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President pledges implementation of the bilateral MoU with Ethiopia

"It is the first time that we have by our side a great African nation that has boldly come out to support our aspirations and acknowledge our sovereignty".



By M.A. Egge

The President of the Republic of Somaliland H.E. Musa Bihi Abdi, has emphasized that the agreement between Somaliland and Ethiopia will be enforced. He also spoke about the slaying of the ICAO official in Mogadishu who

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Food Insecurity: Somaliland partners RiceAfrica



In a bid to boost agriculture and food production towards food security in Africa, the Republic Government of Somaliland has reached a partnership agreement with RiceAfrica.

According to a statement signed by RiceAfrica on Friday and made

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Recognition of Somaliland is part of the deal." Somaliland AU Ambassador



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Federal Law & Justice Institute attested Legitimacy of Ethio-Somaliland MoU



The Federal Law and Justice Institute said that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between Ethiopia and Somaliland is legitimate based on legal grounds and international practices.

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An important meeting between KULMIYE and UCID parties



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Somaliland Expresses Resolve to Implement Seaport Agreement with Ethiopia



Somaliland Foreign Minister, Essa Kayd Mohamed, reaffirmed Somaliland's commitment to implement the MoU it signed with Ethiopia in January this year.

In an exclusive interview with EBC

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Somaliland and Ethiopia has had bilateral relations for long, says Information Minister



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Somaliland Seeks to Revolutionize Civic Education, Draws Inspiration from Ghana's Model



Somaliland delegation on their quest to absorb and replicate Ghana's success in civic education. Explore the key lessons learned and the vision for a more informed and engaged

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President pledges implementation of the bilateral MoU with Ethiopia



happens to be a Somalilander, and the raging debate over Somaliland airspace management. The Head of State made the statement in a speech that touched on various aspects as he addressed a UK Somaliland diaspora soccer team that paid him a courtesy call at the Presidency on Wednesday. The President spoke clearly about the agreement between the Republic of Somaliland and Ethiopia stating that he is seeing to it that it is that the sad MoU has to be implemented since it is based on the best interests of both nations and has been well thought of. He said, "It is the first time that we have by our side a great African nation that has boldly come out to support our aspirations and acknowledge our sovereignty". He underscored that when it comes to international relations as far as cooperation is concerned, each and every nation as an entity charts its own future as per the needs and interests of its aspirations. In this context, the president noted that what the country lusts for is what it achieved, as a defacto state, which justifiably need a dejure status with the great African nation opening the doors hence the expected reciprocal move to lease the sea port. He noted that with such chance beckoning it was imperative that the nation of Somaliland move ahead

with the execution of the aspects of the MoU for it to be implemented and the nation be truly independently free at last. He reminded the audience that the gestures of reciprocity are the international norms and tenets hence no country dishes out charities anyhow. He said that it was in such connection that he has boldly taken to the move and is seeing to it that it goes on unhindered and is implemented. The president spoke about the reaction of the leader of Somalia to the agreement, and said that he (Hassan) cannot hold sway the implementation of the agreement whatsoever. He said, "the vitriolic statements that has come out of the Italian controlled protectorate in Mogadishu has made it vividly plain and clear the uncalled for animosity that they always haboured about Somaliland". He said that the perpetual claim that Somalia has repeated 'rule' Somaliland has always been naive and untenable propaganda that deserves the contempt it exudes. He pointed out, "Since I signed the MoU with Ethiopia Hassan Sheikh (Somalia president) has at least spoken 31 times at different forums while spewing derogatory words towards the entity and nationhood of Somaliland and I bluntly told him

that his desire to be party to the MoU as a signatory was not binding since it did not concern them at all for we were two different nations and entities". He reminded the youthful audience of the sufferings the people of Somaliland endured under the regime of the infamous union with the south who perpetrated genocide against the nation. The animosity emanating from Somalia now is not only a reminiscent of the past horrors but, can be seen, as continuation of the same. As concerns the brutal killing of ICAO official Abdinasir Musa Dahable from Somaliland in Mogadishu, the president blamed President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud personally for the horrible slaying of the victim. He charged, "Hassan, the murder of the man from Somaliland in Mogadishu is your responsibility, we do not accept the fact that it was perpetrated by young boys nor we accept the arresting of his fellow young compatriots as suspects; you cannot be the apprehender, judge, jury and the executioner all in one for something we hold you personally as your legacy". The president wondered why the Somalia leadership fraternity intertwines Somaliland sovereignty with the exacerbation of al Shabaab movement. He called on the International Community not to be hoodwinked by the lies, and if anything, he pointed out that the international recognition of Somaliland, if anything, would bolster the security of the region. The president was convictional that the country of Somaliland will not be swayed but will manage its airspace as justified just as it will pursue its aspirations and that of the people of the nation.

Federal Law & Justice Institute attested Legitimacy of Ethio-Somaliland MoU



The workshop held today brought together representatives from Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, House of Peoples' Representatives and House of Federation as well as other legal institutes. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed inked a historic Memorandum of Understanding in Addis Ababa with the President of Somaliland Muse Bihi Abdi on 1st January 2024. The MoU for Partnership and Cooperation, between the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Somaliland, is intended to serve as a framework for the multisectoral partnership between the two sides. Most importantly, the MoU is also believed to pave the way to realize the aspiration of Ethiopia to secure access to the sea, as part of its pursuit of diversifying access to

seaports on the Red Sea. In his keynote address to the workshop, Ambassador Degife Bula, Director General for Federal Law and Justice Institute said that Ethiopia's desire to have access to sea is a legitimate and genuine approach. For him, the MoU is vital to unlocking the Red Sea to Ethiopian economy and ensuring mutual benefits. The director general added that the concerns which some quarters express are in breach of international practices because the MoU enables Ethiopia to pursue its natural quest for ports based on peaceful means, give and take approach, mutual cooperation. Ethiopia's deal with Somaliland is legitimate and accepted by international norms, the director emphasized.

