

UPDATED INTERVENTION BELOW from Gabooye Organisation

Madam Chair, Special Rapporteur & Distinguished Guests:

Within the general objective of the forum this year on the topic of hate speech causes; we would like to address the scale and impact it has on Gabooye people through Social media, as well as National Television.

We are concerned by the lack of a legislative and policy reform process in tackling hate speech in Somalia.

Recently on SNTV (Somali National Television) broadcasted a program with panelists who openly and explicitly support and encourage hate speech.

Fadumo Cali Maxed, one of the guests in the show, was unapologetically and candidly xenophobic and antisemitic, naming Gabooye clans the antisemitic and offensive term 'Midgaan'.

Fadumo further remarked that "it's against our religion and culture to marry Midgaan" and when asked why, she reiterated "he is a Midgan, we are not the same".

Link: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=TPJk9FbF3g0>

The Somali people consider Gabooye clans as cursed Jews, therefore, it's a common practice for Politicians, Academics, poets, artists, and civil society, in general, to practice hate speech shamelessly without any fear of repercussions.

Recently, a prominent Somali politician was invited by SONSAF - "Somaliland Non-State Actor Forum" to give a speech about the politics of the country. The Politician went on Television raving with threats to shoot while insulting, and promoting hate towards Gabooye people.

When asked a question by a member of the public, said Politician, responded with (and I quote) "tell this Yibir to go, why are you talking to this monkey looking Midgan, we will shoot you, get this guy out, get him out this Midgan". These words were expressed by Eng Faisal Ali Warabe chairman of the UCID political party.

The audience including SONSAF applaud the chairman and laughed at the man

Link: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Uf5i3Pc0Knc>

This hypocrisy is been witnessed human rights defenders - such as EUROPEAN UNION, DANIDA (Danish refugee council), SAFER WORLD, FORUM SYD, UK AID, HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL - but unfortunately they still tend to sponsor, promote, and fund radical entities, individuals and organizations like SONSAF who encourage and equip hate preachers with a platform.

Yibir Gabooye are said to be of Jewish descend, although they are Muslims, Somalis still segregate them and so the Gabooye Yibir marry between Muse dhariyo, Tumal, and Madhiban.

Xenophobia, antisemitism, and hate speech have now become the norm in everyday Somali life, as it is for everyone. However, Madam Chair, we are troubled by the disparity between policy and practice in resolving hate speech against Gabooye people in Somalia's political structure.

We would like to work on how the implementation of reformation, monitoring, and training will aid in the dismantling of hate speech within Somali politics.

Finally, Madam Chair, as no Special Rapporteur has been to Somalia on a fact-finding mission, we would like to invite the Special Rapporteur on minority issues Dr. Fernand De Varennes to join us along with MRG (Minority Rights Group) to assist in establishing a working mechanism that can tackle xenophobia, antisemitism and hate speech.

Thank you.

“Madam chair, distinguished guests

Within the general objective of the forum this year on the topic of hate speech causes, scale and impact it has on Gabooye people on Social media as well as national television.

I am concerned by the lack of legislative and policy reform process in tackling hate speech in Somalia.

Recently on SNTV Somali national television broadcasted a program inviting panelist who openly and explicitly support and encourage hate speech.

Fadumo Cali Maxed was one of the guests in the show who unapologetically was openly xenophobic and antisemitic naming Gabooye clans Midgaan. Fadumo went on to say that “it’s against our religion and culture to marry Midgaan” when asked why, she reiterated “he is a Midgan, we are not the same”.

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The Somali people consider Gabooye clans as cursed Jews, hence the reason why it’s a common practice for Politicians, Academics, poets, artists and the civil society in general practice hate speech openly without any fear of repercussions.

Recently a prominent Somali politician was invited by SONSAF “Somaliland Non State Actor Forum” to give a speech about the politics of the country. The Politician went on Television ranting by threatening to shoot, insulting and promoting hate towards Gabooye people calling them.

The politician when asked a question by a member of public said I quote “tell this Yibir to go, why are you talking to this monkey looking Midgan, we will shoot you, get this guy out, get him out this Midgan” said Eng Faisal Ali Warabe chairman of UCID political party.

The audience including SONSAF applaud the chairman and laughed at the man

Link: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Uf5i3Pc0Knc>

It’s hypocritical to see on one hand the human rights defenders like EUROPEAN UNION, DANIDA (Danish refugee council), SAFER WORLD, FORUM SYD, UK AID, HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL sponsor, promote and fund entities, individuals and organization like SONSAF who support and provide platform to hate preachers.

Yibir Gabooye are said to be of Jewish descend, although they are Muslims Somalis still segregate them and the Gabooye Yibir marry between Muse dhariyo, Tumul and Madhiban.

Xenophobia, antisemitism and hate speech has now become norm in everyday Somali live. However Madam chair, I am concerned by the disparity between policy and practice in fighting hate speech against Gabooye people in Somalia's political structure.

My concern is how are we going to reform, monitor, train and dismantle hate speech from Somali politics.

Finally madam chair, as no special rapporteur has been to Somalia on a fact finding mission we would to invite the special rapporteur on minority issues Dr. Fernand De Vareness to join us along with MRG to assist in establish a working mechanism that can tackle xenophobia, antisemitism and hate speech.

Thank you."

Regards
Dr. Naser Issa