

President Launches 2025 National Certificate Examinations with Call for Academic Excellence

Education is the foundation of our nation's future, says the President, encouraging students to strive for excellence



40,749 students are seating for the exams, states the Education Minister Prof Ismail. The exams are being held across the nation from Zeyla to Badan, adds the examinations CEO Daud

Mohamoud Walaaleye
H.E. President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi (Irro)
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President Abdirahman Irro warns that the government will not tolerate at corruption and malpractices

By M.A. Egge

The President of the Republic of Somaliland, His Excellency Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro has once again reiterated the fact that his

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President Irro Urges Business Community to Avoid Exploiting Middle East Conflict

Mohamoud Walaaleye

In a public address over the week, President H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi (Irro) of

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U.S. and Somaliland Deepen Security, Defense, and Economic Ties with High-Level Visit

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Republic of Somaliland proudly hosted a distinguished U.S. delegation for a landmark official visit, signaling a new chapter in bilateral relations. Led by Ambassador Richard Riley and joined by AFRICOM

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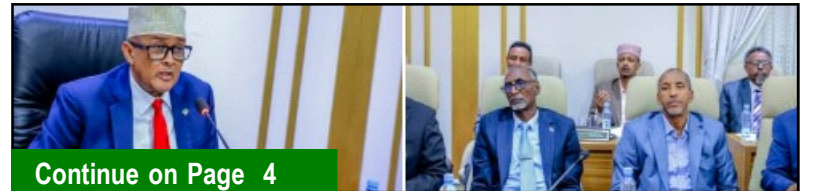
Energy Director General Opens Second Energy Sector Working Group Meeting in Hargeisa

The Director General of Ministry of Energy and Minerals Mr. Shu'ayb Osman

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State urges for concerted national strategic efforts to combat escalating road traffic accidents



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A Strategic Pivot: Why Recognizing Somaliland Counters China's Silent Conquest of Africa- Amb Galaal

China's growing dominance in Africa is rarely overt. Instead of military bases or flag waving infrastructure inaugurations, it proceeds quietly through

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Somaliland Central Bank Shines at IADIARC 2025, Forges Promising Partnerships with Taiwan and African Nations



Mohamoud Walaaleye

In a landmark achievement, the Somaliland Central Bank delegation, led by Deputy Governor Dr. Hamse Abdurahman Khayre, made a triumphant

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Somaliland Strengthens Diplomatic Ties with Kenya, Appoints Esteemed Diplomat Dr. Omar to Nairobi

Mohamoud Walaaleye

In a significant move to bolster regional cooperation, the Republic of Somaliland has appointed its most seasoned diplomat, Dr. Mohamed Abdillahi Omar, to Nairobi, recognizing Kenya's growing stature as a pivotal

hub for international diplomacy in East Africa. This strategic appointment underscores Somaliland's commitment to deepening ties with Kenya and fostering collaboration on regional

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President Launches 2025.....

officially inaugurated the 2025 National Certificate Examinations for primary and secondary school students across the nation.

The event, held at Farah Omar High School in Hargeisa, marked a significant milestone in the nation's academic calendar, with 40,749 students participating in the exams nationwide.

In his address, President Irro underscored the pivotal role of education in driving Somaliland's progress and fostering national unity. He commended the students for their dedication and urged them to approach the examinations with integrity and confidence, emphasizing the importance of adhering to exam protocols.

"Education is the foundation of our nation's future," the President stated, encouraging students to strive for excellence.

The Chairman of the National Examinations Office, Mr. Daud, noted that the examinations commenced peacefully across the country, from in the Zeyla to Badan in the eastern most parts of the country. "We pray to Allah for a



smooth and peaceful conclusion of the exercise," he added, expressing optimism about the process.

Minister of Education, Prof. Ismail Duale Yusuf, confirmed that the 40,749 candidates, comprising of both boys and girls from Grade 8 and Form 4, are sitting for the exams at 304 centers across Somaliland. He noted that stringent measures are in place to ensure a fair and transparent process, reflecting the government's commitment to upholding academic standards. The examinations, which began on Saturday morning, are a critical step for students seeking to advance to higher levels of education.

President Abdirahman Irro concluded his remarks by wishing all candidates success, expressing hope that their efforts would contribute to a brighter future for Somaliland. The examinations are expected to continue over the coming days, with results anticipated to shape the academic and professional paths of thousands of the young Somalilanders.

President Abdirahman Irro.....



government would have zero tolerance on corruption and maladministration.

The Head of State sternly expressed the sentiments as he toured the treasury headquarters on Saturday shortly after kicking-off the annual national school certificate examinations.

At the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development headquarters he was received by the Minister of Finance, the state minister for finance, the ministry's director general and heads of various departments.

He pointed out that the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development is the backbone of the nation, as it is the institution that is required to produce the budgets for all the various government agencies to operate on.

The President said that many important tasks for the nation have been added that are not included in the 2025 Budget, such as the Nationalization of the Civilian Forces and their transportation, and the Increase in the salaries of the various branches of the country's Armed Forces.

The President underlined the additional efforts required of the ministry to meet the needs of the nation and ensure the various services that are important to the life of the society.

The President of the Republic of Somaliland called upon the citizens of Somaliland to promptly pay their due taxes.

