

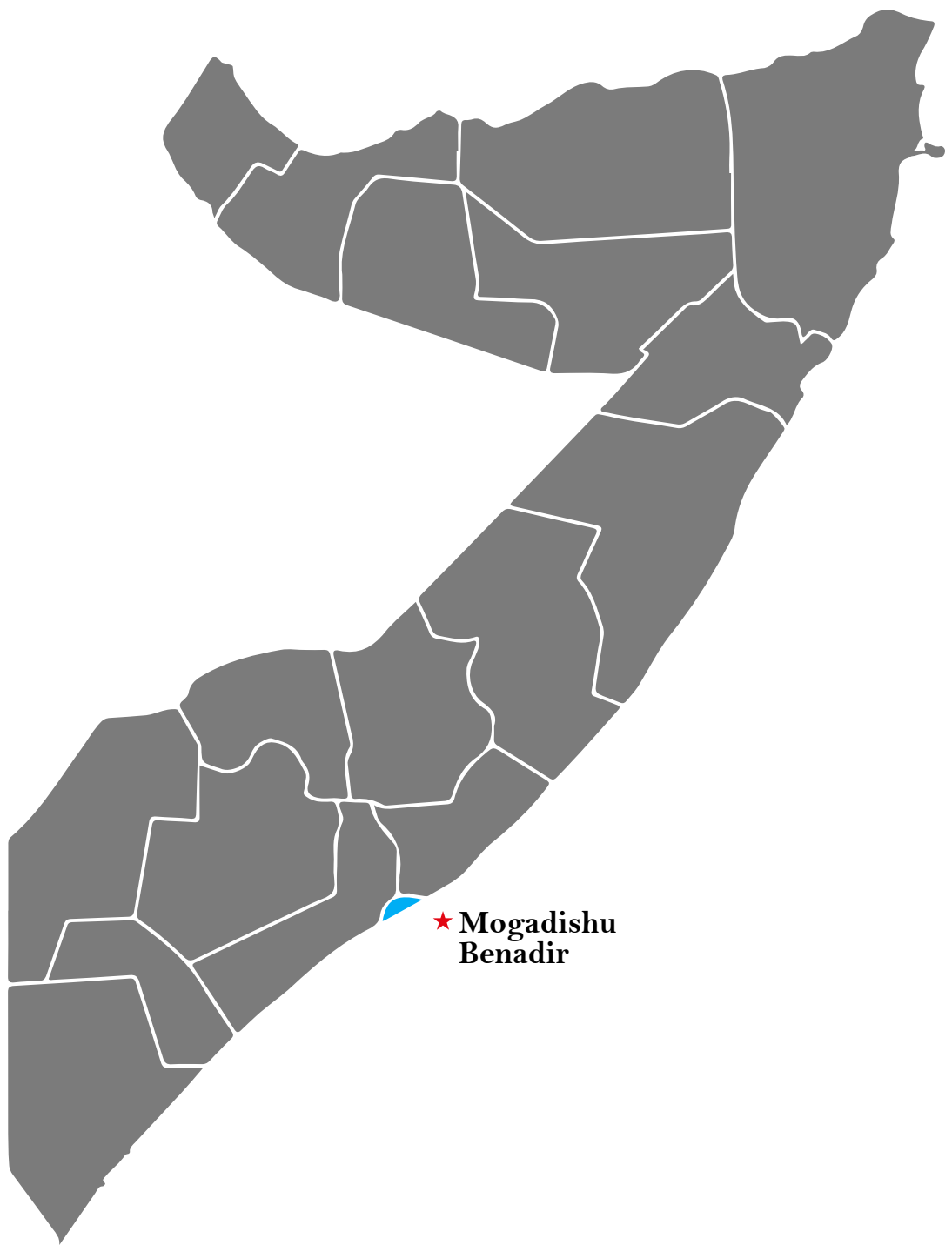


**ORGANIZATION FOR
PRISONERS' RIGHTS**

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN MOGADISHU PRISONS

December, 2022





★ Mogadishu
Benadir

Executive Summary

As of 2016, Somalia became a Federal State with Six (6) Federal Member States including; Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Jubaland, Puntland, South West State, and the self-declared Republic of Somaliland. When talking about the prisons in Somalia the discussions focus on the Prison facilities in the 6 Federal Member States and also the Prisons in the Benadir Region (Mogadishu).

