



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Transparency Somalia Initiative (TSI) Urges Immediate Safeguards Following Controversial Constitutional Amendments**

**MOGADISHU, Somalia — March 13, 2026** — The Transparency Somalia Initiative (TSI) today expressed profound concern regarding recent parliamentary amendments to the national constitution, which include provisions for an extension of the current governmental mandate. TSI calls upon all national and regional stakeholders to prioritize the rule of law and democratic legitimacy over short-term political expediency.

Constitutional processes are the foundation of state stability. TSI emphasizes that amendments of this magnitude—particularly those affecting the electoral cycle—require inclusive national consensus. The use of a parliamentary majority to bypass broader dialogue risks undermining public trust and creating a "predictability deficit" that threatens national cohesion.

"Integrity in governance is measured by adherence to established constitutional guardrails, not by the flexibility of those rules to suit incumbent interests," said a spokesperson for the Transparency Somalia Initiative (TSI). "The path to a resilient Somali state lies in transparent, inclusive, and predictable electoral processes. We urge leadership to facilitate a genuine national dialogue to address the concerns of regional and opposition stakeholders, thereby ensuring the legitimacy of our democratic architecture".

TSI highlights three immediate risks posed by the current trajectory:

- **Institutional Capture:** The risk that state machinery may be repurposed to prioritize political retention over public interest.
- **Fracturing of Federal Relations:** Exclusion of regional stakeholders threatens the federal stability of the country.
- **Incentivizing Instability:** Democratic backsliding acts as a conflict trigger, potentially destabilizing a region already sensitive to cross-border pressures.

TSI calls for an impartial, non-partisan legal audit of the amendments and the establishment of an independent, multi-stakeholder forum to monitor electoral preparations. Transparency is not a luxury; it is an essential safeguard against the erosion of state institutions.

TSI remains committed to monitoring these developments and advocating for a governance framework that respects the rights of the Somali people and the necessity of fair, timely, and credible elections.

**About Transparency Somalia Initiative (TSI)** The Transparency Somalia Initiative (TSI) is an independent, non-partisan civil society organization dedicated to promoting integrity, transparency, and accountability across Somalia's public and private sectors. TSI works to empower citizens, support institutional reform, and advocate for good governance to build a prosperous and stable nation.

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