He strongly stated that good governance and the fight against corruption are the basis for the development of any society and as such the government will not tolerate any corruption, both financial and administrative malpractices.

He directed all government servants at all levels to be diligent in their duties as expected and abstain from corruption.

The purpose of the President's visit was to observe the progress of important activities for which the Ministry is responsible, especially in the areas of revenue, tax collection and economic development.

The President was given an in-depth report by the Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Hon. Abdillahi Hassan Aden, who emphasized that the Ministry has developed National Plans and Programs to increase the country's income and economy.

The Minister briefed the President on important issues regarding tax collection and financial growth that are necessary for the implementation of the vast activities of the Nation, including:

1. The various regulations that the ministry operates under
2. Preparation of the National Budget for 2026
3. Tax Reform (such as GST taxes)
4. Combating Contrabands.
5. The optimistic change in the GDP of the economy
6. The Management of out-sourced projects, which were 4 projects before, but now are 11 projects
7. Exploring and implementing other sources of income that can contribute to the growth of the country's economy.

U.S. and Somaliland Deepen Security.....

Commander General Michael Langley, along with senior U.S. military officers and diplomats, the delegation arrived to deepen cooperation on security, defense, and economic partnerships.

President H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro warmly welcomed the delegation at the Presidential Palace, where productive discussions focused on key issues such as security, defense, and trade cooperation.

The meeting at the Presidential Palace included, from the Somaliland side Foreign Minister Abdirahman Dahir Adan, Minister of the Presidency Khadar Hussein Abdi, National Intelligence Agency Director Jama Mahmoud Egal, and National Army Commander Brigadier General Nim'an Yusuf Osman. Described as a significant step forward by Somaliland



Presidential Spokesperson Hussein Adam Igeh (Deyr), the visit featured discussions on enhancing defense collaboration and ensuring regional stability. A key highlight was the delegation's tour of Berbera, Somaliland's strategic coastal city, where they reviewed critical infrastructure aimed at bolstering security and trade capabilities. The visit underscores Somaliland's unwavering commitment to fostering peace and prosperity in the Horn of Africa, with the U.S. reaffirming its support for regional stability. Both nations expressed enthusiasm for deepening their partnership, promising closer collaboration and mutual growth in the future. Somaliland extends heartfelt gratitude to the United States for its steadfast support and looks forward to building on this momentum for a stronger, more prosperous partnership.

Somaliland Central Bank Shines at IADIARC 2025.....

appearance at the 2025 Africa Regional Committee (IADIARC) Annual General Meeting and Conference, held in Mombasa, Kenya, from June 16-19, 2025. Hosted by the International Association of Deposit Insurers (IADI) and the Kenya Deposit Insurance Corporation (KDIC), the event showcased Somaliland's commitment to strengthening its financial stability and public confidence in its banking sector.

The conference delivered inspiring discussions on innovative strategies to safeguard bank deposits and boost public trust in financial systems, with Somaliland's proactive contributions earning widespread admiration. In a historic



highlight, Dr. Hamse's team held a groundbreaking meeting with Ms. Yvonne Fan, Deputy Governor of Taiwan's Central Deposit Insurance Corporation (CDIC) and a key IADI executive. The talks sparked excitement about establishing a Deposit Insurance Division at Somaliland Central Bank, laying the groundwork for a dynamic financial

partnership between Somaliland and Taiwan—a beacon of hope for deeper ties between the two nations. The delegation also secured successful bilateral agreements with deposit insurance agencies from Nigeria, South Africa, Kenya, Ghana, Namibia, and Turkey, forging a robust network of cooperation to elevate Somaliland's financial resilience. These partnerships signal a bright future for Somaliland's economy. The delegation, featuring esteemed experts like Mr. Mohamed Abdillahi Ali (Director of Financial Institutions Supervision), Mr. Abshir Abdi Mohamed (Director of Monetary Policy), and senior advisor Mr. Mahmoud, exemplified Somaliland's vision under the leadership of Governor Abdinasir Abdinasir Ahmed Hirsi. Their efforts are driving transformative financial reforms to empower Somaliland's banking sector and inspire confidence nationwide. Somaliland's stellar performance at IADIARC 2025 marks a new chapter of prosperity, positioning the nation as a rising star in regional and global finance!

President Irro Urges Business.....

Somaliland called on the nation's business community to refrain from exploiting the ongoing Middle East conflict for profit by raising prices or hoarding essential goods. He made during the observation of the World Children's day. The president highlighted the potential negative economic impact of the conflict on Somaliland, particularly on its limited reserves of food and fuel. Speaking on the volatile regional situation, President Irro emphasized the importance of maintaining economic stability and urged businesses not to take advantage of the crisis. "While the conflict in the Middle East may affect our resources, I call on our business community not to see this as an opportunity to inflate prices or hoard goods. We must act responsibly to ensure the well-being of our people during these challenging times," he said. President Irro also praised Somaliland's business sector for its



longstanding contributions to nation-building and supporting the welfare of the Somaliland people. "Our business community has always been at the forefront of developing our nation and caring for our citizens. Let us continue this legacy by prioritizing stability and fairness in these uncertain times," he added. The president's remarks

come amid growing concerns about the ripple effects of the Middle East conflict on global supply chains, which could impact Somaliland's access to essential goods. The call for restraint underscores the government's commitment to safeguarding the nation's economic resilience

