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President Abdirahman Irro affirms upholding peaceful stability and democratic principles as he meets regional EU special representative

The EU special rep praises the President for pragmatic leadership laden with wisdom in a volatile region



By M.A. Egge

The President of the Republic of Somaliland, His Excellency Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro today received at the Presidential Palace a high-level delegation led by the European Union (EU)

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President says Qatari trip opened diplomatic door shut for over three decades

By M.A. Egge

The President of the Republic of Somaliland H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro has described his visit to Qatar as a new page of a new chapter in the country's foreign

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Somaliland Breaks Ground on First 10 Kilometers of Balligubadle-Hargeisa Road

Mohamoud Walaaleye

In a significant step toward improving regional connectivity, the Somaliland Road Development Agency has begun laying asphalt for the first ten-

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Ministry of Agriculture Sends Experts to Taiwan for Advanced Training



Mohamoud Walaaleye

In a significant step toward modernizing its agricultural sector, the Ministry of Agricultural Development of Somaliland today officially

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Historic Visit by Somaliland President to Qatar Sparks New Era of Cooperation

Mohamoud Walaaleye

President H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro of the Republic of Somaliland concluded a landmark official visit to Qatar, marking the first trip by a

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Local Government Minister, Swiss Delegation meet to Enhance Bilateral Cooperation

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Somaliland and Taiwan Forge New Economic Partnership in Energy and Mining Sectors

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Somaliland Ministry of Energy and Minerals hosted a landmark meeting with a

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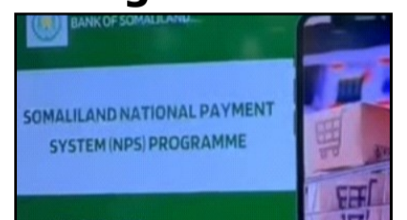


Somaliland Central Bank Hosts Key Stakeholders for National Payment System Development Program Launch

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Central Bank of Somaliland convened a pivotal consultative meeting at its headquarters to lay the

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DP World Showcases Women Leaders in Global Logistics

A compelling video Dr Sheen Gurrib from TikTok user @sheengurrib, has recently highlighted the pivotal roles of women in leadership positions

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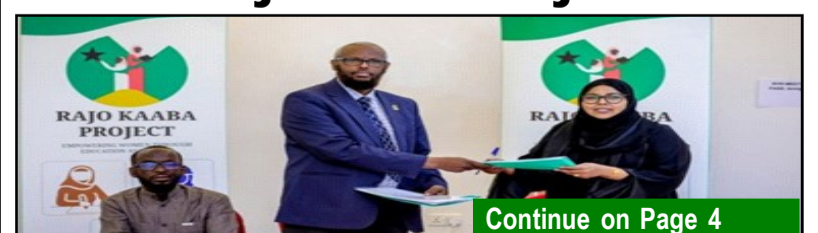


Ministry of Finance Announces Strategic Review of 2024-2028 Plan



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Education minister, World Bank, initiate Rajo Kaaba Project



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President Abdirahman Irro.....

Representative for the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea, Ambassador Annette Weber.

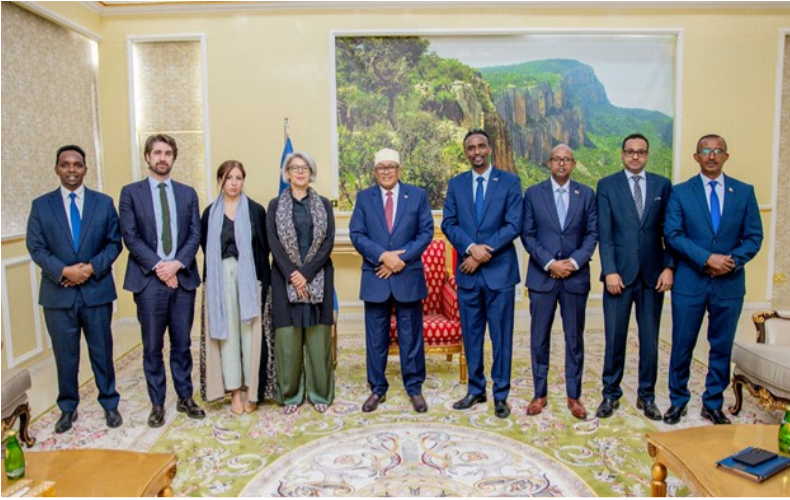
The meeting focused on strengthening cooperation and collaboration between the Republic of Somaliland and the European Union (EU).

