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## President inaugurates construction of the crucial Borame-Baki road as he tours Awdal region

The president said that he is committed to fulfilling everything he has promised the people and pointed out that this road will be a key to the development of the nation's infrastructure.



By M.A. Egge  
The President of the Republic of Somaliland H.E. Abdillahi Irro, who is leading a large delegation on a working trip to the Awdal region, on Thursday laid the foundation stone of the main road connecting Borame and Baki; which was one of the major promises

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## Awdal traditional leaders pledge to support President Abdirahman Irro

They hailed him for his exhibited pragmatic leadership



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## Dahabshiil CEO Abdirashid Duale Champions Africa's Financial Future at Harvard Business Conference



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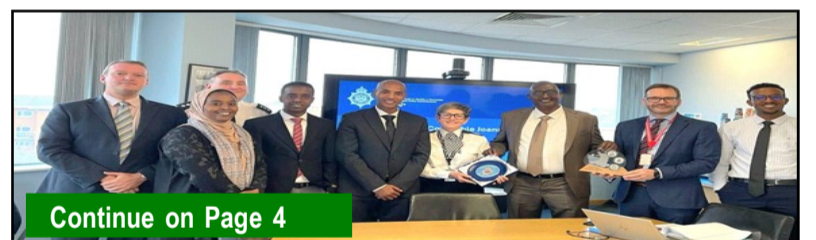
## National Army Commander met his UAE counterpart after attending International Defense Forum Conference in Abu Dubai



By M.A. Egge  
The Commander of the National Army of the Republic of Somaliland, Brigadier General Nim'aan Yusuf

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## Somaliland police chief in UK for talks with FCDO



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## A delegation from the World Bank Arrived in Somaliland on a Business Trip



Somaliland Minister of Finance and Economic Development together with the Minister of State for the Ministry of Finance, the Director General of the Ministry of Finance and the Coordinator of the Somaliland

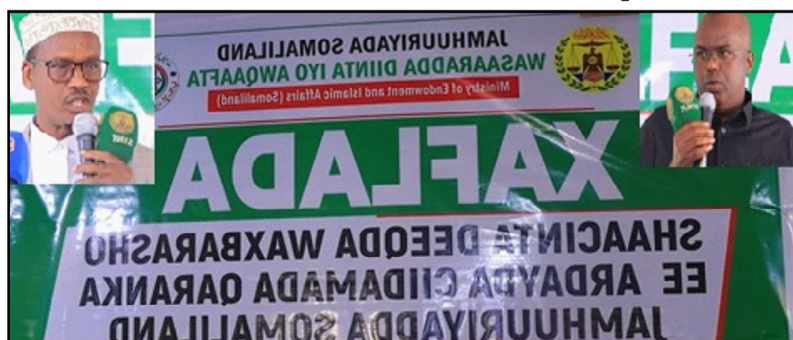
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## Resettlement Minister Meets IDP Camps Reps in Hargeisa



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## Launch of Noble Initiatives of Scholarship Program for Children of Security Arms Personnel



By M.A. Egge  
The Somaliland government, through the Religion and Endowment ministry, has launched a noble initiative of scholarship program for pupils and students who are children of the security personnel serving in the

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## Why Somaliland's Independence Deserves Recognition



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Government should reject any further discussions without recognizing Somaliland's statehood



Somaliland has demonstrated its capacity to operate as an autonomous state for over thirty years, maintaining stability, democratic government, and

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VP Inaugurates National Conference on Environmental Protection and Climate Change Adaptation

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## President inaugurates construction of the crucial Borame-Baki road as he tours Awdal region



made by the President during the presidential election campaigns.

The groundbreaking ceremony, launched by the President himself, was attended by the Chairman of the WADDANI Party, the Second Deputy Chairman of the House of Representatives, several members of the cabinet, top officials of the Somaliland Roads Development Authority, the Governor of Awdal Region, the Mayor of Borame, various traditional leaders of Awdal Region and regional eminent dignitaries amongst others.

The importance of the road for the entire Awdal region was highlighted, and the President's efforts to make a visible impact in terms of infrastructure development in the entire Awdal Region were greatly welcomed.

So too is the establishing of the Lughaya jettison in the pipeline.

A week earlier the President made good his promise of embarking on the similarly crucial Hargeisa-Balligubadle Road that he had pledged during his campaigns and incorporated them in his initial actions of his first 100 days in office.

The Governor of Awdal region, Mr. Muhumed Hassan Jama (Hodey) and the Mayor of Borame district, Mr. Mustafa Farah Qabille, who spoke on the occasion, thanked the President for his pragmatism in making good his promises soon after his inauguration.

Some of the most prominent traditional leaders in Awdal region who spoke there, warmly welcomed the progressive step he took in laying the foundation stone of the road connecting the towns of Borame and Baki, and they clearly stated that this step is a historic one that the President of the nation is doing in developing Awdal region. The Chairman of the Road Development Authority, Mr. Mohamed Farah underscored the crucial nature of the importance of the road as a lifeline for much of the region, and noted that the President is committed to completing this road.

The Minister of Transport and Roads, Hon. Osman Ibrahim Afaab, and his counterparts the Minister of Interior Hon. Abdalle Mohamed Arab and the Minister of

Information Hon. Ahmed-Yasin Sheikh Ali Ayaanle, who spoke in turn, commended the president for his positive steps to fulfill his campaign promises, and emphasized the importance of the project that is expected to highly boost the regional economic development.

