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Somaliland President Meets Political Party Leaders to Strengthen National Unity, Denounce Somalia's Interference in Eastern Regions

Our government is ready to engage in full cooperation with opposition parties dedicated to nation-building, stated the President, pledging to include them in consultations on key national matters



<u>Mohamoud Walaaleye</u>

n a significant step toward reinforcing national cohesion, President H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi Irro hosted a pivotal meeting on Wednesday at the Presidential Palace with the leadership of Somaliland's three national political parties: WADDANI, KAAH, and KULMIYE. The discussions centered on **Continue on Page 2**



Somaliland Delegation Delivers Critical Food Aid to Drought-Hit Salel Region



Mohamoud Walaaleye high-level delegation led by Somaliland's Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hon. Ali Hamud Jibril, delivered vital food aid to 1,000 drought-affected families in the

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Taiwan and Somaliland Inaugurate "Taiwan Avenue" in Hargeisa, Strengthening Bilateral Ties

<u>Mohamoud Walaaleye</u>

n a significant milestone in the relationship between Taiwan and Somaliland was marked with the official inauguration of "Taiwan Avenue," a newly upgraded road in Hargeisa, the capital of Somaliland.



Education Minister and World Remit Founder Discuss Tech-Driven Education Reform Mohamoud Walaaleve

n a significant step toward modernizing education in Somaliland, the Minister of Education and Science, Prof. Ismail Continue on Page 2



Sanaag residents warmly welcome peace initiatives extended by



Ministry of Investment Welcomes Delegation from Arab-Africa High-Level Economic Council

By Goth Mohamed Goth

argeisa – The Investment Department of the Ministry of Investment and Industry of



Continue on Page 2 MoFAIC Concludes Two Days National Diaspora Policy Validation Workshop

By Goth Mohamed Goth argeisa – The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and



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Somaliland Female Farmers from Oodweyne



and Burao Embark on Knowledge-Sharing Tour in Gabiley, Arabsiyo, and Hargeisa

Somaliland Budget Policy Committee Convenes First Meeting for 2026 Fiscal Planning

Mohamoud Walaaleye

he 2026 Budget Policy Committee of the Somaliland Government held its inaugural meeting today at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development Continue on Page 4

Inside

Somaliland Forces Celebrate Historic Salary Increase as President Irro Delivers on Campaign Promise





Hargeisa International Book Fair: __the voice of Somali literature

rom July 26 to 31, 2025, Hargeisa, the capital of Somaliland, will host the 18th edition of the Hargeisa International Book Fair (HIBF), the largest book



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Sunday 20 July 2025

THT

Somaliland President Meets.....

strengthening national unity, ensuring political stability, and addressing critical issues tied to Somaliland's sovereignty and development.

President Irro emphasized the importance of sustained dialogue and collaboration among political stakeholders to uphold democratic governance and drive national progress. He reaffirmed his administration's commitment to working closely with opposition parties, recognizing their vital role in shaping Somaliland's future.

Our government is ready to engage in full cooperation with opposition parties dedicated to nation-building, President stated, pledging to include them in consultations on key national matters.

The leaders of WADDANI, KAAH, expressed and KULMIYE appreciation for the President's initiative, offering insights on enhancing democratic processes and election frameworks.

They voiced their commitment to collaborate with the government on initiatives that serve Somaliland's national interests.

The meeting also addressed regional tensions, with a strong condemnation of what was described as "blatant interference"



by the Somali government in Somaliland's eastern Sool region. The leaders accused Somalia's administration, led by President Hassan Sheikh, of fomenting political unrest in the area, calling it an attack on Somaliland's sovereignty.

The Somaliland government urged the international community to monitor these actions closely, warning of potential escalation that could threaten stability in the Horn of Africa. The gathering concluded with a shared commitment to unity and collective action on national priorities, signaling a unified front to address both internal and external challenges.

The meeting underscores Somaliland's ongoing efforts to maintain its democratic stability and assert its sovereignty amid regional complexities.

Somaliland Delegation.

Salel region and its surrounding districts. The initiative, spearheaded by President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro, targets communities grappling with severe drought conditions in areas such as Abdi-Qadir, Jidhi, Ceel-Gaal, Madax-Dabley, Sheikh Awaare, and other locales under Salel's jurisdiction. The delegation, which included Minister of Youth and Sports Ahmed Yasin Mohamed Farah, Minister of Energy and Minerals Eng. Ahmed Jama Barre, and Deputy Minister of Resettlement and Humanitarian Affairs Abdirahman Shide Bile, conducted an inspection tour of the Salel and Awdal regions to assess the dire living conditions of residents and livestock. The food aid distribution was prioritized for the most vulnerable, particularly displaced pastoralists hardest hit by the ongoing drought.