A Strategic Pivot: Why Recognizing Somaliland.....

economic encroachment and strategic debt. This is China's "silent conquest" of Africa. Although in the Indian subcontinent, Sri Lanka offers the most vivid warning. In 2017, unable to repay a billion-dollar Chinese loan, the Sri Lankan government was compelled to lease Hambantota Port and adjacent lands to a Chinese state enterprise for 99 years. This was not simply a financial deal; it was the ceding of sovereign territory with latent military implications. In Africa, similar patterns are emerging with alarming frequency. Zambia's debt to China has surpassed six billion dollars. Concerns have mounted that ZESCO, the national electricity utility, may be collateralized in the event of default. Leaked documents and stalled audits reinforce fears of strategic asset forfeiture. In Nigeria, over five billion dollars in Chinese loans have funded critical infrastructure under agreements that often bypass the nation's legal system, granting China considerable leverage in the event of disputes. These clauses are opaque and rarely debated in public forums. Civil society and lawmakers are rightfully worried that national autonomy is being sold off in increments. In Somalia, Chinese support for road construction and urban development is intertwined with limited public transparency and weak institutional oversight. Chinese influence in Mogadishu, closely aligned with that of Turkey, has formed an axis of external control in a state that cannot meet its own security or budgetary needs. Allegations of unexplained wealth surrounding President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud and his inner circle further illustrate the risks of unchecked foreign entanglements. China's political leverage was also evident in Somalia's decision to ban Taiwanese citizens from entering Somaliland's airspace—a move widely viewed as Chinese effort to undermine the burgeoning relationship between Taiwan and Somaliland. The move was met with

condemnation from the United States, which invoked the Taipei Act to register its disapproval. The ban also placed Somalia at odds with democratic donors, jeopardizing development assistance and isolating the country further. Beijing's strategy extends beyond bilateral engagements. Its economic influence has translated into political capital within global institutions. In the United Nations General Assembly, the African voting bloc—increasingly indebted to China—often aligns with Beijing on key resolutions, challenging the institution's ability to uphold democratic values and norms. To respond to these challenges, the United States must act with precision and principle. America's strategic interests require deeper, more equitable engagement across the African continent. That includes strengthening the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII), not as a vague ambition, but as a defined, funded and continent specific program. In addition, a similar dedicated US Africa initiative could provide a better focused, reliable alternative for infrastructure development, digital ecosystems and credible security partnerships. Nowhere is this engagement more urgent than in the Horn of Africa, and no country in the region offers the US a clearer opportunity than the Republic of Somaliland. A politically stable and democratically governed country that occupies a geostrategic position of vital importance. It lies along the Bab el Mandeb Strait, a maritime route through which nearly 10 percent of global trade flows. Its location alone makes it a valuable partner in ensuring freedom of navigation and countering authoritarian expansion. Equally important, Somaliland is rich in untapped hydrocarbons and rare earth minerals, including gold, lithium, copper and silver. Although unrecognized, it holds regular multiparty elections and has maintained internal stability for over

three decades. Somaliland also fulfills the universally accepted criteria for statehood under the Montevideo Convention in that it has a permanent population, a defined territory, a functioning government and the capacity to enter into relations with other states. The former British protectorate gained independence on June 26, 1960 and was recognized by the international community. Its subsequent union with Somalia was never ratified, violating Article 11 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. After years of violence, genocide and state collapse, Somaliland reclaimed its independence in 1991. A 2001 national referendum reaffirmed that decision. For the US, formal recognition of Somaliland's sovereignty could represent a diplomatic masterstroke, a strategic pivot in offsetting China's influence across Africa. A strong US-Somaliland relationship would provide a vital counterweight to Beijing's growing presence in Mogadishu and elsewhere in the region. It would also create a base of democratic cooperation along one of the world's most strategic and sensitive shipping corridors. Recognition would also signal America's commitment to rewarding democratic governance and stability. Somaliland has held regular multiparty elections for over three decades and maintained internal peace in one of the world's most volatile regions. It offers the United States an opportunity to support a self-reliant, democratic partner rather than an aid-dependent state vulnerable to external manipulation. China's expanding presence in Africa is not unstoppable. Across the continent, reformers, civil society groups and citizens are pushing back, demanding accountability, transparency and genuine partnership. Africa does not need tokenism or symbolic engagement,

Energy Director General



Mohamoud officially opened the second Energy Sector Working Group (ESWG) meeting yesterday at Mansoor Hotel in Hargeisa. The gathering brought together key stakeholders to discuss the progress and future of Somaliland's energy sector, focusing on critical initiatives like the Somaliland Electricity Sector Recovery Project (SESERP). In his opening remarks, Mr. Abdifatah Omar Abdilahi, Head of SESERP, provided updates on the project's three key phases. "The first phase is advancing with the merger of electricity companies in Hargeisa to streamline operations. The second phase involves evaluating companies for electricity expansion in Berbera and Borama. The third phase, which will deliver reliable electricity to 46 health facilities and 57 educational institutions nationwide, is set to commence following the successful selection of implementing companies," Abdilahi stated. Mohamed Mahmoud Abdi, Director General of

the Somaliland Energy Commission, emphasized the commission's role in regulating the energy sector. "Our mandate is to establish robust regulations, procedures, and guidelines to ensure a sustainable and efficient energy framework for Somaliland," he said. Shu'ayb Osman Mohamoud, Director General of Energy, welcomed attendees to the quarterly meeting, highlighting its focus on advancing Somaliland's energy law, policy, and strategy. "This platform allows us to align our efforts and drive progress toward a resilient energy sector," he noted. The ESGW meeting underscores Somaliland's commitment to enhancing energy access and infrastructure, aligning with broader goals of economic growth and sustainability. Discussions are expected to shape the nation's energy roadmap, with outcomes to be presented at future regional and international forums.