According to a press release from the Presidency, the Head of State thanked the Special Representative and her delegation for their historic visit to Somaliland. In addition, the President expressed his appreciation for the support and development assistance provided by the European Union to Somaliland, particularly in the areas of governance and institutional building, infrastructure, education, water, food security, strengthening democracy, environment and climate change.

During the meeting, the President assured the EU of the unwavering commitment of the Somaliland government to maintaining peace, stability and democratic order in the Horn of Africa region.

The President told the EU Representative that his government gives top priority to strengthening peaceful coexistence among all Somaliland people.

He highlighting the significant achievements of the new administration during its short term



in office; such as the extension of an unconditional peace agreement in the Eastern Sool region, the cessation of hostilities in the Sanaag region and the nationalization of over 6,000 civilian forces and their weaponry and armoured vehicles through tasks and efforts that Somaliland did herself without receiving any foreign assistance. On the other hand, the President clearly indicated the security and strategic role of the Republic of Somaliland in ensuring the security of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, given the country's coastline of more than 800 km along the said waterway, which makes it necessary that a blind eye should not be turned to Somaliland. For her part, the Ms. Annette Weber, thanked the President for the warm welcome she received during her

historic visit to Somaliland. She praised the him for his pragmatic leadership that is laden with wisdom, given that Somaliland is located in a region characterized by conflict and instability. On the other hand, the EU Representative commended Somaliland for the peace, stability and mature democratic process in Somaliland, expressing the EU's readiness to engage with Somaliland, exploring ways to strengthen cooperation between the two sides, in order to achieve shared and sustainable goals. In conclusion, both sides recognized the need to further strengthen genuine cooperation between the two sides and a shared vision for sustainable peace and inclusive development in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea region.

Somaliland Breaks Ground on.....

kilometer section of the long-awaited Balligubadle-Hargeisa road. The milestone was marked with a ceremony attended by government ministers and agency officials, signaling a commitment to infrastructure development in the region. The newly paved section connects Gunburaha district to Magaalo Haali, addressing one of the most challenging stretches of the route. Described as utilizing high-quality asphalt carpeting, the project is expected to enhance transportation efficiency and safety, according to officials from the Somaliland Road Development Agency and the Ministry of Transport and Road Development.

This development follows President Muse Bihi Abdi's recent foundation-laying ceremony, fulfilling a decades-long promise made by successive Somaliland administrations over the past 30 years. The road is anticipated to boost economic activity and improve access for communities in the Hawd region and the border, who have expressed enthusiasm and optimism about the project's progress. "The government's dedication to unity and action is evident in this transformative project," a ministry official stated. Local residents echoed this sentiment, celebrating the road as a vital link for trade and travel.



The Balligubadle-Hargeisa Road project is part of Somaliland's broader efforts to modernize its infrastructure, with officials pledging to complete the remaining sections in a timely manner. Further updates on the project's progress are expected as construction continues.

Ministry of Agriculture Sends Experts.....

dispatched two of its expert staff members to Taiwan for specialized training. The move, spearheaded by Minister Mohamed Cige Yusuf and supported by the Director of the Research and Extension Department, marks a new chapter in the region's efforts to enhance food security and agricultural innovation. The selected staff, both from the research and extension department, will undergo an intensive program focused on cutting-edge agricultural techniques. The training aims to achieve the following key objectives:

- Elevating Research Skills: Equipping participants with advanced skills in modern agricultural research to address

local challenges.

- Mastering New Technologies: Introducing innovative production methods to boost crop yields and sustainability.
- Strengthening Bilateral Ties: Fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange between Somaliland and Taiwan in agricultural development.
- Building Expertise: Developing a cadre of technicians proficient in modern agricultural technology to drive future progress.

