Regional Seminar for Arab Parliamentarians on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda

SESSION II
COUNTRY EXPERIENCES

Somalia
Youth Engagement

Hon. Mohamed Said Abdilahi, House of the People SFG, [Rule of Procedure, Ethics, Discipline and Immunity]
Hon. Farhia Mumin Ali, House of the People SFG
CHALLENGE

• A lack of functioning government institutions for more than two decades.
• Statistically 80% of Somali population are under 35 Yrs old and Close to a 70% of Somali youth are unemployed.
• A lack of clear vision and polices that enable them to be part of the productive society is absent.
MECHANISMS & ACTIONS

• The ninth SFG parliament with the help of executive Branch and international partners created a platform that advocates youth inclusion.
• The SFG representatives encouraged Youth to participate the election of the 10th parliament
• Formation of mini-youth parliamentarians helped many youth to get involve and later resulted the increase of youth in the new parliament.
IMPACT

• Increased youth participation in shaping future involvement in Somali political process
• The first Somali Youth Parliament was established in December 2014
• More than 76 new mps joined the 10th parliament and some later become part of the ministers in cabinet.
LESSONS LEARNED

• Nations should include their youth in the process of political representation to secure sustainable development.
• The leadership of the country should create the enabling environment where youth can benefit for the future of the country.
• If security permitted more voices could participate from different federal states to shape the future of the nation.