On his part the Chairman of the WADDANI party, Mr. Hirsi Ali Haji Hassan, described the administration dubbed "togetherness and Action" as a success for immediately embarking of the fulfilling of the promises made to the people, and called on the members of the public to work with the government of the day for progressive development.

The Head of State said that he is committed to fulfilling everything he has promised the people, and pointed out that this road will be a key to the development of infrastructure that his government is implementing in the Awdal region. He said, "This road will increase the production of the region, whether it is agricultural or mineral."

The President said that the largest projects that his government would implement during its term are planned for the Awdal region, owing to his pledges.

He pointed out that the road from Borame to Lowya-Ado through Fardo which goes through very rough terrains are part of the projects he has in store for uplifting the economic development of the region.

President Abdirahman Irro and the delegation he led during their working trip were warmly welcomed in the towns of Borame, Dila and the outskirts of the Aabudla Control Point, where they were welcomed by citizens dressed in the flag of the Republic of Somaliland, chanting ululations with hilarious reception.

## Awdal traditional leaders pledge to support President Abdirahman Irro



The most prominent members of all the traditional cultural leaders in the Awdal region have welcomed the sincerity and determination of the H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro for his pragmatism in decision making to fulfill all the promises he made to the Awdal region and the development of economic infrastructure during his term of office.

They at the same time clearly stated that they would fully support the efforts of the President and his government.

They lauded and hailed him for the pragmatic leadership he is exhibiting.

The traditional leaders expressed their sentiments as they met the Head of State at dinner held at a Borame city hotel held for them on Thursday night.

The President of the Republic of Somaliland is on a working trip to the Awdal region where he has already launched the construction of the crucial Borame-Baki road and is expected to lay the foundation stone for the construction of the Borame airport.

He has already asked for the evacuation of people at the airport perimeter to signify that he is seriously out to work for the people as concerns developmental progress.

Similarly, the President has ordered for the immediate payment of the Oxygen generation Machines for the Borame General Hospital, an action that is part and parcel of the pledges he made to the area residents during his campaigns.

The meeting with the traditional leaders was also graced by the Chairman of the WADDANI Party, Mr. Hirsi Ali Haaji Hassan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy

Chairman of the House of Representatives, Hon. Ali Haamud Jibriil, several members of the cabinet, regional leaders and various officials from various national institutions.

The focus was on working together and supporting the extensive activities of the WADDANI administration government dubbed "Togetherness and Action" which were part of the promises made by the national president during the election campaign.

The ministers of the interior, presidency, information, foreign affairs, water and sports who spoke in turns at the venue, underscored the important efforts of the president and his government is doing to implement large-scale, tangible and historic development in the Awdal region, especially in economic infrastructure such as roads and airports, which are main keys to the life of the community.

H.E. President Abdirahman Irro thanked the cultural community for their generous support for the development of his government in the region and the maintenance of peace and social harmony.

He reiterated his commitment to the Awdal community that he would implement all of his previous promises, announcing at the same forum the provision of funds to purchase an oxygen generator that he had previously promised to the Borame General Hospital. He noted that he is fulfilling his promises, and that traditional leaders are required to play their role and work towards fostering community unity and solidarity.

"We want to fulfill our promises, and let us all work together for the unity of the people and to join hands", he said.

Dhabi, will last until the 23rd of this month, and will also be attended by global companies that produce defense equipment, weapons and military technology and large industries that work in the production of various materials used in the defense of countries around the world.

The UAE government invited the Commander of the Somaliland National Army, Brigadier General

Nim'aan Yusuf Osman representing the Somaliland military forces, to the conference.

The attendance of the exhibition by the nation is expected to open new doors hence strengthen the defense capabilities of the Somaliland nation, and will enhance international cooperation, access to high-level training and technology, and the establishment of strategic partnerships in the field of security.

## National Army Commander met his UAE counterpart after attending International Defense Forum Conference in Abu Dubai



Osman, is attending an International Forum on Defense and Security Cooperation held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The international conference was

attended by more than 860 people, including heads of state and government officials at the national and regional levels from 65 different

countries.

The international exhibition hosted by the UAE government, which opened on February 17, 2025 in Abu

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Plan for 2024-2028, the Ministry's Annual Action Plan and the project plan whose motto is Action and Progress.

During the meeting, it was emphasized that the activities of the project should be carried out as planned based on the principles of the Public Finance Management Reform Program and also strengthening the relationship between Somaliland and the World Bank.

The delegation from the World Bank indicated that they will receive all the privileges held by the Ministry of Finance & Economic Development. Meetings are planned in the coming three days to discuss all the work activities of the project, while some of these meetings will be part of other Government Agencies that are part of this SERP Project.

Enhancing Public Resources Management (SERP) which is financed by the World Bank, received a delegation from the World Bank led by Mrs. May who is the Head of The Project Task Team

Leader in his office.

In this meeting, the officials of the Ministry of Finance focused on the priorities they want to take in the coming years, based on the Ministry's Five Years Strategic

## Launch of Noble Initiatives of Scholarship Program for Children of Security Arms Personnel



military.

The programme has been earmarked to kick-start with a thousand students learning Islamic religious and associated educational studies.