but a credible alternative to China's debt driven model. If the United States is to reclaim its relevance in Africa, it must bring vision and commitment to the table. The defining measure of great influence in the coming decades will not be hard power or military engagement, which undermines both economic progress and political stability, but rather the policies and partnerships each of these two major contenders has to offer Africa. A principled US-Somaliland relationship, grounded on democratic values and mutual respect, would be a credible and enduring place to begin. In this context, Congressman Scott Perry's introduction of the Republic of Somaliland Independence Act in the United States House of Representatives represents a timely and strategic development. It affirms that recognition of Somaliland is not only morally sound and legally justified, but also fully aligned with the national interests of the United States. The proposed legislation offers a clear and credible congressional pathway toward formal diplomatic recognition and merits broad bipartisan support. This moment also presents a strategic opportunity for Somaliland's close partner, the Republic of China (Taiwan), to discreetly lobby the 229-member Congressional Taiwan Caucus, the largest caucus in the U.S. Congress, in support of the bill.



For its part, the Republic of Somaliland must launch a focused public diplomacy and media outreach campaign in Washington to build the necessary momentum and ensure the legislation gains meaningful traction. About the Author Ambassador Mahmoud Adam Jama Galaal currently serves as the Republic of Somaliland's Representative to Taiwan. A seasoned diplomat and politician with extensive experience in African and Asian geopolitics. Ambassador Galaal has held multiple senior government positions, including Ambassador to Ethiopia, State Minister for Planning and National Development, and State Minister for Health. He has represented Somaliland in high-level negotiations across the Horn of Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, and is widely recognized for his expertise in regional security and development strategy. His work draws on a strong background in law, governance, public policy, and international advocacy. By Ambassador Mahmoud Adam Jama Galaal

Sagaljet Boosts Somaliland's Business with Bold Billboards and Branding

Mohamoud Walaaleye

In a bold stride to empower businesses across Somaliland, Sagaljet, a pioneering advertising and printing company, is redefining how brands engage with their audiences through dynamic billboard campaigns and versatile marketing solutions. With their flagship initiative, "Showcase Your Business on Billboards," Sagaljet is illuminating the night with stunning, high-impact displays that captivate attention and drive customer engagement, cementing their role as a trailblazer in the region's advertising industry. Sagaljet's innovative approach harnesses cutting-edge technology and strategic billboard placement to ensure businesses of all sizes shine brightly in Somaliland's bustling markets. Their illuminated billboards offer unmatched visibility, transforming the night skyline into a vibrant canvas for brands to stand out in a competitive landscape. From small startups to established enterprises, Sagaljet's tailored advertising solutions are helping businesses amplify their reach and forge meaningful connections with customers like never before. But Sagaljet's offerings extend far beyond billboards. They provide a comprehensive suite of services, including premium, custom-branded shopping bags that elevate brand identity, book printing, car branding, and event planning and decoration. Their high-quality shopping bags, adorned with a company's logo, are perfect for retail, markets, gifting, and promotions, offering businesses a



stylish and professional way to attract customers. Meanwhile, their expertise in car branding turns vehicles into mobile advertisements, and their event services create unforgettable experiences with vibrant décor and meticulous planning. What truly sets Sagaljet apart is their unwavering commitment to excellence and customer satisfaction. Their dedicated team of creative professionals delivers end-to-end services, from crafting captivating visuals to securing prime advertising locations. Sagaljet ensures every client receives personalized support to bring their brand vision to life. Their robust digital presence, with a Facebook audience of 170,000, further amplifies their clients' messages, ensuring maximum reach in Somaliland's dynamic market. "Sagaljet is more than an advertising company; we're a partner in growth," said a company Chairman Abdi Yusuf. "Our mission is to empower Somaliland's businesses by providing innovative platforms to shine brightly and

connect with their audiences effectively." The response to Sagaljet's services has been overwhelmingly positive, with businesses reporting significant boosts in brand visibility and customer engagement. By offering affordable, high-impact solutions, Sagaljet is playing a pivotal role in driving economic growth and fostering innovation within Somaliland's vibrant business community. Their ability to blend creativity, technology, and accessibility makes them a trusted ally for businesses aiming to thrive. For companies ready to make a bold statement, Sagaljet's "Illuminate the Night" billboard campaign and diverse branding services offer the perfect opportunity to elevate their presence. Whether through striking billboards, elegant shopping bags, or tailored marketing solutions, Sagaljet is helping businesses light up Somaliland's skyline and marketplace. Register now and take the first step toward a brighter future by contacting Sagaljet at 510099, WhatsApp 063 6777793, or info@sagaljet.net. Let Sagaljet help your brand soar to new heights!

