



Federal Republic of Somalia
House of the People
Office of Hon. Abdillahi Hashi Abib

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Date: 15/07/2024

PRESS RELEASE

Response to Minister of Finance's False Statement at Somalia Financial Governance Report 2023 Conference

In response to the statement made today by the Minister of Finance at the **Somalia Financial Governance Report 2023 Conference - Decale Hotel**, **I must address the blatant misinformation presented in front of His Excellency the Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Somalia, international guests, Somali officials, and the business community.** The Minister falsely represented the contents of an email I received from **Hon. Mr. Pdraig Power, Chief Financial Officer of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), dated June 1, 2024.** This email was in response to my official letter to **GPE** and **Save the Children**, in which I raised several critical concerns:

- 1. Interference in Federal Member States Education Affairs:** The Minister of Education, Culture, and Higher Education of the Federal Government of Somalia has been interfering in the internal affairs of Federal Member States' education systems, violating the **Draft Provisions of the Constitution Articles 52 and 54.** Funds allocated to **Somaliland** must be reassigned to the **SSC** Education Ministry. Additionally, the designation of **Somaliland** as a country on the website must be removed.
- 2. Conflict of Interest:** The Minister of Education's ownership of private primary and secondary schools, as well as universities in Mogadishu, constitutes a conflict of interest. I urged the **GPE** to request the Minister of Education to recuse himself from all decisions related to this project.

3. **Corruption in Procurement:** There is rampant corruption in the procurement processes for the project. I recommended that these processes be managed by the Federal Member States rather than the Minister of Education of the Federal Government.
4. **Anti-Corruption Measures:** I emphasized the need to combat corruption and establish a monitoring system accountable to both the **GPE** and Somali citizens.

The **GPE** responded respectfully, addressing all my concerns and affirming their **ZERO-TOLERANCE** policy for misuse of funds, with a strong commitment to the education of Somali children across all Federal Member States.

It is unfortunate that the Minister of Finance, who has no jurisdiction over education matters, chose to misrepresent this email publicly instead of addressing the rampant corruption and incompetence within his own ministry. The **GPE** email, which I am making public, was never sent to nor CC'd to the Minister of Finance, underscoring the inaccuracy of his claims.

The Minister of Finance's refusal to address me by my name and title as a Member of Parliament, instead referring to me dismissively, is a testament to his disregard for due process and parliamentary decorum. His baseless accusations appear to be a deflection from the thorough oversight investigations I have been conducting over the past two years—investigations that have evidently struck a nerve given his failure to respond to over 65 official letters I have sent him.

In conclusion, I urge the public and all stakeholders to review the **GPE** email and discern the truth from political fabrication. It is a shame that the Minister of Finance chose this venue to attempt a rebuttal instead of addressing the critical issues within his purview.

I wish the Minister of Finance all the best and hope he will respond to all my oversight investigation letters in the future.

Sincerely,



Dr. Abdillahi Hashi Abib - *BA, MA, MAsc, Ph.D*
Member of Foreign Affairs Committee
Federal Republic of Somalia the House of People
Mogadishu, Somalia
MP- HOP #201 Awdal Region and Gebileh District
Leader of the Accountability and Transparency Caucus of the House of People



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Response: Concerns on Implementation and Requests ...

From Padraig Power 
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Diaz, Anthony J (Mogadishu) , **Wafaa Saeed** ,
Victor Chinyama ,
IMF, Resident Representative Somalia  3 more...

Date 2024-06-01 15:16

Priority Highest

Dear Honorable Member of Parliament, Dr. Abdillahi Hashi Abib,

We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated May 27, 2024, regarding concerns related to the implementation of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) program in Somalia, as well as your reply dated May 30 to the response from GPE grant agent Save the Children also dated May 30.

Allow us to briefly respond to your concerns.

1. As is the case in all federal countries, the Federal Government of Somalia is the primary interlocutor for GPE's engagement, and we seek within the country's constitutional system guidance on how to work with different states. GPE Secretariat has received assurances from the Federal Minister of Education that your letter will be addressed by government through the appropriate parliamentary channels.
2. The allegation that the Federal Minister of Education holds shares in private education institutions and thus is in a potential conflict of interest, is noted. However, as no GPE funds can benefit private for-profit education institutions, this is not something of direct concern to GPE.
3. GPE grant agent Save the Children has already responded concerning program governance, fiduciary matters and procurement on the GPE-funded system transformation grant (STG) program, per its mandate. We reiterate the key point that no procurement has yet taken place on the STG programs approved in 2024, as the program has in fact yet to start implementation, hence no awards have been awarded to any company yet.
4. GPE has zero tolerance for misuse of funds. Partners use their own policies and procedures to address misuse cases and secure recovery of GPE resources. The GPE Secretariat carefully monitors misuse cases with the relevant grant agents to ensure that all cases are properly addressed. The GPE Secretariat also facilitates reporting of misuse cases to the GPE Board and the Finance and Risk Committee. To report suspected cases of fraud in GPE-funded programs, we refer you to kindly contact the appropriate grant agent, in this case Save the Children and CARE.

Please receive, Honorable MP, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Padraig Power Chief Financial Officer
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 **GPE** Transforming Education

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