The overall purpose of this annual report is to give an account of the state of human rights violations in Mogadishu prisons, the situation of prisons and community-based alternatives to prisons, as well as the conditions of imprisonment for sentenced prisoners and prisoners awaiting the adjudication of their cases.

The Federal Republic of Somalia is determined to protect and promote human rights and human dignity. This determination encompasses the genuine desire to prevent and combat all forms of torture. Also, Somalia reaffirms its commitment to the international human rights mechanisms and instruments prohibiting torture of which the Convention against Torture (CAT) is the principal convention. Other specific provisions against torture include Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and Article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) which proscribe torture or subjecting any person to cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment.

In spite of all efforts, however, there are still several arising issues including but not limited to: unchecked outbursts of prison violence; there have been cases where prisoners lose their lives as a result of violence within the prison wall; the most common cause of death in the prisons are disease; there is inadequate supervision by guards, easy access to weapons, lack of separation of different categories of prisoners, and fierce competition for basic necessities which encourage inmate-on-inmate abuse in many penal facilities; corruption, physical abuse by guards is a chronic problem; women prisoners are particularly vulnerable to custodial sexual abuse; overcrowding prevalent in almost every prison in Somalia; there are old, antiquated, and physically decaying prison facilities. Thus, conditions in many prisons are, in short, so deficient as to constitute cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment, violating article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

According to Home Office (2015) conditions in most prisons in Somalia, Somaliland, and Puntland, including those administered by Al-Shabaab, are harsh with reports of poor levels of sanitation, overcrowding, and disease; inadequate medical facilities; extensive use of lengthy pre-trial detention and the use of torture and other forms of ill-treatment.

Acknowledgements

This report is based on data collected by the Organization for Prisoners’ Rights (OPR) in Mogadishu; with the support of Ministry Of Justice and Constitutional Affairs of the Federal Republic of Somalia; Somali Custodial Corps and Somali Rights Organization.

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Acronyms

AS	Al-Shabaab
CAT	Convention against Torture
CT	Computed Tomography
FGS	Federal Government of Somalia
GMCP	Global Maritime Crime Programme
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IPC	Infection Prevention and Control
JCP	Somalia Joint Corrections Services Support Programme
MPCC	Mogadishu Prison Court Complex
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
NISA	National Intelligence and Security Agency
OPR	Organization for Prisoners Rights
SOB	Sexual Offences Bill
STD	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
TB	Tuberculosis
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UN	United Nations
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNPOS	United Nations Political Office for Somalia
UNSOM	United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia
VOA	Voice of America
WHO	World Health Organization

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INTRODUCTION

The OPR Annual Report outlines the impact of our work and achievements in 2022. As of 2016, Somalia has six (6) federal member states, including the self-proclaimed Republic of Somaliland, Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Jubaland, Puntland, and South West State. The jail facilities in the six Federal Member States and the prisons in the Benadir Region are the main topics of conversation when it comes to the prisons in Somalia (Mogadishu). The Commander of the Custodial Corps is in charge of prison management.

PRISON CONDITIONS

Detainee Demographics

The vast majority of prisoners in Somalia's prisons are adult men, with a few women detainees. The Prisons in Somalia also have detainees less than 18 years of age and people with disabilities.

It should be noted that ever since the Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, returned to power in May, 2022 the war against the Islamists his main campaign promise, established anti-Al-Shabaab campaign led by the Federal Government, local militia (Ma'awis-leey), African Union forces and Turkish and American drones. The anti Alshabaab campaign led to the arrest of many extremists some of them very young from Bay and Bakool regions and are now in prisons in Mogadishu, Baladwene, Bulo Burte, and Jowhar facing harsh conditions and are in extremely very difficult situations, especially those who are injured and do not have complete medical care.