Somaliland Strengthens.....



peace, security, and economic growth. Dr. Omar, a distinguished diplomat and scholar with a PhD in International Political Economy from the United Kingdom, brings a wealth of experience to his new role. His illustrious career spans diplomacy, politics, mediation, and academia, making him uniquely positioned to advance Somaliland's interests in the region. As former Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and later Minister of Trade & Investment, Dr. Omar spearheaded initiatives that strengthened Somaliland's regional diplomacy and economic partnerships. Notably, he was the architect of the historic 2012 political dialogue between Somaliland and the Federal Government of Somalia, marking a breakthrough after over two decades of non-engagement. For the past decade, Dr. Omar has served as a senior mediator with the Geneva-based Centre for

Humanitarian Dialogue (CHD), focusing on resolving political conflicts in the Horn of Africa. His expertise has been instrumental in fostering peace and crafting durable solutions to complex regional challenges. Drawing on his academic background as a former lecturer at Brunel University and the Institute of Education at the University of London, Dr. Omar continues to blend scholarly insight with pragmatic diplomacy to promote international partnerships. This appointment signals Somaliland's optimism about building stronger ties with Kenya and leveraging Nairobi's role as a diplomatic and economic powerhouse to advance mutual goals. Dr. Omar's arrival in Nairobi is a promising step toward enhanced collaboration, peacebuilding, and prosperity in the region.

State urges for concerted national strategic efforts to combat escalating road traffic accidents

By M.A. Egge

The state has decried the spiraling case of traffic accidents and has advised the addressing of the menace through a national strategic means. The state lamented that the escalated accidents had resulted in many fatalities and casualties, amongst other destruction. The state has also revealed that the number of both primary and secondary school candidate students seating for the national examinations this year are numbering forty thousand. These were made public during the 23rd Session of the Council of Ministers meeting that was chaired by the President His Excellency Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Iro that was held on Wednesday evening at the Somaliland Presidential Palace. The agenda discussed according to press release by Presidential spokesperson Hussein Adam Igeh was as follows: – * National security and stability: The Minister of Interior and Security,



Hon. Abdalle Mohamed Arab, stated that the stability of the six regions of the country is secure, both in terms of security and politics. The Minister told the session that road traffic accidents are a national problem, as they cause the most deaths in our country, and therefore there is a need for a national strategy and advisory to put it in check. * National economic and financial situation: The Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Hon. Abdillahi Hassan, informed the cabinet that overall business activity and transactions in the country's

markets have increased, which is an indication of confidence in the new government's economic policy. The Minister said that, in order to increase the National Revenue, the Ministry has reviewed and re-evaluated the important taxes that generate National Revenue, such as: Payroll Income Tax; Rental Income Tax; Business Income Tax; Goods and Service Tax. He said that the country's economy was improving on a daily basis.

* Health: The Minister of Health Development Dr. Hussein Bashir Hirsi, gave the session a general report on the health situation in our country, stating that there are no urgent or alarming issues related to the health situation in the country. The Minister said that the Blood Transfusion programme and the Vaccination Campaigns for young children are progressing as planned. He added that the ministry is engaged in the Somaliland Child Nutrition Program. * Religion and Endowment report: The Minister of the Ministry of Religion and Endowments of Somaliland, Sheikh Abdullahi-Baashe Dahir Jama, gave a briefing to the Cabinet on the progress of the important activities for which the Ministry of Religion and Endowments is responsible. The Minister said that the Ministry has a good working relationship and understanding with all the scholars of the country, regardless of their sub-sects. He said that the Ministry has an important role in raising awareness among the public and protecting the fundamental principles of the society such as strengthening and

practicing the good tenets of the religion, preventing vices and stalling issues that dent the security and stability of the country, the unity and coexistence of the Somaliland people. The Minister decried the immoral things happening on social media, and suggested that the government should have a unified approach in addressing the matter and take a strong stand against such vices. * Education sector and the national schools' examinations: The Minister of Education and Science, Professor Ismail Duale Yusuf, briefed the Cabinet on the progress of the schools national Certificate of Examinations process that will commence nationwide on Saturday, 21.06.2025. The Minister said that this year, 40,000 students will sit for the Certificate Examinations for both primary and secondary schools. He noted that the awareness campaign among students and their parents to prevent exams cheating, locally known as QISHKA, is progressing well, with the Ministry collaborating with the Ministries of Religion and Endowments and Information, Culture and Awareness.



TENDER NOTICE

REF: SOM100HRG/2025

The [International NGO Safety Organisation \(INSO\)](#) is a non-profit humanitarian organisation providing dedicated safety support services to the NGO community in Somalia/Somaliland since 2015.

INSO invites applications from eligible and competent firms to tender for the Provision of Group Medical Insurance as follows:

Tender Reference	Category description
SOM100HRG/2025	Provision of Group Medical Insurance for Somalia and Somaliland Staff

The Tender will be issued on **19 June 2025**. Bidders can request the tender documents from ops.manager@hoa.ngosafety.org

All questions related to this tender must also be sent to the email address above.

Bidders must include all required documents in their bid submissions. Completed tender documents must be electronically submitted by email to the address listed in the RFQ.

The email subject line must state: **Tender Number SOM100HRG/2025**.

The tender closes at **23:59 CET on 20 July 2025**. Late submissions will not be accepted.

