

SRS COMMEMORATES INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY, URGES STRONGER PROTECTIONS FOR JOURNALISTS IN SOMALIA



Safe **Reporters** Of Somalia

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

10 DECEMBER

Mogadishu – Safe Reporters of Somalia (SRS) marked International Human Rights Day by underscoring the indispensable role of an independent media in safeguarding the fundamental rights and freedoms of Somali citizens.

Speaking during the commemoration, SRS emphasized that journalists are central to advancing justice, accountability, and public awareness. The organization noted that genuine press freedom is unattainable without firm protection of the human rights of all individuals.

“We reaffirm that the protection of human rights is a critical foundation for press freedom and social progress. Journalists must be able to operate in a safe and unrestricted environment, reporting independently and without fear,” SRS stated.

SRS also released recent data showing that more than 15 journalists across Somalia — including in Somaliland — have faced violations in the past two months, describing this as a troubling indicator of the escalating threats facing freedom of expression.

Key Recommendations from Event Participants

During the event, attendees and stakeholders shared several recommendations aimed at strengthening the safety and independence of journalists in Somalia. These included:

Enhancing legal protections to ensure journalists can operate without intimidation or interference.

Improving accountability mechanisms, with calls for prompt and transparent investigations into all violations against journalists.

Expanding capacity-building initiatives, including safety training and professional development for media workers.

Strengthening collaboration between government institutions, civil society, and international partners to promote press freedom and uphold human rights.