

Calls Grow for International Review of Somalia Aid Amid Human Rights Concerns

MOGADISHU, Somalia — Growing numbers of activists, civil society organizations, and opposition figures are calling on international donors to reassess their financial and security assistance to Somalia amid allegations of corruption, forced evictions, arbitrary arrests, and human rights abuses.

Somalia remains heavily dependent on international support from the United States, the European Union, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, the United Nations, and the World Bank. Foreign partners provide billions of dollars in humanitarian, development, security, and institutional support annually.

Critics argue that despite significant international assistance, reports of forced evictions, restrictions on dissent, and alleged abuses by security forces continue to increase in parts of the country, particularly in Mogadishu and Baidoa.

Human rights activists claim that large numbers of families have been displaced from their homes in Banadir Region, while thousands of students have seen their education disrupted due to displacement and insecurity.

The issue has received increased international attention following recent reports by international media organizations and human rights groups documenting allegations of mistreatment of political activists and protesters in detention facilities.

Opposition figures and civil society organizations have urged donor countries and international financial institutions to condition future assistance on stronger accountability measures, judicial independence, anti-corruption reforms, and respect for fundamental human rights.

Supporters of the Somali government argue that continued international assistance remains essential for security, economic stability, and the fight against terrorism, warning that a reduction in aid could further destabilize the country.

The debate comes amid ongoing political tensions surrounding governance, elections, constitutional disputes, and questions regarding the future direction of Somalia's democratic institutions.

Observers say international donors face increasing pressure to balance support for state institutions with demands for greater transparency, accountability, and protection of civil liberties.