The launch of the scholarship program on Thursday was first disclosed by the Director General of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Endowments of Somaliland, Mr. Abdalle Mohamed Yusuf as he addressed a huge gathering of religious scholars.

He explained the purpose of the meeting and its importance to the nation, and also elaborated on the importance that the ministry places on the education of students of the security services personnel.

The Minister of Religious Affairs and Endowments of Somaliland, Hon. Sheikh Abdillahi Dahir Jama (Baashe), gave a detailed account of the religious scholarship initiative, which is to support students who are children of security personnel.

"According to the Director General, the purpose of this program is to show support and equality to the various branches of the security arms of the Republic of Somaliland", said the minister.

He continued, "This support, which is to provide scholarships to the young students of the soldier's family in the Quranic Schools and Islamic Academies, is the responsibility of all of us to the servicemen who put their lives in line for the nation".

He said that "we ought to think about the future of their children, their education and health, such that they may enjoy living a good life similar to the lives of others."

Minister Abdillahi Dahir pointed out that "the program is one adopted by the new government, which the president had already promised to support the National Army and to improve it, and as a ministry, we are implementing the relevant aspects of religious education".

"This is a policy adopted by the new government, and it is based on the promise of the president of the Republic of Somaliland to support and stand alongside and improve the lives of the National Army of the Republic of Somaliland", he underpinned.

While the minister noted that the President had initially taken the first step and increased the salaries of all security arms personnel, he and his ministry consulted with the

general managers of the institutions concerned and officials of security services divisions hence the launching of the initiatives of the programme.

He indicated that the first phase of the program will start with 1000 students from the military who would be provided with free religious education.

The officials of the Holy Quran Societies and the commander of the anti-narcotics force welcomed the program in their speeches and pledged to ply their parts of the role to see the initiatives become successful.

In conclusion, the Minister of Defense of Somaliland on his part said that he welcomes the noble initiative launched by the Ministry of Religion and Endowments hence emphasizing the importance of the National Armed Forces to the country and the people.

The Minister indicated that the step taken was necessary and long overdue hence should be implemented duly.

He pledged that his ministry would collaborate with that of religion and endowment to see to it that the programme and its initiatives take root and become a success.

## Dahabshiil CEO Abdirashid Duale Champions Africa's Financial Future at Harvard Business Conference



Speaking at Harvard's Africa Business Conference, Dahabshiil CEO Abdirashid Duale highlighted Africa's potential to lead in fintech & financial inclusion. With millions still unbanked, mobile money & cross-border trade are key to driving growth.

Duale said with a rapidly expanding youthful workforce, Africa has an unparalleled opportunity to lead in technological and financial innovation in the world.

He said in sectors like mobile payments, the continent has already set global benchmarks but the challenge now is to sustain and scale this momentum.

Africa's future lies in entrepreneurship and in harnessing its resources, both material and human, this is according to Abdirashid Duale, the chief executive officer of the African leading money transfer company, Dahabshiil.

Speaking during the Africa Business Conference at Harvard, Duale said with a rapidly expanding youthful workforce, Africa has an unparalleled opportunity to lead in technological and financial innovation in the world. The conference dubbed "Beyond Border" brought together leading financial, and business leaders, politicians, diplomats, policymakers and entrepreneurial experts from Africa among them former Central Bank of Kenya governor Patrick Njoroge.

He said in sectors like mobile payments, the continent has already set global benchmarks but the challenge now is to sustain and scale this momentum.

"It is important that as a continent Africa comes up with strategies that aim not only to improve on what has been achieved but also how to effectively match the rest of the world if not go beyond," said Duale.

The event was aimed to redefine the continent's economic and investment landscape, with a special focus on building robust pan-African financial systems.

Duale, who recently attended the inauguration of America's 47th president Donald Trump at Capitol Hill in January, was challenged to talk about whether Africa can truly move beyond borders.

He said that already several financial service providers like Dahabshiil are at the forefront of technological innovation, navigating complex

regulatory landscapes while expanding financial access.

"Just as Africa leapfrogged landline telephony to embrace mobile connectivity, the continent's financial transformation is following a similar path. This is a clear indicator that Africa can indeed move beyond borders," stated Duale.

His insights centred on the pivotal role of financial inclusion, technology, and regulatory compliance in unlocking Africa's economic potential.

With 57% of Africa's population still unbanked, he said, fintech solutions—particularly mobile money—are bridging the gap.

As the leader of Africa's largest money transfer network, Dahabshiil has spent decades facilitating seamless financial connectivity across borders, ensuring that millions—from entrepreneurs to humanitarian agencies—can move funds efficiently.

Duale emphasized how financial service providers like Dahabshiil are at the forefront of technological innovation, navigating complex regulatory landscapes while expanding financial access.

Dahabshiil's platforms have played a critical role in providing lifeline remittances and investment capital to communities in some of the world's most challenging environments.

However, Dahabshiil's impact extends beyond financial transactions.

Through its MicroDahab initiative, the company is delivering microfinance solutions that empower small businesses and entrepreneurs, particularly in underserved regions.

By fostering local economic opportunities, these initiatives help reduce migration pressures and drive sustainable community development.

The 2025 Africa Business Conference left attendees optimistic about the continent's future.

The presence of high-profile private sector leaders underscored the immense potential of Africa's business and financial ecosystems to drive its development.

