Infographic
Women’s role in Somalia’s National Reconciliation Conference (2002-2004)

BACKGROUND ON SOMALIA’S NATIONAL RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE (2002-2004)

Somalia National Reconciliation Conference: Following a decade of civil-war violence in Somalia and a series of unsuccessful peace processes, the Somalia National Reconciliation Conference was held in three phases in Ethiopia and Mogadishu, Kenya between October 2002 and October 2004. The Conference was initiated by the GAD (State of Kano, Duffa), and Egypt to promote their respective visions for Somalia’s future. The conference had some positive outcomes, including a ceasefire, issue-specific processes made by representative reconciliation Committees, a new Federal Charter, and a new Parliament. Ultimately however, from 2005 Somalia again descended into violence due to tensions between political factions. It’s the lack of national security, force, and the rise of Al-Shabaab.

WOMEN’S INCLUSION IN THE PROCESS

Consultations

Consulted with GAD faction leaders and mediators

Prepared for inclusion of women

Problem-solving workshops

Conducted workshops in November 2003

Prevent to keep process from collapsing

Mass action

Demonstrations on International Women’s Day in Nairobi 2003

Demand and involvement in the National Reconciliation Conference

National Reconciliation Conference

Need to appear inclusive and institutional processes existing for female Direct Representation

27 out of 322 voting delegates were women

2 out of 22 Leader’s Committee members were women

1 woman co-chair of final phase of Conference

Observer Status

2 women observers

WOMEN’S ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PROCESS

Lobbying and consulting by women CSOs helped push delegates to sign the ceasefire agreement in Ethiopia

Advocacy by women helped ensure their participation in the National Reconciliation Conference as writing delegations and observers

Demonstrators’ demands for women’s representation in any future political administration helped to ensure that this issue was on the agenda at the Conference.

First woman in Somali history signed a peace agreement, the amended Transitional Federal Charter.

Women delegates helped include in Transitional Federal Charter’s % quota of women parliamentarians and references to both men and women in high public official roles.

FACTORS ENABLING WOMEN’S INFLUENCE

Local and international support structures for women

Implementation of women as peacemakers

Effective coalition building

Promotion of communication, and advocacy strategies

FACTORS CONSTRaining WOMEN’S INFLUENCE

Patriarchal gender norms

Exclusionary selection criteria and procedures

Eliminative decision making

Exclusionary party and political leadership

This infographic is based on a case study published by the Inclusive Peace & Transition Initiative (IPT) as part of the series “Women in Peace and Transition Processes” that analyzes the conditions under which women participate in and influence peace, political reform, and constitutional making processes worldwide. To discover other infographics and our case study series, visit our website: www.inclusivepeace.org

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