

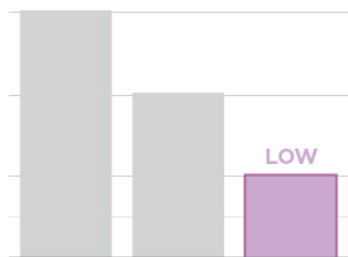
# Women's role in Somaliland's peace and political reform process (1993)



## BACKGROUND ON SOMALILAND'S PEACE AND POLITICAL REFORM PROCESS (1993)

The **Grand Conference on National Reconciliation in Borama** was initiated in 1993, with the aim of ending the large-scale violence in the then newly self-declared Republic of Somaliland. The Conference did not manage to cease all hostilities between the clans; however, the process was successful in transitioning Somaliland from a military to a civilian government, institutionalizing the political system, and demobilizing large parts of the militias.

## WOMEN'S INFLUENCE



## WOMEN'S INCLUSION IN THE PROCESS

### Mass action

**Women's organizations** led and participated in demonstrations and protests from the end of President Barre's regime to the implementation of the agreement of the Borama Conference



Pushed for the start of negotiations and the inclusion of women

### Negotiations between Somaliland's clans in Borama

Mandate: Address the causes of the violence between clans



**No women** among the **150** voting delegates

**17** women observers from **2** women's organizations, out of **2,000** observers



Presented demands related to peace among the clans and the continuation of the process

## WOMEN'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PROCESS

- ➔ Women's groups organized and participated in demonstrations and protests to pressure the clans to find a peaceful solution to the conflict
- ➔ Women's targeted advocacy for peace and reconciliation reached the attention of the clan elders, and 17 women joined talks as observers, which was a first
- ➔ Women observers attended discussions in the plenary, in which they presented demands in the form of speeches, poems, pamphlets, and songs

### + FACTORS ENABLING WOMEN'S INFLUENCE



Strong women's groups



Mass action



External advocacy and pressure tactics



Clan elders' recognition of women's role

### - FACTORS CONSTRAINING WOMEN'S INFLUENCE



Exclusive selection criteria and practices



Patriarchal attitudes and societal expectations around gender roles



No official decision-making power as observers

This infographic is based on a case study published by the Inclusive Peace & transition Initiative (IPTI) as part of the series "Women in Peace and Transition Processes" that analyzes the conditions under which women participated in and influenced peace, political reform, and constitution-making processes worldwide. To discover other infographics and our case study series, visit our website: [www.inclusivepeace.org](http://www.inclusivepeace.org)

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