

The Horn Tribune

Vol IV/ Issue 1578 Sunday 15 December 2024

Jumada II 14/ 1446 AH

An Independent Weekly Newspaper of Dawan Media Group, Tel: 0634414181/0634424590/0634615145

President Abdirahman Irro unveils his cabinet ministers



Slots has been given to several marginalized communities in the country's historical first

Continue on Page 2



Newly inaugurated President Dr. Abdirahman Irro extends an olive branch to the people of Sool in his inaugural speech



By M.A. Egge

In his inaugural speech widely which has been hailed and billed as one that has appealed to the nation of Somaliland populaces in

Continue on Page 3

We hope the new president will promote peace and the country's economy – CEO Abdirashid Duale



Continue on Page 5

President appoints Hussein Deyr as Spokesman of the Presidency



By M.A. Egge

The President of the Republic of Somaliland H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro has named Eng Hussein Adan Igge, popularly known as Deyr, to become the official

Continue on Page 2

US says Somaliland is a Leader in Democracy and a Model for the Entire African Continent



Continue on Page 5

You have to be pragmatic and bold in your undertakings, former President Rayaale tells President Abdirahman Irro at his inauguration



By M.A. Egge

The celebrated former Somaliland Head of State H.E. Daahir Rayaale Kahin has once again given his words of wisdom, reminiscent throughout his pragmatic leadership as Third President of the Republic of

Continue on Page 4

National Army Commander Praises both 5th and 6th Presidents for their Democratic Spirit



Continue on Page 5

The new president of Somaliland supports close ties to Taiwan



Somaliland's new president, Abdillahi Mohamed Abdullahi, favors the continued development of close ties

Continue on Page 4

A Trump White House looks set to recognize the world's newest country



Continue on Page 5

Inside

Somaliland is on the up thanks to Trump and Irro — we can't let Somalia and Turkey try to drag us down Continue on page 7

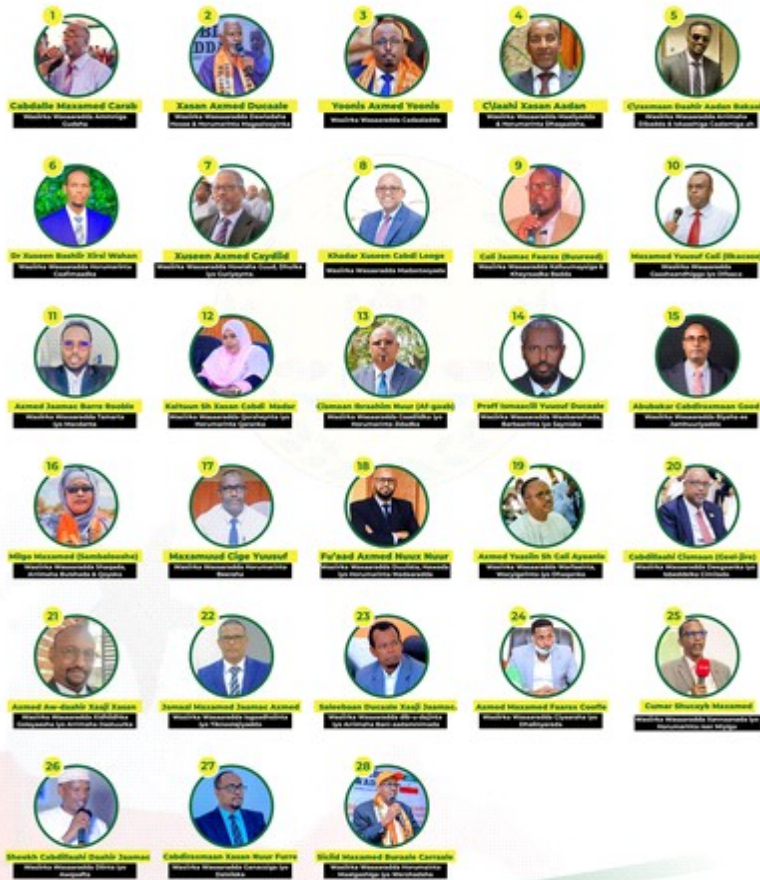
The Ankara Declaration: A Misstep That Exposes Somalia's Fragility and Somaliland's Rising Influence



Continue on Page 7

President Abdirahman Irro unveils his cabinet ministers

Golaha Wasiradda Cusub ee Jamhuuriyadda Somaliland



By M.A. Egge

The President of the Republic of Somaliland H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro has appointed a wide range of new faces in Somaliland politics when he unveiled his cabinet members on Saturday.

The list contained 48 members that include ministers, state ministers and deputy ministers.

Of note is the fact that for the first time in the country's history full cabinet positions have been given to several members of communities who have been hitherto marginalized, a pledge the Head of State had expressed both during his campaigns and underpinned in his inauguration speech.

According to the Executive Order in Presidential Decree Ref. No. JSL/XM/WM/222-003/122024.

The list was read over the air by the Presidential spokesman Eng. Hussin Adan Ige, who himself, was appointed hours earlier and was expediting his first task.

Hereunder is the press release in its entirety.

Presidential Decrees:

The President of the Republic of Somaliland, H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi (Irro) today Saturday, on 14/12/2024, has appointed the members of the Council of Ministers, Ministers of State through Presidential Decrees with the code JSL/XM/WM/222-003/122024 and Deputy Ministers of the Republic of Somaliland in the New Government.

The Presidential Decree was as follows :-

Presidential Decree Nomination

When I saw: Article 90 of the

Constitution of the Republic of Somaliland;

When I saw: Their knowledge, skills, and experience;

When I considered: The importance of the Ministries mentioned below in serving the people of the Republic of Somaliland and building the Nation;

When I am satisfied: That they can handle the responsibilities arising from the duties mentioned below;

When I did: Consultation;

I decided;

With effect from today's date, I appoint the following officials:

1. Mr. Abdalla Mohamed Arab (Sandeere)- Minister of Internal Security of the Republic of Somaliland
2. Mr. Hassan Ahmed Duale (Teacher) -Minister of Local Government and Urban Development in the Republic of Somaliland
3. Mr. Yonis Ahmed Yonis Muhammed, Minister of Justice of the Republic of Somaliland
4. Mr. Abdullahi Hassan Adan Awale, Minister of Finance and Economic Development of the Republic of Somaliland
5. Mr. Abdirahman Dahir Aden Bakal, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Somaliland
6. Dr Hussein Bashir Hirsi Wahan, Minister of Health Development of the Republic of Somaliland
7. Mr. Hussein Ahmed Aydeed Warsame Minister of Public Works, Lands and Housing of the Republic of Somaliland
8. Mr. Khadar Hussein Abdi Looge, Minister of the Office of Presidency of the Republic of Somaliland
9. Mr. Ali Jama Farah (Bureed) -