If the discussions at Harvard are any indication, Africa's next chapter will not be limited by its borders—but defined by its ability to transcend them.

# Somaliland police chief in UK for talks with FCDO



During his visit, the commander met with senior officers from the British Police in London and held discussions with senior officers from the South Wales Police in Cardiff. The meetings focused on enhancing cooperation between the two sides. In line with the Somaliland President's policy of strengthening the security forces, the commander discussed ways to improve the training provided to the Somaliland Police.

The Commander of the Somaliland Police Force, Brigadier General Abdirahman Abdillahi Hassan (Abdi Deere) has since returned from an official UK tour. He jetted back into the country on Friday. The police chief along with a delegation of senior officers,

undertook an official working visit to the United Kingdom. Accompanied by officials from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), the visit aimed to strengthen and further develop the relationship between the Somaliland Police Force and the FCDO in the UK.

Additionally, during his visit, the Police Commander met with members of the Somaliland diaspora in London and Cardiff, engaging them in discussions about their role in the country's development, particularly in the security sector.

## Government should reject any further discussions without recognizing Somaliland's statehood



economic growth. Despite numerous attempts to engage in talks with Somalia, little real progress has been made, especially on the crucial subject of Somaliland's sovereignty. Somaliland needs to make a clear statement that it will not engage in any more talks with Somalia until Somaliland's independence is recognized.

Repeated Betrayals and Failed Conversations:

Repeated Betrayals and Failed Conversations Somaliland and Somalia have engaged in many rounds of negotiation since 2012. These conversations never touched on the core issue of Somaliland's sovereignty, instead concentrating on pragmatic issues like airspace management. Somalia's insincerity in recognizing Somaliland's independence became evident when negotiations collapsed in 2015. Further discussions are pointless because Mogadishu has continuously rejected any suggestions that recognize Somaliland as a distinct entity since that time. Prolonged, fruitless negotiations simply serve to postpone Somaliland's justifiable bid for international recognition. Somalia's Ongoing Hostility Towards Somaliland:

In addition to showing a lack of goodwill, Somalia's actions over the years have deliberately threatened Somaliland's sovereignty:

**Political and Military Interference:** Increased tensions and military battles in Lasanood and Sool have resulted from Somalia's persistent meddling in Somaliland's domestic affairs, including illegal visits to Somaliland areas.

**Economic Obstruction:** The Berbera Port development agreement with DP World and Ethiopia has been fiercely resisted by Mogadishu, which has even declared it "null and void." The stability and economic progress of Somaliland are at risk due to this animosity.

**Airspace Disputes:** Despite previous agreements, Somalia blatantly disregarded Somaliland's authority by unilaterally attempting to control its aviation. These actions show that Somalia wants to undermine Somaliland's advancement rather than promote peaceful cohabitation. It is not just ineffective but also a threat to Somaliland's sovereignty to continue talks with a party that consistently opposes its interests.

The Economic Development and Functional Statehood of Somaliland:

Somaliland has established a viable state with democratic institutions and economic resilience, in contrast to Somalia, which remains plagued by violence and political instability:

**Democratic Governance:** Compared to Somalia, Somaliland has excelled in preserving democratic values through free and fair elections.

**Economic Development:** Steady economic growth has been driven by the private sector, primarily through livestock exports and the strategically important Berbera Port. Somaliland's position as a major regional economic force is further cemented by recent trade deals with Ethiopia and DP World.

**International Engagement:** Somaliland has built direct ties with international partners, eschewing Mogadishu's influence, while not yet receiving official recognition. Somaliland's future is better served by fortifying these connections than by pursuing pointless talks with Somalia.

**The Dangers of Ongoing Conversation:** Instead of wasting time on futile negotiations, Somaliland should focus on:

1% Increasing diplomatic efforts to obtain bilateral recognition from important regional and international actors.

1% Strengthening trade agreements and infrastructural initiatives that support Somaliland's self-sufficiency to increase economic independence.

1% Strengthening military and security measures to shield Somaliland's territorial integrity from outside threats.

Somaliland has made too much progress to be drawn into yet another round of unproductive negotiations and empty promises. Without acknowledgment, dialogue is pointless. It's time to make a moral decision: unless Somalia recognizes the independence of Somaliland, there should be no further talks. Somaliland must express its legitimate position in the international world without being constrained by fruitless talks with Mogadishu. To ensure its future as a fully acknowledged, independent country, Somaliland must forge its own path.

Abdulrasaq Adami is a Somaliland Strategic Advisory Group (SL-SAG) Political Analyst and Commentator Focusing on Horn of Africa Affairs.

# Resettlement Minister Meets IDP Camps Reps in Hargeisa

By M.A. Egge

The Minister of Resettlement and Humanitarian Affairs Hon. Suleiman Duale, held a meeting with the IDP Camp Committees in Hargeisa. The purpose of the meeting was introductory and to gain information about the situation in the IDP Camps in Hargeisa.



Mukhtar Abdi Jama, the Director General of the Ministry of Resettlement and Humanitarian Affairs of Somaliland, who gave a brief speech at the meeting, explained how it was necessary to have cooperation between the ministry and the IDP Camp Committees, in order to know their plight and address the needs of the people in question appropriately. Hon. Suleiman said that his ministry is working to engage with the people in the camps, and is always at hand for support.