Food Insecurity: Somaliland partners RiceAfrica

available to the Saturday Tribune, this milestone was reached during a courtesy call by the Founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of RiceAfrica, Ibrahim Maigari Ahmadu, who paid a courtesy visit to the Vice President of the Republic of Somaliland, His Excellency, Abdirahman Abdillahi Ismail, at the Presidential Palace in Hargeisa on Wednesday. 'Is a major milestone achieved towards the adoption of a tech-driven solution to food insecurity in Somaliland and indeed Africa?' the statement said. The Somaliland Vice President, Abdirahman Abdillahi Ismail, said, "The government of Somaliland is assuring you and all investors interested in our country of support and an enabling environment. Somaliland is safe and peaceful for

business." The Vice President assured the visiting CEO of the government's support and readiness to provide an enabling environment for businesses operating in the country. In his remarks, the visiting CEO of RiceAfrica, Ibrahim Maigari, expressed gratitude to the government and people of Somaliland for the hospitality and also presented to the VP how RiceAfrica is poised to transform smallholder farming communities in Africa through technology. The visit by RiceAfrica to Somaliland is facilitated by its partner, Bilow Capital, a venture capital fund and venture studio based in Hargeisa, Somaliland, whose strategic objectives are to attract innovative and impact-driven companies to invest in Somaliland. RiceAfrica is a tech-driven

agriculture optimization service provider with operations in Nigeria, Tanzania, and Rwanda and a strategic expansion plan across the

African continent. The leading African IT-driven organization uses its award-winning FarmEASY operating system to

improve the productivity of smallholder farmers in Africa and improve food sufficiency and security.



Somaliland Expresses Resolve to Implement Seaport Agreement with Ethiopia

World, the Foreign Minister underlined that the monumental pact is in accordance with all international laws and Principles. On January 1, 2024 Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and Somaliland President, Moses Bihi, signed a historic deal in Addis Ababa that seeks to expedite regional integration by fostering mutual development. Somaliland, Foreign Minister Kayd disclosed, has organized a steering committee to implement all principles of the historical agreement, which is expected to fulfill the interest of the two countries. The Foreign Minister expounded that the MoU signed with Ethiopia is not to harm anyone but to develop together within the scope of a win-win approach. Regarding claims by Somalia that the MoU is a violation of its

sovereignty, the Minister said Somaliland declared independence since 1991, adding it has maintained its own government for three decades.



Somaliland Seeks to Revolutionize Civic Education, Draws Inspiration from Ghana's Model



democratic society. Imagine a world where every citizen not only understands their rights and responsibilities but also actively participates in the democratic process. This vision drives a significant delegation from Somaliland, halfway across the continent, to the vibrant streets of Accra, Ghana. Their mission? To absorb and replicate Ghana's triumph in civic education, a cornerstone for

sustaining democracy. Led by figures such as Mr. Abdirisak Yusuf Jama and Mr. Mohamed Lali Cuman, this journey is more than an educational tour; it's a quest for democratic empowerment. The heart of their exploration beats within the walls of the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) in Ghana. Under the guidance of Ms. Kathleen Addy, the Chairperson of NCCE, the delegation delved into the essence

of civic education. **Ghana's success story** in fostering an informed citizenry is not just inspiring but a beacon for nations like Somaliland, yearning to cultivate a similar culture of informed participation. Ms. Addy's assurance of support to the Somaliland delegation marks the beginning of a hopeful journey towards building a robust civic education system back home. Blueprints for a Democratic Future The delegation's itinerary extended beyond the NCCE. Meetings with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NaCCA) and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs underscored the holistic approach required to embed civic education deeply into the fabric of society. The advice was clear and consistent: securing **technical assistance and governmental support** is paramount. This underscores a crucial lesson for Somaliland; the sustainability of civic education hinges not just on curricula but on a wider ecosystem of support and commitment.

Recognition of Somaliland is part of the deal." Somaliland AU Ambassador

Ambassador Abdullahi Mohamed Du'ale accused Somalia of being the source of instability not only in Ethiopia but also in the region. "Ethiopia, we expect its borders to be respected. Second, Somaliland should be recognized as a legally recognized state. Somaliland will fight Al-Shabaab and terrorism," he said. A technical committee is now being set up from both sides to finalize the memorandum of understanding signed by Ethiopia and Somaliland," Ambassador Abdullahi Mohamed, the representative of Somaliland in

Ethiopia, told Deutsche Welle. (following the signature) were connections. There were visits between the two countries. Ethiopia, its efforts to get a sea gate and the response of countries, our Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Relations returned last week. He was here (Addis Ababa) with me. Their main task was to consult with their Ethiopian counterparts so that the issue could be established. Sooner or later we will get the two committees up and running. So I think that will happen very soon." What does Somaliland say to the

protest? Although Somaliland is not internationally recognized, it is a government that has controlled its own borders, has its own flag, and has been holding elections for the past 30 years, and has been governing its people. "As for the Arab League, Egypt and Somalia, I think they can't do anything in this regard. It's a closed issue. The port issue that continues to be discussed is what worries us for the Egyptians who have other goals in the area," he said. According to the memorandum of

Why Somaliland-Ethiopia Port deal is good for the region

On January 1, 2024, a Memorandum of Understanding between Somaliland and Ethiopia was signed by H.E. President Muse Bihi Abdi of Somaliland and H.E. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed of Ethiopia which has instigated regional, international, and global geopolitical contests. Somaliland Representative to Kenya Ambassador Dr. Mohamed Ahmed Mohamoud elaborates on the issues surrounding the deal and the geopolitical tensions that have arisen because of the memorandum of understanding. **Questions:** **What promoted Somaliland to enter this deal with Ethiopia at this moment?** A: First, the Republic of Somaliland and Ethiopia share common interests in security, trade, and deep-historical ties of people-to-people relations. Second, Somaliland and Ethiopia have

worked together on many fronts over the last three decades, and the recently signed MOU will only further enhance socio-economic, security, political, and diplomatic engagement between the two countries. Third, as with other countries in the world, Somaliland has the right to enter bilateral deals that advance its national interests and priorities. Somaliland is more than capable of managing bilateral and multilateral agreements with other countries, and this cannot be stopped by anyone. **Following Somalia's vehement protests against the Somaliland-Ethiopia MOU agreement, how has Somaliland reacted to these oppositions?** A: Somalia has remained a failed state for decades and has actively but unsuccessfully sought to stifle Somaliland's growth as a democratically, sovereign nation.