Minister of the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources of the Republic of Somaliland

10. Mr. Mohamed Yusuf Ali Ahmed (Ilkacase), Minister of Defense of the Republic of Somaliland
11. Eng Ahmed Jama Barre Roble, Minister of Energy and Minerals of the Republic of Somaliland
12. Miss. Kaltun Sh. Hassan Abdi Madar, Minister of the Ministry of Planning and National Development of the Republic of Somaliland
13. Mr. Osman Ibrahim Nur (Afgaab) Minister of Transport and Road Development of the Republic of Somaliland
14. Prof. Ismail Yusuf Duale Guled, Minister of Education, Training and Science of the Republic of Somaliland
15. Mr. Abubakar Abdirahman Good Wa'ays Minister of Water Ministry of the Republic of Somaliland
16. Miss. Milgo Mohamed Ilmi (Sambalooshe) Minister of Labour, Social & Family Affairs of the Republic of Somaliland
17. Mr. Mohamud Ige Yusuf, Minister of Agricultural Development of the Republic of Somaliland
18. Mr. Fuad Ahmed Nuh Noor, Minister of Aviation, Aviation and Airport Development in the Republic of Somaliland
19. Mr. Ahmed Yasin Sh Ali Ayanle - Minister of Information, Culture and National Guidance of the Republic of Somaliland
20. Mr. Abdullahi Osman Jama (Geeljire)- Minister of Environment and Climate Change of the Republic of Somaliland
21. Mr. Ahmed Aw-dahir Haji Hassan, Minister of Assembly Relations and Constitutional Affairs of the Republic of Somaliland
22. Mr. Jamal Mohamed Jama Ahmed -Minister of Communications and Technology of the Republic of Somaliland
23. Mr. Suleiman Duale Haji Jama-Minister of Resettlement and Humanitarian Affairs of the Republic of Somaliland
24. Mr. Ahmed Mohamed Farah Oofle -Minister of Sports and Youth of the Republic of Somaliland
25. Mr. Omar Shuaib Mohamed Absiye -Minister of Education and Rural Development of the Republic of Somaliland
26. Sheikh Abdillahi Dahir Jama (Bashe) -Minister of the Ministry of Religion and Endowments of the Republic of Somaliland
27. Mr. Abdirahman Hassan Nur Furre Minister of Trade and Tourism of the Republic of Somaliland
28. Mr. Said Mohamed Burale Araale, Minister of Investment and Industrial Development of the

Republic of Somaliland

Ministers of State

29. Mr. Mohamed Yusuf Ibrahim Faa'ul Minister of State for Education, Training and Science of the Republic of Somaliland
30. Mr. Abdirashid Mohamed Ahmed (Magaalo)- Minister of State for Internal Security of the Republic of Somaliland
31. Mr. Ismail Mawlid Abdillahi Hassan Minister of State for Finance and Economic Development of the Republic of Somaliland

Deputy Ministers

32. Mr. Mukhtar Haji Muhammad Farah Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Agricultural Development of the Republic of Somaliland
33. Mr. Ahmed Omar Haji Abdillahi (Hamarji)- Deputy Minister of Local Government and Urban Development in the Republic of Somaliland
34. Mr. Muse Askar Guled Jama – Deputy Minister of Information, Culture and National Guidance of the Republic of Somaliland
35. Miss. Samsam Mohamed Saleh Yaniile -Deputy Minister of Health Development of the Republic of Somaliland
36. Mr. Jamal Jama Hamud Dunkal, Deputy Minister of Religion & Endowment of the Republic of Somaliland
37. Mr. Ali Ahmed Abdi Antar- Deputy Minister of Animal Husbandry and Rural Development of the Republic of Somaliland
38. Mr. Yusuf Nouh Yusuf (Tadase) - Deputy Minister of Youth & Sports of the Republic of Somaliland
39. Mr. Mohamed Muse Haji Abdi (Galayd) -Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Labour, Social and Family

Affairs ministry of the Republic of Somaliland

40. Mr. Sharmake Abdi Muse Mohamed -Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources of the Republic of Somaliland
41. Mr. Abdirahman Shide Bile Darar- Deputy Minister of Resettlement and Humanitarian Affairs of the Republic of Somaliland
42. Mr. Yusuf Kayse Abdullahi Aden - Deputy Minister of Aviation, and Airports Development of the Republic of Somaliland
43. Dr Mohamed Aw Dahir Ibrahim -Deputy Minister of Environment and Climate Change of the Republic of Somaliland
44. Eng Mohamed Ilmi Hussein (Huno)- Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Investment and Industry of the Republic of Somaliland
45. Mr. Jawhar Said Warsame Deputy Minister of Trade and Tourism of the Republic of Somaliland
46. Eng Malik Abdi Hassan Hirsi - Deputy Minister of Communications and Technology of the Republic of Somaliland
47. Mr. Mohamed Muse Bu'ul Bookh -Deputy Minister of Assembly Relations and Constitutional Affairs of the Republic of Somaliland
48. Mr. Mohamed Abdimaalik Ahmed -Deputy Minister of Transport and Road Development of the Republic of Somaliland

THANK GOD

Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi (Irro)

President of the Republic of Somaliland.

President appoints Hussein Deyr as Spokesman of the Presidency



Spokesman of the Presidency. Indeed, this is the first public undertaking the Head of State has engaged in by naming a public official upon his swearing in on Thursday and taking over the reins of the government.

The newly appointed official comes to the office with a wealth of

experience having occupied the same office during the administration of the late President Ahmed Mohamed Mohamoud Silanyo's administration and later on as a cabinet minister.

In a Presidential press circular dated

Continue on page 4

Newly inaugurated President Dr. Abdirahman Irro extends an olive branch to the people of Sool in his inaugural speech

- ✓ ***New administration to focus on international rapport and revitalize foreign relations***
- ✓ ***He pledges zero-tolerance on corruption and public pilfers***
- ✓ ***Urges for concerted and collective efforts in overcoming major challenges facing the nation***

a long while given its healing call, the new President of the Republic of Somaliland H.E. Dr. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi, popularly known as Irro, addressed the audience, the nation and the world in a passionate manner that touched so many a heart during his inauguration as the 6th Head of State.

He has called for healing, unity and solidarity after inheriting a nation divided and recession hitting the economy.

He acknowledged that “the challenges before us are not small, we cannot underestimate our divisions that require us to reunite, we cannot minimize the severe recession that has befallen our economy, the existing security challenges, the heavy debt that the new government will inherit, our relations with the world that need to be restored, and the vast work of internal unification”.

