



PRESS STATEMENT

NIHRC Statement on the Recent Violence Against Civilians in Ari-Caddeeye, Sool Region, and Jalalaqsi District, Hiiraan Region

Mogadishu, 27 June 2026

The National Independent Human Rights Commission of Somalia (NIHRC) strongly condemns the unlawful killings of civilians in Ari-Caddeeye, Sool Region, where at least 21 civilians, including children and older persons, were reportedly killed in an indiscriminate attack. The Commission also condemns the violence in Jalalaqsi District, Hiiraan Region, where at least 10 people were killed and civilian homes were reportedly burned.

The Commission is gravely concerned by reports of attacks against civilians, the destruction of civilian property, the forced displacement of families, and the serious humanitarian consequences of these incidents. Civilians and civilian objects must never be the target of attack. All parties to the conflict are bound by their obligations under the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Somalia, international human rights law, and international humanitarian law.

The NIHRC has been closely monitoring developments in both Ari-Caddeeye and Jalalaqsi and has undertaken a preliminary assessment of the information received. The Commission will continue to gather and verify information and engage with the relevant authorities and other stakeholders in accordance with its constitutional and statutory mandate.

The Commission calls for the immediate cessation of hostilities and urges all parties to take all feasible measures to protect civilians and civilian property, exercise maximum restraint, and strictly comply with their obligations under international law. The NIHRC further calls on the competent authorities of the Northeastern State Administration to conduct prompt, independent, impartial, thorough, and effective investigations, ensure those responsible are held accountable through due process, and facilitate timely humanitarian assistance for affected communities.

The Commission also calls on traditional elders, religious leaders, women, youth, and community leaders to intensify efforts to de-escalate tensions, promote dialogue, and support peaceful reconciliation to prevent further violence.

The NIHRC extends its deepest condolences to the families of those killed and wishes a full and speedy recovery to those injured. The Commission reiterates its commitment to promoting and protecting human rights, advancing accountability, combating impunity, and contributing to sustainable peace in Somalia.

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