



## INTERGOVERNMENTAL EDUCATION FORUM ACHIEVES MILESTONES IN SOMALIA.



1<sup>st</sup> Quarter, the Ministers of Education of the Federal, Federal Member States and Banadir Regional Administration meeting in Garowe, the capital city of Puntland State of Somalia.

On 28 November to 1 December, the forum of intergovernmental education institutions from the federal government, federal member states and Banadir Regional Administration (BRA) was held in Kismayo, Jubbaland State of Somalia and made some achievements in the development of the Education coordination in Somalia.

The RCRF education office under the Ministry of Education, Culture and Higher Education (MoEC&HE) has led the arrangements and management of this 2<sup>nd</sup> forum of intergovernmental education institutions from the federal government, federal member states and Banadir Regional Administration (BRA) in Kismayo.

The Minister of Education, Culture and Higher Education of the Federal Government of Somalia, H.E. Abdullahi Abukar Xaji Arab has encouraged all members of the forum to avoid politicising Somalia education as it is an essential basic need for millions of Somali Children in the Federal and the Federal member States.



The Minister of Education, Culture and Higher Education of the Federal Government of Somalia, H.E. Abdullahi Abukar Xaji

This meeting has been a follow up of the First Quarter of inter-governmental Education Forum Committee meeting in Garowe in July which was aimed to enhance cooperation and coordination through the spirit of understanding of the federal government of Somalia and federal member states' goals on improving the education service delivery. The Outcome of the first quarter in Garowe meeting were mainly strengthening the fundamental collaborations and advancing education systems and process among federal government, federal member states and Banadir Regional Administration through establishing the notion of national examination and curriculum boards.

Federal Education Ministry shared the national education development objectives, obstacles and future positive perspectives that should be adopted and implemented at all levels of governments. The forum had attended significant extraordinary level of delegates from various education institutions within the country along with technical support experts from RCRF education office to simplify the technical issues and support the forum in facilitating the discussions, documenting agreements and drafting official communique to ensure that the expectations and the outcomes of the forum are met.

Following an intensive discussions, the forum finally agreed on memorandum of understanding on the requirements on the establishments of national examination/certificate and curriculum boards as the strengthening of working collaboration among education institutions of the country. One of the main achievements of the forum included the development of comprehensive terms of references for education boards.



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Leaders from federal government, federal member states and Banadir Regional Administration had magnificently accomplished the summary of these items: Brief definition of the boards which emphasized that all members have agreed the boards should be national and independent or autonomous bodies performed the essential examination, certificate and curriculum needs of the country through having their internal regulations, policies and strategic document that will guide their implementation day to day tasks.

Also the forum has been successful in agreeing the grounds for setting up the national examinations and curriculums, benchmarks to measure the exams, certificates and curriculum developments, checking the standard milestones being implemented by the boards, supervisory role during the exam and execution of the curriculum activities needs to be done, authorization of approval of the exams, certificates and curriculums in the entire country, preparation of regulations and enactments of exams and curriculum relevant issues.



Group photo of the Intergovernmental Education Forum Committee led by Ministers of Education for FGS, FMS & BRA, Garowe, Puntland, Somalia.

In addition, the forum made important decision on the requirements for setting up of the financial budgets of the boards and generating reports that carries out significant information to the public and keeping acts regulating national certificate management and finally vetting the overall national plan on exams, certificates, and curriculums.

Furthermore, the nomination process of the board members was also part of the agreed agenda item facilitated by the intergovernmental education forum office through presented alternative options that have been chosen by the leaders of education institutions signed the memorandum of understanding.

The forum's Respective Education Ministries from federal member states and Director General of Banadir Administration will propose the members to the Federal Minister of Education and then the FGS minister of Education will present the names of the members, their accountabilities, or responsibilities to the Council of Ministers of the FGS and finally the Prime Minister will officially nominate the members in a degree level of his office after the cabinet approval.



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The office term of the boards was set by the intergovernmental education forum committee, this comes through a consensus way of evaluating factors could determine performance coverage as well as the suitable time of the boards as per their own internal work plan.

The selection criteria of the board members were also part of the agreed agenda item that the inter-ministries and director of social affairs of Banadir Regional Administration have signed as the memorandum of understanding.

In conclusion, with the final appointment and approval of the National Committee for Curriculum and Examination, the forum will have greatly achieved the required benchmarks which simplifies the finalization of a unifying the National Curriculum, Examinations and Certificates within the next intergovernmental education forum committee scheduled in Dusamareb, Galmudug state of Somalia.

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