INSO will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by the bidders in connection with the preparation or submission of their bids to INSO.

From Red Sea to Indian Ocean: Why recognizing Somaliland could be India’s hidden ace for maritime dominance, promoting democratic values

Addis Abeba – Somaliland, a self-declared republic in the Horn of Africa, has functioned autonomously since proclaiming independence in 1991, despite lacking international recognition. Over the years, it has built a functional democracy, held regular elections, maintained judicial independence, and achieved relative stability in a region often characterized by disorder. Its strategic location near the Red Sea and the Bab al-Mandab Strait also lends it considerable maritime and geopolitical significance.

This article argues that Somaliland offers a range of opportunities—particularly for India. By advancing a compelling case for formal engagement, it will demonstrate how India could deepen its Indo-Pacific strategy and counterbalance China’s growing influence in the region through a bold and rarely exercised move in modern diplomacy: the formal recognition of Somaliland.

Geopolitical counterbalance

Establishing official ties with Somaliland would bring India closer to the Bab al-Mandab Strait—a critical maritime chokepoint



through which [approximately 10% of global trade flows](#). Access to ports such as Berbera offers India a strategic maritime advantage, particularly in light of China’s expanding military presence in nearby Djibouti. Somaliland’s coastline offers India a strategic gateway to the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea. Given that [approximately 90% of India’s trade is seaborne](#), secure access to maritime routes is essential. Berbera represents the

closest viable location for a future Indian maritime base west of the Malacca Strait, potentially reducing India’s dependence on existing facilities in locations such as Réunion or Madagascar. India’s strategic posture aligns with the principles of defensive realism—emphasizing power projection without direct confrontation. The Somaliland coast lies directly across from [China’s naval base in Djibouti](#). Gaining surveillance

access in Berbera would enable India to monitor critical sea lanes and counterbalance the growing influence of other powers in the region. Such a strategic position would significantly enhance India’s broader Indo-Pacific strategy, complementing its existing maritime presence in Chabahar, Duqm, and along the East African coast. Integrating Somaliland into India’s maritime domain awareness would contribute to a network of strategic encirclement around [China’s Maritime Silk Road](#).

As a leading advocate of South-South cooperation, India stands to enhance its influence by supporting Somaliland’s institutional capacity building. Initiatives such as the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) program and the Pan-African e-Network already align with Somaliland’s development needs. This approach stands in sharp contrast to the extractive and infrastructure-intensive Chinese diplomacy. Indian assistance would foster people-to-people connections and reinforce democratic legitimacy in the region.

Soft power projection

Somaliland fulfills all the criteria for statehood as outlined in the [Montevideo Convention of 1933](#): a permanent population, a defined territory, an effective government, and the capacity to engage in foreign relations. From a constructivist perspective, Somaliland’s democratic credentials merit normative recognition by India. Despite its lack of formal recognition, Somaliland upholds press freedom, [conducts competitive elections](#), and maintains traditional mechanisms for conflict resolution.

[Somaliland’s bold diplomatic engagement with Taiwan since 2020](#) can be interpreted as a challenge to Chinese orthodoxy. In this context, India—currently engaged in ongoing border tensions with Beijing—could adopt a strategy of strategic hedging. A decentralized axis involving India, Somaliland, and Taiwan would represent a form of unofficial diplomacy grounded in shared democratic values.

India’s potential diplomatic recognition of Somaliland would be consistent with its historical support for the independence struggles of Namibia and Bangladesh.

India and Taiwan are already cooperating in sectors such as technology, healthcare, and education. This understated Taiwan policy complements Somaliland’s commitment to pluralism and its pursuit of international recognition. As a member of the Quad, India benefits from an informal alignment with fellow democracies, reinforcing its image and credibility as a liberal power. India’s potential diplomatic recognition of Somaliland would be consistent with its historical support for the independence struggles of Namibia and Bangladesh. Unlike China and Russia, India places greater emphasis on democratic legitimacy rather than the preservation of regimes. India has

historical precedent for such a move, notably its [support for Bangladesh’s independence in 1971](#). Recognizing Somaliland would reaffirm India’s post-colonial ideals and open avenues for trade, intelligence sharing, and regional cooperation. India’s SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) vision emphasizes maritime cooperation and regional stability. In this context, Somaliland—particularly the Emirati-managed Port of Berbera—offers a potential strategic foothold for India in the western Indian Ocean.

Somaliland should be integrated into India’s SAGAR framework to foster a collaborative maritime order in the Indian Ocean. Such cooperation would strengthen regional security, support economic resilience, and promote the sustainable development of the blue economy.

Expansion of maritime security

Somaliland’s geographic proximity provides India with opportunities to conduct anti-piracy missions, humanitarian assistance, and logistical operations. Given the rise in maritime crimes—including arms trafficking, illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and drug smuggling—joint enforcement efforts are increasingly vital. Somaliland could be integrated into [India’s existing network of naval bases in Seychelles, Mauritius, and Oman](#), thereby contributing to the formation of a western Indo-Pacific arc of stability.

Establishing formal relations between Somaliland and India could pave the way for joint ventures in mineral development, fisheries, coastal tourism, and diaspora engagement. Additional areas of cooperation might include port logistics, utilization of air corridors, and defense technology exchanges.

