



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA
Ministry of Health & Human Services

Saving Lives, Restoring Dignity, Strengthening Care

Somalia Finalizes National Comprehensive Postabortion Care Guideline Package

A nationally harmonized package to strengthen maternal health services, standardize postabortion care, and reduce preventable maternal morbidity and mortality.

Mogadishu, Somalia | April 2026

National achievement Technically validated national PAC guideline and implementation package.	Inclusive ownership Government, Federal Member States, clinical leaders, academics, civil society, women and youth forums, and partners engaged.
7 national documents Guideline, curriculum, manuals, tools, register, validation report, and feedback matrix.	Rollout readiness Positioned for endorsement, cascade training, supervision, and integration with routine systems.



Somalia Finalizes National Comprehensive Postabortion Care Guideline Package to Strengthen Maternal Health Services

The Federal Ministry of Health and Human Services completes a nationally harmonized package of nine technical documents following an inclusive validation process supported by Ipas and IRC.

Mogadishu, Somalia | April 2026 - Federal Ministry of Health & Human Services

The Federal Ministry of Health and Human Services has reached a major milestone in Somalia's maternal and reproductive health agenda with the completion and technical validation of the National Comprehensive Postabortion Care Guideline Package. The package forms part of the national effort to reduce preventable maternal morbidity and mortality associated with pregnancy loss, miscarriage, incomplete abortion, and related complications.

The development of the national package was led through the Family Health Department of the Federal Ministry of Health and Human Services, with technical and implementation support from the Ipas team and the International Rescue Committee (IRC). Dr Abdulrazaq Yusuf Ahmed served as the National Lead Consultant for the development of the nine national documents that make up the comprehensive guideline package.

The finalized documents collectively provide a harmonized national framework for clinical care, training, competency assessment, supervision, documentation, reporting, and quality improvement. They are designed to support Somali health-care professionals, Family Health Departments, maternity services, and sexual and reproductive health programs in delivering effective, ethical, respectful, and evidence-based postabortion care.

The package is grounded in Somali cultural values, ethical principles, and national health priorities, while aligning with relevant international best practice and World Health Organization guidance on reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health services.

Statement from the National Lead Consultant

“It is a great honor to submit the final package of the National Comprehensive Postabortion Care Guideline, which forms part of Somalia’s national effort to reduce preventable causes of maternal mortality during pregnancy and related complications.” - Dr Abdulrazaq Yusuf Ahmed

