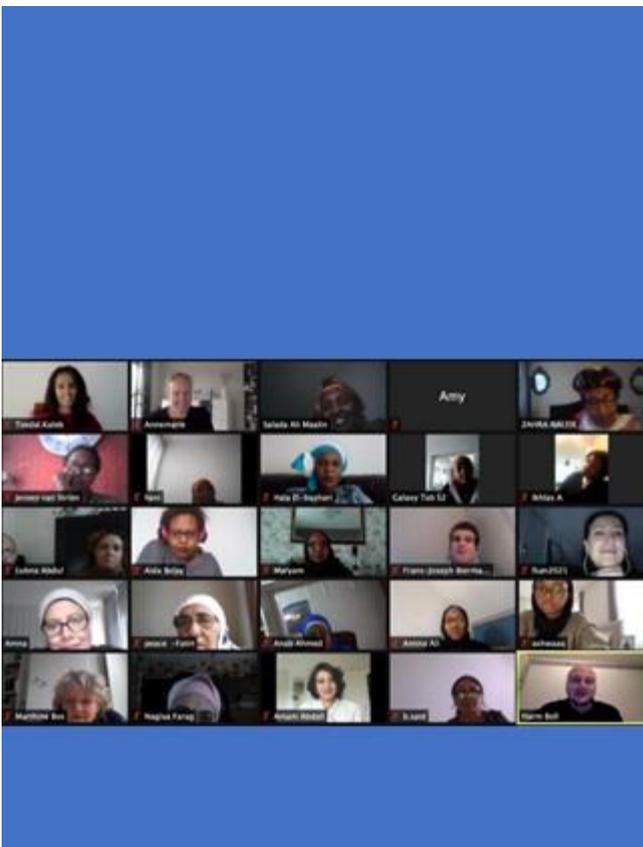




FSAN | Federatie Somalische
Associaties Nederland



FSAN NEWSLETTER

FSAN publishes its newsletter quarterly regarding the implemented activities following the Somali community in the Netherlands

This pc

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Anti FGM key figures trained

Legal aspects regarding Female Genital Mutilation in the Netherlands.

The Federation of Somalian Associations in the Netherlands (FSAN) has organized a training for 52 anti FGM key figures by means of an online meeting through Zoom on the 30th of January 2021 – this was part of the organization's national campaign against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

Dr. Annemarie Middelburg, a renowned human rights lawyer, explained the attending key figures on the legal issues regarding FGM in the Netherlands and the legal consequences when a girl has undergone FGM.

During the session, the attendees who were from different countries of origin, were divided into five groups. Following this, each group discussed a certain judicial case study, thus putting the acquired knowledge following this specific training to practice.

Thereafter, Dr. Annemarie Middelburg explained the present key figures what their role is in relation to the legislation regarding FGM in the Netherlands. First and foremost, their role regarding the prevention of FGM should be evident, while they implement behaviour change activities within their respective communities and thus warn people within FGM practicing communities against the risk of FGM and encourage them to abandon this tradition.

"It was an informative meeting for the participants to learn more about the legal aspects against Female Genital Mutilation in the Netherlands."



An image on key figures taking part in the training in the Zoom meeting

Zero Tolerance Day 2021

The Zero Tolerance Day against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is annually celebrated around the world on the 6th of February. In the Netherlands, this occasion was implemented by means of an online webinar due to the lockdown following COVID-19.

This year's topics during the Zero Tolerance Day were:

- The after care of the survivors of FGM;
- The impact of COVID-19 on the anti FGM programs throughout the world;
- The anti FGM projects by Defense for Children Netherlands and Plan International in Guinea.
- A theatre show on FGM awareness by key figures.

The online event was attended by 250 people from different institutions, anti FGM key figures and community organizations.

This occasion on the 6th of February was spearheaded by the local municipality of Rotterdam, the Centre for Youth and Family in Rotterdam and Platform 6/2 in which FSAN, Pharos, Plan International and Defense for Children Netherlands join forces in order to annually organize an event on the 6th of February to celebrate the Zero Tolerance Day against FGM.