Minister Yusuf hailed the initiative as a "crucial opportunity" to enhance the Ministry's capacity, stating, "This training will empower our staff with the expertise needed to transform agricultural productivity, ultimately improving the livelihoods of our farmers." The program is expected

to yield long-term benefits, aligning with Somaliland's broader goals of revitalizing its agricultural sector, which remains a cornerstone of the economy despite ongoing regional challenges. This development comes amid heightened interest in agricultural advancement across the Horn of Africa, as Somaliland looks to Taiwan—a global leader in vertical farming and agricultural technology—the training could pave the way for future partnerships and investments. The staff are scheduled to return with actionable insights, potentially revolutionizing local farming practices and contributing to the Somaliland's resilience against climate and conflict-related disruptions.

President says Qatari

affairs that has opened a new diplomatic door that was shut for the past three-decades plus, as he briefed the members of the cabinet on the visit.

He lauded the efforts of the residents of Sanaag region and the fire-fighting department for their efforts in combating the forest fires that had swept the Daallo mountains over the week razing down sizable amounts of frankincense and myrrh trees that have been thriving in the area for centuries.

Apart from the valuable produce razed, the blaze also affected some villages.

The President noted that there were no lives lost in the fires and that the government will immediately dispatch relief aid to the affected farmers residing in the areas concerned

The Head of State likewise has likewise revealed that he has constituted a task-force to delve into the issues that caused the land issues skirmishes that has resulted in two fatalities at Agabar in Gabiley region on Wednesday.

However in latest development, the issues have so far been subsequently addressed in the evening of the same day after an accord was struck, thanks to the swift action of the task-force.

He sent his personal condolences and, on behalf of the nation, to the believed members of the families concerned, and to Somalilanders as a whole.

He called for restraint on the part of the belligerents while pointing out that he was confident that the task-force would address the bones of contention diligently to a close.

President Abdirahman Irro expressed his sentiments as he chaired the 25th Session of the Cabinet meeting on Thursday, a day after jetting back from the first ever sitting president of the country's official visit to Qatar.

The President, who was flanked by his deputy, the VP H.E. Mohamed Ali aw Abdi briefed the council of the ministers about his visit in general, and in particular, he underpinned its importance in strengthening diplomatic, security, economic relations and development cooperation between Somaliland and Qatar.

The President informed the Cabinet that during their working trip to Qatar, he and his delegation participated in at least nine high profile fruitful meetings.

The President also said that his delegation also held special meetings with the Somaliland community in Qatar who included businessmen, academics, intellectuals and youth leaders.

The President made it clear that his week-long official trip to Qatar is part and parcel of the strategic policies embedded in his administration, dubbed "Togetherness and Action", that focuses, on fledging diplomatic



sector, bolstering economic development, and also widening the scope of Somaliland scope of influence in the Gulf region.

He said that apart from the crucial meeting he had with the Qatari Premier who is also the country's foreign minister Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdirahman Althaani, he also met the influential State minister for foreign affairs Dr. Mohamed bin Abdiaziz Alkhulayfi, and that of the external commerce ministry Dr, Ahmed Al Sayid, security affairs officials and those of the Qatarese Development fund and Qatar Charity amongst others.

The president pointed out that the Qatarese government has welcomed the Somaliland government by showing their intent in initiating a sound diplomatic relationship with the country based on mutual respect and cooperation. He added that his hosts expressed interests in the investment opportunities in Somaliland especially in the areas of infrastructural development, energy, agricultural, livestock and mineral sectors.

He said that major focus was also shed on security cooperation in bolstering the security situation in the Horn region as concerns combatting and/or forestalling terrorism, human trafficking, piracy and associated threats prevalent in the region.

The establishing of direct cooperation on the security sector between the two countries was high on the table, according to the President.

Other areas of relations focused on cooperation on religious, social and cultural sectors, with the aim of initiating support for the less fortunate Muslims in the country.

President Abdirahman Irro informed the ministers that the Qatarese trip opened one of the doors that was closed for over three decades, he disclosed that technical papers to cement the agreements would be initiated and set the ball rolling for a new partnership based on trust and brethren-ship that is deemed to take the cooperation of the two nations to higher and greater lengths.

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Somaliland and Taiwan Forge New.....



business delegation from the Taiwan Business Association, signaling a significant step toward deepening economic ties between the two nations.