H.E. Dr. Abdirahman Irro extended an olive branch to the people of Sool and pledged to have issues concerned be addressed without pre-conditions.

He pointed out that top amongst his priorities is to revitalize the economy, zero-tolerance on corruption and public pilfers, harness local production, unite the populaces, bolster foreign relations and boost foreign investments opportunities in the country.

He called for concerted efforts from all quarters while believing that with collectiveness all hurdles and challenges would be overcome.

The President touched on all issues and challenges of concern and his hopeful ways and means of overcoming them.

Of note was the fact that he pointed out that he would make good his campaigns pledge of increments for the remunerations of the security arms of the state, across the different armed forces and fledge their capacity building to become an even better formidable institution.

While noting that freedom of expression and civic participation is imperative in nation building, he pledged to step up the participation of the marginalized people in policy making by empowering them.

Below is the whole speech in verbatim loosely translated: -

INAUGURATION SPEECH OF THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOMALILAND

Asalaamu Alaykum wa



Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu Praise is to God alone;

With great dignified appreciation, I respectfully salute President Muse Bihi Abdi who today, as is the custom, tradition and symbolic democracy etiquette of Somaliland, hands over the onerous task of the office of President to me.

I likewise greet the former President of this country, H.E. Dahir Rayaale Kahin, who has just traveled a long way to witness this important occasion.

I extend similar appreciation of acknowledgement to the outgoing Vice President, H.E. Abdirahman Abdillahi Ismail (Sayli'i). So, too, do I salute the presence of the Speaker of the House of Senate (GUURTI) Hon. Suleiman Mohamud Adan and Speaker of the House of Representatives Hon. Yasin Haji Mohamud Hiir Faratoon, the CJ Hon. Adan Haji Ali the Chair of the Supreme Court of Somaliland, and the Chairmen of the Official National Political Parties of WADDANI, KAAH and KULMIYE.

I specially greet the President of the Somali Regional State of our brotherly country of Ethiopia, Mr. Mustafa Muhumad Agjar.

I salute the former Vice Presidents of the nation who are here with us, Mr. Abdirahman Aw Ali Farah and Mr. Ahmed Yusuf Yasin.

I greet the members of the both Houses of Parliament (Representatives and Guurti), the Local Councils, the National Electoral Commission, the officers and soldiers of the various National Forces, the civil servants, all the distinguished guests and in general the citizens of the Republic of Somaliland who are watching us live at home and abroad.

I welcome, congratulate, salute and thank all the delegations from other countries who have come to us, the ambassadors and diplomats who are attending this event representing their countries, the representatives of the international community and international organizations residing in Hargeisa.

It is a great honor for us that you are participating in this important event for the Republic of Somaliland that depicts to the world the fledgling and bolstering of our democratic processes that have the changes of guard through peaceful universal suffrage.

Your presence is a testament to your commitment to supporting us in the building of our state, and it strengthens our ties and the goodwill of our friendship that is growing day by day.

I thank you for the continued support that many of you have given to the democratic process in the Republic of Somaliland, and for the development and humanitarian assistance that you have provided to our country and our people.

We hope that you will continue to support our efforts to create a peaceful, prosperous and democratic Somaliland.

Brothers and sisters;

Today, we welcome a 'new beginning in which we will build our country together, hand in hand'. We are opening a new page in the history of our nation. These are opportunities of days when unity, solidarity, peace and progress will guide the journey of our state in future, which would be based on good governance, justice, consultation, and the application of the law so that every citizen can

enjoy his/her rights.

It is a journey that we will open our country to good tidings, God willing. Brothers and sisters,

I feel the burden of the office I have assumed today; knowing that burden and responsibility I have assumed, and I am encouraged by the desire that our people have shown for a change in the political leadership of this nation, and with the goodwill that I know that the people would stand by me. I will therefore tirelessly fulfill the duties of the heavy burden that have been bestowed upon me and the tasks it dictates.

What I have been sworn to is to protect religion, country, and to serve my people well; I was not sworn to cater for the interests of a particular party, I was not sworn to the interests of a particular group, I was not sworn to the interests of a clan or a section of society.

Brothers and sisters;

We cannot unite by the enclaves of geographical locations, but what solidifies us is the national commitment made by our brave and gallant in Burco (by re-asserting the nationhood of Somaliland), the National Charter of Borama, and the constitution voted for by the people of Somaliland in a national referendum.

Our constitution reflects our needs and aspirations. I will be guided by the principles it upholds, including good governance, justice, transparency, and national unity.

Every time we come together to inaugurate a new President or a new national assembly, we testify to the power of our constitution, we vividly depicts to the world our civilization, proving once again that we are a country that practices democracy and that we are a multi-party system. I, too, tell my people that I will abide by the constitution and laws of this country. I tell the world loudly that the democratic progress of this country cannot be hidden from the eyes anymore and that we duly deserve recognition without any qualms whatsoever.

Brothers and sisters

I am committed to accelerating recovery and development of our economy to improve the lives of citizens and reduce the poverty line.

The new government would have zero tolerance on corruption and would combat against public pilfer to the hilt.

We will strengthen the free market; we will create policies and an administrative environment that encourages creativity and business creation, and attract foreign investment. I call on everyone who invests in Somaliland to be welcomed by the new government wherever they are in the world (Welcome to a rich country that is ready for investments).

We will devise and promote projects

that increase job creation for our youth.

To achieve this, we will work with our national banks to facilitate loans, and finance small businesses.

Today, we are a country that imports everything from abroad, and my goal is to increase our production since our country is a rich country so that we can sell our various natural resources to world markets.

Brothers and sisters;

We will work to improve;- education; health care services, especially for mothers and children, the quality of medicine and food imported into the country, environmental protection and sanitation, and to ensure that citizens have access to clean water.

The problems caused by climate change in the environment, which have been evident in our country in recent years, threaten agricultural and livestock production, which are our backbone economy. We will cooperate with countries and international organizations to prepare for and withstand the problems caused by climate change.

We will strengthen justice within society, and we will give special priority to the role of women and marginalized people in society, and to give them a fair share in the political decision-making of the country.

We will work to enhance the knowledge and skills of the youth, who are the backbone of our society, so that they can participate in the development of the country and be prepared to play a leading role.

Brothers and sisters;

Unity and solidarity are the most important foundations for strengthening nationalism. Only through unity can we overcome the external and internal challenges facing our government, and accelerate the progress and development we aim for.

By upholding the values and principles of my nation, while respecting the laws of the country and international norms, I will seek a peaceful diplomatic solution to the conflicts that have erupted in the eastern regions of Somaliland and the borders.

