa. But, these donations are only transit to Berbera. Even the locals don't get good job opportunities because WFP does not give priority in this region.
- The other problem is that WFP does not recognize Berbera as a region it only recongnise Hargeisa as Northwest Region
- Berbera Port is imported a much number of police vehicle which donated by the international community to the Somaliland security forces but Berbera does not receive one single car from that vehicles.

11. Regional Mine

There are only small mine digging activities in the region but is stopped until get international mining companies.

12. Recommendations

The Regional Representatives suggested to the executive part of the government, International organizations and other concerned individuals for the following recommendations:

- ➔ **Land affairs:** - military zones are an obstacle for the city's expansion , therefore, the military compound to be relocated.
- ➔ **Ministries Divisions:** - we are suggesting to the government to open their regional ministries' offices.
- ➔ **Roads:-** it's essential to construct the two roads which goes to the eastern and western direction from Berbera (Laasciidle and Bulaxaar)
- ➔ **Mine:** - there is much number of illegal mine dealers which are neglected by the Ministry of Water and Natural Resources.
- ➔ **Wild animals:-** We saw on our naked eyes a foreigners who are killing our wild animals then roasting their meats and then exporting while they don't carry a legal license to do that.
- ➔ **Elections:** - we are suggesting to increasing the number of poll stations and must be changed the time of elections are intended to take place.
- ➔ **International Organizations:** - only one health organization is official working in this region, we are suggesting other international organizations to open their offices in the region. We are also suggesting for WFP to give priority for the people in the region at times aid distribution and the recruitment of new staffs.
- ➔ **Security Forces:** - we are suggesting for the police to recruit new security forces and giving them trainings to get professional soldiers.

13. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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