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understanding, we asked them what Somaliland would get in return, and they responded by saying, "Recognition of Somaliland. This is of course part of this program. It is part and parcel of the agreement." "Somaliland Fights Al-Shabaab and Terrorism". Ambassador Abdullahi accused Somalia of being the source of instability not only in Ethiopia but also in the region. "Ethiopia, we expect its borders to be respected. Second, Somaliland should be recognized as a legally recognized state. Because we were a part and stakeholder of the political stability of the region. We have been fighting al-Shabaab and terrorism in the past years." "Somaliland has the support of other countries" A representative who gave an interview to Deutsche Welle said that Somaliland will handle this issue well in the next African Union summit. "Not only Ethiopia, we also have other friends. We have friends

from five different regions. We have member countries (African Union) who have a very positive attitude towards our issue. The controversial Ethiopia - Somaliland communication agreement, we have a legal issue, we also have a moral issue, the only thing left is a political issue. We will do it for the region and the continent. "Good contribution is forgotten. No body can decide on the decision of our people. Our people made a referendum. 97.5 percent voted in favor of becoming an independent country. "Ethiopia has no desire to fight with Somalia" Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed explained to the Central Committee of the Prosperity Party yesterday that there is no desire to enter into a conflict with Somalia. "Ethiopia has absolutely no desire to fight with the people and government of Somalia." My efforts to contact the officials of the Somali Embassy in Ethiopia on this matter were unsuccessful.

Why Somaliland-Ethiopia Port deal is good for the region



This is not the first time Somalia has protested an agreement Somaliland has entered. In 2018, Somalia protested Somaliland's Berbera Port modernization agreement with UAE's DP World, but their protests lacked legal backing and support. The reality is that countries in the Horn of Africa region and the international community are cognizant of Somaliland's sovereign status and its capacity to manage its affairs in accordance with its own national laws while upholding regional and international instruments. Because of this, a cooperative partnership between Somaliland and Ethiopia in trade, security, and development will also contribute more benefits for the entire East African community, and beyond.

There are concerns among several regional states regarding this MOU. How can you address these concerns and persuade countries that remain skeptical?

A: The Government of the Republic of Somaliland continues to reassure all concerned parties that this agreement with Ethiopia will only positively serve the Horn of Africa region and beyond. This deal is in line with both bilateral and multilateral cooperation as it promotes regional economic integration, free trade flow, and development. It also fosters international cooperation and foreign investment which will significantly contribute to regional economic growth. It is important to note that leasing a military naval base is not unprecedented in the Horn of Africa region. Somaliland's neighbor, Djibouti, has hosted several naval bases for many years now. Parties that have expressed concerns over the Somaliland-Ethiopia need to start looking at this deal from a very objective lens that is not based on baseless rhetoric propagated by Somaliland enemies. The Republic of Somaliland is a frontier and a major contributor to regional peace and international security. Neighboring countries such as Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Somalia have benefited from Somaliland's commitment to safeguarding regional stability both onshore and offshore over the past three decades.

Several countries and members of the international community, specifically belonging to bilateral and multilateral institutions, who have spoken of the deal have also raised concerns about this deal in fear that the agreement can potentially instigate new conflict in the region. How do you see these calls?

A: The Somaliland – Ethiopia agreement will not contribute to regional instability. It is important to demystify this deal and examine the facts which is that the Somaliland-

Ethiopia agreement will make the Horn of Africa region more prosperous and economically viable. In addition, amidst escalating insecurity in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden with fuel and trade costs rising, a Somaliland-Ethiopia cooperation would significantly contribute to maritime security and stability in the region.

It seems that this deal raised a lot of regional and international dynamics how do Somaliland and Ethiopia manage these dynamics?

A: Somaliland and Ethiopia play a crucial role in maintaining regional and international stability, and their bilateral cooperation will benefit the entire Horn and East Africa region. Somaliland and Ethiopia are both committed to advancing regional economic integration, combating terrorism, mitigating the impact of climate change, and supporting neighboring countries in matters of security and stability.

How will Ethiopia recognizing Somaliland, as stipulated in the MOU, impact regional and global affairs?

A: When Somaliland gains its inalienable rights of international recognition, this will present an opportunity for the region and the overall continent. Somaliland has achieved notable milestones since re-gaining its sovereign and territorial integrity on 18 May 1991. The Somaliland case is a unique one and differs from the historical experiences of other countries. Despite lacking international recognition, Somaliland hosts many citizens from Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. Many people visit Somaliland and choose to stay in the country for extended periods of time because not only does Somaliland have peace, but it is a country that has long upheld its democratic national values which enhance economic opportunity for all.

If Ethiopia recognizes Somaliland, do you expect that other countries will follow suit?

A: Yes, we are very optimistic, and hopeful that many countries in Africa and elsewhere will follow this momentum because many countries see Somaliland as a reliable and valuable partner for regional and global affairs of peace, security, economic development, and Somaliland's geopolitical landscape has also a lot of significance as Red Sea- Gulf of Aden is the main gateway of the global trade and maritime. In other words, the regional and international communities are all aware that since 1991 Somaliland pursued its democratic statehood without much assistance from the international community. In this regard, Somaliland is not burdened or dependent on external assistance but Somaliland peacebuilding and

state-building trajectory rooted in our unique experiences of political and social resilience. In the meantime, it is notable to underline that the Republic of Somaliland has fulfilled the criteria of statehood laid down by international law so no doubt that the recognition of Somaliland is not only a breakthrough at the continental level but also will reflect on the wider global geopolitical landscape.

You are aware that the deal signed by Somaliland and Ethiopia has shaken geopolitical affairs with even some members of the Kenyan parliament openly discussing it. What are your thoughts on this?

A: I have specifically seen Kenyan MP Farah Maalim talk about this deal on multiple occasions, where he has openly incited violence against both Somaliland and Ethiopia because of the signed MOU. While on a recent visit to Garoowe, Farah Maalim explicitly stated that he could mobilize 500,000 Kenyan Somali youth to fight against Somaliland and Ethiopia to support Somalia. First and foremost, it is entirely unacceptable to see a parliamentarian use such inflammatory language when discussing the signed Somaliland-Ethiopia agreement. This type of rhetoric only encourages insurgency, extremist ideology, and acts of terrorism in an already vulnerable region. As a Kenyan MP, an individual like Maalim needs to refrain from meddling in and being so overly involved in the affairs pertaining to other countries.

