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Hargeisa, Somaliland

Ref/SHURO-Net/ 0300 /07

Date: 29/07/07

Subject: Urgent Alert: Newly Arrested Politician in Somaliland

Somaliland Human Rights Organizations Network **SHURO-NET** has become conscious that the Somaliland government had arrested three prominent opponent politicians, Dr. Mohamed Abdi Gaboose the chairman of Qaran Political Party, Eng. Mohamed Hashi Elmi, the Vice Chairman and Mr. Jamal Aydid, the 2nd Vice-chairman, which took place in Hargeisa, Somaliland on early Sunday morning 28 July 2007. These three politicians have recently established in Somaliland a new unregistered political party called Qaran. According to the facts collected by **SHURO-NET** human rights monitors Mr. Gaboose was arrested at 8:00 am of 28 July 2007 while Eng. Hashi was detained separately and Mr. Aydid voluntarily handed himself to the police on the same day.

SHURO-NET is deeply concerned by this matter, which is yet another indication of the Somaliland government's use of defamation charges to silence and intimidate its opposition and critics.

SHURO-NET condemns unreservedly the imprisonment of the three citizens and asks that they should be released immediately and without any conditions We call international community who defend democratic principle to urgently intervene into this matter. Please send a letter to the His Excellence Dahir Rayaale Kaahin, and urge him to release the three men from prison and withdraw the charges against them. Please also urge him to encourage the Somaliland government to establish democratic governance and a culture of human rights.

The Executive Director of **SHURO-NET**, Mr. Mubarik Ibrahim Aar, described the arrest of these three politicians as another step down the wrong path, with little left to a real democracy.

The Executive Director of **SHURO-NET**, Mr. Aar added to that "The 28 July arrests of these three prominent politicians came as a shock to everyone. These three politicians are currently in prison awaiting further inquiries. Under Somaliland law, persons can be detained pending such inquiries for long periods of time. The conditions of Somaliland prisons are known to be extremely poor and unhygienic"

Mr. Aar concluded his statement to this event “**SHURO-NET** recognized the detention of these three politicians as a prisoners of conscience, because the government detained them for their political manifestation and practice, **SHURO-NET** is calling to the president of republic to release these three prisoners of conscience from the jail as soon as possible. On the other hand we call state institutions including the parliament to solve the issue of registration of the new political parts soon.”

The recently conducted democratic election in Somaliland during the last five years was one step towards restoring stability in Somaliland and establishing responsible governance for a people who have undergone one of the worst human rights violations in human history in 1980s. The introduction of liberal democracy through the 1997 Constitution was seen as an encouragement for the people to rebuild their lives and regain their dignity. However, the present attempts to silence critics and reintroduce a fear psychosis will severely undermine the few steps towards democracy and human rights taken by the country.

Yours sincerely,

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Ujeedo: Xukuumada Somaliland & Tacadiyadda Xuquuqda muwaadiniinta oo maraaya heerkii ugu sareeyay

Isku-xidhka heer qaran ee ururada xuquuqda aadamiga Somaliland (SHURO-Net) waxay si xoogan u cambaaraynayaan ficiiladda laf jabka ku ah xuquuqda aadamaaha iyo xoriyadaha aasaasiga ee ay caadysteen hawl-wadeenada xukuumada Somaliland tan iyo markii uu xilka la wareegay madaxwayne Daahir Riyaale Kaahin.

Falalka ku tacadiga xuquuqda aadamaaha oo si isdaba jooga uuga dhacaayay dalka Somaliland sanadiihii la soo dhaafay ,ayaa kii uugu dambeeyay wuxuu haleelay masuuliyiinta urur siyaasadeedka qaran, maaliniminaddii shalay sabtidii 28 July 2007, abaaro 9:00 subaxnimo.