A survey done by Organization for Prisoners' Rights at the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs of the Federal Republic of Somalia and at the Somali Custodial Corps reveal that in Mogadishu itself approximate that; 1482 are male prisoners; 17 are female prisoners; Male Juveniles prisoners are 41; Under 18 females do not exist. Remanded prisoners total to 772; Remanded female prisoners are 12; Remanded Male prisoners are 739 and; Remanded Under age male prisoners are 21. As summarized in the table below;

TABLE SHOWING POPULATION DISTRIBUTION OF PRISONERS IN MOGADISHU

Main Prison and Mogadishu Prison Court Complex (MPCC)

PRISONERS' CATEGORY	PRISONS	
	Mogadishu Central Prison	Mogadishu Prison Court Complex (MPCC)
Convicted male	1482	270
Convicted female	17	-
Convicted male juveniles	41	-
Convicted female juveniles	-	-
Total	1540	270

PRISONERS' CATEGORY	PRISONS	
	Mogadishu Central Prison	Mogadishu Prison Court Complex (MPCC)
Male on remand	739	-
Female on remand	12	-
Juvenile male on remand	21	-
Juvenile female on remand	0	-
Total	772	

A survey done by OPR in Mogadishu Central Prison shows that there are number of prisoners and detainees in Mogadishu Central Prison who are in prison beyond their mandated term (completed their sentences and are still incarcerated)

Administration and Record-keeping

Prisons do not have ombudsmen and recordkeeping remains inadequate. There are limited alternatives to incarceration, although authorities sometimes release nonviolent offenders due to limited government resources to keep prisoners. Authorities allow prisoners and detainees to practice their religion. The federal law does not specifically allow prisoners to submit complaints to judicial authorities without censorship.

Obtaining Justice

Long periods of time are spent with many people inside bars without any charges. “In addition to arbitrary arrests, detainees held by National Intelligence and Security Agency (NISA) in particular are on occasion held for lengthy periods without access to a court. OPR was not able to document the use of confessions gathered through torture or coercion as evidence in court. However, OPR received several credible reports of defendants being mistreated during the pre-trial period, notably during detention in NISA facilities. The uncle of a NISA officer who had been detained after being accused of assaulting a bystander in late 2012 said that his nephew had been “beaten, he still has a scar on his face and beaten on his breast,” at that time. This was at the PS, (a common name for NISA) in Villa Somalia. They were taken to a room and beaten with sticks and wires.”

Infrastructural Challenges and Gender Sensitivity

Rule 11 (a) of the Nelson Mandela rules calls for separate institutional facilities for men and women, and states that ‘in an institution which receives both men and women, the whole of the premises allocated to women shall be entirely separate’. In the observed facilities, most women and men detainees’ cells were separated. Facilities where men and women detainees were not separated were located in Baidoa (Wadajir Police station, Baidoa Main Police Station, Dufur Station, Hanano 2 Police Station and Saldhig Yare Police Station), Kismayo (Traffic Headquarters) and Mogadishu (CID). The men and women detainees who were not separated were all adults.

In Somalia, the majority of jails require renovation or rebuilding. There are several structures that date back to colonial times. All of Kismayo's jail facilities, with the exception of the Police Headquarters, are in disrepair.

The central jail needs maintenance since it is severely damaged. Information gathering and distribution are hampered by the lack of computers and printers in jail offices. The major jail in Baidoa is relatively ancient, with cramped, hot, and poorly ventilated cells. There isn't a separate facility for female inmates and prisoners.

Because of overpopulation, women are sometimes denied access to designated places or separate cells and are instead forced to make do with temporary quarters like army rest rooms. Men and women inmates occasionally share restrooms that do not have separate restrooms for women.

Physical circumstances are highly concerning: It is unknown how many people are imprisoned or detained nationwide, including how many children and women. Overcrowding, inadequate sanitation, and a lack of health care were just a few of the harsh circumstances in jails and detention facilities around the nation. The difficulties with inadequate food, drink, ventilation, and illumination persisted. Prisoners were dependent on their relatives and clans, who frequently covered the costs of incarceration. Prisoners in many places relied on relatives and aid organizations for sustenance. And in many instances, data on the mortality rates in jails and pretrial detention facilities remained inaccessible.

Family and Information Availability

Access to family members and information presents a very big challenge and affects access to justice for some of the prisoners in Somalia's prisons. For example, young boys from Bay, Bakool, and Lower Shabelle are in prison far from where their family can come and visit them. The majorities of prisoners and detainees have access to family members and are aware of the reasons for their detention. However, other prisoners arrested in south west Somalia are imprisoned in Mogadishu far from their families and do not receive visitors. Separating prisoners based on their criminal cases is also sometimes difficult; for example, terrorist suspects are frequently housed along with juvenile offenders who have been imprisoned for very minor offenses. Important to note is that vulnerable inmates receive assistance from paralegals and medical care, but lack of funding restricts what can be done.