The meeting, held in Hargeisa, focused on exploring investment opportunities in Somaliland's energy and mining sectors, with both sides expressing enthusiasm for future collaboration. Chaired by Somaliland's Minister of Energy and Minerals, Eng. Ahmed Jama Barre, the meeting included key figures such as the Ministry's Director General, Dr. Shucayb Osman Mahmoud, departmental heads, the Minister's project advisor, and Somaliland's Ambassador to Taiwan, Mahmoud Adan Jama (Galaal).

The Taiwanese delegation presented ambitious plans for investment in Somaliland, targeting industries such as energy infrastructure, mining, and the utilization of the nation's natural resources.

Discussions centered on several critical areas: Renewable Energy Development: The delegation explored opportunities in solar, wind, and geothermal energy, aiming to support Somaliland's goal of establishing a unified electricity grid to enhance energy access.

Mining and Natural Resources: The talks highlighted Somaliland's vast mineral wealth, including lithium, which is critical for the global battery industry. The delegation expressed interest in advancing mining operations and potentially establishing a lithium battery manufacturing plant in Somaliland, following the issuance of a large-scale mining license to a Taiwanese company earlier this year.

Investment Frameworks: Both sides reviewed Somaliland's legal and

regulatory frameworks for foreign investment in the mining sector, ensuring a conducive environment for Taiwanese businesses.

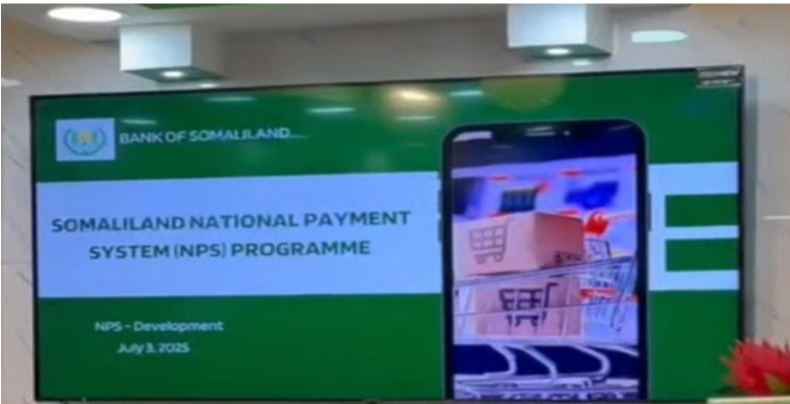
The meeting underscored Somaliland's growing appeal as an investment destination, bolstered by over three decades of peace and democratic governance. The Taiwanese delegation praised Somaliland's stability and potential, expressing a commitment to supporting sustainable development through technical expertise and capital investment.

Minister Barre emphasized Somaliland's open-door policy for foreign investors, noting, "We welcome partnerships with Taiwan and other nations to unlock our energy and mineral potential, driving economic growth and supporting our quest for international recognition."

The Taiwanese delegation's visit follows a series of high-profile international engagements for Somaliland, including recent investment talks with the United Arab Emirates and a historic diplomatic visit to Qatar by President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro. These efforts highlight Somaliland's strategic push to expand its economic and diplomatic footprint, particularly in energy, mining, and infrastructure.

Both parties concluded the meeting with optimism, pledging to pursue concrete projects that will foster economic growth and sustainable development in Somaliland. The collaboration is expected to pave the way for innovative energy solutions and high-value mineral processing, positioning Somaliland as a key player in the global energy and mining markets

Somaliland Central.....



groundwork for the National Payment System Development Program, a transformative initiative aimed at modernizing the country's financial infrastructure. The meeting brought together key stakeholders, including private banks, financial institutions, and remittance organizations, to collaborate on the implementation of this ambitious program and its associated regulations.

The primary objective of the

meeting was to foster cooperation among the Central Bank of Somaliland, private banks, financial institutions, and other stakeholders to ensure the successful rollout of the *National Payment System Development Program*. This initiative is designed to enhance the efficiency, security, and accessibility of financial transactions across Somaliland, reducing reliance on cash and promoting digital

President says Qatari trip.....

cooperation said that, from all perspectives, the Qatar trip was a success and a positive development for our nation, which further strengthens the position and status of Somaliland on the security and strategic agenda of the region.

The cabinet session heard usual briefs on their weekly agendas from the ministries of interior, finance, education, environment, and livestock development, with plans of exporting the livestock to the country

of Oman.