At a Glance

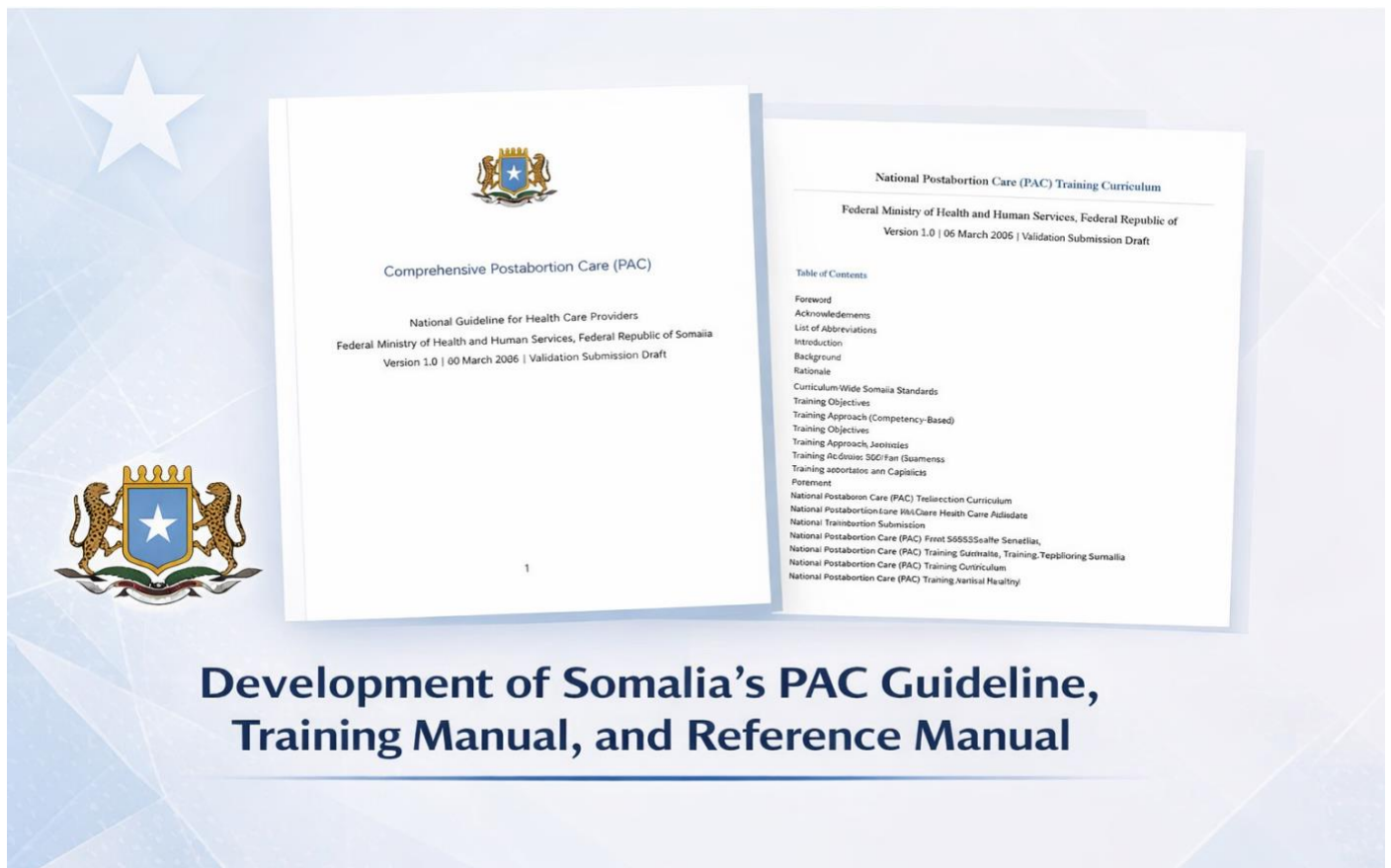
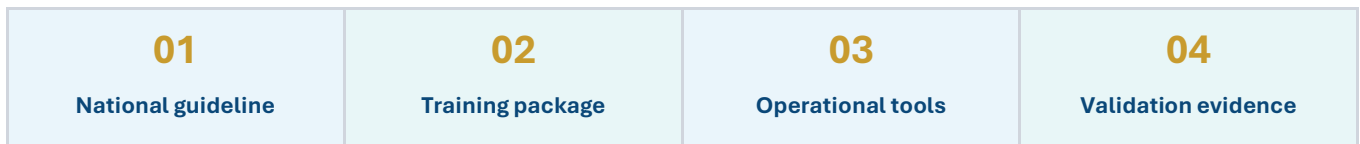


Figure: Briefing overview showing the harmonized national PAC package and validation pathway.



The Nine National Documents Submitted

The final National Comprehensive Postabortion Care package includes the following documents, each serving a specific function in standardizing care, strengthening provider competence, supporting supervision, and enabling routine documentation and reporting.

No.	Document	Purpose within the national PAC package
1	PAC Guideline	National clinical, ethical, legal, counseling, referral, and service-delivery standards.
2	Participant Manual	Structured learning resource for health-care providers participating in PAC training.
3	Facilitator Manual	Guidance for trainers and facilitators to deliver standardized competency-based training.