Somalia's President in the African Union Submit, and Somalia's Representative to the UN both concurrently stated that Ethiopia is making annexation of part of Somalia which meant the Somaliland – Ethiopia deal what is your reaction to this provocative allegation?

A: First of all, Somali leaders are misguiding the international community and regional actors, and in this case, they need to understand that signing agreements and annexation have divergent interpretations in international law. Somaliland- and Ethiopia have equally agreed to enter a bilateral agreement which is mutually beneficial to both countries. Regarding the phenomenon of

annexation, it only happens in the matter of forceful, and military occupation, did you ever hear that Ethiopian troops invaded Somaliland, the answer is no, this is unfounded propaganda that Somalia leaders designed to mislead the international community and regional actors.

Some members of the international community raised their feelings over the deal, arguing that Al-Shabab terrorists will further exploit and jeopardize regional peace and stability

A: This is an unbalanced political view, and it is an excuse to undermine the partnership framework, and maritime cooperation between Somaliland and Ethiopia. On the other hand, both Somaliland and Ethiopia have had sufficient experience fighting against terrorism over the past decades. The two countries played very prominent roles the regional stabilization, peace, and security. So, this deal will not jeopardize the fight against terrorist groups but will reflect on much more security enhancement, greater cooperation of all parties, and preventing the terrorist entities not to spreading over the region and beyond.

Could you provide a brief overview of the history of Somaliland?

A: The Republic of Somaliland was initially a product of the European Partition of Africa in 1884. Somaliland became a British Protectorate, known as British Somaliland, following subsequent agreements between Somali elders and the British Empire of that time. After close to 80 years under British indirect rule, Somaliland gained independence on 26 June 1960 and became the first East African country to officially become independent from a colonial power. However, following the wave of pan-Africanist, anti-colonial movement of the mid-1900s, Somaliland decided to voluntarily join into a union with the UN trusteeship and former Italian colony of Somalia on 1 July 1960, to form the Somali Republic. It is important to note that this merger was never legally ratified and ultimately failed. Somaliland reinstated its sovereignty and political independence in 1991. In the national referendum held in 2001, 98% of the Somaliland

people overwhelmingly affirmed this decision to regain their national sovereignty and political independence. As a result, Somaliland's constitutional democracy was born and since 2002, subsequent peaceful, free, fair, and transparent elections have been successfully held in the country.

How can the statehood of Somaliland be defined on its modern state roots?

A: The context of the African state formation concurrently took place following the European scramble for Africa. This marked the beginning of Africa's modern statehood trajectory which also played an instrumental role in allowing colonial powers to manipulate political and territorial affairs in the African continent. In this context, the Somali partition in the Horn of Africa was indeed a part of the divisions experienced in East Africa. Consequently, the British Protectorate of Somaliland was founded between 1884 and 1886 where the British colony entered treaties with clans that lived in Somaliland. The Republic of Somaliland today is based on the 1960 territories and borders of British Somaliland. This is the case for the majority of recognized African states today. The African Union's 1964 Cairo Declaration mandated that African states uphold and respect the borders established upon their achievement of national independence from colonial empires. So, the modern statehood of the Republic of Somaliland today is deeply rooted in its historical origins.

In the case of Somaliland, were there additional agreements or border demarcations made during the colonial era?

A: Yes, there are subsequent international treaties that the British Empire of the colonial period entered with other countries while it was governing the then British Protectorate of Somaliland. Because of this, Somaliland's borders are delineated and defined by the Anglo-French Treaty of 1888; the Anglo-Italian Protocol of 1894, and the Anglo-Ethiopian Treaty of 1897. Then the Republic of Somaliland gained independence from Britain on 26 June 1960 and then re-instated its sovereignty in **Continue on page 5**

Why Somaliland-Ethiopia Port deal is good for the region

1991, after the union under the now-dissolved Somali Republic failed. Somaliland's borders and territory today are determined by the border demarcations established over a century ago.

Can you please elaborate on the significance of Somaliland within Africa and globally?

A: The Republic of Somaliland is situated in the Horn of Africa and is bounded by the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea. Due to its proximity to the Bab al-Mandab Strait, which is a

passageway that is crucial to global shipping and trade, Somaliland is a corridor for both regional and international transportation of goods. Because Somaliland has enjoyed over 30 years of peace and security, the country is not only a major contributor to regional stability but plays a vital role in regional economic integration and free trade. Somaliland's Berbera Port is one of the largest and most strategic ports in Africa and the sub-Saharan

region, a gateway to many African countries. As one of the only countries with a functioning democratic system in the Horn of Africa, the Somaliland people have successively elected their leaders and representatives through elections based on the principle of "one person, one vote". The Republic of Somaliland is a beautiful country with a rich history, culture, heritage, and the Geo-strategic potential to continue positively serving the Horn of Africa region and the broader world.

An important meeting between KULMIYE and UCID parties

By M.A. Egge

The two official national parties of KULMIYE and UCID, held an important meeting at the Ambassador Hotel in Hargeisa, where issues such as the general situation of the country and the national security were discussed. The chairpersons of both KULMIYE and UCID parties, Hon. Mohamed Kahin Ahmed, who is the Minister of Internal Affairs and Eng. Faisal Ali Warabe of UCID, together with members of the leadership and senior officials of the two parties, discussed the situation in the country and preparations for the upcoming elections in their meeting which was a lunch.

The two party chiefs were accompanied by; the 1st Deputy Chairman of the KULMIYE party Mr. Abdiziz Mohamed Samale, the 3rd



Deputy Chairman of the KULMIYE Party, Hon. Suleiman Yusuf Ali Koore, who is the Minister of Water Resources Development, the 4th Deputy Chairman of the KULMIYE Party Hon. Mohamud Hassan Saad (Sergeant), who is the Minister of Trade and Tourism, Secretary General of the KULMIYE Party, Faisal Abdirahman Madar, Chairman of the National Refugee and Displaced Persons Agency,

Abdikarim Ahmed Mohamed (Hinif) and other politicians. The UCID party officials were the 1st Deputy Chairman of the UCID Party, MP Omar Jama Farah, Deputy Chairman of the party Ahmed Ali Ainaba, General Secretary of the party Mohamed Hussein Isse, Party Spokesman Mohamed Ali Bilal and other officials from the leadership and the Executive Committee of the UCID party.