Governor of Salel, Abdi Said Fahiye, emphasized the meticulous assessment process undertaken by the regional administration to ensure aid reached those in greatest need. "This food aid, generously donated by President Irro, is a lifeline for 1,000 families devastated by



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drought," he stated during the distribution event.

Ministers and officials present at the distribution sites underscored the aid's significance in alleviating the suffering of affected communities. Deputy Minister Bile further pledged to document displaced families to facilitate additional support tailored to their urgent needs.

The Somaliland government reaffirmed its commitment to addressing the humanitarian crisis in Salel and Awdal, vowing continued efforts to improve the welfare of residents and their livestock. This collaborative action highlights Somaliland's dedication to supporting its drought-stricken communities during challenging times.

Ministry of Investment

Education Minister and World.

Duale Yusuf, met with Mr. Ismail Ibrahim Ahmed, founder of World Remit, at his office. The meeting, attended by State Minister Mohamed Yusuf Ibrahim and Director General Abdirahman Hussein Haji Hirsi, focused on leveraging technology to enhance the national education system.

The discussions centered on the Sahamiye Foundation's role in advancing educational development, particularly through the reform of the national curriculum. Both parties emphasized the importance of collaboration to integrate modern technology into education, aiming to improve teaching methods and curriculum delivery across Somaliland.

Prof. Ismail Duale Yusuf highlighted the need for innovative solutions to address educational challenges, organizations like the Sahamiye Foundation, we can transform our education system to meet the demands of the 21st century."



Mr. Ismail Ibrahim Ahmed reaffirmed World Remit's commitment to supporting Somaliland's education sector, pledging to incorporate cutting-edge technology to drive progress. "We are dedicated to stating, "By partnering with ensuring that modern tools plav a pivotal role in shaping the future of education in Somaliland," he said. The meeting concluded with a mutual agreement to strengthen

cooperation, with both sides expressing optimism about the potential impact of technologydriven education reforms. This partnership marks a promising milestone in Somaliland's efforts to elevate its education system and prepare students for a rapidly evolving global landscape.



the Republic of Somaliland welcomed a high-level delegation from the Arab-Africa High-Level Economic Council at Hargeisa International Airport.

Ms. Hibaaq Ali Abdi, Director of the Investment Department, received the delegation. The welcoming party included senior ministry officials, business leaders, community representatives, and religious scholars.

delegation's purpose is a familiarization visit involving meetings with various institutions to explore investment opportunities in key sectors including livestock, fisheries, minerals, and broader trade. She emphasized the potential for establishing operational hubs within Somaliland.

Director Hibaag further noted that the growing interest from international investors in Somaliland is significantly influenced by the recent overseas visits of H.E. President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro.

delegation, The visiting headquartered in Saudi Arabia, was led by Ms. Hani Abu Zeid. Director Hibaaq stated that the

Somaliland Female Farmers from

Mohamoud Walaaleye

In a significant step toward empowering women in agriculture, Eng. Abdirizak Gass, Director General of the Somaliland Ministry of Agricultural Development, warmly welcomed a group of 15 female farmers from Oodweyne and Burao at the Ministry's headquarters in Hargeisa. The group embarked on an educational tour to enhance their

farming expertise and market knowledge. The women visited agricultural fields in Gabiley and Arabsiyo, including a farm established by the Taiwanese Embassy's ICDF agency near Arabsiyo, as well as Hargeisa's bustling vegetable market. The initiative, part of the Support for Agricultural Production and Quality Assurance (SPQA) project led by GIZ, focused on fostering knowledge exchange to boost agricultural productivity and market access for female farmers. Led by Fardows Osman Diiriye, a senior GIZ official, the tour aimed to equip the farmers with practical insights into modern farming techniques and effective market strategies. "This



visit is a vital opportunity for our female farmers to learn innovative practices and strengthen their role in Somaliland's agricultural sector," said Eng. Gass.

The SPQA project continues to bridge gaps in agricultural development, empowering women to drive sustainable growth and contribute to food security in Somaliland.

Sunday 20 July 2025 THT Sanaag residents warmly welcome peace.....





By M.A. Egge

The city of Erigavo hosted large event welcoming the peace initiatives extended by the President of the Republic of Somaliland, His Excellency Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro, for the brotherly clans living in the region.

The initiatives are part of the government's efforts to strengthen unity, harmonious coexistence and peace in the entire Sanaag region. The event was graced by the

Policy Development.

attendance of various segments of society, primarily the elderly, intellectuals, elders, traditional elders, and youth of Erigavo.