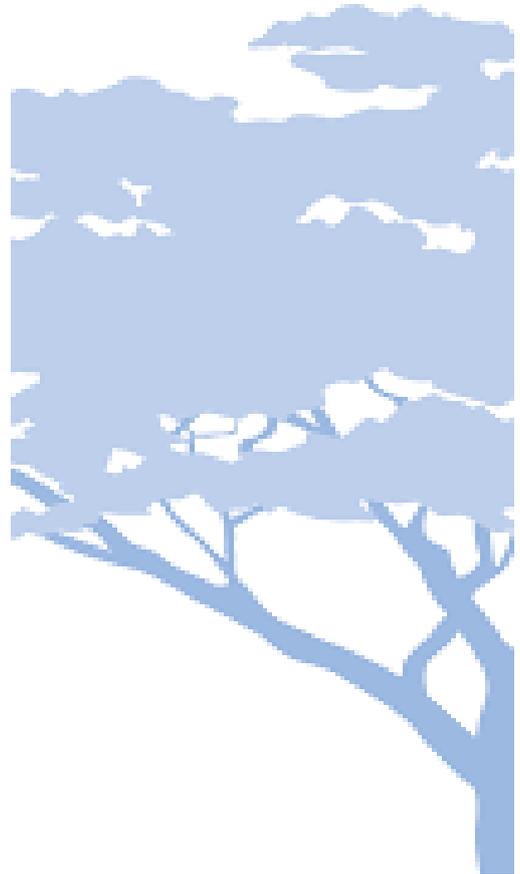
FSAN presents its activities on the anti FGM project

The Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports held an online meeting with the project manager of the Federation of Somalian Associations in the Netherlands on the 24th of February 2021. During this online meeting the activities set out and implemented in the last four years of the project against FGM have been discussed.

The head of FSAN's gender programs, Zahra Naleie gave details on the project activities as one of FSAN's main projects, namely the Female Genital Mutilation project is entering the final stage.

The other participants of this online meeting consisted of the trained anti FGM key figures from different countries of origin, including Sudan, Egypt, Northern Iraq-Kurdistan and Eritrea.

The Ministry admired the presentations given by FSAN as both sides agreed to have a follow-up meeting to answer all the questions and engage in further discussions regarding the project.



Key figures receive training

FSAN has organized a training course on the 6th of March 2021 for 12 key figures to end the practice of female genital mutilation.

During this training, the key figures were given the assignment to carry out two behavior change activities in the form of house visits. During these house visits the key figures inform members of their respective communities about the challenges and the harmful consequences of FGM.

FSAN project officer Harm Boll and Marisa Abdulqani, a nurse working at the aftercare consultation hour at the Haga Hospital in the Hague, contributed to the training.

8 March, Women's International Day

Zahra Naleie, the head of gender programs for the Federation of Somalian Associations in the Netherlands (FSAN) states that the International Women's Day on the 8th of March is an important day that secures the rights of women globally.

In an interview with the Somali National Television (SNTV) on the 8th of March 2021, Zahra stated that the International Women's day is the day that women overcame many challenges and gained their basic rights of living.

"The International Women's Day on the 8th of March, came forth following a revolution sparked by hundreds of female workers in New York City in the United States of America in 1908. They were protesting in favor for the reduction of working hours, an increase in income, to look into the dire situations in which they were working and their rights for voting in the elections. Subsequently, this revolution spread into the former Soviet Union states and a number of nations across Europe."

The idea to declare this as an internationally recognized and celebrated day came from a woman called Clara Zetkin. She suggested this idea in 1910 at an International Conference of Working Women in Copenhagen. There were 100 women from 17 countries present during this conference and they agreed upon her suggestion unanimously.

The International Women's Day was celebrated for the first time in 1911, in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland. The centenary was celebrated in 2011, thus this year we are celebrating the 110th International Women's Day.

Zahra also congratulated all Somalian women globally following the International Women's Day on the 8th of March. "Somalian women have struggled a lot from the colonial era, the military rule, the civil war up to now. Somalian women went through difficult times as they were the bread winner for their families."



Zahra Naleie, the head of gender programs for FSAN

She hoped that this year the International Women's Day will be a righteous and prosperous day for all Somalian women.

Meanwhile, Zahra voiced her concern over the increasing number of violations against Somalian girls and women, including cases of rape and murder.

She finds it sad that the federal parliament has not yet passed a bill to protect girls' and women's rights against these violations. She called on the coming legislators to adopt tough measures against any kind of abuse towards the Somalian female society.

“The other problem is when the suspect of rape is arrested, there are means to release him through traditional elderly agreement. The most surprising thing is that some members of parliament defend the alleged rapist, which could encourage an increasing number of rape cases indeed.”



FSAN and its role on the Somalia-Kenya maritime case



Since the start of the court hearing on the Somalia-Kenya maritime dispute at the International Criminal Court in the Hague, FSAN has been working hard on ways to make it possible for the Somalian community in the Netherlands to follow the case online.

FSAN's media department continued to update the community about the procedure and the time table during the hearing as Musse Hersi, a lawyer in the international law explained historically the issue of the maritime dispute between the two countries.

[Ali Ware](#), the chairman of FSAN, has briefed the Somalian diaspora about the ICC's agenda on the case just days before the start of the hearing. [Click the link to watch the briefing.](#)

The hearing of the case started on the 15th of March 2021, while Somalia was represented by delegates led by deputy prime minister Mahdi Mohamed Guled along with foreign prosecutors.

