Chair,

Civil society welcomes the Federal Government of Somalia's commitment to implementing the 2030 Agenda through the National Transformation Plan and ongoing reforms to strengthen governance, local institutions and public service delivery.

We recognise progress in public financial management, climate resilience, a just transition, humanitarian coordination and efforts to protect vulnerable groups. We also acknowledge initiatives to strengthen oversight institutions, improve access to basic services and expand social protection.

However, implementation remains uneven. Civil society remains concerned that many commitments have yet to translate into tangible improvements in the daily lives of ordinary Somalis. Persistent insecurity, weak institutions, corruption, limited transparency and inadequate public participation continue to undermine progress towards the SDGs. Food insecurity, climate change, unemployment, displacement and widespread poverty continue to affect millions of Somalis, while women, children, internally displaced persons, persons with disabilities and minority communities still face significant barriers to accessing justice, healthcare, education, social protection and decent work.

Civil society calls for greater investment in peacebuilding that addresses the root causes of conflict through decent work, social protection, inclusive governance, reconciliation and social dialogue. We also urge stronger protection of human rights, an end to impunity, the protection of civic space, the deepening of social dialogue, meaningful participation of civil society, trade unions, women and young people in decision-making, and closer alignment of national legislation with international human rights standards. Civil society stands ready to work with the government and all stakeholders to accelerate implementation of the SDGs.

Achieving the SDGs requires stronger national leadership, greater transparency and accountability, effective partnerships and sustained investment to ensure that no one is left behind.

We therefore ask, what concrete accountability mechanism will the government establish to ensure that the commitments made through this VNR translate into measurable improvements in the lives of ordinary Somalis?

Thank you.