The elders and traditional elders who spoke at the event strongly praised the courageous step taken by the President of Somaliland, stating that they are ready to work to strengthen peace and brotherhood in the region.

They said that Sanaag region has people who have coexisted for centuries and that any disputes should be resolved through dialogue and consensus.

The president has repeatedly pledged that the government is committed to working for peace and development in all regions of the country, regardless of clan, region or vested interests.

This platform he has set for the area seems to bode well for the future of Sanaag region.

Livestock Minister Welcomes Mercy Corps to Discuss Livestock Development organizations like Mercy Corps to

inister of the Ministry of Livestock, Honorable Omar Shucayb Mohamed, accompanied by Director General Ahmed Osman Jama (Talo-same), held a productive meeting with representatives from Mercy Corps. The discussions focused on

bring transformative change to our livestock industry," said Minister Mohamed, "Their expertise in humanitarian and development programs will be invaluable in building a more resilient and prosperous future for our farmers and herders."

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Mercy Corps, a global humanitarian organization,



addressing critical challenges facing the livestock industry and exploring collaborative opportunities to enhance sustainable development.

The meeting underscored the importance of livestock as a cornerstone of Somaliland's economy, with Mercy Corps expressing their commitment to supporting initiatives aimed at improving animal health, market access, and resilience for pastoralist communities. Minister Mohamed emphasized the need for innovative solutions to tackle issues such as drought, disease outbreaks, and limited infrastructure, which continue to impact the sector.

"We are eager to partner with

is known for its work in supporting vulnerable communities through sustainable agricultural a n d economic development programs.

The organization's representatives highlighted their ongoing efforts in Somaliland and expressed optimism about deepening their collaboration with the Ministry to address pressing needs in the livestock sector.

Director General Ahmed Osman Jama noted that the partnership could pave the way for new projects, including training programs for veterinarians, improved supply chains, and community-based initiatives to empower livestockdependent households.

This meeting marks a promising development in Somaliland's efforts to strengthen its livestock industry, a vital source of livelihood for millions of Somalilanders.



land ownership, access to information, reintegration support, facilitating the homecoming of the diaspora-born children, essential services provision upon return, formalizing incentives to the diaspora and formulation of required regulatory frameworks, among other topics.

ýýKey insights highlighted:

Somaliland possesses a significant diaspora with substantial financial and intellectual resources currently underutilized.

ý* Structured engagement could unlock vital economic investment, innovation, and modern expertise. ý* The diaspora was encouraged to collaborate on major projects and investments, including Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), supported by enabling legislation and enhanced trust-building. Participants recommended ý* increasing consultative meetings

Government institution and all stakeholders.

ýDirector of the daspora Department, Ms. Ugbaad Nasir Omar closed the workshop, thanking attendees and announcing registration for the upcoming ,"Somaliland Diaspora Week Conference", (August 2-5, 2025, Serene Sarovar Hotel, Hargeisa).

ýPolicy Significance:

ýThe National Diaspora Policy finalization is a priority for the Foreign



UK, Mr. Mohamed Hassan Waes. ýýDuring the working sessions, the Diaspora Department presented draft document for the policy, and focused discussions on: Engagement: Strengthening Optimizing diaspora participation in national development and statebuilding, addressing Challenges: investment barriers, taxation system,

from Somaliland ministries and

agencies, representatives of

Somaliland missions, civil society

members, academics, researchers,

ýýForeign Minister Mr. Abdirahman

Daahir Aden Bakaal opened the

significance of the event. Remarks

were also delivered by the Director-

General of Foreign Affairs, Mr.

Mohamed Abdirahman Hassan,

Minister of Local Governments, Mr.

Hassan Mohamed Duale, Deputy

Ambassador of Somaliland to the

and

highlighted

and other stakeholders.

meeting

Ministry, aligned with the Unity and Action Government Agenda and the 3rd National Development Plan. Once ratified, this long-awaited policy will produce strategic frameworks, actionable programs, and impactful projects to elevate diaspora participation and service delivery, marking a significant step in leveraging this vital national asset.



expected to ease traffic flow and boost the nation's development, reflecting Taiwan's commitment to fostering partnerships through development aid.

This event is part of a broader context of Taiwan's diplomatic strategy in Africa, where it seeks to expand its influence and challenge dubbed China's "One China" policy. Republic of Somaliland, which reclaimed its independence from Somalia in 1991 but remains unrecognized by the international community, has established a unique relationship with Taiwan,



including the opening of representative offices in each other's capitals.

