



## Guddiga Madax-bannaan ee Xuquuqul Insaanka Qaranka

اللجنة الوطنية المستقلة لحقوق الإنسان  
National Independent Human Rights Commission

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Mogadishu, 13 May 2026** — The National Independent Human Rights Commission of Somalia (NIHRC) expresses concern over the continued detention and situation of Ms. Sadia Moallim Ali, who has been held at Mogadishu Central Prison for more than one month without formal charges being brought against her.

In fulfilment of its constitutional mandate to protect and promote human rights, the Commission visited Mogadishu Central Prison on 29 April 2026 to assess detention conditions and review Ms. Ali's situation. During the visit, the Commission received briefings from officials of the Somali Custodial Corps and Mogadishu Central Prison. The Commission also conducted a private interview with Ms. Ali and separately met with her legal counsel.

According to a press statement issued by the Office of the Attorney General on 6 May 2026, Ms. Ali is being held in relation to allegations concerning defamation and incitement. However, the Commission expresses concern that, to date, no formal charges have been filed against Ms. Sadia and no hearing date has been scheduled, raising concerns regarding her right to a fair trial and due process.

Ms. Sadia Moallim Ali informed the Commission of allegations relating to mistreatment during detention, including punitive measures, intimidation, inadequate food, overcrowding, poor sanitation, insufficient ventilation, and restrictions on family visits. While the Commission is not in a position to independently verify these allegations at this stage, it calls for a full and impartial investigation to establish the facts.

The Commission reminds the relevant authorities that the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Somalia, national laws, and international human rights instruments to which Somalia is a party guarantee freedom of expression, the right to liberty and security of the person, and the right to fair hearing and due process. These protections apply to all persons, including detainees.

Chairperson of the National Independent Human Rights Commission, Dr. Maryam Qasim, stressed: "Detention does not deprive a person of their fundamental rights. Every detainee remains entitled to dignity, humane treatment, access to healthcare, contact with family, and full legal protection under national and international law."

The National Independent Human Rights Commission calls upon the relevant authorities to ensure full respect for the rights of Ms. Ali and others in similar situations, including the timely advancement of judicial processes in accordance with the rule of law and established legal procedures.

The Commission will continue to monitor the detention and situation of Ms. Ali, as well as the broader conditions of detainees, in line with its constitutional mandate.

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