Somaliland and Ethiopia has had bilateral relations for long, says Information Minister

By M.A. Egge

The Minister of the Ministry of Information, Culture and National Guidance who is also the Spokesman of the Government Hon. Ali Hassan Mohamed (Ali Mareehaan), reiterated the fact that there have always been good relations between Somaliland and Ethiopia, which both countries are committed to continue and strengthen.

He gave the sentiments in an interview he gave to the Somali language branch of BBC Radio whereby refuted a statement made by the President of Somalia who alleged that there are currently top Ethiopian officers in the city of Berbera.

"Somaliland and Ethiopia have a long-standing trade, security and relationship partnership, and they are discussing how to strengthen it," he said.

Minister Ali Hassan mentioned that there is currently a delegation from the Government of Somaliland in Addis Ababa led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Ise Keyd. He said, "Somaliland delegations



are scattered around the world, and it is normal for Somaliland delegations to go to Kenya, Djibouti, the United States and Ethiopia and anywhere else in the world as the case may be; but the delegation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs is in Addis Ababa currently hence continue bolstering the bilateral relations in the interests of both nations".

The Minister of Information added that President Musa Bihi Abdi has already named an 8-man team that consists of intellectuals and scholars charged with the task of charting forward the MoU agreement entered with the neighbouring country of Ethiopia. He said that all the members of the said team are currently in the country.

Minister Ali Hassan, who was asked when Somaliland expects the agreement to be completed, said, "It is going well, it will be finalized soon, and it will be presented to the Parliament of the two chambers of Somaliland, and it will soon come into effect."

He wondered why the Somalia government which knows that Somaliland has entered several agreements with its neighbor should cry foul now for something that is not its concern.

He said that the cities of Wajale and Jigjiga are close to each other, and "we have business relations with Ethiopia, we have on cooperation on border security and other bilateral relations perpetually".

The memorandum of understanding signed by the Republic of Somaliland and Ethiopia on January 1, 2024, states that Somaliland would lease 20 km of sea-shore to Ethiopia for a naval base in reciprocal for the land-locked country to be the first country to officially recognize the justified sovereignty of the nation Somaliland.

The Ministry of Finance has closed training for Inland Revenue employees

The Ministry of Finance has conducted a training session on dealing with taxpayers.

The director general of the Ministry of Finance, Mohamed Hussein Muadin, who gave a speech at the closing of the training, urged the participants to deal well with the taxpayers, and said, "You have learned the rights and duties of the taxpayer and the duties of the taxpayers of the Ministry of Finance, taxes are a constitutional duty, it's refusal will result in punishment. you have learned how to deal with the taxpayers, the best way is to deal with them without preaching the law to collect the tax.

On the other hand, the Director General of the Ministry of Finance, Md. Mohamed Hussein Osman (Mu'adin) opened a training session for 25 members of the government businessmen.

Those traders will be trained in the pilling procedure during this period of training.

"The training you will receive is about your dealings with the Ministry of Finance and other government agencies, the process of submitting your bills so that you can learn better." He said Mr. Mu'adin.

Somalia authorities abetted in cahoots to murder the late Abdinassir, states Information DG

By M.A. Egge

The Director General of the Ministry of Information, Culture and National Guidance Mr. Mustafa Abdi Isse "Shiine" has accused the government of Somalia being behind the heinous brutal murder of the late Abdinassir Muse Dahable who was killed in Mogadishu.

He said that the deceased was killed after Somaliland took over the management and control of its airspace, a move that irked Somalia and costed the life of the slain man who hails from Somaliland.

He said that the Somali police were involved in the killing of the late Abdinassir Muse Dahable since their actions were shrouded with secrecy as they retrieved the body and kept completely mum on the issue, not sharing any information at all.

He accused the Somalia president, the head of Somalia intelligence and the head of the Somalia civil aviation authority as having been in cahoots and abetted in the murder case of the late Abdinassir Muse Dahable, then a top official in the sector.

Director Mustafe said that it is not the first time that such killings are perpetrated by the Mogadishu regime but it is the umpteenth.

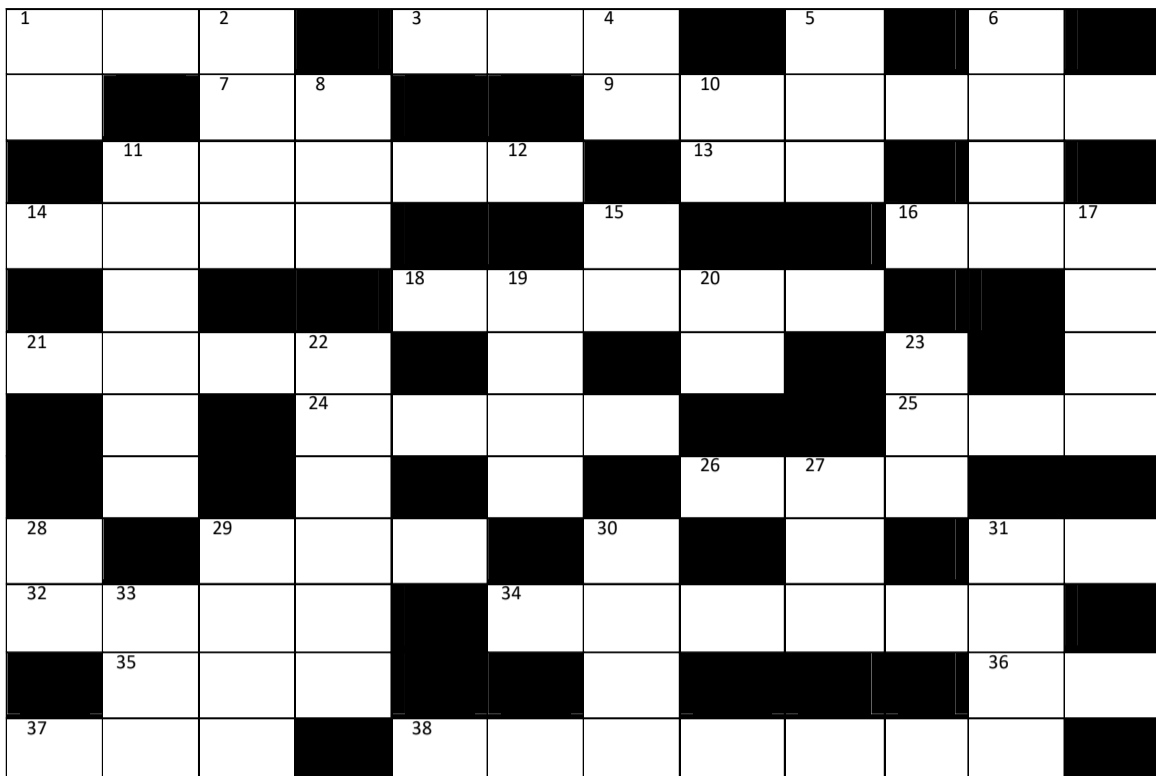
He charged that the issue concerning the latest murder to the youthful technocrat was reminiscent of what the Somalia government of Mogadishu have been perpetrating for the past 60 years, and was the reason that regime collapsed completely.

