



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND BLUE ECONOMY
OFFICE OF THE STATE MINISTER

Ref: MFBE/OSM/ 074/5/25

Date: 22/05/2025

To:

The ICRI Secretariat

fstaub@icriforum.org

Subject: Membership Application of Somalia to the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)

Dear Secretariat of the ICRI,

The Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy, Federal Republic of Somalia, hereby expresses its interest in joining the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) as a member. Somalia recognizes the critical role of ICRI in promoting the sustainable management and conservation of coral reef ecosystems worldwide. We believe that membership in this esteemed initiative aligns with our national priorities for marine conservation and sustainable development.

As a nation with one of the longest coastlines in Africa, spanning over 3,300 kilometers, Somalia is home to coral reef ecosystems that play a crucial role in supporting marine biodiversity, protecting coastal communities, and sustaining local livelihoods through fisheries and tourism. These ecosystems, however, face severe challenges due to climate change, unsustainable fishing practices, and habitat degradation. Recognizing the urgency of addressing these threats, the Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy is committed to aligning its efforts with ICRI's objectives to ensure the conservation and resilience of coral reefs and related ecosystems.

Our ministry fully supports ICRI's mission of promoting collaborative, innovative, and science-based approaches to safeguard coral reefs. As a member, we aim to contribute to and benefit from the collective expertise of ICRI's diverse network. Specifically, we seek to:

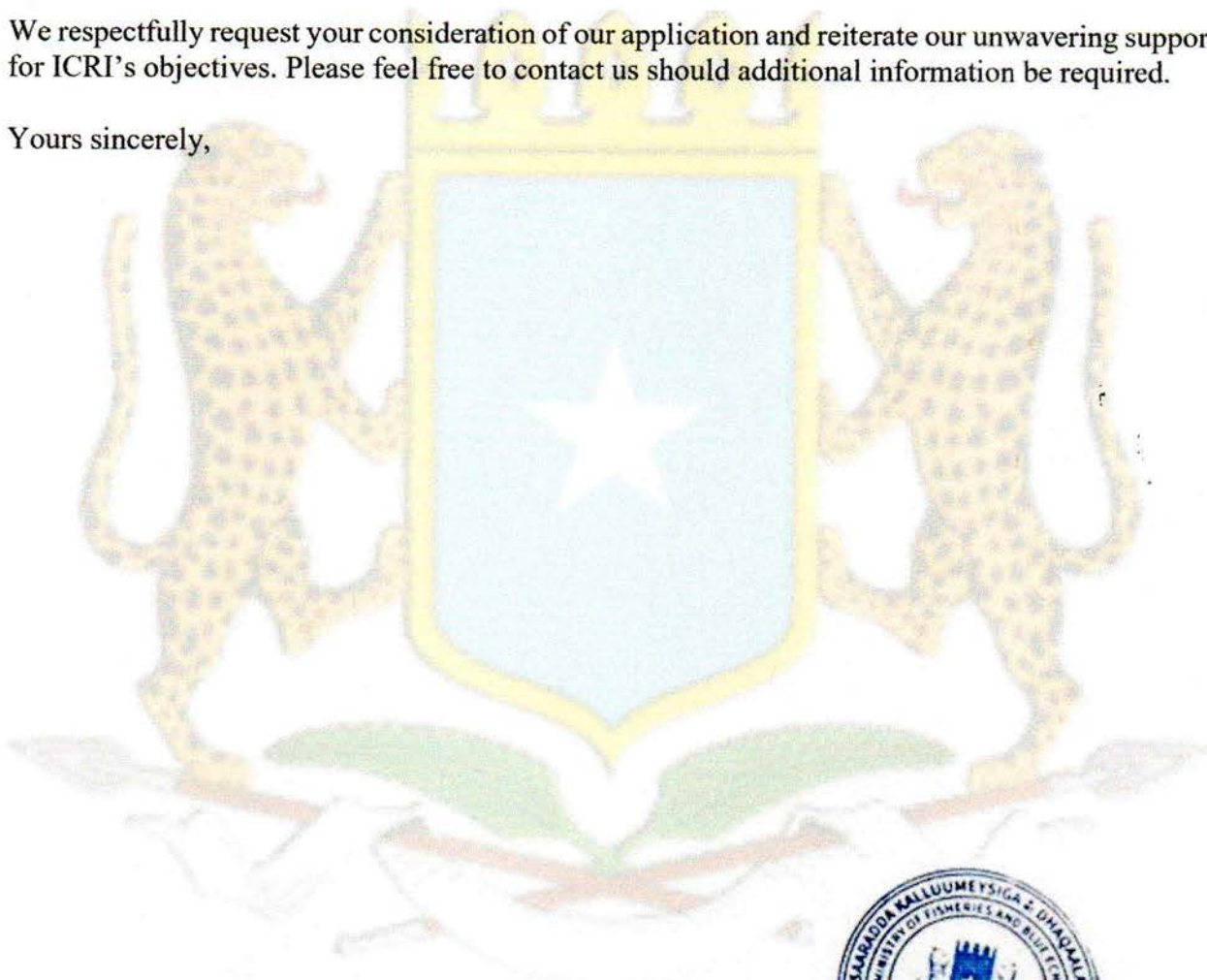
1. Enhance local capacity for coral reef management and restoration.
2. Implement sustainable fisheries practices that protect reef ecosystems.
3. Share our experiences in marine conservation while learning from global best practices.
4. Actively participate in ICRI's working groups and initiatives, ensuring our contributions align with the shared vision of conserving coral reefs for future generations.

Furthermore, Somalia's blue economy strategy prioritizes sustainable development, resilience building, and biodiversity conservation. By joining ICRI, we seek to strengthen our capacity to achieve these objectives while contributing to global efforts to address the challenges facing coral reefs.

We believe that membership in ICRI will provide us with invaluable opportunities to engage with international partners, access technical expertise, and participate in innovative programs aimed at the preservation of coral reef ecosystems. We are confident that our participation will enrich ICRI's collective efforts while advancing Somalia's commitment to marine conservation.

We respectfully request your consideration of our application and reiterate our unwavering support for ICRI's objectives. Please feel free to contact us should additional information be required.

Yours sincerely,



Hon. Mohamed Yusuf Hassen (Walid)
State Minister of Fisheries
And Blue Economy