Overcrowding

Beyond their maximum accommodation capacity, prison cells are packed, which must be taken into account in the context of subpar infrastructure. For instance, the central prison in Mogadishu was designed to house 400 to 500 prisoners, but the average number of detainees over the past three years was 1,193, more than twice that number. There are health-related repercussions of this. With the large-scale return of IDPs to various cities across the nation and the anti-Al-Shabaab terrorist campaign launched by Hassan Shaikh's government, overcrowding has also gotten worse.

Hygiene

Hygiene is one of the most pressing concerns in the detention centres. In 24 per cent of the observed cells, hygiene was judged unacceptable, often due to a shortage or poor conditions of toilets. The majority of institutions did not give inmates bedding. Over 60% of the prison facilities that were inspected lacked sleeping amenities, and even those that did provide bedding were frequently deemed inadequate according to a study done by Safer-World in 2022.

Access to Water and Food

The OPR supports places of detention to improve access to clean water and overall hygiene. OPR believes that detainees must be provided with water and food, sufficient in quantity and quality to ensure good health. Yet while just 12% of the institutions in Mogadishu, Kismayo and Baidoa had dirty drinking water, 88% of the detention centers that were inspected had drinkable water. No clean water was available to the detainees in Kismayo, but this issue affected the entire population. 91% of the facilities that we observed had food provided. Qualitative data reveals that the government only provided food for prisoners and CID sites, not detainees in police stations. Police personnel in the area were fed alongside detainees in police stations. Families of prisoners occasionally brought food for them. 60 percent of those in custody received food three times per day. Further research is needed to determine the nutritional value of the food served in detention facilities because qualitative data showed that prisoners' diets are unbalanced and of poor nutritional quality.

Access to Health Care

While detainees were permitted to continue taking their prescriptions, overall health care was subpar and indifferent to their requirements. 38 percent of observations showed that inmates lacked access to medicine or medical attention. Data indicates that inmate health conditions were particularly bad in Kismayo, where there was scant access to medication and no designated health posts functioning in the detention facilities. Detainees had an extremely difficult time getting medical care, and it took a long time to get treatment. Detainees wanted working health systems in the detention centers because they had trouble getting medical care. Few qualified medical personnel were found at the main jail in Baidoa, according while collecting information that informs this report. There were no medical supplies or equipment available to the one licensed nurse working in the institution. Moreover, individuals who were referred from police stations were not screened. Concerns about inmate exposure to intense heat and insects were also highlighted by the statistics.

According to research, detainees in Mogadishu's prisons lack access to medical; Due to the high number of convicts, there is no TB patient isolation chamber and no medication is provided for TB patients; outbreaks of cholera and diarrhea caused by high seasonal temperatures have led to fatalities and hospitalizations; For laboratory work, there is a lack of laboratory equipment, laboratory technicians, competent laboratories, and experienced laboratory staff; There are no first aid supplies or qualified personnel for emergency work, as well as no emergency equipment; Prison medical departments do not provide the essential examinations and testing, such as ultrasound, CT scan, MRI, and other diagnostic procedures; thus, if a prisoner's condition deteriorates, they will transport him or her to an outside hospital; The employees and medical professionals working in both jails are not paid or trained in a timely manner; The 80 or so women who reside in these prisons find it uncomfortable because there are no gender-specific quarters. Additionally, the existing medical units lack an ambulance, making it difficult for them to reach hospitals in the event of an emergency. Common diseases include scabies, tinea versicolor, ringworm, the hepatitis A and B viruses, TB, STDs, pneumonia, anemia, and hepatitis A and B viruses.

Nonexistent Separation Between Adult Prisoners and Juvenile Delinquents

In prisons and detention centers, authorities frequently held juveniles with adults. Authorities also often do not separate pretrial detainees from convicted prisoners, particularly in the southern and central regions. The incarcerations of juveniles at the request of families who want their children disciplined remain a problem. Some families send juveniles from Al-Shabaab controlled areas to Mogadishu detention centers to prevent them from being forcibly recruited by Al-Shabaab militant.