The DG gave the sentiments in an exclusive interview he gave the local media.

The body of the late slain Abdinassir has since been brought to Hargeisa. His burial date has not been announced yet.



THT Puzzle



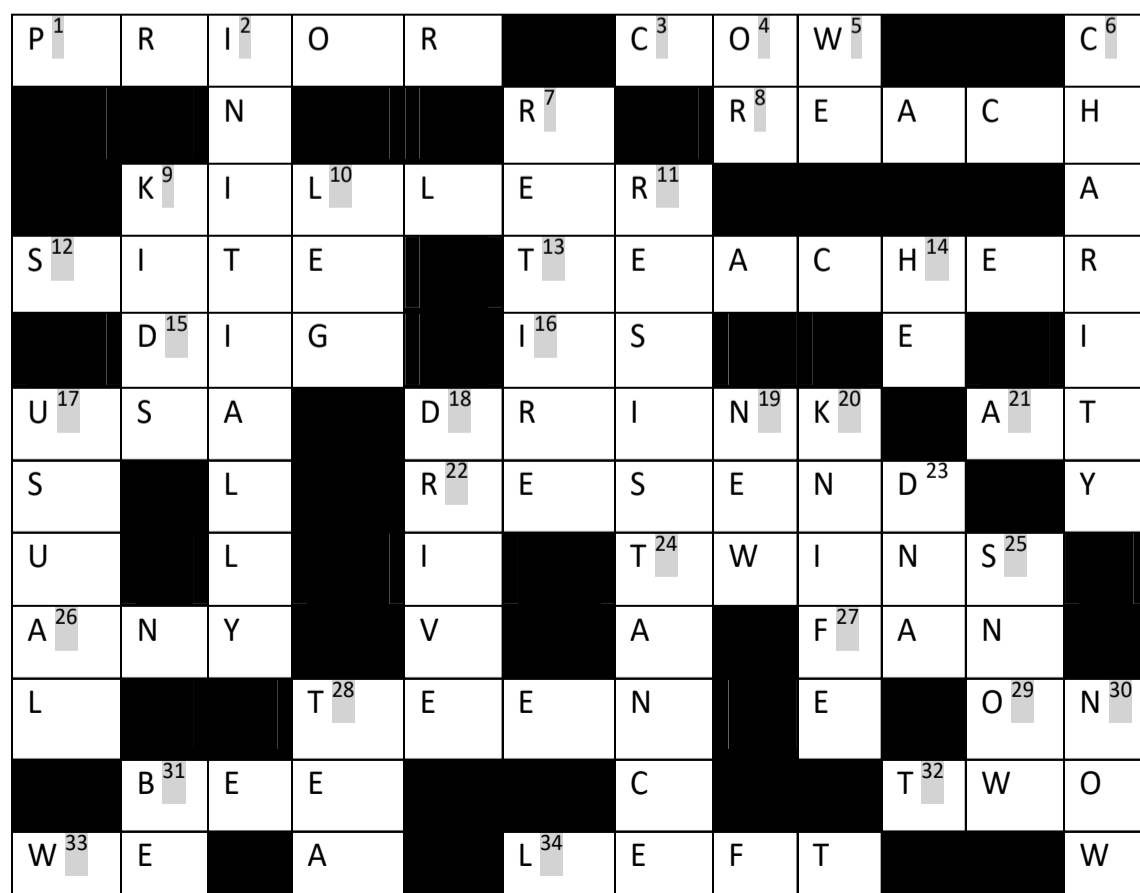
ACROSS

- 1 Supernatural being (Allah)
- 3 Reproductive cell
- 7 otherwise
- 9 onion plant
- 11 Sweetened
- 13 Otherwise
- 14 Curve
- 16 Accomplished
- 18 Tea break
- 21 Vicinity
- 24 Feeling
- 25 Furthermore
- 26 Knocked
- 29 Dirt
- 31 African Union Office
- 32 Shortly
- 34 Hermetically sealed (roof sealing)
- 35 Non
- 36 ACCOMPLISH
- 37 Marker
- 38 Direct

DOWN

- 1 Go away
- 2 Set down
- 4 Supernatural being
- 5 Noun/ gentleman
- 6 Against
- 8 Reddish
- 10 Negative
- 11 Look for
- 15 Be present
- 19 Apartment
- 20 Being as
- 22 Quantity
- 23 Consume
- 27 Sick
- 28 Remains
- 29 natural satellites; reflect light from the sun.
- 30 Interpreted
- 31 Add together
- 33 1

Previous Answer



Ethiopia-Somaliland Deal:

Somaliland's Pathway to International Recognition

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(Part 04)

independent, democratic governance that Somaliland has achieved. Consequently, Somaliland's leaders chose to adopt a new approach to alter the existing circumstances and bring the country closer to regional and international diplomatic platforms to actively campaign for the achievement of its objective of de jure recognition. The MoU between Somaliland and Ethiopia represents a significant achievement in this direction, not only by securing Ethiopian commitments regarding recognition, but by demonstrating Somaliland's legitimacy and capacity to engage in direct bilateral diplomacy, without intervention from Mogadishu. Additionally, by reaching a mutually beneficial solution, Somaliland and Ethiopia are now better positioned to cooperate and collaborate than ever before, and prospects for regional economic integration in the Horn of Africa have improved significantly.

