

- ◉ To submit a proposed legislation to the Council of Ministers related to human rights.
- ◉ To interrogate any person who has links to (or is interfering with) an ongoing investigation issue that the office is dealing with.
- ◉ The defender has the power of investigator and fact finding when discharging his/her duties.
- ◉ To investigate any allegations that arises on violations or abuses of citizens' human rights.

Our Work

The current strategic plan of 2018-2020 focuses on the following areas as key priorities:

- 1. Priority 1:** Organizational capacity and partnership development
 - 1.1. Organizational capacity development
 - 1.2. Coordination and networking mechanism

1.3. Information sharing and knowledge management

2. Priority 2: Human rights promotion and advocacy,

2.1. Promotion and advocacy of human rights issues

2.2. Culture of peace and non-violence

2.3. Humanrights friendly democratization process and social inclusion through rights- based approach to service delivery and development

2. Priority 3: Human rights in the administration of justice

3.1. Human rights protection

3.2. Access to justice and complaints response

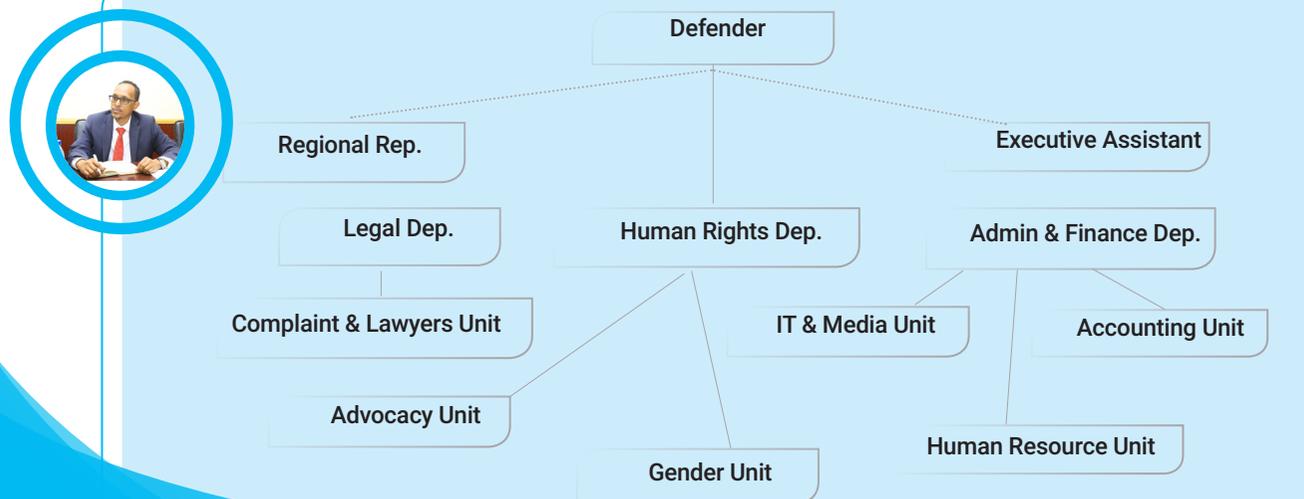
3.3. Legal framework for human rights



Office of the Puntland Human Rights Defender Puntland State of Somalia

Promoting and protecting Human Rights in Puntland-Somalia

OPHRD Organizational Structure



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Establishment

The office was established on 27th November 2014, pursuant to the articles of Puntland State Constitution, Human Rights Defender Act of 2011 and the UN Guiding Principles (Paris Principles) for the establishment of national human rights institutions.

Vision

To create a society where human dignity of all persons (including refugees, IDPs, minorities, women, disabled, aged and children) living in Puntland State of Somalia, are fully respected, realized and protected by the rule of law.

Mission

To ensure everyone in Puntland has their rights protected, respected and observed

Core Values

The defender office fosters and upholds the following core values;

Independence, integrity, impartiality, equity, equality, diversity and accessibility

Goal

Enhance organizational effectiveness and independence, protecting fundamental freedoms and human rights standards and mechanisms at individual, community, and State levels.

OPHRD Management

The management of the organization is made up of, departmental directors heads of units, regional representatives and the main office secretariat all headed by the defender.

Mandate

The PHRD is mandated to:

- Observe and defend human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with constitutional and legal, UN Human Rights' conventions, principles of Paris convention.
- Advocate the protection and promotion of human rights issues particularly in Puntland State of Somalia.

Powers of the Defender

The defender has the power to:

- Conduct investigations on office own initiative or on a complaint made by members of the public.
- Issue summons to a witness to assist in investigations.
- Reconcile, mediate and negotiate.
- Appoint committees for specific cases and issues of concern

Functions

In accordance with Article 118 of the Constitution of Puntland State of Somalia and Article 12 of the Human Rights Defender Act of 2011, the Human Right Defender plays key broad functions which are:

- To prevent violation of human rights by providing advice to the relevant authorities.
- To promote awareness and respect, among the public and public officials, of the importance of protecting human rights that are enshrined in the Constitution and the laws of Puntland, as well as in international protocols and human rights conventions.
- To investigate any allegations reported by citizens or social organizations regarding violations of human rights and then present the results to the relevant authorities.
- To support victims whose rights have been violated and defend them in the court or the public.
- To appoint special committees that will help the defender fulfill his/her duties.
- To monitor places where he/she suspects human rights violations have been or are taking place.
- To advocate the reform of laws or administrative procedures in order to increase the protection and respect of human rights.
- To issue an annual report on the condition of human rights in Puntland State.