



**PRESS RELEASE: PUNSAA extends a warm reception to Puntland President Said Abdullahi Deni's call for Dialogue and Political Resolution in Federal-Puntland Relations**

**Garowe, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024** — The Puntland Non-State Actors Association (PUNSAA) extends its enthusiastic support for the recent call by Puntland President, Mr. Said Abdullahi Deni, calling for dialogue and a political resolution to the ongoing conflict between the Federal Government of Somalia and the Puntland State.

PUNSAA perceives this initiative as a pivotal moment to narrow the divide between these entities and transcend the current political impasse, which detrimentally affects Somalia's state-building efforts and the well-being of the Somali populace. We firmly believe that constructive dialogue and mutual understanding are paramount to fostering national development and unity.

In this light, PUNSAA calls upon both parties to prioritize approaches that facilitate meaningful negotiations and critical consultations aimed at achieving a harmonious consensus. These discussions must be anchored in principles of sincerity, patience, and goodwill to cultivate a durable and equitable agreement for the nation's future.

It is unequivocal that ongoing political conflicts undermine national unity, impede nation-building, and obstruct solutions to pressing issues confronting Somali society, such as poverty, insecurity, corruption, unemployment, and regional instability in the Horn of Africa.

PUNSAA also endorses President Deni's proposal for an inclusive forum for discussions and emphasizes the necessity of involving civil society in these crucial negotiations. This involvement is essential to ensure transparency and to directly address issues impacting the future and the lives of the Somali people.

PUNSAA stands ready to facilitate any efforts aimed at resolving the political conflicts that hinder the seamless progression of state-building in Somalia. We are committed to supporting initiatives that promote peace, stability, and progress.

Lastly, we earnestly urge the Federal Government of Somalia to embrace Puntland's call with an open heart and to swiftly initiate genuine dialogue between both sides, fostering a spirit of cooperation and unity.

**###**

***PUNSAA** is an association that is comprised of 118 civil society organizations in Puntland. It is intended to harmonize, coordinate and represent the voices and aspirations of Puntland non-state actors.*