



## **Inauguration and Commencement of the Somali National Tripartite Committee: A commendable and progressive move**

### **BIPARTITE STATEMENT**



The Federation of Somali Trade Unions (FESTU) and the Somali Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) wish to publicly and hearteningly express their commendation for the inauguration and commencement of the work of the Somali National Tripartite Consultative Committee (SNTCC). The inauguration and the first business session of the Committee took place in Mogadishu yesterday, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019, and was chaired by the Honourable Minister of Labour and Social Affairs of Somalia, Sadik Hirsi Warfa MP.

This action is commendable and progressive. This is because we know and are confident that social dialogue is and remains a tool that can help address socio-economic and labour relations challenges. When people and organised groups genuinely talk, chances are high that differences are easily identified and addressed, and common fronts and actions are mounted in the service of the people and the country.

Social dialogue represents a space of governance which can accommodate a broad range of actors and ensure broader ownership of development policies and programmes, thereby enhancing political legitimacy. In addition, it is a proven source of stability at all levels, from the enterprise to society at large, promoting productivity and shared growth under conditions of fairness and social justice.

We do note as organised labour and employers' group that national social dialogue is of extreme importance and has a strategic dimension in that deepening consultation between the government and social partners builds consensus on broad issues, to navigate the current situation in a balanced and inclusive way that promotes social justice, fairness and equity. This is in line with the provisional Constitution of the country as well as continental and international statutes that Somalia has ratified.

FESTU and SCCI jointly congratulate Honourable Minister Sadik Warfa for this historic achievement. It is historic in that for the first time since Somalia joined the ILO, a functioning tripartite consultative committee for labour relations was established.

As SCCI and FESTU, we want to pledge our full support and commitment to work with the committee towards the attainment of the development, nation-building, decent work agenda and shared prosperity aspirations of the Somali government and people. We commit to work tirelessly, genuinely and humanely with the other social partners, stakeholders and supporting partners to ensure that the SNTCC delivers tangible results that workers, employers, our people and their communities can see, feel and enjoy.

SCCI and FESTU also wish to thank the International Labour Organisation (ILO) as an organisation and its officials for their eternal commitment to social dialogue, tripartism and decent work. We are grateful to them for their institutional, technical, moral and financial support that have always been ready and handy upon demand. We are equally grateful to the development partners that have and continued to support Somalia in its quest for nation-building and regeneration. Our sole aim is to make Somalia a better place not only for workers & employers, but for every Somali.

*Jointly Issued on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 by:*

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