It is worth noting that the trip followed special invitation to the President by the Qatarese government.

While respective ministers gave their reports, it is worth noting that the education minister dwelt on the just finished annual national schools' examination exercises.

The environmental minister Hon. Abdillahi Osman Geljire spoke at length on the Daallo mountains fires, its extent, how it was dealt with and

extinguished, lessons learned and the most appropriate way to prepare for future fire disasters.

On his part, the Minister of Investment and Industrial Development Hon. Said Mohamed Burale, briefed the cabinet on the security situation of Badan and highlighted the steps that need to be taken by the Government.

DP World Showcases.....

within the global logistics and trade industry, focusing on DP World, a leading multinational logistics company. The video features interviews with several high-ranking female employees who are making significant contributions to the operations of various DP World ports worldwide.

Key figures in the video include women who manage advanced technologies to ensure efficient flow and accident response, oversee operations with decades of experience, and facilitate the movement of goods that support national economies. Their responsibilities range from utilizing cutting-edge technology in traffic operations to managing facilities and projects that enhance operational efficiency, and even overseeing interisland transport hubs that facilitate daily logistics.

The video not only showcases the professional achievements of these women but also emphasizes the broader impact of gender diversity in the workplace. It references a study suggesting that companies with higher female representation

in leadership roles are more likely to achieve above-average profitability, attributing this to the benefits of nondiscrimination and increased skill diversity within firms. These narrative challenges traditional perceptions of the logistics industry as male-dominated, advocating for inclusive practices that can lead to improved financial performance and operational efficiency. The video concludes with a powerful message about the transformative potential of diverse leadership in global trade and logistics, encouraging recognition and support for women leading the way in this critical sector.

DP World's efforts to promote gender diversity are part of a larger trend in the industry, underscoring the potential for significant change through inclusive leadership. This development is particularly noteworthy in an industry that handles a substantial portion of global container traffic, highlighting the importance of diverse perspectives in driving innovation and efficiency.

payments. Deputy Governor of the Central Bank, Mr. Hamse Abdirahman Khayre, opened the meeting with a warm welcome to participants and provided a detailed overview of the program's objectives and implementation framework. He emphasized the importance of a unified approach to modernizing Somaliland's payment systems.

Mr. Khalif Omar, Chairman of the Somaliland Banking Association, and Mr. Muse Dahir Yusuf, Executive Director of the Somaliland Remittance Association, jointly endorsed the Central Bank's plan, praising its inclusive approach. They expressed gratitude for the opportunity to collaborate and contribute to the program's success, highlighting its potential to drive financial inclusion and economic growth.

Leaders from private banks, including Darasalaam Bank, Dahabshiil Bank, Premier Bank, Amal Bank, and IBS Bank, as well as mobile money providers Zaad Service and E-Dahab Service, voiced strong support for the Central Bank's efforts. They committed to working closely with the Central Bank to ensure the program's effective implementation, emphasizing their readiness to adopt innovative solutions to enhance Somaliland's financial ecosystem.

In his closing remarks, Central Bank Governor Mr. Abdinahir Ahmed Hirsi underscored the meeting's significance as a milestone in Somaliland's journey toward a modernized financial system. He highlighted the Central Bank's ongoing efforts to develop comprehensive plans to advance

the nation's financial infrastructure and commended the collaborative spirit of the stakeholders. "This program is a critical step toward building a robust, inclusive, and efficient payment system that will support Somaliland's economic development," he stated.

Participants in the meeting included:

- Private Sector Representatives:
- Chairman of the Somaliland Banking Association
- Chairman of the Somaliland Remittance Association
- Darasalaam Bank
- Dahabshiil Bank
- Premier Bank
- Amal Bank
- IBS Bank
- Zaad Service
- E-Dahab Service
- Central Bank Representatives:
- Governor of the Central Bank of Somaliland
- Deputy Governor of the Central Bank
- Director General of the Central Bank
- Director of Supervision at the Central Bank
- Director of the Clearing House Office

The National Payment System Development Program is expected to streamline financial transactions, enhance interoperability among financial institutions, and promote digital payment solutions, aligning Somaliland with global trends in financial innovation. The Central Bank and its partners are committed to working together to ensure the program's success, marking a significant step toward a more inclusive and modernized financial future for Somaliland.