He pointed out that the IDP community does not have land to settle hence the ministry is cooperating with the local government of Hargeisa to find ample land. The minister added that during the

month of Ramadan, the vulnerable people in IDP camps direly need alms.

He called on the committees charged with representation to be diligent, just and impartial while delegating their duties.

# VP Inaugurates National Conference on Environmental Protection and Climate Change Adaptation

By Goth Mohamed Goth

The Vice President of the Republic of Somaliland, Mr. Mohamed Ali Aw-Abdi, officially opened the National Conference on Environmental Protection and Climate Change Adaptation, organized by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change.

In his opening address, the Vice President underscored the government's strong commitment to advancing environmental development and addressing the challenges posed by climate change. He remarked:

"The world has recently undergone significant transformations, particularly with the onset of climate change. While Somaliland initially lacked awareness of this issue, we are now witnessing its profound impacts. If we fail to take preventive measures, plan effectively, and adapt, both our people and our environment will face unprecedented challenges."

The Vice President praised the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for its proactive efforts in tackling the escalating climate crisis. He stated:

"In just two months since taking office, the Waddani government has prioritized the implementation of programs aligned with its five-year development plan. I commend the Ministry of Environment, under the leadership of its Minister, for organizing this vital conference. We hope this event will not only serve as a platform for discussion but also produce actionable outcomes that benefit both rural and urban communities across Somaliland."

In his closing remarks, the Vice President stressed the importance of raising public awareness about climate change adaptation, particularly given its impact on livestock, which forms the backbone of Somaliland's economy. He added:

"This is a formidable challenge that requires us to educate our people, especially as climate change increasingly affects our livestock. Over 70% of our population relies on livestock, and with the current drought persisting for two months, our herds are under severe strain. Therefore, strategic planning and adaptation are imperative."

The National Conference on Environmental Protection and Climate Change Adaptation seeks to address the ongoing climate challenges in Somaliland, which have significantly impacted both human livelihoods and the environment.

Organized by the Ministry of Environment, the conference aligns with the government's national responsibilities and its role in fostering economic growth and development. The event aims to promote collaboration and support for climate change adaptation initiatives across the country.

# Why Somaliland's Independence Deserves Recognition



Somaliland's independence is long overdue

In the Horn of Africa—long synonymous with instability—one region has defied expectations. Somaliland, a self-governing state since 1991, remains unrecognized by the international community. This is not an accident. It is an injustice. The world continues to allow Somalia, a nation that committed genocide against Somalilanders, to represent them on the global stage. Worse still, Somaliland is penalized for its success while its former oppressor enjoys diplomatic legitimacy.

It is time to correct this historical wrong. It is time to recognize Somaliland's independence.

## A Nation That Survived Genocide

Between 1987 and 1989, the Siad Barre regime waged a brutal campaign against the people of Somaliland, particularly in the capital, Hargeisa. According to reports by Africa Watch and Human Rights Watch, more than 50,000 people were killed. Some estimates place the death toll at over 100,000. The Somali government orchestrated aerial bombardments, mass executions, and systematic persecution in an attempt to annihilate the Isaaq clan—the backbone of Somaliland society. This was not mere repression; it was genocide.

And yet, today, Somalia still claims sovereignty over Somaliland.

By refusing to recognize Somaliland's independence, the international community forces its people to accept representation by a state that once sought to destroy them. Would the world have accepted Nazi Germany speaking for Poland after World War II? Would Rwanda have been asked to let génocidaires represent them? The status quo is a moral absurdity.

## Why Should Somalia Represent Somalilanders?

Somalia ranks among the most fragile states on earth, topping the 2024 Fragile States Index. For more than three decades, it has been plagued by civil war, insurgency,

piracy, and political dysfunction. Somaliland, by contrast, has built a functioning democracy with regular elections, a stable government, and no significant internal conflict.

Yet at the United Nations, the African Union, and other global forums, Somalia is allowed to speak on behalf of Somalilanders. If the people of Somaliland overwhelmingly reject Somali rule, why should Mogadishu be allowed to claim them?

Somaliland has repeatedly demonstrated its commitment to independence. In a 2001 referendum, 97% of voters supported sovereignty, a result validated by independent observers. If democracy means anything, their voices should matter.

## Self-Determination is a Fundamental Right

The right to self-determination is enshrined in international law. The United Nations Charter explicitly recognizes the right of people to determine their political status.

Somaliland, which voluntarily united with Somalia in 1960 before breaking away in the wake of genocide, has every legal and moral right to govern itself. Opponents argue that recognizing Somaliland would encourage a wave of separatism across Africa. This fear-based reasoning ignores two key facts: Somaliland is not a newly formed state. It was a British protectorate that gained independence in 1960 before mistakenly choosing to unite with Somalia. Also, recognizing Somaliland would not set a dangerous precedent—it would affirm the right of a historically distinct, democratically governed state to self-rule.

To withhold recognition from Somaliland is to punish success. If stability, democracy, and economic progress disqualify a nation from independence, what incentive remains for good governance?

## The Cost of Delay

Somalia is wholly dependent on foreign aid, lacks effective governance, and struggles with terrorism. Somaliland, meanwhile,

is self-sufficient, democratically governed, and home to the emerging port city of Berbera—a vital regional trading hub.