ACHIEVED OUTCOMES VIS A VIE SET STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF OPR

Working in Partnership with Prison Authority and Stakeholders

OPR has developed a cordial relation with Somali Youth Development network (SOYDEN), Women and child Support Organization (WOCISO), the Human Rights Director of the British Council and other stakeholders working with the prisons so that they can help the institution empower itself with strategic policy advice, in line with the UN Global Focal Point Arrangement on Rule of Law (GFP) and within the framework of the Comprehensive Approach to Security (CAS), to establish effective and accountable rule of law institutions. This integrated team of stakeholders has capacity to co-locate personnel from other UN entities (UNDP, UNOPS, and UNODC) and implements joint justice and corrections programmes. The combination of OPR' strategic advice with programmatic delivery by UN agencies, funds and programmes has enabled an effective mechanism to deliver support and strengthen the rule of law in Somalia.

Human Rights Sensitization Sessions, Teaching, Counseling and Discussion Groups in Prisons

OPR prides itself in building capacity for a holistic approach across a number of disciplines and specializations and through a range of interventions for sensitization, teaching, counseling and discussions on issues affecting prisoners in Somalia's prisons.

OPR believes that developing interventions that assist prisoners in defining the issues that pushed them towards violent behaviours in the first place is a challenging task. It is an even more challenging task to help them in formulating objectives and identifying and implementing solutions but can be done through; Religious interventions, Education intervention and developing critical thinking, Psychological interventions that foster the socialization of former offenders, Social work intervention to establish a clear vision of a better future, Vocational training to gain the skills needed to secure a job on release, Sports and exercise to develop team work, trust and self-fulfillment without the need for violence and Arts therapy, such as theatre, as an opportunity to express emotions. Indeed OPR is formulating an action plan to roll out these activities starting with the Mogadishu Central Prisons.

Meeting Needs of Prisoners as far as Possible within the Prison Laws and Regulations

Harsh conditions in prisons and detention centers throughout Somalia as already seen include; overcrowding, poor sanitation, and lack of health care and requires joint effort to meet prisoners needs. Thus apart from high lighting the different needs of prisoners through comprehensive data collection OPR has partnered with other stakeholders (like ICRC) to support the unique needs of detainees, their families and the authorities responsible for places of detention. For instance during the Covid 19 Pandemic some of the OPR staff participated in distributing face masks and sanitizers to the Mogadishu prisons prisoners.

Support to Address Emotional, Legal, and Social Well-being

Patients have been inside for a long time in Somali Prisons. The centers are not catering for people to return to society and patients are not getting any counseling or psychotherapy. When they are discharged, they are not given any prescription and there are no outpatient services. Initial data collection conducted by OPR examines the abuses against people with actual or perceived mental health conditions or psychosocial disabilities in public and private institutions.

Findings demonstrate that most residents in Somalia's prisons experience abuses. These include arbitrary detention, chaining, verbal and physical abuse, involuntary medication, overcrowding and poor conditions. Basic due process, judicial oversight and channels of redress are non-existent. Families and relatives are the main support systems available to individuals with psychosocial disabilities, but often struggle to provide effective support, given the lack of community-support systems such as outpatient medical services and counselling based on free and informed consent. Family members are often ill-informed, with limited information about mental health conditions and what constitutes sound treatment and care, and must confront significant social stigma. Some rely on traditional Islamic healers or over the counter medicines from unregulated and unlicensed pharmacies for sporadic help. As a result, individuals with psychosocial disabilities often end up being chained at home.

Religious Freedom in Prisons

OPR has played and continues to play its role in promoting religious freedom within Somalia's prisons. Freedom of religion in Somalia refers to the extent to which people in Somalia are freely able to practice their religious beliefs, taking into account government policies, non-state actors, and societal attitudes toward religious groups. Due to the Somali Civil War, the enforcement of laws pertaining to religion by the various autonomous governments in the region is inconsistent. OPR has mainly gathered information regarding religious freedom and can say with certainty that in Somalia's prisons, prisoners are allowed to pray, read the Koran and get involved in other religious practices that Islam as a religion allows.

Objective, Fair and Open Process which Respects Diversity and Human Rights of all Inmates

OPR's work in Somalia's jails involves not just evaluating the living conditions there but also ensuring that everyone's rights, regardless of diversity, are upheld. The majority of OPR's detention work is to guarantee that those who are detained are treated with compassion and dignity throughout their stay in detention. Additionally, their family must always be able to reach them, visit them, and be informed of their whereabouts.