Education minister, World Bank, initiate.....

A landmark event took place today in Hargeisa as the signing ceremony for the Rajo Kaaba Project, a transformative initiative funded by the World Bank, was held to empower Somaliland's women through education and healthcare advancements.

The ceremony, graced by Prof. Ismail Ducale Yusuf, Somaliland's Minister of Education and Science, marked the official launch of the project. The Minister signed the agreement alongside the Director General of the Ministry of Education, with representatives from the World Bank also in attendance. The World Bank was praised for its unwavering commitment to supporting Somaliland's education and health sectors.

The Rajo Kaaba Project is structured around three core pillars aimed at driving sustainable development:

1. Technical and Vocational Education: Institutions like Hargeisa Technical School and Burco Technical School will modernize curricula and provide cutting-edge equipment and training to equip youth with market-ready technical skills.
2. Teacher Training: The Teacher Training College will implement advanced programs to enhance teaching methods, classroom management, and professional skills, elevating the quality of



education across Somaliland's primary, secondary, and high schools.

3. Nursing and Midwifery: The Nursing Department at Amoud University in Borama, alongside the Burco and Hargeisa Schools of Nursing, will strengthen maternal and child healthcare by improving training programs and providing essential resources for healthcare students.

Speaking at the event, Prof. Ismail emphasized the project's potential to transform Somaliland: "The Rajo Kaaba Project will empower our youth with skills, elevate our

teachers' capabilities, and enhance maternal and child healthcare. This is a step toward a stronger, healthier, and more educated society."

The initiative is expected to create a ripple effect, fostering a generation of skilled professionals and improving community well-being. Somaliland's government and its partners expressed optimism that the project will serve as a cornerstone for sustainable development and gender empowerment in the region.

Ministry of Finance Announces.....

The Somaliland Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, led by Minister Abdilahi Hasan Adan, has concluded a two-day working session with departmental directors to review the ministry's strategic plan for 2024-2028. The decision to reassess the plan stems from the recent formation of a new government and the ministry's expanded mandate, now encompassing economic development alongside finance. Speaking at the closing ceremony, Minister Adan emphasized the necessity of aligning the ministry's objectives with the new administration's priorities. "The review of our 2024-2028 strategic plan is critical due to the change in government and the ministry's updated role. This adjustment ensures our work reflects the current needs and vision of Somaliland," he stated. The minister highlighted that the review incorporates the Waddani party's agenda, which was not part of the previous plan. "With the upcoming third National Development Plan and the inclusion



revising our strategy to ensure it aligns with national goals. The updated plan is set to be implemented starting this month, July 2025," Adan added. The review process involved extensive discussions and knowledge-sharing among the ministry's senior leadership, focusing on enhancing fiscal policies and economic development initiatives. Minister Adan praised the dedication of the department directors, describing

them as "a united and collaborative team committed to serving the nation." This strategic overhaul comes at a pivotal time for Somaliland, as the nation seeks to strengthen its economic framework and pursue international recognition. The revised plan is expected to prioritize sustainable growth and transparent financial management, aligning with the government priorities.

Historic Visit by.....



Somaliland head of state to the Gulf nation in 34 years. The visit, described as a diplomatic milestone, has laid a strong foundation for enhanced collaboration between Somaliland and Qatar.

According to a press release from Somaliland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Somaliland delegation held productive high-level discussions with senior Qatari officials, including Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr. Mohammed bin Abdulaziz Al Khulaifi, and Minister of Commerce and Industry Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Qasim Al-Abdullah Al-Thani. The delegation also engaged with senior officials from Qatar Charity and the Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD).

The Ministry emphasized that the historic visit—the first of its kind—created a unique opportunity to foster new partnerships in diplomacy, economy, and development. Key discussions focused on investment opportunities in Somaliland's strategic sectors, including agriculture, fisheries,

tourism, and livestock, alongside advancements in animal health. Infrastructure development was another priority, with plans to improve road connectivity, clean water access, sanitation, and rural development.

Both nations expressed a shared commitment to expanding humanitarian and economic initiatives through collaboration with Qatar Charity and QFFD. The talks also highlighted mutual interests in promoting peace and security in the Horn of Africa, addressing regional threats, and fostering stability.