And it has achieved all of this without international recognition. Imagine what could be accomplished with full diplomatic legitimacy and access to global financial institutions.

But the longer recognition is delayed, the steeper the cost. Without official status, Somaliland is excluded from international development funding, trade agreements, and security partnerships. Its potential is stifled—not by internal failures but by the global community's reluctance to act.

## Why is the World Ignoring Somaliland?

Many nations fear that recognizing Somaliland would provoke Somalia or disrupt Africa's colonial-era borders. But fear is a poor justification for injustice.

Once, European powers claimed that granting independence to African nations would lead to chaos. That argument, too, was rooted in self-interest rather than principle. Today, the refusal to recognize Somaliland follows the same flawed logic.

If the world values democracy, stability, and justice, it must acknowledge Somaliland's sovereignty. Otherwise, it rewards a failed state—Somalia—while punishing Somaliland for its remarkable success.

The time to recognize Somaliland is now.

About the author: Swapnarka Arnan is a Freelance Journalist based in France. He covers issues related to Political, Economic, and Indigenous affairs with a focus on Asia. His work has been published by numerous renowned outlets such as The Diplomat, Madras Courier, and more. He is currently a student at the prestigious SciencesPo Paris where he is studying Politics. He also serves in the Editorial team of the Pacific Post, a campus newspaper at SciencesPo.

# Prelude meeting on National Economic Forum Held



By M.A. Egge

A meeting between the Cabinet's Economic Committee and associated stakeholders, including the Central Bank, was held in Hargeisa on issues related to the economic situation and affairs.

The meeting was a prelude to the Annual Economic Conference, which is usually held once a year in Somaliland, known as the National Economic Forum.

The Minister of Finance and Economic Development of the Republic of Somaliland, Hon. Abdillahi Hassan Aden, said that the purpose of the meeting was for a group of experts previously charged by the Economic Committee, including Directors of the Ministries of Finance, Planning and the Central Bank, to review what they

had prepared, which will guide the economic system in analyzing it.

"We have come together today to analyze the country's economic plan, to have a plan to work on in the future", said the minister.

Director General of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development Mohamed Hassan Suleiman also reported on the meeting in detail and said that the purpose is to find out information about the economy and how to create a system to develop the economy.

"To create our economic system, we want to create a system related to the National Development Plan, the party's plan, to present the economic system, we want to focus on 11 points; that's all our meeting is about," said the Director General of the Ministry of Finance.

## President meets RGs, imparts upon them need of gaining public trust



By M.A. Egge

The President H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro, held over the week a significant meeting with the regional governors (RGs) of the country imparting upon them the need of public trust and endearing the populaces to their government for progress to be achieved.

This meeting served as a consultative forum focused on reinforcing governance systems, enhancing peace and security, improving public service delivery, and addressing national priorities through unity and brotherhood among the people.

Key issues pondered on included: -  
1. Security and Stability of the Nation's Regions  
2. Economic Development and Investment in the Regions  
3. Strengthening Economic Infrastructure and Social Services

in the Regions

4. Preparedness for Disasters and Drought Relief

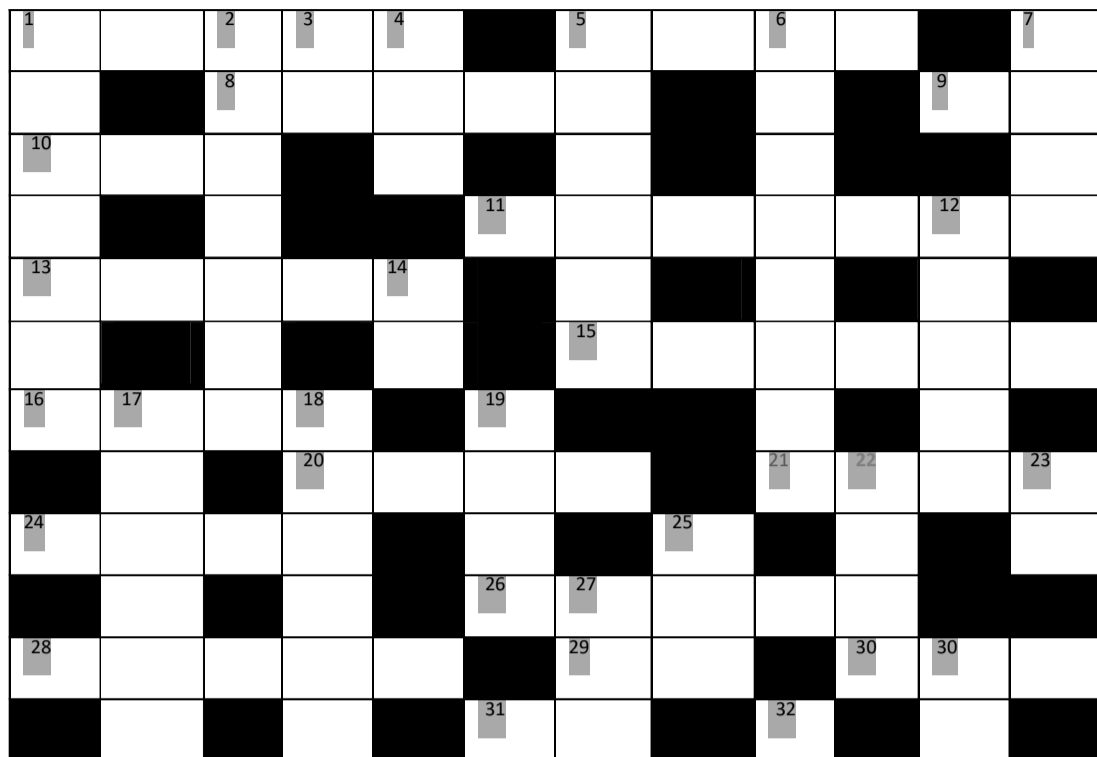
5. Good Governance, Transparency, and Collaboration with Diverse Community Groups  
President Irro emphasized that the unity of the Somaliland people, the consolidation of peace, and stability remain the top priorities of the "Unity and Action Government."