OPR advertises, gathers data, and publishes it on its website, Facebook, and Twitter accounts to support an impartial, fair, and open process.

Working in Partnership with Other Stakeholders Addressing Human Rights and After-Care for Prisoners in Somalia

OPR in partnership and collaboration with other stakeholders including ICRC has been visiting people in places of detention in Somalia since 2019. Those visits are made to ensure that detainees benefit from humane and dignified treatment. The visits are carried out in prisons, police stations and state security agencies. The OPR works to support the unique needs of detainees, their families and the authorities responsible for places of detention. OPR believes that detention poses a unique challenge for all these groups.

DISCUSSIONS

“In its assessment on events in 2013, the US Department of State stated that prison and detention facility conditions were "poor and life-threatening throughout the country, with medical treatment and sanitation utterly insufficient in many places." ‘Physical Conditions: It is not yet known how many prisoners there are nationwide, including juveniles and female prisoners. The severe conditions in jails and detention centers around the country included overcrowding, poor sanitation, and a lack of health care. The issues with insufficient hydration, nutrition, lighting, and ventilation continued. It was said that pneumonia and TB were widespread. Prisoners were reliant on their clans and family members, who frequently paid for their confinement. In many locations, prisoners relied on their family members and humanitarian agencies for support.

There is still a shortage of information about fatality rates in jails and pre-trial detention centers. Authorities frequently housed both adults and children in the same jails and detention centers. Convicts of both sexes were separated. Authorities regularly failed to separate pre-trial detainees from offenders who had already been convicted, especially in the southern and central regions. The imprisonment of children at the request of parents who want to reprimand their children is an ongoing problem.

Several families sent young individuals from areas controlled by al-Shabaab to jail in order to prevent their children from being coercively recruited by the organization. The jail conditions were described as "deplorable" in a news release by the then-prime minister Abdi Farah Shirdon following a visit to Mogadishu Central Prison on March 16, 2013. Additionally, he begged the international community to provide money to this institution's long-term improvements in Mogadishu. There were 950 inmates at Mogadishu Central Prison as of July 2012, including 14 women and 39 minors, according to a UN assessment of jails.

Although the UN recognised the difference between men and women, it criticized the division between adults and children as being inconsistent. The UN also discovered that the living conditions for inmates at the Mogadishu Central Prison fell short of fundamental international and governmental standards. For instance, authorities housed 120 prisoners in spaces designed to accommodate no more than 50 persons. Administration: The documentation was still lacking, and there were no ombudsmen in the prisons. There were few alternatives to incarceration, despite the fact that authorities occasionally released peaceful offenders due to a shortage of government resources to keep prisoners. In general, visitors were welcome to pay visits to detainees and inmates. People in captivity and in prison were allowed to practice their religion. Federal law clearly prohibits prisoners from making complaints to court officials without having them silenced.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Specific Recommendations

Overcrowding

- By developing and putting into action sustainable and efficient ways to lower the jail population, efforts should be increased to address and resolve the issue of prison overcrowding.
- Develop non-custodial measures within the judicial system in accordance with the UN Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules) to increase the use of alternatives to jail sentences and detention. These actions could consist of:

- Mandatory rehabilitation for those convicted of certain drug-related offenses, such as drug use or drug consumption.
- For those found guilty of specific drug-related offenses including drug usage or drug consumption, rehabilitation may be required.
- When it is optional to impose fines and/or prison term, the imposition of fines for first-time offenders.
- The assessment of fines or community service for infractions of a minor kind.
- The avoidance of pretrial or remand custody for suspects charged with specific types of crimes.
- Using home detention in conjunction with electronic monitoring tools to reduce the danger of elude.
- The application of early release techniques like parole and conditional release.
- Make sure that pre-trial or remand imprisonment is used as little as possible, and that the cost of bail bonds is reasonable and appropriate for the crime.
- Ensure that elderly inmates receive preference when receiving alternatives to incarceration.

Accommodation Space

- Ensure that dormitories and cells are adequately ventilated with fresh air and have cooling systems.
- Ensure that there is enough clean, climate-appropriate bedding available for the prisoners.