Ciidanka bilaysku oo u horkacaayay taliyaha bilayska Somaliland Maxamed Dubad Saqadhi ayaa xabsiga madheera u taxaabay masuuliyiintii urur siyaasadeedka qaran ,masuuliyiintaas oo la rumaan gareeyay todoba maalmood, ayaa waxaa ay kala ahaayeen, Gudoomiyaha ururka qaran ,Maxamad Cabdi Gaboose,Gudoomiye ku xigeenka 1-aad Maxamed Hashi Elmi iyo Jamaal Caydiid.

Isku-xidhka ururada xuquuda aadamaaha Somaliland waxa uu u arkaa hawlgalkan lagu xidhixidhay masuuliyiinta qaran mid sharci darro ah oo lagu dagdagay isla markaana dhaawacaysa dimiquraadiyada curdinka ah iyo nidaamka xisbiyda badan taa soo ay ku hanaqaaday Jamhuuriada Somaliland.

Sida ay xogogool u yihiin ururada xuquuqda aadamiga Somaliland waxa lagula kacay masuuliyiinta ururka qaran xadgudubyo isugu jira cagajuglayn,hanjabaad iyo xadhig sharci darro ah kuwaa soo baalmarsan destoorka dalka iyo baaqyada caalamiga ah ee xuquuqda aadamiga.

Isku-xidhka ururada xuquuqda aadamiga Somaliland iyagoo tixraacaya qodobka 9 ee destoorka, faqradiisa 1aad oo odhonaaya Nidaamka siyaasadeed ee Jamhuuriyadda Somaliland waxa saldhig u ah nabab, talo-wadaag, dimuqraadiyad iyo hannaanka xisbiyada badan, iyagoo maanka ku haya qodobka 23 faqradiisa 3aad oo cadaynaysa in la isu aboobuli karo ururo siyaasadeed, iyagoo fiirinaaya qodobka 1aad ee xeer Ir,14/2000 oo qeexaya waxa loola jeeda xisbi iyo urur waxa aanu si cad uuga soo

horjeednaa tacadiga loo gaystay masuuliyiinta ururka qaran taa soo lafjab ku ah xuquuqda muwaadiniinta, si fududna u dhaawici karta sumcada iyo aqoonsiga Somaliland.

Isku-xidhka heer qaran ee ururada xuquuqda aadamiga Somaliland iyagoo adeegsanaaya qodobka 21 ee destoorka, faqradiisa 1aad oo ku amraya golayaasha dalka inay ilaaliyeen xuquuqda muwaadiniinta, iyogoo aaminsan qodobka 127 ee destoorka kaa soo aan ogolayn in wax laga badalo qodobada destoorka ee ka hadlaaya xuquuqda muwaadiniinta, iyagoo raacaya qodobka 20 ee baaqa caalamiga ah ee xuquuqda aadamiga, iyagoo ka duulaaya qodobka 22 ee heshiiska caalamiga ah ee ICCPR kaa soo dammaand qaadaya is abaabul iyo xorriyada shakhsiga, ayaa waxaanu cambaaraynaynaa xadhigii sharci darrada ahaa ee lagula kacay madaxda urur siyaasadeedka qaran, waxaanan uugu baaqaynaa xukuumada Somaliland inay si dhakhso ah xorriyadoodii uugu soo celiyaan .

Isku-xidhka ururada xuquuqda aadamiga Somaliland wuxuu uugu baaqayaa xukuumada inay ilaaliso xuquuqda muwaadiniinta isla markaana ka fogato waxkasta oo keeni kara inuu dib u dhac ku yimaado doorashooyinka loogu talagalay inay ka dhacaan Somalliland sanandkan aakhirkiisa.

Isku-xihdka heer qaran wuxuu ka codsanayaa xukuumadda Somaliland inay si dhakho ah u siidayso masuuliyiinta ururka qaran, laguna xaliyo wixii khilaaf ah ee jira wada hadal iyo isafgarad.

Ugu dambayntii waxaanu ku boohinaynaa shacbiwaynaha reer Somaliland inay ilaashadaan amnigooda kana feejignaadaan wixii dhib u keeni kara amaanka iyo kala dambaynta dalka jamhuuriyada Somaliland.

Mubarik Ibrahim Aar

Agaasimaha SHURO-Net