The inauguration of "Taiwan Avenue" symbolizes not only infrastructural development but also the deepening of bilateral ties, highlighting Taiwan's role in supporting Somaliland's aspirations for recognition and development. As both nations navigate complex geopolitical landscapes, this collaboration stands as a testament to their shared commitment to mutual benefit and international engagement.

Taiwan and Somaliland Inaugurate.....

and knowledge-sharing forums

The ceremony, attended by Taiwan's Ambassador Hon. Allen C. Leu, Somaliland's Foreign Minister Hon. Abdirahman Dahir, Mayor of Hargeisa Cllr. Abdikarim A. Mooge, Somaliland Taiwan Envoy Hon. Mohamoud Jama Adan Galaal and

different officials and guests invited underscores growing the cooperation between the two nations despite Taiwan's lack of widespread international recognition. The infrastructure

project, funded by the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the local government, aims to enhance connectivity and support economic activity in one of Hargeisa's busiest areas. The road's rehabilitation is

Sunday 20 July 2025

Somaliland Forces Celebrate Historic Salary Increase Somaliland Budget.....as President Irro Delivers on Campaign Promise

THT



The Government of the Republic of Somaliland has ushered in a new era of support for its national forces with the official implementation of a long-awaited salary increase, fulfilling a key promise made by President H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi Irro. This landmark initiative, hailed as a significant step toward strengthening the backbone of Somaliland's security, has been met with widespread appreciation from the nation's diverse forces.

According to reports from Dawan newspaper, by the end of June 2025, all branches of Somaliland's armed forces received their salaries, which included an increase of 540,000 SL Shillings. This raise aligns with a presidential decree issued earlier this year, outlining a strategic plan to enhance the welfare of the military and police through incremental salary hikes.

Voices from the Forces: A Renewed Sense of Hope

Ridwaan Mahmoud Hussein, a member of the Somaliland Police Force, expressed his gratitude to Dawan Media, confirming the receipt of the salary increase. "At the end of June, we received the first salary increment. It's a great step forward. I hope the government continues to increase our salaries annually to achieve the President's promised 250% raise," Ridwaan said. He emphasized the potential for the increase to improve the lives of soldiers' families, provided challenges like inflation and dollar exchange rates are addressed. "This raise is something to be thankful for, but tackling inflation is crucial to ensure its full impact," he added.

Other members of Somaliland's forces, speaking to Dawan Media echoed Ridwaan's sentiments, describing the raise as a "new dawn" for the military. They noted that the increase, long anticipated, has boosted morale and reaffirmed their commitment to serving the nation. A Strategic Vision for Security

President Irro announced the salary increase during the inauguration of the renovated Western Division and Central Police Station in Hargeisa, underscoring his administration's dedication to the forces. "My government is fully committed to improving the welfare of our forces, enhancing their training, and increasing their salaries," he declared. "Our forces are the backbone of national security, and their livelihoods cannot be overlooked. This salary increase is part of our broader plan to strengthen and support them."

The initiative is closely tied to a comprehensive census of Somaliland's forces conducted

earlier this year. The census ensured transparency and accuracy in salary distribution by verifying active personnel and eliminating discrepancies. Hamse Ali Bulbul, the President's Media Advisor, highlighted. "The census removed any room for error, ensuring that the salary increase is transparent, fair, and accurate. It guarantees that only eligible personnel receive compensation, preventing payments to nonexistent soldiers.' A Step Toward a Brighter Future The salary increase is more than a financial boost; it is a powerful political signal and a tangible fulfillment of campaign promises that Somalilanders have awaited for years. By prioritizing the welfare of the forces, President Irro's administration is fostering a stable security environment and reinforcing national pride and duty among the troops. However, the success of this

However, the success of this initiative hinges on addressing economic challenges such as inflation and the high dollar exchange rate, which could erode the benefits of the raise if left unchecked. If the government achieves its goal of a 250% salary increase over the five-year term, it could transform the lives of military families and solidify Somaliland's security framework.

Looking Ahead

The salary increase marks a promising start to President Irro's tenure, demonstrating his commitment to actionable change. As Somaliland moves forward, the government's focus on transparency, fairness, and the wellbeing of its forces sets a strong foundation for a secure and prosperous future. The nation's forces, reinvigorated by this support, stand ready to continue safeguarding Somaliland's peace and stability.

- AR

headquarters in Hargeisa. Chaired by Finance Minister Abdillahi Hassan Adan, the meeting brought together key figures, including the Ministers of Health Development, Water Resources Development, Education and Science, Agricultural Development, Communications and Technology, the Deputy Minister of Transport and Road Development, the Director General of the Ministry of Finance, and the Government's Chief Accountant.