Somaliland is actively engaged in piracy prevention, maritime law enforcement, and the development of its coast guard. India, in partnership with Kenya, could conduct joint naval exercises, share surveillance technologies, and coordinate counterterrorism efforts—particularly against threats posed by Al-Shabaab. With its fleet of nuclear submarines and aircraft carriers, India is well positioned to utilize Berbera for maintenance, refueling, and intelligence operations.

With the [expansion of BRICS](#) to include Egypt, Ethiopia, and the UAE, Somaliland is increasingly positioned as a strategic bridge. India is well placed to lead and shape this emerging dialogue.

Recognizing Somaliland would reinforce India’s image as a principled power committed to democracy and post-colonial justice. It would also grant India strategic access to the Port of Berbera, enhance the maritime framework of the SAGAR initiative, and solidify India’s standing as a credible leader within the BRICS+ grouping. AS

THT Puzzle

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24										

ACROSS

- 1 Snow
- 4 gases
- 7 opposite of in
- 9 us
- 10 urges
- 11 nothing
- 12 computer science
- 13 Dark
- 17 kingdom
- 18 debates
- 19 By way of
- 21 hard live
- 23 joined
- 24 school in

DOWN

- 2 count up
- 3 European
- 5 say
- 6 mindless
- 8 baseball game
- 12 moment
- 14 relieve table
- 15 fence, garden wall
- 16 parts of tree, plant

Previous Answer

L ¹			M ²	U ³	S	T		D ⁴		G ⁵	O ⁶
O ⁷	N ⁸	I	O	N			T ⁹	O	O ¹⁰		N
S ¹¹	O		O		S ¹²	C ¹³	I	E	N	C	E
T		C ¹⁴	D		P ¹⁵	R	E	S	S		
	O ¹⁶	R		L ¹⁷	E	Y	S		E ¹⁸	N ¹⁹	D ²⁰
F ²¹		I ²²	D ²³	E	A			S ²⁴	T	A	R
A		S ²⁵	N	A	K	E		O		M	
C ²⁶	H	E	A	P			W ²⁷	A	V ²⁸	E	S ²⁹
E		S				H ³⁰	O	P	E		I
	S ³¹		S ³²	O ³³	N		U		R ³⁴	E	D
	K ³⁵	E	E	N		I ³⁶	N		Y		E
	Y		E		A ³⁷	D	D			I ³⁸	S

Somaliland Information Ministry Director General Concludes Assessment Tour of Regions



By Goth Mohamed Goth

The Director General of the Ministry of Information, National Guidance, and Culture of the Republic of Somaliland, Mr. Abdisalan Mohamoud Du'ale (Ilkacase), has concluded a six-day working tour covering the regions of Sanaag, Togdheer, Sahail, Awdal, and Gabiley. Director General Mr. Abdisalan Ilkacase stated that the tour through the country's regions was a fact-finding mission focused on assessing the staffing census of ministry employees working in the regions. The Director General confirmed that they closely reviewed the work procedures implemented by the

ministry's staff in the regions and the registration of the ministry's assets and equipment. Mr. Ilkacase expressed gratitude to the ministry's regional coordinators and staff in the visited regions, praising them for providing comprehensive updates on their ongoing work. Director General Abdisalan Ilkacase pledged that the ministry leadership will address any urgent needs identified during the tour of the regions, within available financial means. The Director General's regional tour and inspection, which lasted six days, was accompanied by the Directors of Human Resources, Administration, and Finance of the Ministry of Information, Mr. Khadar Hussein Saeed and Mr. Khalid

Ahmed Ali

Somaliland Minister of Investment Hosts Saudi Delegation to Boost Economic Ties

Mohamoud Walaaleye

In a significant step toward strengthening economic partnerships, the Minister of Investment and Industry of Somaliland, Hon. Said Mohamed Burale, alongside Director General Mr. Abdirahman Ismail Duale, welcomed a high-level delegation from Saudi Arabia's Raqan Al Bayaan at the ministry's headquarters today. Led by Managing Director Osman Hassan Al Somaal, the delegation expressed keen interest in investing in Somaliland's economic infrastructure and fostering collaborative ventures with the ministry. The discussions centered on leveraging Somaliland's strategic geographic position and untapped investment potential to drive mutual growth. Minister Burale and his team provided an in-depth overview of available investment opportunities, emphasizing sectors ripe for development. "Somaliland is open for business, and we are committed to creating

a conducive environment for investors," the minister stated, highlighting the country's stability and strategic importance. The Saudi delegation, which included key figures such as CEO Ahmed Abdilahi Kalshe, Destination CEO Mohamed Rehan Alam, and Operations Manager Numan Khan, praised the warm reception and expressed optimism about future collaborations. Also in attendance were Somaliland's Deputy Chairman of the National Contracts Committee, Abdiaziz Ahmed Hashi, and the company's local representative, Khadar Abdiqadir Kaarshe, alongside ministry directors. The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to deepen ties, with both sides agreeing to explore concrete investment projects. Somaliland's proactive approach to attracting global investors continues to position it as an emerging hub for economic development in the Horn of Africa.

