

UN Monitoring Group on Somalia (SEMG) undermines Somalia Development

BELEDWEYN: April 05, 2016 – More than 300 prominent leaders from the civil society, gathered in Beledweyne, the provincial capital of Hiiraan region in a bid to express their concerns over the constant violations by the SEMG members against prominent Somali traders, civil society members and government officials.

The gathering which followed similar previous rallies in Mogadishu during March 2016, highlighted the continuous harassment supplemented with baseless and fabricated accusations which members of the SEMG accustomed to engage. It was organized by the women groups but all other civil society sectors, including Youth, Religious leaders and business communities have attended in order to make their stance clear against the unacceptable behaviors of the SEMG members whose credibility is completely damaged.

“The gathering is a show of solidarity with the innocent Somalis who have been implicated by the SEMG, who continue to violate rights of many citizens by way of fabricating reports and through blackmailing. We demand that Somalia government to take action against those criminals who have accustomed to lies”, Duniyo Dahir Dhicisow, a member of the Hiiraan Women Association said.

“Their unethical approach is unacceptable, they have already done enough damage and we intensely reject any form of harassment or defamation from any institution and organized criminals like the SEMG members, who exploit the legitimate mandate of the UN security council, they must go and their violations must end”, Ahmed Warsame Abdulle, a prominent civil society member said.

The gathering underscored the failure by the SEMG members whose inattentive manners have already inflicted profound impairment, not only on innocent individuals and government institutions but also on the gradual recovery and growth of the private sector as well as the economic activities in the country.

“Their constant use of fabricated reports and intimidating individuals to make up baseless evidence is enough disappointment, we ask the Somali government to come into the assistance of its citizens, in order to end what we consider to be an organized criminal activity by a committee in disguise of UN mandated agency”, Abdi Muhidin Sabriye, a traditional elder who was among the speakers said.

“The credibility of the SEMG members is compromised and they have clearly exploited a legitimate UN mandate which was to help Somalia so that, they have to be brought to justice for the damage they did so far”, he added.

Somali people will no longer tolerate the destruction of the SEMG and their methods intended to harm the Somali people and its institutions. We urge the Somali government to expel all the members of the monitoring group, and carry out thoroughly investigation regarding the damage they have done, since the day they started working in Somalia.