The committee reviewed the

the SLPA National Tour marked a significant moment for the Somaliland diaspora in the Pacific Northwest.

A Day of Inspiration and Remembrance

The event featured a lineup of distinguished speakers, including Dr. Jamal Gabobe of the University of Washington, who delivered a compelling talk on "Somaliland's Past, Present, and Future." Dr. Gabobe, a respected scholar with deep ties to Somaliland's history, showcased his authored books, sparking profound discussions on identity and literature. Other speakers included Khadar Nur from WA State Labor & Employment, who focused on workforce development, and community leaders Ahmed Ali and Nura Adam, who emphasized unity and empowerment.

The gathering took a poignant turn with a tribute to three beloved community members lost to tragedy: Mohamed Abdi Hadi and Musa Abdillahi Firirig, victims of recent devastating floods in Hargeisa, and Amir Abdillahi Firirig, killed in a gun violence incident in Seattle. The floods, which displaced 270 families according to ReliefWeb reports, prompted the SLPA to launch a sadaqah jariyah initiative to build a mosque, Quran learning center, and funeral washing facility in their honor-a lasting memorial to their legacy.

Budget Outlook Paper presented by the Ministry of Finance, laying the groundwork for the 2026 budget policy.

Discussions focused on Somaliland's economic landscape, global economic trends, and potential challenges, emphasizing strategies to strengthen national resilience and preparedness.

This meeting marks a critical step in shaping Somaliland's fiscal priorities for the upcoming year, with a commitment to sustainable development and economic stability.

lunch from Café Turko during intermission, fostering connections among members. The event concluded with a scenic gathering at Golden Gardens Park, where Black Stash Coffee served tea and coffee against the backdrop of the beach and mountains, offering a space for relaxed dialogue and community bonding.

Growing Diaspora Influence

This event reflects a broader trend of increasing diaspora engagement, with studies from the Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies (2023) noting a 15% rise in transnational community activities since 2020. The SLPA's efforts highlight the growing influence of organized diaspora networks in supporting their country of origin Somaliland, particularly in the face of natural disasters and social challenges.

What's Next?

With the success of the Seattle event, the SLPA is gearing up for more stops on its national tour. Details on upcoming cities are forthcoming, promising continued momentum for the Somaliland diaspora's mission of leadership and community building.

Somaliland Professional Diaspora Unites in Seattle for Historic Community Event



In a powerful display of unity and hosted its largest regional event yet resilience, the Somaliland on July 12, 2025, at the Ballard Professionals of America (SLPA) Public Library Conference Room in

Seattle. Drawing over 125 attendees from Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia, the third stop on #SLPA #SeattleSLPA #Somaliland # D i a s p o r a L e a d e r s h i p # S a d a q a h J a r i y a h #PNWCommunity

Attendees enjoyed a Mediterranean

Spotlight

Community and Culture in the

Sunday 20 July 2025 THT **Somaliland and World Bank Review Progress on Electricity Sector Recovery Project (SESRP) in Nairobi**



A high-level delegation from Somaliland, led by Dr. Shucayb Osman Mahmoud, Director General of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, and Mohamed Mahmoud Abdi (Malow), Director General of Somaliland the Energy Commission, concluded a 10-day meeting in Nairobi with the World Bank to evaluate the mid-term progress of the Somaliland Electricity Sector Recovery Project (SESRP).

The meeting focused on assessing the project's implementation, reviewing initial objectives, addressing challenges, and planning the completion of



remaining components.

Detailed discussions covered the achievements of the past six months and set new strategies for the final half of 2025.

The SESRP Implementation Unit presented comprehensive reports on the project's four key components, while the Energy Sector Working Group (ESWG) highlighted advancements in stakeholder coordination and alignment with Somaliland's 2025 national energy goals.

The Ministry of Energy and Minerals showcased significant strides in

developing Somaliland's energy policy, a 10-year strategic plan, and the Somaliland Energy Law. These initiatives aim to deliver affordable, reliable, and safe electricity to Somaliland's communities, sourced from diverse energy resources.

Dr. Shucayb Osman Mahmoud emphasized, "This collaboration with the World Bank is a critical step toward transforming Somaliland's energy sector, ensuring sustainable and accessible electricity for all citizens."

The SESRP, supported by a \$20 million World Bank investment, includes key projects like the electricity expansion in Berbera, launched in March 2025, and the ongoing tender process for Borama's electricity expansion, reflecting Somaliland's commitment to improving energy access nationwide.