He stressed that the governors, as his representatives, must ensure their communities recognize this government as their own.

The President further urged the regional governors to execute their duties diligently and without delay, aligning their efforts with the developmental goals set by the Somaliland government. He highlighted the importance of public trust and cooperation in achieving sustainable progress.

# THT Puzzle

By: Abdilahi Said



**DOWN**

- 1 care
- 2 borders
- 3 atop
- 4 point
- 5 organization
- 6 Transfer
- 7 Utilizes
- 12 Clothing
- 14 Nope
- 17 Person who reads
- 18 East wind
- 19 Have a rest
- 22 Simple
- 23 Thus
- 25 Have a meal
- 30 Atop
- 31 By the side of

**ACROSS**

- 1 Spoon over
- 5 Certainly
- 8 Union
- 10 Positioned
- 11 Joins
- 13 Onion plant
- 15 Sell
- 16 Tree diagram
- 20 Vicinity
- 21 Fewer
- 24 Crowns
- 26 Expressions
- 28 Change
- 29 By the side of
- 30 pronoun
- 31 Next to

## Previous Answer

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A 29	D		F 30		U 31	S 32		U 33	S	E	
C		F 34	A	S 35	T	I	N 36	G			O 37
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## Transport Minister decries rise of traffic accidents, emphasizes road connections to frontier towns



By M.A. Egge

The Minister of Transport for Road Development in Somaliland, Hon. Osman Ibrahim Nur Af-gaab, has underscored the importance his government places on the road connection between Somaliland and neighboring countries.

He lamented on the statistics of the traffic case that has gone out of hand and the need to put them in check.

The minister has also disclosed that the government vehicle registration exercises were nearing completion.

Government vehicles had hitherto no log-books and their introduction and agency attached to would go down well in having government inventory in check. The transport minister gave the sentiments during an exclusive interview he had with Dawan newspapers reporter Feysal Hiis Afgaab.

Minister Osman-Afgaab decried that the level of road accidents have skyrocketed and that it ought to be put in check forthwith. He said that in January this year alone over 600 cases were reported.

He said, "As the traffic law enforcement forces reported, there were 620 accidents in January, resulting in deaths, injuries and property damage. This shows that there were about 20 accidents per day".

He continued, "This is a shocking fact that needs to be addressed. We are making efforts to control this issue. In the past, vehicles, roads and drivers were blamed for the accidents, but now 90% of them are attributed to the drivers, vehicles that were incongruous with the road lanes specifications (thus left vs. right-handed ones) and the un-

serviced vehicles plying the roads."

He pointed out that the stopping of importation of incongruous road-stipulation vehicles alone was not the only resolution but that the regulations of issuance of licenses has to be tightened.

He observed that the national driving licenses regulating systems do not ban repeated offenders from driving. He attributed to such repetitive death-causing drivers as tantamount to being slayers and butchers hence ought to be stopped.

He revealed that amendments of the laws are in the offing.

He also said that rising awareness on the matter of the increasing number of traffic accidents is to be initiated.

He pointed out that good infrastructure was the back-bone of the national coffers hence it was imperative that road connections to the national frontiers, between the regions and also inter districts ought to be put in place.

He said that coastal towns in Sanaag have to be well connected just as those in Sahil district in the hinterland; so too, should the roads that connect to Ethiopia and Djibouti be built.

The minister said that following the initiatives, the government is currently embarking on the Hargeisa-Balligubdle road and also the Baki-Borame one.

On the other hand the minister praised the president's successive trips to the United Arab Emirates and the achievements he made there.

He said. "The President's trip was a valuable one, that testify to where Somaliland is heading", quipping that it was triumphant to both the President and the nation of Somaliland.

# Somaliland, Turkey Discuss Strengthening Relations on Development of Economic Infrastructure



By M.A. Egge

The President of the Republic of Somaliland, His Excellency Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Iirro held over the week a meeting at the Presidential Palace with the Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to the Republic of Somaliland and Somalia, Ambassador Alper Aktas, and a delegation he led.

During the meeting, the President and the Ambassador's delegation discussed many issues of mutual importance, which are related to strengthening cooperation between the two Republics of Somaliland and Turkey.

The Turkish Ambassador congratulated the President on his victory in the Presidential Elections, acknowledging the maturity of the democratic process that has been

implemented in Somaliland and the civilized manner in which the people of Somaliland have taken over the national office, which the Ambassador described as rare in the Horn of Africa region; and noted that "the people of Somaliland who have been very resilient deserve to be congratulated on their success". The meeting focused on many important issues, including peacekeeping, economic cooperation, trade and investment, education, health, development of economic and vocational infrastructure, and cooperation in humanitarian affairs.