I have a great responsibility to maintain peace and stability in the country and the region. Therefore, I am committed to building a national army capable of protecting our borders, and ensuring peace and stability for my country and my people.

We will provide the various forces with the training, development and knowledge they need, and we will raise their standard of living and care for them and their families. I will implement the salary increases I promised during my term.

Continue on page 4

Newly inaugurated President Dr. Abdirahman Irro extends an olive branch to the people of Sool in his inaugural speech

Brothers and sisters; Citizens must be fairly represented in the political decision-making of the nation, which is essential for strengthening our unity as a nation and our state, and strengthening the peace and security of our nation.

I will stand for every citizen to have the power and rights allowed by law. We will work to ensure that citizens have a voice and are given a legal opportunity to have their representatives have a say in politics and the future of the nation.

Brothers and sisters:

Patriotism does not necessarily mean that we should all be coerced to have the same views and perspective on all political issues; different ideas pooled together only strengthens the end resolutions and results in concerted efforts towards nation building thence in reaching and realizing the aspired goals by the government.

Respect for political freedoms and civil rights are central to both justice and democracy.

Our volition is that citizens can freely express their views, freely participate in political decision-making, and play a role in the development of their nation without departing from the framework of international law, the national constitution, and the applicable laws of the country.

Brothers and sisters:

My government is ready to pacify the eastern regions of Somaliland, to lay a foundation for peace without any conditions, and to resolve any disputes through dialogue to find a peaceful political solution, which will lead to peaceful coexistence, openness to people and trade, and the exchange of prisoners.

Brothers and sisters, what unites us is more than what divides us.

I appeal to the cultural and traditional leaders, members of the clergy, and

scholars, as well as the international community, to play a positive role in our efforts to restore a spirit of brotherhood and coexistence in the regions of Sool Region.

Brothers:

We are a fledgling country that is struggling to gain recognition, so we will give special importance to foreign policy and international cooperation.

The Republic of Somaliland is a nation that, without sufficient assistance and support from the world, has succeeded in resiliently and painstakingly built a meaningful state and democracy.

We are striving to gain the world's understanding of our history, and to recognize our nationhood based on a valid legal argument.

The new government of Somaliland is starting to work on restoring the cooperation of the international community, so that we can create a new Somaliland that plays a role in security and political stability in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea region as a whole.

Brothers:

We acknowledge that the challenges before us are not small, we cannot underestimate our divisions that require us to reunite, we cannot minimize the severe recession that has befallen our economy, the existing security challenges, the heavy debt that the new government will inherit, our relations with the world that need to be restored, and the vast work of internal unification.

Resolving these problems requires time, perseverance, and strong decisions, and I am confident that we can accomplish much and overcome many difficulties when we join forces and the people play their honorable role.

My new government, which I will form in the coming days, will

cooperate with our friends, and our international partners, to prevent these challenges from overwhelming us.

I call on my people to unite and join hands to pave the way for unity and brotherhood among the people of Somaliland to ensure the implementation of justice, equality, and development that our country aspires to.

Brothers;

Let us all forgive each other. Brothers, let us pray for our people who have served the country tirelessly, and for those who are still committed to serving it.

First and foremost are the various forces of the nation, the National Electoral Commission, government employees, businessmen, cultural leaders, scholars, entrepreneurs, poets, intellectuals, the media and anyone who has invested their time, energy, or money in achieving a successful and peaceful Republic of Somaliland.

Finally;

Speaking on your behalf, I would like to express my special gratitude to our fifth President of Somaliland, His Excellency Musa Bihi Abdi, and his Vice President, His Excellency Abdirahman Abdillaahi Ismail (Sayli'i), for their important role in the nation building and development of the Republic of Somaliland.

They will be national elders who will play a constructive role in the country's governance, by the will of God.

To all of you, I humbly and respectfully request that we applaud and clap for them...

With your gratitude and a solemn farewell,

Thank you all!

May SOMALILAND WIN!

May SOMALILAND LIVE!

MAY GOD BLESS SOMALILAND.

You have to be pragmatic and bold in your undertakings, former President Rayaale tells President Abdirahman Irro at his inauguration

Somaliland, at the inauguration of the new President H.E. Dr Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro.

He advised the newly sworn in 6th President of the nation to be always pragmatic and bold in his decision making and not allow any of his undertakings to be coerced into untenable moves.

He cautioned that since all the bucks would stop at the desk of the Presidency, he should be wary of any shot-comings.

Similarly, he advised the nation and the new leadership to note that no progress or development can be ever achieved if the populaces were divided along flimsy partially self-interests and clannish lines.

The former President was expressing the sentiments as he

addressed the audience that gathered to witness the swearing in of the just elected new President who was taking over from his predecessor President Musa Bihi Abdi on Thursday 12th November.

It is noteworthy to mention that the H.E. Dahir Rayaale Kahin once again strongly advised, for the umpteenth time, against the engagement with the Somaliland-Somalia Talks as long as the Mogadishu administration has not yet institutionalized or fledged their own governance in their own backyard. Despite acknowledging the fact that the was a long-time public figure and for long served as the national parliamentary speaker, he was categorical that a developing nation that has still not achieved

international recognition demands more boldly diplomatic and pragmatic leadership to overcome its hurdles.

He urged the people of Somaliland to shun and abandon tribalism, which he lamented that is in-deep, and work towards what is in the interest of the Somaliland nation and its solidarity.

He was categorical that a country whose people are divided cannot achieve anything whatsoever.

He urged for consensus and consultative approach to addressing pertinent national issues.

He gave a re-cap of the gradual and monumental steps the country has taken in establishing, nurturing and advancing and democratization processes in the country, which has held eight national diverse elections

President appoints Hussein Deyr as Spokesman of the Presidency

Saturday 14th December 2024, the Head of State invoked his Executive Order in naming the official in Reference to Decree No. JSL/XM/WM/222-220/122024.

