

**REPUBLIC OF SOMALILAND**  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS &  
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



**JAMHUURIYADDA SOMALILAND**  
WASAARADA ARRIMAHA DIBEDDA  
& ISKAASHIGA CAALAMIGA AH

---

**Petition for Somaliland Recognition Report**

**(Over Million Petitioners Signed)**

**By:**

**Abdiqani Ahmed Hassan**  
**Director of Political Department**

**August, 2016**

## **Petition for Somaliland Recognition**

### **Overview**

Somaliland won its independence on 26 June 1960. Somaliland was an independent, sovereign state before it entered into a failed union with Somalia on a dubious legal basis. The population of Somaliland suffered systematic discrimination, injustice, and mass killings during the union with Somalia. On May 18 1991, the people dissolved the union with Somalia and reclaimed their independence.

Over the last 25 years the people of Somaliland have delivered many remarkable achievements. Since reclaiming its Independence in 1991, Somaliland has established a peaceful, democratic state that provides services to its people and established accountable government. It has shown to be a reliable partner in addressing issues of international importance such as terrorism, piracy, extremism, and human trafficking.

### **Objectives of the Petition**

- ⦿ To collect one Million Signatures to show the support of the public for Somaliland Recognition
- ⦿ To demonstrate that the people's commitment to their independence has not diminished

- ☉ To send a strong message to the international community to pay attention and take Somaliland's case very seriously.

## **Petition Process**

The petition initiative to collect one Million signatures in support of Somaliland's Recognition began on 29 April, 2016 and ended on 9 August, 2016.

During this period, 246 young activists, primarily university Students from all regions of Somaliland: **Central regions(Maroodi-jeex,Saaxil),Eastern Regions (Sool, Sanaag, Tog-dher) and Western regions (Awdal and Gabiley)** took to the streets, Villages, Markets, Schools ,Universities and Public Institutions to collect one million signatures.

Despite the many challenges faced, the people were very supportive, and helped the team and the volunteers to carry out the survey successfully and smoothly.

## **Methodology**

The Methods used for this petition were consistent with International standards.

Participants were each asked to read the petition and were then asked to provide their names, telephone numbers and signatures if they supported Somaliland's independence.

## **Validity and Reliability**

To assure the Validity and Reliability of the Petition, The Petition team screened the information provided to remove incomplete records and eliminate duplications. The mobile banking system Zaad Service was also used to assist with the screening process.

## **Outcome of the Petition**

The petition was successful in reaching its target and over one million signatures which clearly demonstrates the continued support of the public for Somaliland Recognition.

This sends a powerful message to the international community that the aspirations of our people need to be taken seriously.

**Table 1.0: Petitioners signed Petition for Somaliland Recognition**

<b>No</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Selected Regions</b>	<b>Signatures</b>
<b>1</b>	Eastern regions	Sool, Sanaag, Togdheer	295,675
<b>2</b>	Central regions	Maroodi jeex, Saaxil	543,435
<b>3</b>	Western regions	Awdal, Gebiley	181,890
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,021,000</b>

## Geographical Distribution