2.3 United Arab Emirates and its Regional Influence in Horn of Africa

The United Arab Emirates (UAE), with its abundance of resources and influence in the region, has been an active player in the regional integration of the Horn of Africa, with a major focus on Ethiopia and Somaliland. Unlike Somaliland, the UAE has diplomatic and political influence over Somalia, which it sees as an important partner because of its rivalry with Qatar. At the same time, it has made major investments in Somaliland, including Berbera Port's modernization, and the construction of a free zone, industrial park, military base and the Berbera corridor, a road that connects Somaliland to Ethiopia.

Equally, the UAE and Ethiopia has concluded several MoU's since Abiy Ahmed came to power as the Prime Minister of Ethiopia. Among these agreements was the cooperation between DP World and the Ethiopian government, which made significant investments in the Port of Berbera. (Ecofin Agency, 2023). Cooperation between the UAE and Ethiopia represents a significant strategic partnership aimed at countering China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in the region, particularly in Djibouti, which serves as China's gateway. However, China's stake in Djibouti, where it has invested in ports and railways, as well as its only overseas military base, also entails a strategic interest in Ethiopia as the region's dominant power and economic hub. According to the Congressional Research Service, China has provided nearly \$1.5 billion in financing major infrastructure projects in Djibouti since 2000. Among the projects being built by Chinese firms is a \$3.5 billion free-trade zone (FTZ), which is expected to be Africa's largest. The first phase was completed in 2018, and was expected to create 200,000 new jobs and handle over \$7 billion in trade from 2018 to 2020. Three Chinese companies have stakes in their FTZ alongside Djibouti's port authority (Service, 2019). Competition for regional power over the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, and the Horn of Africa has led to China and the UAE emerging as major rivals. Nevertheless, while the deal between Somaliland and Ethiopia will primarily benefit the UAE, it is believed that China's interest in boosting the economic potential of the wider region will supersede any competitive attempts to stand in the way of the deal.

3. Somaliland's Security Dilemma: Regional Security of Horn of Africa in Multipolar World Order

Somaliland, as an unrecognized de facto state, has maintained political stability over the past two decades through the adoption of a democratic system of governance and the holding of popular elections. Despite its ability to exercise sovereignty and secure its borders, its defense capability has been limited due to financial constraints and the absence of defense and security cooperation with other states, including Ethiopia. In contrast, Somalia, which claims Somaliland as part of its territory, has received international defense cooperation from countries such as Turkey, UAE, Ethiopia, Uganda, UK, US, and Qatar, which have provided training to their national army. As a result, Somaliland remains isolated and its defense capabilities are constrained. Furthermore, the United Nations Security Council lifted the arms embargo on Somalia in December 2023 after more than three decades, enabling Somalia to build its armed forces. Given the failure of talks between Somaliland and Somalia to resolve their differences, Somaliland has been compelled to take unilateral actions in its defense and foreign policy strategies aimed at overcoming its isolation and vulnerability.

The new deal between Somaliland and Ethiopia is thus about much more than economic development and integration between the two nations, but instead also relates to cooperation in the areas of security
To be continue next week

Compiled by: Yusuf Omar Hindi

Did bodybuilding bring on my early perimenopause?



When Adele Johnston was a bodybuilder she was on gruelling diets and fitness regimes that left her hungry and exhausted all the time.

The Scottish double gold bodybuilding champion's hair began to fall out, she had bleeding gums, heart palpitations, itchy skin and painfully swollen genitals. After years of scans and painful tests it was discovered these were symptoms of early perimenopause - the stage before a woman's period stops.

On average, it starts when women are 46 years old. Adele, a mother-of-two from Fife, was in her early 30s. "For years and years I was pushing my body beyond its limits physically and mentally. Bodybuilding is an extreme sport and I wasn't healthy," she told BBC Scotland News.

You could see my ribs and my bone structure, I was emaciated. How my body looked was not nice and healthy and I went against my intelligence and knowledge to put myself through those gruelling diets. At 5ft 8ins (1.7m), Adele was only 8 stones 3lbs (53kg) as a bodybuilder - two stones lighter than she is now. "I've started to question why I went into an early perimenopause and have asked many doctors if it was due to my bodybuilding and they said 'It is possible but we don't have the research,'" she said.

Dr Heather Currie, a specialist gynaecologist at NHS Dumfries and Galloway, suggested the extreme bodybuilding could have caused Adele's menstrual cycle to "stall".

"Anything in extreme you have to question if that is going to have other effects and what I often talk about is everything in moderation," she said. "Any over excess or excess of not enough of something is not going to

be good overall.

"If the whole cycle is able to stall then you could see why some people might have symptoms [of perimenopause]."

Dr Currie, who advises the Scottish government on the menopause and women's health, suggested the ovaries could "return to normal" once Adele stopped bodybuilding. Bodybuilding could have influenced it but she will never know," she added. Adele has now given up bodybuilding - but she has also been put on HRT and a Mirena coil, which completely stops her monthly periods, to help her perimenopausal symptoms.

The 40-year-old is finally feeling better and is not prepared to come off the medication to check whether her cycle has recovered.

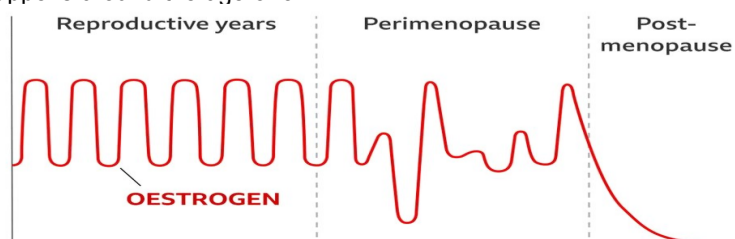
"I suffered from horrific perimenopause symptoms," she said. "I had heart palpitations and thought I was having a heart attack, I couldn't sleep at night so was exhausted, I had cold sweats and I was itchy all over my body.