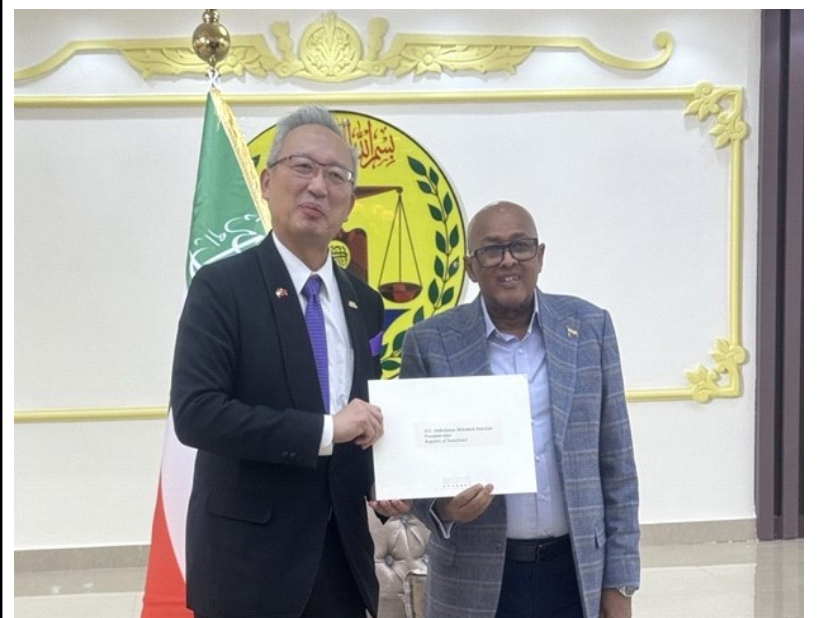
The assumption of the office takes effect immediately as per the EO.

Eng. Hussein Adam Igge is well known to the nation's media fraternity and his appointment has

been hailed and praised by scribes and journalists who believe he is well suited to the job and tasks of the office.

Here at The Horn Tribute fraternity congratulates Hussein Deyr for the appointment; he is a person whom we believe has depicted real patriotism to the people and nation of Somaliland of Somaliland with profound zeal over time.

The new president of Somaliland supports close ties to Taiwan



to Taiwan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Friday.

While the two countries did not maintain official diplomatic relations, they opened representative offices in each other's capital in 2020. Deputy Foreign Minister Francois Wu attended the presidential inauguration Thursday as Taiwan President Lai Ching-te's special envoy.

Since both sides faced regional challenges including pressure from China, the new government would maintain close and mutually

beneficial relations, Abdellahi said. He expressed the hope that more Taiwanese businesses would invest in the East African country, per CNA. During his meeting with Wu, Abdellahi described Taiwan as a key partner. He emphasized their collaboration in fields including telecom, education, and public health, adding the projects had helped raise the living standards of the people of Somaliland.

Wu also met with outgoing President Muse Bihi Abdi and discussed the priorities of the new administration with senior government members, MOFA said.



is unknown.

Indeed the democratization process and holding of elections in the nation of Somaliland is a legacy set by President Rayale himself, who against all odds and against all expectations took it upon himself to implement democratic elections and its associate processes in the country when the whole nation nudged him to postpone them for

The nation of Somaliland would forever be indebted to H.E. Rayale who is celebrated for bold and pragmatic leadership as a voice of reason; and whose tenure saw the country's aspirations and morale at the highest peak as far as foreign affairs, social cohesion, stable security and governance institutionalization was concerned, especially democratic practices.

We hope the new president will promote peace and the country's economy – CEO Abdirashid Duale



By M.A. Egge
Dahabshiil Group CEO Abdirashid Duale joined the local community and foreign dignitaries in gracing the inauguration ceremony of the new President of the Republic of Somaliland H.E. Dr. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro, congratulating the leaders and the people on the peaceful conduct of

the election. Mr. Abdirashid, who spoke at the inauguration ceremony, said "We congratulate the new president and thank the former president". "We hope that the new government will develop the economy, strengthen peace, and bring the community closer together". He said that prosperity can be

created when the country's peace and economy grow. "We thank all the people who voted in the elections, I wish everyone peace and well-being". Dahabshiil remains committed to economic growth, youth empowerment, and peace promotion in over 120 countries.

US says Somaliland is a Leader in Democracy and a Model for the Entire African Continent



By M.A. Egge
US Ambassador Richard H. Riley said that the Republic of Somaliland is not only a leader in democracy in the Horn of Africa, but is a pioneer and model for the entire African continent and the world. The sentiments were expressed by Amb. Richard H. Riley in a speech he delivered at the inauguration ceremony of the new President of the Republic of Somaliland, H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi (Cirro), and conveyed US President Joe Biden personal message of congratulations to Somaliland for perfecting democracy and holding of the free elections held in Somaliland. The nation used biometrics technology in identifying the voters, something even major countries have not adopted. The Ambassador promised that the US government will work with the new President of the Republic of

Somaliland, and is happy to cooperate with Somaliland to further the bilateral relations. Richard H. Riley also thanked the former President of Somaliland, His Excellency Musa Bihi Abdi, and the people of Somaliland. US Ambassador Richard H. Riley, speaking on the excellent status of democracy reached by the people and nation of Somaliland, said, "The people of Somaliland have become an example of democracy and are ahead of the Horn of Africa, not only ahead of the Region but also an example and pioneer for the whole of Africa and the world. We are proud to be friends and future partners of Somaliland." The US ambassador spoke on behalf of all the diplomatic corps in attendance. On the other hand, the President of the Republic of Somaliland, His Excellency Abdirahman Mohamed Abdilaahi (Irro), after the handover

of office, held meetings with some of the ambassadors and leaders from the international community who attended the handover of office of the new President of Somaliland. The President of the Somaliland Republic, Mr. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdilaahi (Cirro), met with the Ambassador of the United Kingdom, Mr. Richard H. Riley, accompanied by the Commander of the US Forces in Africa. The US Ambassador congratulated the new president on his inauguration as the President of Somaliland on Thursday. The US Ambassador also briefed the new president on the importance of the United States in strengthening its relations with Somaliland. Ambassador Richard H. Riley specifically emphasized that the United States plans to establish security cooperation with Somaliland. The President of the Republic of

National Army Commander Praises both 5th and 6th Presidents for their Democratic Spirit



By M.A. Egge
The Chief Commander of the Somaliland National Armed Forces, Major General Nouh Ismail Taani, praised the immediate past President of Somaliland, H.E. Musa Bihi Abdi, and the newly elected who has just taken over, His Excellency Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro, for their open heartedness in receiving and accepting the results of the general elections that depicted maturity in Somaliland democracy. The commander was addressing the elections stakeholders meeting hosted by the National Electoral

Commission over the week. The commander also praised the troops for their role in maintaining security and sacrificing their lives in the conduct of the country's elections on November 13. He noted that they were worried about the probability of having incidents and rigging "but by Divine grace all went well". He similarly Taani praised the national political parties, civil society organizations, religious scholars, and the public for their participation in the good conduct of the elections in the country.