Kenyan delegations, who were supposed to be present at the hearing, have not appeared in the court house nor submitted their oral argument. However they have submitted their argument in writing earlier.

The dispute between Somalia and Kenya began in 2014 as Kenya tried to claim a large portion of Somalia's territorial waters. Somalia argues its maritime boundary runs in the same direction as the southeasterly path of the country's land border.

It is expected that the court decision could take months ahead. A few Somalian diaspora community members from a number of European countries arrived outside of the International Criminal Court building to show their support for the Somalian delegates.

Presentations on coronavirus vaccination



Mohammed Said. (Master of Arts in Advanced Nursing Practice)

Mohammed Said, who is a nurse specialist at the Catharina hospital in Eindhoven, the Netherlands, has given a full presentation on the risk of the coronavirus pandemic and its roll-out vaccination to a group of **Somalian Dutch community members** through an online Zoom meeting on the 14th of March 2021.

Mr. Said explained how the pandemic attacks the body’s immune system of the patient, the scale of the risks that could result in death and the benefits of complying with the preventive measures set out by the government.

He also addressed the government’s policy to vaccinate the people respectively by starting the roll-out to frontline workers, high risk groups and then the rest of the people divided in age groups.

“The vaccination is helpful and is aimed to give the person resistance against the virus,” Mr. Said said.

[Click the video clip below to watch the entire presentation.](#)

Welke soorten vaccins zijn er?
Vaccins proberen in het lichaam allemaal de natuurlijke immunrespons tegen een virus te activeren. Hoe werkt ons immuunsysteem en welke soorten vaccins zijn er?

Levend, verzwakt virus
Virusreproductie in cellen. Gebruikt in vaccins tegen o.a. bof, mazelen, pokken, gele koorts en rode hand.

Inactief (dood) virus
Geen virusreproductie in cellen. Gebruikt in vaccins tegen o.a. polio en hepatitis A.

Stukjes virus-eiwit
Inbrenging stukjes virus-eiwit in het lichaam. Gebruikt in vaccins tegen o.a. griep, hepatitis B.

Immuunsysteem
witte bloedcel (macrofaag)
A Macrofage neemt virus op en toont stukjes virale spike-eiwitten aan buitenkant
B T-Afgeencellen activeren andere cellen
C T-cellen vernietigen reeds met virus geïnfecteerde cellen
D T-cellen vernietigen reeds met virus geïnfecteerde cellen
E Plasmab-cellen produceren antilichamen die virus inkapselen
F Plasmab-cellen produceren antilichamen die virus inkapselen
G Geheugencellen
H Vorming geheugencellen met informatie over virus-eiwitten om bij nieuwe besmetting snel tot actie over te kunnen gaan

Virale vector
Stukje erfelijk materiaal van gevaarlijk virus wordt uitgeknipt en overgezet in een ander, onschuldig virus. Aangepast virus vormt eiwitsteeksel zoals die van het gevaarlijke virus. Gebruikt in vaccins tegen o.a. SARS, MERS en ebola.

Virus-RNA/DNA
Inbrenging erfelijk materiaal virus (RNA of DNA) in spiercellen, waar dan virale eiwitten worden geproduceerd. Geen bestaande vaccins bekend.

ANP zoom

10:37 / 21:16

Somali community organization in Alphen a/d Rijn

chairman of the Somalian Community Organization in Alphen aan den Rijn, in the South of the Netherlands, (Somalische Cultuur Alphen) [Mohamed Osman Guure](#), stated that their main activity is to cope with the challenges facing the community.

He said SCA was established in 1999 to become a potential bridge between the migrant community and the government institutions and also in order to maintain their Somalian identity both in culture and language.

“We help our community to overcome the problems of raising children in a western culture and to better understand social integration,” Mr Guure said.

When asked who supports their organization financially, he said firstly the members contribute to the organization’s budget. “Sometimes, we receive some support from the local municipality in Alphen aan den Rijn and some other institutions.”

Mr. Guure also stated that they have a shared community center where they conduct the community’s needs on Fridays and Saturdays. “We help our children with their homework and also have the chance to learn the Quran and our Somalian culture and language.”

Following this, he admitted that the Somalian students in Alphen aan den Rijn have difficulties finding internships during their studies. “Therefore, we as SCA have made contact with the city’s local municipality and the involved institutions over the issue, and we have high expectations.”

SCA is an active member of the Federation of Somalian Associations in the Netherlands (FSAN). “We work closely with FSAN on various projects like the national campaign to the ending of Female Genital Mutilation, raising awareness regarding the coronavirus and other integration programs”.