In conclusion, the Head of State told the Turkish Ambassador that the Republic of Somaliland is very interested in the Turkish Government having direct, good and multifaceted relations with the Republic of Somaliland.

## Invitation for Bids [IFB] Goods (One-Envelope Bidding Process)

**IFB Number:** RFB001/2025  
**Purchaser:** Ministry of Finance, Somaliland Government  
**Project:** Institutional Support for Economic Governance Project  
**Contract title:** Purchase of Heavy-duty Cargo Scanner  
**Country:** Government of Somaliland  
**Loan No. / Grant No.:** 5900155018607  
**Procurement Method:** Open Competitive Bidding (International) (OCBI)/(LCB)  
**OCBI No:** N/A  
**Issued on:** 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2025

1. The Government of Somaliland has received financing from the African Development Fund hereinafter called the Bank toward the cost of the Institutional Support for Economic Governance Project (ISEGP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the Supply and Installation of Heavy-Duty Scanners (Cargo Scanners, Mobile Hand Held Scanners and Barcode Scanners).
2. The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for one heavy duty scanner, and 10 mobile hand-held scanners, at Hargeisa, Somaliland.
3. Bidding will be conducted through the Open Competitive Bidding (International), (OCBI) method as specified in the Bank's Procurement Framework dated 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2016, and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Framework.
4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Ministry of Finance, PFM Department, email: [procurement@somalilandpfm.org](mailto:procurement@somalilandpfm.org), CC to [hassan@somalilandpfm.org](mailto:hassan@somalilandpfm.org), and inspect the bidding document during office hours from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm at the address given below PFM Department, Opposite of Ministry of Education and Science.
5. Bids must be delivered to the address below PFM Department, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Hargeisa, and Somaliland on or before 29<sup>th</sup> March 2025. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. The outer Bid envelopes marked "ORIGINAL BID", and the inner envelopes marked "TECHNICAL PART" will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend, at the address below PFM Department, Ministry of Finance on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 2:00 pm. All envelopes marked "SECOND ENVELOPE: FINANCIAL PART" shall remain unopened and will be held in safe custody of the Purchaser until the second public opening.
  - i) The Purchaser shall publish a notice of the public opening of the Financial Parts on its website number <https://slmof.org/>
  - ii) Any interested party who wishes to attend the public opening of the Financial Parts may contact the officer named under paragraph 4 above and at the address given under paragraph 9 below and may request to be notified of the location, date and time of the public opening of Financial Parts. The interested party(ies) will be notified by the Purchaser of the date, time and place of opening of Financial Parts provided the request is received within 10 Business days before the deadline for submission of Bids containing Technical and Financial Parts, as stated in paragraph 6 above or any extension thereto.
7. All Bids must be accompanied by a "Bid-Securing Declaration".
8. Attention is drawn to the Procurement Framework requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.
9. The address (es) referred to above is (are):

PFM Office, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development

Ubah Hussein, Procurement Officer

Email: [Procurement@somalilandpfm.org](mailto:Procurement@somalilandpfm.org), CC to: [hassan@somalilandpfm.org](mailto:hassan@somalilandpfm.org)

Tel: 00-252-63-4194081, or 00-252-63-4475005, Hargeisa, Somaliland

## Somaliland police arrest foreigners for repackaging expired medicine

By M.A. Egge

Following an operation monitoring fraudulent drug dealers, the Somaliland police have arrested four Yemeni nationals accused of repackaging expired medicine with falsified expiry dates in a bid to resell the drugs in local markets, authorities said on Monday.

The men were detained during a raid in Hargeisa; according to police they were found repacking expired pharmaceuticals into cartons imported from China.

Officials say the suspects had erased original expiry labels and replaced them with fraudulent dates, raising serious public health concerns.

"We caught these individuals in the act of rebranding expired medicine to deceive consumers," said Col. Ahmed Saeed, Hargeisa's eastern regional police commander. "This is a dangerous practice that could have harmed countless people." Authorities said the investigation began when they learned that empty medicine cartons had arrived at Hargeisa's airport two days before the raid. The boxes, which are said to have been brought from abroad, had pre-printed expiration labels designed to mislead consumers into believing the drugs were new.

"We had been monitoring these cartons," said Osman Adan, district commissioner of Ga'an

Libaah. "They were intended to repackage expired drugs collected from local pharmacies and put back on the market as if they were fresh."

Police seized five cartons of the expired drugs, along with computers and fake certificates allegedly used in the scheme.

The governor of the Maroodi-Jeeh region Mr. Ahmed Mohamed Adad, said that the men had invested approximately \$9,000 in the counterfeit operation.

"They planned to buy expired drugs from pharmacies, erase the dates, and repackage them into these imported cartons before selling them as if they were safe for consumption," Adad said.

"This is fraud and a serious public health hazard," he posed. Authorities have warned that substandard and counterfeit medicines have increasingly found their way into Somaliland's markets, with officials struggling to regulate the quality of pharmaceuticals entering the country.

The four suspects remain in custody and will be presented in court once the investigations are complete, police said.

Somaliland and the wider region have, in recent times, faced growing concerns over the influx of unregulated medicine, with some drugs linked to adverse health effects. The government has vowed to crack down on counterfeit pharmaceuticals.