A Trump White House looks set to recognize the world's newest country



Somaliland, will be much closer to being recognized by the United States as the world's newest country when Donald Trump returns to the White House in January. Support for the region has grown

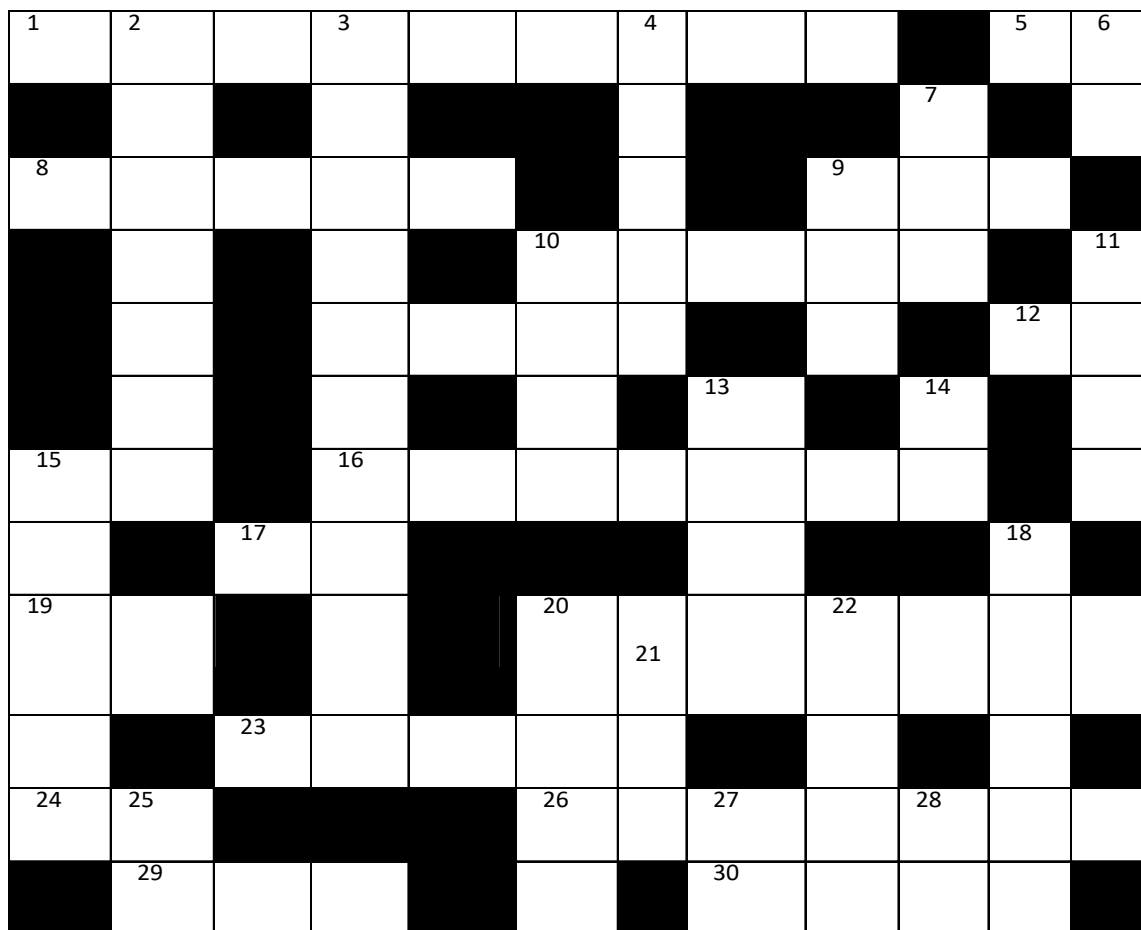
strong among Republican US-Africa policy leaders on Capitol Hill, right-leaning Washington DC think tanks, and likely Africa advisors of Trump's incoming White House. Many of these

Continue on page 6

Somaliland, Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillaahi Cirro, has also expressed his readiness to further strengthen the relationship between Somaliland and the United States. The Head of State earlier this month held a similar meeting with the same US Ambassador, Ambassador Richard H. Riley, accompanied by AFRICOM commanders. The President posted a statement on his website stating that the US Ambassador discussed ways to further strengthen the relationship between the Republic of Somaliland and the United States. The statement reads as follows: "Today I received a large delegation

led by the US Ambassador, Ambassador Richard H. Riley, accompanied by AFRICOM commanders. We had an in-depth discussion with the delegation on ways to further strengthen the relationship between the Republic of Somaliland and the United States. "In addition, the US Ambassador conveyed to us a message of congratulations from his US government. The elections in the Republic of Somaliland held on November 13th were elections that have greatly attracted the attention of the world to our country, and will attract international investment opportunities."

THT Puzzle



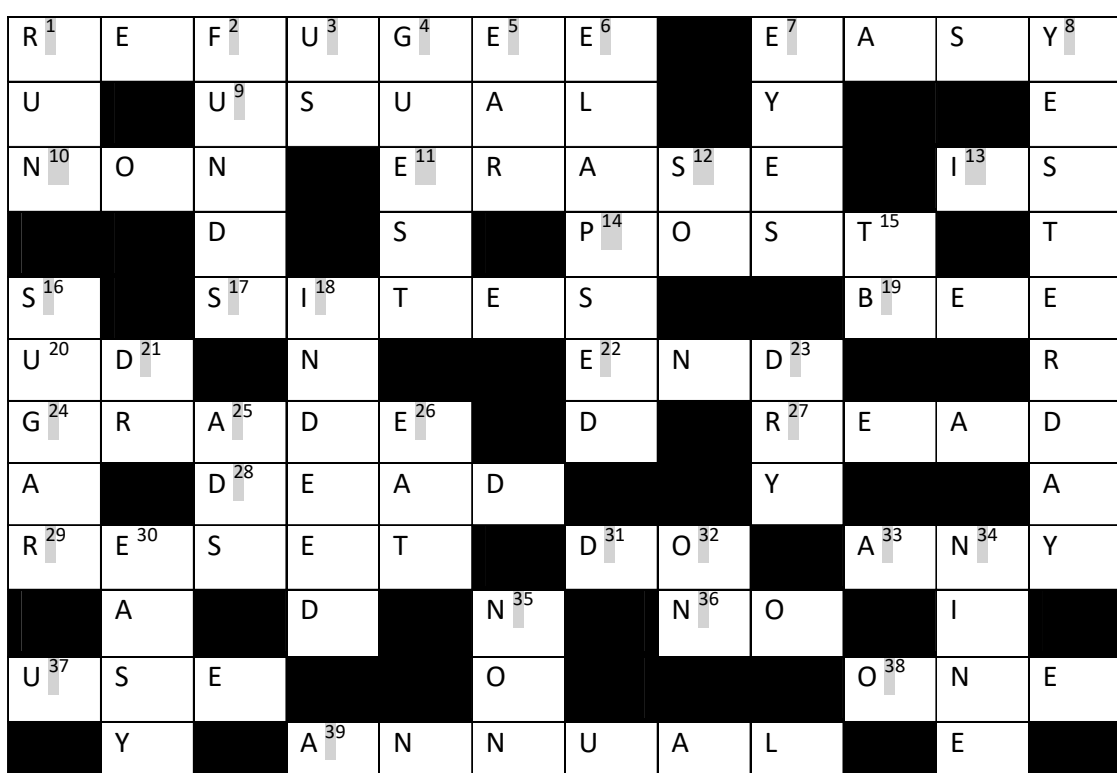
ACROSS

- 1 action
- 5 Travel
- 8 Exams
- 9 Terminate
- 10 Weighty
- 12 Or else
- 15 pronoun
- 16 Gathering
- 17 Pronoun
- 19 Internal Org
- 20 Washed
- 23 Fashion
- 24 Make
- 26 Functionality
- 29 Reddish
- 30 Stage set