No.	Document	Purpose within the national PAC package
4	Training Curriculum	Competency-based curriculum for structured in-service training and professional development.
5	Competency Assessment Tool	Practical tool for assessing provider knowledge, skills, and readiness to deliver quality care.
6	Supportive Supervision Tool	Facility-level tool for mentorship, quality improvement, and adherence to national standards.
7	PAC Register	Standardized register for documentation, reporting, data quality, and HMIS/DHIS2 alignment.
8	Validation Meeting Report	Record of the national validation process, participants, deliberations, and consensus outcomes.
9	Feedback Matrix from Validation Meeting	Documented stakeholder comments, technical recommendations, responses, and final incorporation status.

Inclusive National Validation and Stakeholder Engagement

The national package underwent a comprehensive review and validation during a three-day national workshop conducted in Mogadishu from 19 to 21 April 2026. This process engaged a diverse spectrum of stakeholders, including representatives from the Federal Ministry of Health, Federal Member States, Banadir Regional Administration, health facility managers, clinicians, midwives, nurses, academics, professional associations, health information and monitoring officers, civil society organizations, women’s and youth forums, as well as technical partners.

Participants systematically evaluated the documentation through a participatory framework. All feedback, technical recommendations, and suggested revisions were meticulously recorded in a feedback matrix and integrated into the final guideline package. This methodology enhanced the documents’ scientific rigor, fostered national ownership, and improved operational feasibility and implementation readiness.

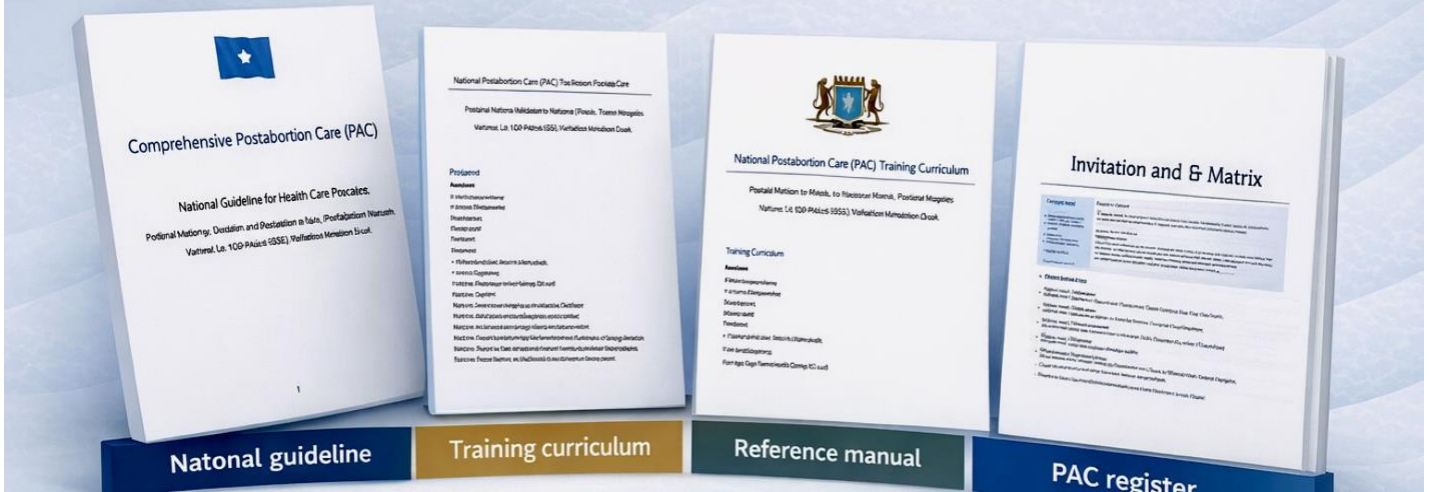
The structured, multi-stakeholder approach promoted shared accountability and ensured that the finalized national package accurately reflects service delivery realities, clinical practice requirements, training needs, data systems, and ethical considerations pertinent to the Somali context.

National ownership

The package is not only a technical product; it is a national implementation platform for safer, more respectful, and more standardized maternal health services across Somalia.

