

## Gaboye Minority Organization

Madame Chair. I am [inaudible], member of the Somaliland Parliament. I am also a representative of the Gaboye minority community in the horn of Africa. Somaliland is the home of a million unrecognized citizens, which makes all of them minorities. We are proof of the strong spirit of our people. We are emerging from total aggression for decades, we have suffered from horrible human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings, mass murder, and the unjust destruction of our homes, which [inaudible]. With the determination, our people have fought for their freedom, and in 1991, reclaimed this freedom within the border of the former British protectorate of Somaliland. We united our efforts to rebuild our nation with a democratic system of government, and to foster equality and justice for all citizens. Despite fulfilling all criteria of statehood, Somaliland remains unrecognized by the international community. This lack of recognition has blocked our nation's progress, and prevented our aspirations for a brighter future for our people [inaudible]. In 2021, during our parliamentary election, I received an unprecedented 20,000 votes to secure my seat in the House of Representatives. I am from a minority community, yet I received the highest popular vote in the history of Somaliland. [Cut off by Chair]