



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Reviewing the Somali Agriculture Riverine Programme (SARP) and Launching the National Agricultural Transformation Strategy**

**Mogadishu, Somalia – July 14, 2025:** The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, in collaboration with the European Union and key implementing partners, conducted a strategic review of the EU-funded Somali Agriculture Riverine Programme (SARP) and officially launched the National Agricultural Transformation Strategy during a high-level workshop held in Mogadishu.

The high-level workshop featured a comprehensive review and evaluation of the Somali Agriculture Riverine Programme (SARP), assessing its impacts, achievements, and contributions to agro-pastoral, smallholder farmers, and rural communities across all Federal Member States. In parallel, the workshop disseminated the National Agricultural Transformation Strategy (2025–2029) for Somalia, underscoring a unified commitment to advancing sustainable agricultural development.

The Somali Agriculture Riverine Program (SARP), which is six interlinked projects, has delivered significant gains in enhancing rural agricultural livelihoods across Somalia. Key achievements include the restoration of vital irrigation infrastructure, leading to more reliable and productive farming systems; increased local production of staple crops, such as sorghum and sesame; and improved farmer incomes through targeted capacity building, market integration, and capacity development of public institutions.

H.E. Mohamed Abdi Hayir (Maareeye), Federal Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation of Somalia, delivered official remarks alongside the Federal Member State (FMS) Ministers of Agriculture and senior representatives from the European Union, as well as key implementing partners, including FAO, BRiCS, and SomRep.

H.E. Minister Maareeye said at the high-level workshop:

*“I extend my profound appreciation to the European Union Delegation to Somalia for their generous financial support towards the Somali Agriculture Riverine Program (SARP). This support has significantly boosted local agri-food production, and I deeply admire how the program has reached a broad spectrum of communities in FMS, delivering tangible and meaningful impacts that have strengthened livelihoods and advanced agricultural resilience nationwide. Following the remarkable outcomes from SARP, I kindly urge the EU to sustain its commitment and consider funding the second phase of the program.”*

The event highlighted remarks from distinguished speakers, including Mr. Luca Pagliara, Programme Manager at the European Union Delegation to Somalia, and H.E. Ahmed Nor Haji Osman, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation for Galmudug State of Somalia. Senior representatives from FAO, BRiCS, and SomRep also addressed the workshop, presenting achievements and challenges of their respective projects. The workshop included presentations, panel discussions, and the official dissemination of the strategy.

For more inquiries, please contact the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