The meeting marks a pivotal moment in Somaliland's efforts to strengthen its energy infrastructure, with both parties expressing optimism about achieving the project's goals by the end of 2025.

Somaliland Government's Swift **Response to Drought Crisis: A Model** of Humanitarian Responsibility



In a powerful display of leadership and compassion, the Somaliland government, under President H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi Irro, has mounted an effective response to the severe drought that has devastated the coastal regions of Awdal, Sahil. By delivering urgent food aid to over 4,200 families, the administration has demonstrated not only its executive capacity but also a deep commitment to addressing the humanitarian crisis with transparency, efficiency, and accountability.

Unlike responses that rely solely on promises, the President Irro administration has translated its commitment into action through a well-coordinated relief plan targeting the hardest-hit coastal areas. This initiative reflects a political resolve to ensure equality and foster development across all segments of Somaliland's society, setting a precedent for responsible governance.

At the forefront of this effort is Abdirahman Mohamed Ismail (Dixood), Director of the Somaliland National Disaster Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority. His leadership, marked by transparency and dedication, has been instrumental in assessing needs and implementing solutions. Dixood's clear and detailed reports on the crisis and the government's response have built trust, showcasing a level of integrity that strengthens public confidence in

society. This partnership, facilitated by institutions such as the National Disaster Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority and the Ministry of Planning, highlights Somaliland's political maturity and administrative capacity to manage emergencies. By fostering cooperation across sectors, the government has maximized the impact of its relief efforts, delivering tangible results to vulnerable communities.

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government However, the acknowledges the scale of the crisis exceeds its current resources. Director Dixood has openly addressed the financial constraints, issuing a heartfelt call for support from businesses, international organizations, and civil society. This appeal underscores the need for national unity and collective action, emphasizing that the success of the relief effort is a shared responsibility requiring the involvement of all Somalilanders.

While the food aid provided marks the first significant assistance since distress calls emerged from these regions, the needs in rural Awdal and Sahil regions remain immense, particularly for food and water. This initial aid serves as a critical lifeline, but it is only the beginning of addressing broader the humanitarian challenges.

President Irro's administration response to the drought is more than a short-term intervention-it is an opportunity to strengthen public institutions, support vulnerable communities, and build a foundation for long-term resilience. By prioritizing unity, transparency, and strategic action, the government is laying the groundwork for a united and prosperous Somaliland that serves all its citizens. As Somaliland navigates this crisis, the government's leadership offers a beacon of hope and a model of humanitarian responsibility. This effort is a testament to the nation's potential to overcome challenges through collective action, setting a course for a brighter, more resilient future.

Education Ministry and Local Governments Unite to Strengthen Primary Education

Mohamoud Walaaleye

In a pivotal step toward enhancing primary education through decentralized governance, a highlevel meeting was convened at the Rep of Somaliland Ministry of Education's headquarters in Hargeisa. The gathering, aimed at fostering collaboration between the Ministry of Education and local governments, brought together key figures to discuss strategies for improving educational systems



session, underscoring the critical

Minister Ismail officially opened the budget allocations to ensure robust support for educational initiatives.

across Hargeisa, Berbera, and Gabiley.

The meeting was led by Prof. Ismail Ducale Yusuf, Minister of Education, and Science, with Abdirahman Hussein Hirsi, Director General of the Ministry of Education, by his side. Joining them were the Director General of the Ministry of Local Government and Urban Development, Hargeisa Mayor Abdirahman Ahmed Mooge, Berbera Mayor Abdishakur Mohamed Hassan, and Gabiley Mayor Abdirashid Haybe Farah.

role of cooperation between the Ministry and local governments. He highlighted the need for streamlined financial mechanisms and regulatory frameworks to bolster primary education, a cornerstone for Somaliland's development.

Key presentations were delivered by Hussein Sitiin, Head of the Ministry's Legal Department, and Abdigadir Ise, Liaison Officer for the Ministry and Local Governments. They outlined actionable plans for data sharing, legal procedures, and

The meeting concluded with a commitment to strengthen financial protocols, governance regulations, and resource distribution. All parties agreed to prioritize transparent data exchange and adherence to existing laws to drive progress in primary education.

This collaborative effort marks a milestone significant in Somaliland's push for decentralized education governance, setting the stage for improved access and quality of schooling in the region.

the administration.

The relief effort, grounded in an 11day assessment of the most affected areas, including Lughaya, Borama, Baki, Saylac, Laasciidle, Lasa-Dacawo, Bullaxar, and Mandhera, was meticulously planned to address specific environmental and community needs. This data-driven approach ensured that aid was prioritized effectively, reaching those in greatest need.