Dahabshiil Bolsters Global Remittance Efforts on International Day of Family Remittances 2025



As the world marked the International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR) on June 16, Dahabshiil, a leading global money transfer service, reaffirmed its commitment to empowering migrant workers and their families through secure, affordable, and accessible remittance services. This year's theme, "Remittances Financing

Development," highlights the critical role of remittances in supporting the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with Dahabshiil playing a pivotal role in connecting diasporas to their loved ones across Africa, the Middle East, and beyond.

On IDFR 2025, Dahabshiil celebrated the resilience and

sacrifices of migrant workers, emphasizing that every transfer—whether for education, healthcare, or daily needs—fuels hope and economic stability in communities globally.

"Our mission is to make every dollar count for families back home," said Dahabshiil CEO Abdirashid Duale. "We're proud to stand with remittance senders, ensuring their hard-earned money reaches their loved ones quickly and securely."

The company also introduced a mobile app feature allowing users to track their transfers in real-time and donate directly to community development projects in their home countries, such as schools and clinics. This move supports the IDFR 2025 theme by channeling remittances into sustainable development.

"Every transfer is a story of love, sacrifice, and hope," Duale said. "On this International Day of Family Remittances, we renew our pledge to connect

Somaliland Celebrates World Refugee Day with Heartwarming Event for Refugee Children

Mohamoud Walaaleye

In a vibrant and uplifting ceremony, the Ministry of Resettlement and Humanitarian Affairs honored refugee children residing in Somaliland as part of World Refugee Day celebrations. Held at the Hargeisa Cultural Center, the event brought together young refugees, government officials, and representatives from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to recognize the resilience and potential of these children.

The ceremony featured the distribution of educational materials as gifts to the children, aimed at supporting their learning and growth. Mukhtaar Abdi Jamac (Baaho), Director General of the Ministry, addressed the gathering, emphasizing the bright future ahead for refugee children. "Despite facing many challenges, these children have not been deterred from having hopes, dreams, and talents. They are the future of our society," he said. Hana Abdisalan Mohamed, Director of the Refugee



Department, highlighted the transformative power of opportunity, stating, "Every refugee child, if given a chance, could become a doctor who heals or a teacher who shapes a new generation." Mohamed Abdi Bakaal from UNHCR echoed these sentiments, stressing the universal rights of children. "No matter where they come from, every child deserves safety, a warm welcome, and hope," he noted.

The event was filled with joy, featuring cultural games, entertainment programs, and

activities designed to spark happiness among the children. For many, the day offered a rare moment of celebration and a chance to dream of brighter futures, either in Somaliland or in their homelands, should peace allow their return.

World Refugee Day, observed globally to raise awareness of the plight of refugees, was marked in Somaliland with a powerful message of solidarity. The event left an indelible mark on the children, who eagerly await next year's commemoration, carrying hopes of peace and opportunity.

Somaliland Deputy Minister of Agriculture Closes Workshop Approving Key Agricultural Policies and Laws



By Goth Mohamed Goth

Hargeisa –Mr. Mukhtar Haji Mohamed Farah, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture Development of the Republic of Somaliland, today closed a workshop that successfully approved two policies and two laws. This workshop marked the culmination of extensive, long-term efforts to develop the Agricultural Inputs Law, the Agricultural Cooperatives Law, and their corresponding policies, which were critically needed. The two-day workshop, held at the Maansoor Hotel in Hargeisa, began with a summary by Abdikani Hassan of the WFP project supporting the development and implementation of these policies and laws. Abdikani, the project coordinator, thanked the leadership of the Ministry of Agriculture for their consistent support.

The coordinator expressed profound gratitude to all participants involved in developing the two policies, from the initial day of the process to its successful conclusion today. He also thanked

the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) for funding this program. Speaking on behalf of the participants, Mr. Saleban Tukaale addressed the forum. He commended the Ministry of Agriculture Development for its dedicated efforts and commitment to securing beneficial policies and laws for the ministry. Saleban also pledged that the participants' commitment would continue until the task is fully completed.

Deputy Minister Mukhtar Haji Mohamed Farah, who officially closed the workshop, thanked the participants for their presence during the two days dedicated to finalizing the laws and their policies. The Deputy Minister also highlighted how these policies and laws will enable accountability and transparency, streamline planning, ensure sustainable development and equity.

The Deputy Minister urged the workshop participants to maintain their commitment until the process is fully finalized. He further elaborated on the significant benefits of having these policies and laws in place.

Somaliland Gears Up for National Certificate Examinations with 40,000 Students Set to Participate



Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Minister of Education and Science, Professor Ismail Duale Yusuf, announced today that 40,000 students across Somaliland registered to sit for the National Certificate Examinations for primary and secondary schools, scheduled to commence on Saturday, June 21, 2025. The announcement was made during a briefing to the Cabinet, where the Minister outlined the progress of the examination process and efforts to ensure its integrity. To combat exam cheating, locally referred to as Qishka, the Ministry of Education has launched a nationwide awareness campaign targeting students and parents. The initiative is being conducted in collaboration with the Ministries of Religion and Endowments and Information, Culture, and Awareness. Minister Yusuf reported that the campaign is gaining traction, emphasizing the importance of fair and transparent examinations. The National Certificate Examinations mark a significant milestone in Somaliland's education sector, reflecting the government's commitment to advancing academic standards and ensuring equitable opportunities for students. Preparations are in full swing to facilitate a smooth and secure examination process across the country.

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