DOWN

- 2 Make ready
- 3 Retreat
- 4 Put in the ground
- 6 Okay
- 7 Several
- 9 Night before
- 10 Possess
- 11 Vicinity
- 13 Flames
- 14 director general in short
- 15 Hurt
- 18 Chairs
- 20 Night club
- 21 Allow
- 22 Capable
- 25 Otherwise
- 27 Be present
- 28 IT (information technology)

Previous Answer



A Trump White House looks set to recognize the world's newest country

people told Semafor Africa they would encourage Trump to recognize Somaliland “even if it wasn’t on Day One.”

Recognizing Somaliland could enable US intelligence to set up long term operations to monitor the movement of weapons in a volatile region as well as keep an eye on Chinese activity. China already has a permanent military base in neighboring Djibouti. It should allow the US to better monitor Houthi activity in Yemen. Last month the territory held its sixth successful elections within 22 years since reclaiming independence from Somalia in 1991, bringing opposition leader Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi to office as president. Republicans and other supporters have been encouraged by Somaliland’s democratic strides with a one-person, one-vote system even as conflict-ridden Somalia struggles to organize any elections.

Peter Pham, a former Africa envoy in Trump’s first term, said Somaliland’s democratic process had “demonstrated its attractiveness as a partner for the United States and other countries.”

Somalilanders who spoke with Semafor Africa from the capital Hargeisa soon after the Nov.13 election said they were confident Trump’s return to the White House will boost their aspirations for independence. “We have a golden opportunity to be closer if not for full recognition but much closer engagement with the US,” said Bashir Goth, who heads the Somaliland mission in Washington DC.

If Trump does recognize Somaliland it will likely be disruptive to the Horn of Africa region — which includes Somalia, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Eritrea — say US-Africa watchers, including some who support the idea.

“I support recognizing [Somaliland] because they’ve fundamentally proved they can run their own country and there’s no plausible scenario where they’d willingly return to Somalia,” said Joshua Merservey, an analyst at the Hudson Institute think tank. While Somalia’s leaders would likely be displeased with such a decision, Merservey said they hadn’t done enough for the US to not prioritize

its own interests in the sub-region.

“Recognizing Somaliland would undoubtedly rattle the rump state of Somalia, further destabilize the Horn, and elicit a sharp rebuke from the African Union,” argues Ken Opalo, a political science professor at Georgetown University.

The support for recognizing Somaliland from Africa watchers on the US right is ostensibly about long-term relations with people in the territory. But it’s also about strategic military and shipping interests in the region, as well as countering China. In particular, the Bab-el Mandeb strait in the Gulf of Aden between Somaliland’s Berbera port, Djibouti and Yemen is a “critical shipping choke point” for moving goods and military wares in the sub-region.

Based on conversations I’ve had with likely advisors to Trump, Hargeisa shouldn’t expect an easy ride with the Trump White House. As we’ve noted previously, this is going to be a very transactional administration which will want to be sure they’re getting something in exchange for official support.

Ethiopia has already made a big bet on Somaliland by signing a controversial maritime agreement with the territory. Africa’s second most populous country is landlocked and very keen to have access to Somaliland’s Berbera port for trade and much more.

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed’s stance with Hargeisa has sparked diplomatic tensions with Somalia’s leaders in Mogadishu and even some mutterings of potential conflict. But if Trump was to recognize Somaliland, Abiy’s gamble could pay off.

Republicans are particularly critical of a so-called “One Somalia” policy which has been supported by the US State Department under President Joe Biden’s administration. The basic policy supports the idea that Somaliland is fully part of Somalia. American Enterprise Institute’s Michael Rubin argues that even if the US isn’t about to recognize Somaliland the State Department should “revert to the policy of the past and treat it in a way that is parallel to its approach to Taiwan.”

Somaliland is on the up thanks to Trump and Irro — we can't let Somalia and Turkey try to drag us down



Today a small but globally strategic country, Somaliland, is inaugurating its sixth president Abdurahman Mohamed Abdullahi "Irro". Somaliland has been in the news recently not just because it's the only democracy in the Horn of Africa but also because it was one of only two African countries name-checked in Donald Trump's Project 2025. I was born in Hargeysa, the capital of Somaliland, so watching the inauguration

alongside countless dignitaries was an emotional moment, but also a historic one. Today, as President Muse Bihi hands over the baton, he leaves behind a country on the verge of recognition. Bihi, who was part of the movement that liberated Somaliland from dictatorship just over thirty years ago, had earlier this year signed a memorandum of understanding with Ethiopia, in which Ethiopia agreed to recognize Somaliland in exchange for access to the Red Sea. This agreement has caused considerable controversy among those who have an interest in Somalia. They see the recognition of Somaliland as them losing control over the region, but with the election of President Trump that might all soon change anyway, because Trump and his team have no interest in maintaining the proxy scheme that is the "One Somalia"

policy. The One Somalia policy is a principle that emphasizes the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Somalia as a single, unified state. It opposes any form of division or secession within Somalia. In reality, this policy is only referenced in discussions about Somaliland, which as we know declared independence from Somalia in 1991 and has, unlike Somalia, been a functioning democracy since. The truth is that the aim of the One Somalia policy, and why I called it a proxy scheme, is really to funnel money into a black hole that is the Somalia mission. Billions have been wasted and very little has been done for the people of Somalia let alone Somaliland. This wastage is one of the reasons why Trump and his administration will move away from the policy. And the Republicans, unlike like Democrats, understand that in order to truly compete with China they

need stronger African countries like Somaliland on their side. With a young and highly educated population, Somaliland is an asset to America, not just in its war on terror but also its vision be truly be the top dog again. So to many of those who thought the move towards recognition of Somaliland would tamper down with a new administration that won't be the case. This time last month Somalilanders might have been on different political sides but today they are behind their president and reunited on the vision for recognition. That's a recognition which now might not come from their neighbour Ethiopia but the global superpower whose new leader can't and won't be pushed around by Turkey and others who want to keep the corrupt pipeline of Somalia open. Please don't get me wrong, I am not anti-Somalia, I wish Somalia well and always have. And in reality letting go of the idea that Somaliland ever being part of Somalia is good for them as well. It will allow them to focus on their needs and build something for the countless generations who have

known nothing but war and famine. But sadly the men who lead Somalia are not interested in process and instead are in Turkey holding talks which they think will stop Ethiopia from moving forward with Somaliland.