Punishment and Degrading Treatment

- Ensure that no kind of discrimination exists and that all convicts are treated with respect and humanity.

- Ensure that no disciplinary measure or other punishment for breaking prison regulations and codes of behavior constitutes torture or any other form of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.
- Ensure that solitary confinement is only applied as a very last resort in extreme circumstances, for the shortest amount of time possible, and after conducting an independent evaluation.
- Perform exhaustive, unbiased, and independent investigations into all claims of torture and mistreatment, see to it that offenders are punished in line with applicable laws, rules, and regulations, and see to it that victims are given the remedy and compensation they are entitled to.

Water and Sanitation

- Make sure there is always enough water available for personal hygiene, and make sure there is a sufficient flow of water going into showers and toilets throughout the day, especially during periods of high demand.
- Ensure that inmates always have unlimited access to restrooms with the highest level of privacy.
- Make showers more widely available, and allow enough time for each prisoner to take a shower.
- Ensure that the tools and supplies given to convicts who are given cleaning assignments are sufficient and appropriate.

Food and Drinking Water

- Boost the overall nutritional value and quality of the food provided to inmates.
- Ensure that all convicts receive food that meets their dietary, spiritual, and cultural requirements.

- Ensure that convicts have hygienic eating utensils that are comparable to those that are used outside of jail.
- Ensure that access to clean drinking water from a tap or container is constant and available throughout the day.

Healthcare Services

- Conduct routine inspections with the help of medical professionals or knowledgeable public health officials to look into and address problems that could have an impact on the health of inmates, such as the quantity, quality, preparation, and serving of food, the facility's sanitation, temperature, lighting, ventilation, and sleeping arrangements.
- Ensure that prisoners who need specialist care are relocated to facilities or hospitals outside of jails, and that they have prompt access to medical care in emergency situations.
- Make careful you address and meet the health requirements of particular populations, including women, senior citizens, and people with disabilities who are imprisoned.
- Ensure that female inmates are given the supplies they require to suit their unique hygienic requirements, including a sufficient supply of gratis sanitary pads.
- Ensure that convicts receive sufficient psychological and mental care.

Access to the Outside World and Opportunities for Recreation

- Make sure that convicts can properly connect with their loved ones, friends, and attorneys on a regular basis through visits, letters, and phone calls.
- Watch out for any unreasonable or illegal intrusions on the privacy of the prisoner during both in-person and virtual visits from their loved ones.
- Ensure that all conversations between detainees and their attorneys are private and discreet.

- Ensure that inmates have consistent access to daily newspapers, magazines, books, and other forms of entertainment, education, and culture.
- Ensure that there are no limitations placed on the kinds of books and other publications that are available for convicts to read and/or consult.
- Ensure that convicts have access to enough leisure and cultural opportunities.

Prisoners' Complaints

- Ensure that complaints can be made anonymously by convicts and that all complaints are looked into, fully investigated, and effectively addressed.
- Watch out for any actions of retaliation against prisoners by staff members or other inmates in response to grievances they have made.
- Disseminate regular and thorough statistical data on the number of abuse-related complaints lodged against prison officials, the number of investigations completed, and the disciplinary or other actions taken against offenders.

Recommendations to the International Community

- Demand that the Somali government develop and put into action sustainable and efficient methods to lower the jail population in order to boost efforts to address and resolve the issue of overcrowding in prisons.
- Demand that the Thai government make improvements to prison conditions that are consistent with the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders, in particular with regard to the amount of space allotted per prisoner, sanitation facilities, and the accessibility of adequate healthcare.
- Call on the Somali government to uphold agreements, such as allowing an Ombudsman complete access to all jails.

- Offer the required technical assistance to ensure that Somalia's prison conditions adhere to the nation's commitments under international human rights law; and relevant international standards

SUMMARY

Numerous prisons have poor conditions. There are restrictions on where people can get food, water, and bedding, and not enough thought is given to their health and cleanliness. These facilities require improvement, standardization, and repair or reconstruction.

The provision of critical services is inadequate and unsatisfactory. For instance, prisoners must rely on officers or their relatives for food because many police stations do not provide enough of it.

The percentage of women in jails and detention centers is quite low, and some facilities don't pay much attention to gender issues. There are significant differences in the distribution of bathrooms and cells between male and female detainees, with male prisoners and detainees appearing to receive preference.

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