"I had so much pain in my vulva I had to stand at my desk at work. I had abdominal bloating and bleeding gums and was losing my hair. It was very traumatic.

"Because I have the Mirena coil and my hormones feel stable, I'm not prepared to remove it to check if I'm having a bleed."

What is the perimenopause?

The menopause is when women's periods stop, which normally happens around the age of 51.



The lead-up to this happening, when periods become irregular, is known as the peri-menopause. It starts, on average, at 46.

This is when many women notice their periods becoming unpredictable or heavy, and have feelings or physical problems they haven't experienced before.

When periods haven't happened for 12 months, you have reached menopause. Vicky McCann, the chairwoman of the British Natural Bodybuilding Federation, said any potential link between bodybuilding and the early perimenopause was a "very interesting subject".

The 54-year-old said: "I have been competing for 30 years and have only had signs of menopause in the last three years.

"I had no issues up until then and I have dieted and trained all my life. I can think of about three other people my age who have also had no problems.

"However, the thing is people are all unique, it's an interesting subject." Jessica Watson, co-founder of menopause education organisation, Gloriah, said she had encountered many stories like Adele's.

"There is an urgent need for greater recognition of, and research into, the causes of early menopause - which is at the heart of what we are campaigning for," she added.

'I could barely function'

Adele is now a menopause coach after resigning from her job as an operational resilience manager in an investment bank.

"My debilitating symptoms eventually forced me to leave my job," she said.

"The company I worked for couldn't support me in my needs when I was going through perimenopause.

"I'd asked for six weeks of reduced hours while I adjusted to being on HRT and they refused.

"I was so unwell I could barely function. So my husband Sean said leave and we would work it out."

Adele said she was nervous leaving her job.

"It was petrifying to say goodbye to my salary, pension, benefits and career path, but I saw it as an opportunity to retrain as a menopause coach, using what I'd been through to help others."

She added: "Bodybuilding is a glitzy and glamorous sport but behind the stage we have to be mindful of the health implications."

Aviation Official Found Dead in Mogadishu Green zone Amidst Somalia-Somaliland Tensions, Foul Play Suspected

The tragic death of Abdinasir Muse Dahable remains a poignant reminder of the systemic killing that unfolded during the time when the Somalia government sought to exterminate people of Somaliland origins in 1980s.

Dahable, a high-ranking official from Somalia's civil aviation authority, was found dead at his residence within the heavily fortified green zone of Mogadishu's Aden Adde Airport. His suspicious death, amid escalating tensions between Somalia and Somaliland, raises concerns and fuels speculations of foul play.

This incident is situated in the broader context of a conflict over airspace control, with Somalia's recent denials of landing rights, including for emergency medical flights, sparking outrage in Somaliland.

In response, Somaliland declared independent airspace management, challenging Mogadishu's claim of sole control. The controversy extends to the proposed establishment of an Ethiopian naval base in Somaliland,

a key component of the Memorandum of Understanding between Ethiopia and Somaliland. The Somali President's vehement criticism, characterizing it as an 'existential threat' and echoing tones of jihad, adds complexity to the situation. While he has not specified concrete actions, references to historical tensions and open advocacy for violence by some Somali politicians contribute to the volatile atmosphere.

President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud alleges that the Memorandum of Understanding contributes to Al-Shabaab's recruitment efforts, citing intelligence reports of over 8,000 new recruits within the initial month. The exact connection between Mr. Dahable's tragic death and the violent rhetoric remains unconfirmed, adding a sorrowful layer to the already complex and volatile situation. Dahable, originally from Somaliland, had received training from ICAO and was a recipient of the prestigious Chevening Scholarship.

Somaliland and Somali state of Ethiopia to collaborate on sports

By M.A. Egge

The government of Somaliland has sent a warning to all the aid agencies operating in the country hence insisted that all the international non-governmental organizations to operate within the stipulated regulations and in tandem with the general national planning programmes hence diligently undertake projected duties and services.

It also instructed that all organizations implementing development projects or humanitarian emergency aid services must be registered with the mandated registration office of the Ministry of Planning and National Development.

On the other hand, the Ministry of Planning has instructed the employers that when it comes to employing staff priorities must first be given to the citizenry who are ably qualified for the jobs and not non-nationals. This was stated in a circular, issued by the Minister of Planning and National Development Hon. Ahmed Mohamed Diriye Toorno, a copy of which reached our news desk.

It read as follows:

1. The programs of International Non-Governmental Charitable Organizations must be in line with the overall development plan of the country, they must encourage, show practical and effective projects, and at the same time work in collaborations with local non-governmental Charitable Organizations in the areas where they operate and strengthen their knowledge and performance in order to ensure that these programs continue to be sustainable and

self-sufficient, according to clause 2 of article 35 of Law no. 43/2010.

2. All organizations implementing a development project or humanitarian emergency aid must be registered with the Registration Office of the Ministry of Planning and National Development, according to the Non-Governmental Charitable Organizations Act No. 43/2010, articles 13 and 28, and article 28 of the Regulations on the Construction of Ministries and Government Agencies, Regulation No. 01/2018.

3. All private companies implementing development projects or emergency humanitarian aid must obtain a project implementation certificate from the Ministry of Planning and National Development as stated in the Non-Governmental Charitable Organizations Act No. 43/2010.

4. International non-governmental organizations should encourage the funding of national non-governmental organizations and avoid competing with the activities that can be done by these organizations in order to strengthen the knowledge and performance of these national organizations, such as specified in the penalty clause of Article 35 of (Law No. 43/2010).

5. USDAC, should not be a project implementer for other International Charity Organizations and United Nations Organizations, according to clause 3 of article 35 of (Law No. 43/2010).

6. All employers are instructed that the vacancies of jobs that can be filled by citizens can not taken by foreigners, as stated in Article 34, 35 and 36 of the Law on Civil Servants (Law No. 31/2020).