This meeting is not just pointless it is embarrassing. Turkey is using Somalia in an attempt to be relevant in Africa with very little to show for it, its global influence is negligible and regionally its in the middle of countless countries who are all at each others necks. So as we head towards the January 20th and the inauguration of Trump and a new administration in the State Department keep an eye out for Somaliland as it will again be the name on everyone's lips. But this time the words will be coming from people who actually have the power to fulfill the dreams of Somalilanders at home and in the diaspora.

Nimco Ali is a London Standard columnist

The Ankara Declaration: A Misstep That Exposes Somalia's Fragility and Somaliland's Rising Influence



The Ankara Declaration, brokered by Türkiye between Ethiopia and Somalia, is being hailed as a step toward regional cooperation. However, it is nothing more than a smokescreen that masks Somalia's chronic instability while sidelining Somaliland, a nation that has proven itself as a beacon of democracy and stability in the Horn of Africa.

Today, Somaliland once again showcased its democratic credentials as the world witnessed a peaceful transfer of power following its one-person-one-vote elections, a rarity not just in Africa but globally. This historic event was observed and praised by international dignitaries, including U.S. and U.K. ambassadors, further cementing Somaliland's position as a model of stability and governance. In stark contrast, Somalia's president, Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, was in Ankara insisting on his government's sovereignty over Somaliland—a claim that has been rejected outright by the people and government of Somaliland.

The Ankara Declaration exposes Somalia's inability to put its own house in order. For decades, Mogadishu has failed to address its internal disintegration, with Jubaland effectively seceded and Puntland on the brink of breaking away. Somalia's federal government barely governs beyond the confines of Mogadishu, relying on African Union forces to maintain even this limited control. Yet President Hassan Sheikh persists in his fruitless attempts to undermine Somaliland's

sovereignty, a strategy that has yielded nothing but diplomatic failures and further destabilized his own nation.

The declaration itself appears to subtly criticize Somalia's misguided priorities. Reading between the lines, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's facilitation hints at frustration with Hassan Sheikh's relentless but unproductive diplomatic campaigns to isolate Somaliland economically, militarily, and diplomatically. Rather than addressing the fundamental issues tearing his country apart, Hassan Sheikh has wasted precious time and resources trying to strangle Somaliland's existence, ignoring the reality that Somaliland's sovereignty is non-negotiable and irreversible.

The agreement indirectly suggests that Somalia's president needs to face the truth: Somaliland's fate is for Somaliland to decide. Instead of harboring resentment and jealousy toward Somaliland's success, Hassan Sheikh should focus on rebuilding Somalia by addressing its more immediate challenges. Puntland and Jubaland, which are slipping away from the federal government, deserve his attention far more than Somaliland, which has already charted its own course. A wiser leader would engage Somaliland prudently and acknowledge its right to self-determination rather than continuing to play the "boy who cried hyena" on the international stage. The crux of the Ankara Declaration—the matter of Ethiopia's sea access—cannot be separated from Somaliland's jurisdiction over the Berbera Port.

Although the agreement avoids explicitly mentioning the January 1, 2024 Memorandum of Understanding between Somaliland and Ethiopia, it is clear that the issue at hand requires direct engagement with Somaliland. Any attempts to bypass Somaliland in these discussions are doomed to fail, as they ignore the reality that Somaliland is the sovereign authority over its territory and assets.

By continuing to deny Somaliland's independence and refusing to engage with it in good faith, Somalia's leadership further isolates itself diplomatically. The world increasingly recognizes Somaliland's democratic achievements and stability as a stark contrast to Somalia's ongoing fragmentation. The Ankara Declaration inadvertently underscores this divide, dealing a deadly blow to Somalia's claims of sovereignty and exposing its inability to govern effectively.

Somalia's federal government must accept that Somaliland's independence is not only a reality but also a success story in a region often marred by conflict and instability. It is time for Somalia to stop fighting a losing battle and start focusing on its internal divisions. Charity, as they say, begins at home. For Hassan Sheikh, this means addressing the grievances of Puntland and Jubaland, negotiating their continued participation in the federal union, and rebuilding Somalia from within.

As Hassan Sheikh returns to Mogadishu, he finds himself back at square one: Somaliland must be dealt with on technical and practical terms, not through coercion or denial of its sovereignty. The Ankara Declaration may have been framed as a diplomatic triumph, but it lays bare the harsh truth—that Somaliland's independence is undeniable, and Somalia must recalibrate its strategy if it hopes to find stability and legitimacy in the region.

By Prof. Nassir Hussein Kahin, Hargeisa, Somaliland

SOMALILAND
TRADE MARKS - CAUTIONARY NOTICE

紅雙喜

囍



DOUBLE HAPPINESS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above trade marks are the trade marks of:

NANYANG BROTHERS TOBACCO COMPANY LIMITED, A company organised and existing under the laws of Hong Kong of 9 Tsing Yeung Circuit, Tuen Mun, New Territories, Hong Kong and is used in connection with:

Class 34: Cigarettes; tobacco; cigars, cigarillos, cigarette lighters, cigar lighters; electronic cigarettes; heat-not-burn tobacco products; heated tobacco; heated tobacco products; tobacco products for the purpose of being heated in order to release nicotine-containing aerosol for inhalation; tobacco substitutes (for non-medical purposes); liquid solutions for use in electronic cigarettes; nicotine for heat-not-burn tobacco products or heated tobacco products; nicotine for electronic cigarettes; electronic smoking pipes; electronic cigarettes as substitute for traditional cigarettes; tobacco sticks; electric heaters for tobacco; electronic devices and their parts for the inhalation of nicotine containing aerosol (smokers' articles); electronic devices and their parts for the purpose of heating cigarettes or tobacco in order to release nicotine-containing aerosol for inhalation (smokers' articles) namely, holders (not of precious metal) for electric heaters, holders (of precious metal) for electric heaters, filters specially adapted for electric heaters; smokers' articles; matches; all included in Class 34

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that legal proceedings will be taken against any person or company who uses the said trade marks or any imitations thereof or who otherwise infringes the rights of the said company.