A key strength of Somaliland's response has been its collaboration with international organizations like the World Food Programme (WFP), as well as local businesses and civil

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THT Puzzle

Prepaired by: Abdillahi Said Muhummed

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Hargeisa International Book.....



fair in the Horn of Africa. Under the theme "Africa," the event brings together authors, poets, artists, and over 10,000 visitors to promote reading, writing, and Somali culture. Hargeisa will resonate with pages and words during the 18th edition of the Hargeisa International Book Fair (HIBF), the largest literary event in the Horn of Africa. This year, Zambia will be the guest of honor, and the central theme, simply titled "Africa," highlights the richness and diversity of both contemporary and historical African literature.

A hundred cultural figures gathered

Over six days, the fair will bring together authors, poets, publishers, artists, journalists, and cultural activists from Somaliland, neighboring Somalia, and across the continent. With over 10,000 visitors expected, the discussions will cover a wide range of topics: oral storytelling, Somali poetry, the fight for access to reading, children's rights, and women's participation in literary creation.

Workshops, debates, and performances

The program includes public readings, panel discussions on freedom of expression, poetry and writing workshops, artistic performances, and illustrator exhibitions. A special section for children promotes youth literature, while the fair facilitates interaction between African authors and both local and international readers. Cultural impact and role

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Founded in 2008, the HIBF has become a cornerstone of cultural dialogue and literacy promotion in East Africa. It plays a vital role in building a strong cultural identity for Somaliland, despite its lack of international recognition. The fair fosters freedom of expression, civic empowerment, and education, while also contributing to the local economy through the influx of national and foreign visitors. Outlook and challenges

The 2025 edition aims to strengthen literary exchange between Southern and Eastern Africa, promote book publishing in African languages, and encourage



greater female representation in the publishing industry. By placing literature at the heart of the event, the HIBF establishes itself as a cultural showcase for an ambitious Somaliland—future-focused and open to the world.

Sunday 20 July 2025

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Somaliland's Qoolcaday Bank Closure Project: A Milestone in Environmental and Rural Development



In a bold and innovative move, the Somaliland government, under the leadership of President H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro, has launched a transformative initiative aimed at fostering environmental sustainable management and improving the livelihoods of rural communities. The Qoolcaday Bank Closure Project, spearheaded by the Ministry of Livestock and Rural Development, marks a significant shift in governance, emphasizing community participation, resource protection, and transparent decision-making.

According to a detailed report by Ahmed M. Saleebaan, Editor-in-Chief of Dawan Newspaper, the project is built on three critical pillars essential for the future of Somaliland's rural communities: community-driven environmental governance, the preservation of natural resources, and the establishment of robust legal frameworks. These pillars reflect the government's commitment to fostering sustainable development while addressing the pressing challenges posed by climate change.

A New Approach to Governance The Qoolcaday Bank Closure Project represents a departure from traditional top-down decisionmaking, which often sidelined local communities. Instead, the initiative prioritizes consultation and collaboration, ensuring that the voices of rural residents are central to its planning and execution. This shift underscores the government's vision of inclusive governance, policies impacting where communities and their environment are developed with their active involvement. To engage local communities, a high-level delegation led by Deputy Minister of Livestock and Rural Development, Mr. Ali Ahmed Abdi, alongside Director-General Mr. Ahmed Osman Jama (Talo-same) and other ministry officials, conducted an awareness and information-sharing campaign in the Salaxlay District. The delegation visited key areas under the Qoolcaday Bank, including Dhimbiryaale, Qoolcaday, Aadan-Abokor, Bali Case, and Gaydhka. Their mission was to inform residents about the project's objectives and encourage their participation in its implementation. A Strategic Response to Environmental Challenges

The Qoolcaday Bank, a vital ecological and economic resource, particularly during droughts, serves as a lifeline for rural communities and their livestock. The project aims to establish a formal protection system to ensure environmental sustainability, efficient rainwater utilization, preservation of livestock fodder, and the management of daily rural livelihoods. By addressing these critical needs, the initiative aligns with Somaliland's national agenda for sustainable development and climate resilience.

The Ministry has emphasized

transparency, clarifying that the project is not designed to favor any specific group, nor does it rely on secretive agreements. This commitment to openness strengthens public trust and reinforces the government's dedication to equitable resource management.

