

SOMALIA

Date of Elections: 31 December 1984

Purpose of Elections

Elections were held for all seats in Parliament on the normal expiry of the members' term of office.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of Somalia, the People's Assembly, comprises 171 members elected for 5 years. Furthermore, according to the Constitution, the President of the Republic may appoint to the Assembly up to 6 persons from among people dedicated to science, culture and art, or highly esteemed patriots.

Electoral System

All Somali citizens who are at least 18 years of age are entitled to vote. Disqualified are the insane, prisoners and persons interdicted from public life or deprived of electoral rights consequent to a penal conviction.

Qualified electors who are literate, aged 21 or above and loyal to the policy of the Revolution (of 1969), the Party Statute and Programme are eligible for election to the People's Assembly. Disqualified are persons creed to tribalism, regionalism or personal interests, and those notorious for acting against the public interests.

For parliamentary election purposes, the country as a whole forms a single constituency. Assembly candidates are proposed at least 20 days prior to the polling date by the Central Committee of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party (SRSP) through a national list which includes at least 20 reserve candidates. The candidatures are made public 10 days later. Each elector votes for the list as a whole. The election is deemed valid if a majority of the electorate approves this same list; in the event of rejection, another poll is held within six months.

Parliamentary vacancies are filled by the top candidates in the reserve list chosen at the same time as the titular Assembly members.

General Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

The date of the 1984 general elections - the second since the 1969 coup d'Etat - was set by decree of the President of the Republic, Major General Mohamed Siad **Barre**.

On polling day, the single list of 171 Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party (SRSP) candidates was presented to the electorate and received 99.84% of the votes cast. A total of 46 members were newcomers to the People's Assembly.

Statistics

1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats
in the People's Assembly*

Number of registered electors.	4,220,466	
Voters.	4,214,667	(99.86%)
Blank or void ballot papers.	1,990	
Valid votes.	4,212,677	
<i>Votes in favour of the Somali Revolutionary Social- ist Party (SRSP).</i>	<i>4,207,977</i>	

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Political Group	of Seats
Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party (SRSP)	171*

*Six additional members are appointed by the President of the Republic.

2. *Distribution of Members of the People's Assembly
according to Sex*

Men	152
Women.	<u>25</u>
	177