At a glance

Summary of developed documents covered in this presentation



Leadership, Technical Stewardship, and Partner Support

The development and validation process was guided by the leadership of the Federal Ministry of Health and Human Services, with the Family Health Department providing national policy stewardship and institutional ownership. The process reflects the Ministry's commitment to strengthening maternal health service quality and reducing preventable maternal deaths.

Dr Abdulrazaq Yusuf Ahmed, serving as National Lead Consultant, supported the development, consolidation, technical harmonization, and finalization of the nine national documents with support from the Ipas team and IRC. His role contributed to translating the national vision into a coherent, implementation-ready technical package.

The national package also benefited from the leadership and technical oversight of the Ministry's reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health stakeholders, as well as from the practical expertise of clinicians, facility managers, academics, professional associations, and civil society representatives.

<p>Federal Ministry of Health</p> <p>National leadership, policy stewardship, institutional ownership, and endorsement pathway.</p>	<p>Ipas Team</p> <p>Technical guidance, evidence-based content support, review, and quality assurance.</p>	<p>IRC Somalia</p> <p>Workshop coordination, stakeholder engagement support, organization, and implementation collaboration.</p>
--	---	---

Acknowledgment and Appreciation

The Ministry extends sincere appreciation to the leadership of the Federal Ministry of Health and Human Services for entrusting and enabling this important national process. This achievement reflects the confidence placed in national expertise and the collective commitment to strengthening maternal health services in Somalia.



Special appreciation is extended to Dr Naima Abdulkadir for her outstanding leadership, patience, technical oversight, and quality assurance throughout the process. Her role in collecting, reviewing, consolidating, and guiding technical refinements ensured that the documents moved through a responsible, trusted, and quality-assured pathway.

The Ministry also recognizes Dr Abdulkadir Wehliye Afrah for his generous dedication of time, technical expertise, practical advice, and coordination support. His contribution to the technical harmonization and validation of the documents was substantial and highly appreciated.

Profound acknowledgment and gratitude are extended to IRC and Ipas, including Dr Edward Ngia, Marian Hassan, Evans Ogotti, Ifrah Yusuf, Lucy, and Abdullahi Ali, for their exceptional leadership, technical guidance, financial support, organization, coordination, and dedicated commitment throughout the process.

The Ministry equally recognizes the distinguished professionals, experts, clinicians, managers, academics, Federal Member State representatives, civil society actors, women and youth forums, and stakeholders who invested their time and expertise. Their recommendations were captured in the validation feedback matrix and incorporated into the final national guideline package.

The package will serve as a practical tool for Family Health Departments, maternity services, and sexual and reproductive health programs, supporting effective and evidence-based implementation across the health system.

Expected Impact

<i>Enhanced service quality and coverage Improved consistency and reliability of postabortion care across levels of health facilities.</i>	<i>Strengthened provider competence Improved clinical skills, counseling quality, referral readiness, and adherence to evidence-based standards.</i>
<i>Improved monitoring and reporting Better documentation, supervision, data quality, and integration with routine health information systems.</i>	<i>Reduced maternal morbidity and mortality Contribution to the prevention of avoidable maternal deaths and progress toward Universal Health Coverage.</i>

Conclusion


The Somalia National Comprehensive Post Abortion Care Guideline Package stands as a significant milestone in the nation’s maternal and reproductive health policy and service delivery framework. It



exemplifies Somali leadership, extensive professional collaboration, partner partnerships, and the meticulous alignment of national values with internationally recognized scientific standards.

With endorsement and a structured implementation plan, Somalia is poised to transform this national policy achievement into tangible improvements in maternal health outcomes, service quality, provider competence, and health system accountability.

“A nationally harmonized postabortion care package is now ready to support safer, more respectful, and more evidence-based maternal health services across Somalia.”

: Dr Abdulrazaq Yusuf Ahmed; MBBS; Msc ; MPH; MD ; PhD in Health economics ;PhD in Social Science and demographic population; Health systems Expert and and recognized Global Health Leader