A Model for Modern Governance The Qoolcaday Bank Closure Project is more than an environmental initiative; it is a historic opportunity to build a modern governance system rooted in consultation, transparency, and resource sharing. By fostering collaboration between the government and its citizens, the project sets a precedent for how Somaliland can manage its natural resources effectively while empowering local communities. This initiative also enhances the credibility of the Ministry of Livestock and Rural Development and lays the groundwork for comprehensive legislation to govern natural resources. As Somaliland navigates the challenges of climate change and sustainable development, the Qoolcaday Bank Closure Project stands as a testament to the government's forward-thinking leadership and its commitment to improving the lives of its people. In conclusion, the Qoolcaday Bank

Closure Project is a beacon of hope for Somaliland's rural communities and a model for other nations striving to balance environmental protection with inclusive governance. Through this initiative, Somaliland is not only safeguarding its natural resources but also building a brighter, more sustainable future for its people.

Somaliland Parliament Bolsters Legislative Development with Max Planck Foundation Partnership



In a significant step toward enhancing legislative processes, Hon. Yasin Haji Mahmoud Hiir (Faraton), Speaker of the Somaliland House of Representatives, and First Deputy Speaker Hon. Said Mire Farah (Giire) welcomed senior officials from the Max Planck Foundation to discuss their ongoing collaboration. Held at the Speaker's office, the meeting focused on a key project nearing completion, aimed at modernizing parliamentary systems and advancing legislative development in Somaliland.

The Max Planck Foundation briefed the Speakers on the project's successes, emphasizing its role in strengthening Somaliland's legislative framework and enhancing parliamentary efficiency. Speaker Faraton commended the foundation's contributions, noting, "This partnership has been instrumental in transforming our legislative processes and empowering our members." Both parties expressed enthusiasm for future cooperation to build on these achievements.

From February 19–23, 2025, the Max Planck Foundation conducted its third training-of-trainers workshop for legal advisors embedded in Somaliland's

Parliament. The program covered topics, including critical Constitution-Making vs. Constitutional Amendment Processes, Political Parties Organisation, Electoral Systems, Local Government and Organisation. Additionally, five legal capacity-building workshops were held in Hargeisa for parliamentarians, addressing Independence of the Judiciary, Organisation of the Judiciary and Court Structures, Legislative Drafting, National Budget Processes, and Adoption of International Treaties and Conventions. Each session analyzed Somaliland's constitutional and legal framework through а comparative constitutional law lens. Further supporting the parliament, the Max Planck Foundation, with

the Max Planck Foundation, with funding from the European Union, delivered 124 volumes of legal literature under the project Legal Capacity Building and Advice for the Legislative Branch of Government in Somaliland. This initiative has significantly enhanced lawmakers' skills and parliamentary operations, fostering good governance and institutional development in Somaliland.

Somaliland Cabinet Unanimously Approves Education Policy; Addresses Security, Economy, and Health Concerns

By Goth Mohamed Goth

The 27th Session of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Somaliland, chaired by H.E. President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi (Cirro) and attended by H.E. Vice President Mohamed Ali Aw Adbi, was held on Wednesday at the Presidential Palace. **Key agenda items discussed included:**



continuous monitoring, strict enforcement of commercial licensing requirements, and safeguarding citizens from untrained health service providers and medications.

4. Approval of the National Education Policy

The Council held extensive deliberations on the long-pending National Education Policy. Ministers underscored the critical need to modernize the education system and elevate quality standards. The Minister of Education, Science, and Technology, Professor Ismail Ducaale Yusuf, affirmed his ministry's commitment to implementing a contemporary curriculum aligned with global benchmarks and national development goals. Following discussions, the President formally tabled the Education Policy for approval. The Council of Ministers unanimously endorsed the policy with no objections or abstentions.

1. National Security and Stability Briefing

The Minister of Interior and National Security, Mr. Abdirashid Mohamed Ahmed (Magaalo), provided an update on recent security incidents in Dhahar District and the current situation. The Minister assured the Council that despite routine criminal activities and traffic accidents, overall national security remains stable with no significant threats or

disruptions.

2. Economic Development Strategy

The Minister of Finance and National Development, Mr. Abdullahi Hassan Aden (Chair of the National Economic Committee), and the Deputy Minister, Mr. Ismail Mawlid Abdullahi, jointly presented a comprehensive strategy for accelerating Somaliland's economic growth. They outlined plans to boost domestic production

by prioritizing investment promotion, industrial support, income enhancement, and policy reforms. Key sectors targeted include livestock, fisheries, agriculture, textiles, dairy, and mining. 3. Public Health Situation Report Health Minister of The Development, Dr. Hussein Bashir Hirsi, highlighted public health risks posed by unregulated pharmacies and private healthcare facilities. He emphasized the urgent need for



