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Federal Governance and Intergovernmental Relations in Somalia: Challenges and Opportunities

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Introduction

Intergovernmental Relation (IGR) play a central role in building stable Somali state. Solid cooperation between the federal government and the federal member state decline political tension, promotes effective service delivery and prevents fragmentation within Somalia's fragile political system.

Problem statement

Somalia still face challenges that make cooperation difficult. Federal and state leaders often disagree, the constitution is not fully clear, and many institution remain weak. In addition, there is no permanent system that guides how both levels should work together.

Research question

What are the main obstacles and possible solutions that shape IGR in Somalia and how do these factors affect federal governance of Somalia?

Methodology

This study is based on qualitative desk review, including policy reports, official government documents and provision of the federal constitution of Somalia (2012).

Key findings

Challenges

- ❖ Consistent political disputes between the federal Government and the Federal Member State .
- ❖ Overlapping mandates due to an incomplete constitution.
- ❖ Restricted institutional capacity at different level of governments.
- ❖ Lack of a legal platform for structured dialogue.

Opportunities

- ❖ Reviewing the constitutional process offers clarity on power distribution.
- ❖ Enhancing institutional capacity building.
- ❖ Increased trust building dialogues and initiatives.
- ❖ Ongoing support from international governance partners.

Conclusion

Strong cooperation between the federal and state governments is essential for Somalia's state-building efforts. When both sides communicate effectively and understand their roles, governance becomes easier and stability is strengthened.

Recommendations

- ❖ Establish a permanent and trustworthy council for FGS and FMS consultation.
- ❖ Complete the constitutional review process.
- ❖ Strengthen institutional capacity at both the federal and state levels.
- ❖ Promote open dialogue and rebuild mutual trust among leaders.