The press release underscored an agreement on "economic cooperation in the Horn of Africa region," emphasizing the importance of close collaboration to enhance community welfare and create economic opportunities. The Somaliland delegation extended heartfelt gratitude to the government and people of Qatar for their warm hospitality and brotherly spirit throughout President Irro's visit.

This historic engagement signals a promising future for Somaliland-Qatar relations, with both nations poised to deepen ties and drive regional prosperity.

Local Government Minister, Swiss Delegation meet to Enhance Bilateral Cooperation

The Minister of Local Government and Urban Development of Somaliland, Hon. Hassan Ahmed Duale (Hassan Ma'alín), held a productive meeting with a delegation from the Swiss Government, led by Martina Durrer, Regional Head of International Cooperation for the Horn of Africa. The discussions, held in Hargeisa, focused on enhancing bilateral cooperation, with a particular emphasis on local governance and urban development projects.

The meeting addressed opportunities for collaboration on initiatives aimed at strengthening local government institutions, improving urban infrastructure, and promoting sustainable development in Somaliland. Minister Duale highlighted the importance of international partnerships in supporting Somaliland's efforts to build resilient and effective local governance systems.

Accompanying the Minister were the Director General of the Ministry



of Local Government and Urban Development Ali Ige Mohamoud and several department directors, underscoring the significance of the talks. The Swiss delegation included representatives from the Swiss embassies in Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, and Burundi, reflecting Switzerland's regional commitment to fostering development in the Horn of Africa. This engagement marks a step forward in Somaliland's ongoing efforts to deepen international ties and advance its development agenda, particularly in the realm of local governance and urban planning.

President and High-Level Delegation Secure Key Meetings with Qatari Leaders to Boost Cooperation and Investment

The President of the Republic of Somaliland, H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi Irro, leading a high-level delegation, has concluded a series of impactful meetings during the fourth day of an official working visit to Qatar, aimed at strengthening bilateral ties and attracting investment to Somaliland. Over the past two days, the delegation engaged with senior Qatari officials, including representatives from the Qatari Council of Ministers, the Qatar Development Fund (QDF), and Qatar Charity, to discuss economic, developmental, and humanitarian cooperation.

Diplomatic Engagement with Qatar's Foreign Affairs

In a significant diplomatic meeting, President Irro and his delegation met with H.E. Dr. Mohammed bin Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi, Qatar's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. The discussions centered on deepening bilateral relations, fostering economic collaboration, and enhancing regional security and stability. President Irro underscored Somaliland's 34 years of independence, emphasizing that Somaliland is a sovereign nation, distinct from the Federal Government of Somalia. The meeting highlighted Somaliland's growing diplomatic presence and its strong ties with the international community.

Economic and Trade Opportunities Explore

The delegation also held a productive meeting with H.E. Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Al-Sayed, Qatar's Minister of Foreign Trade. The talks focused on unlocking



Somaliland's vast economic potential, particularly in sectors such as livestock, fisheries, agriculture, petroleum, minerals, energy, and infrastructure development. President Irro showcased Somaliland's investor-friendly environment and its strategic location along the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, positioning it as a key hub for global trade. The discussions sparked significant interest in attracting Qatari investments to bolster Somaliland's economy.

Development Partnerships with Qatar Development Fund

In a meeting with the senior management of the Qatar Development Fund (QDF), the delegation explored avenues for developmental support in critical sectors, including education, healthcare, water infrastructure, and youth empowerment through job creation and vocational training. Somaliland's commitment to transparent and sustainable development was warmly received, with both sides expressing enthusiasm for future partnerships that promise to enhance livelihoods and drive long-term economic growth.

Humanitarian Support Strengthened with Qatar Charity

The delegation also met with Mr. Yusuf bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari, the senior official of Qatar Charity, to acknowledge the organization's ongoing humanitarian and developmental projects in Somaliland. Both sides reached a mutual understanding on key issues, with Qatar Charity pledging to double its humanitarian aid and expand its initiatives in the Republic of Somaliland, further solidifying the partnership.

A Bright Future for Somaliland-Qatar Relations

President Irro's visit underscores Somaliland's proactive efforts to position itself as a stable, democratic, and investment-friendly nation on the global stage. The meetings in Qatar reflect Somaliland's strategic vision to leverage its rich resources, strategic location, and 34 years of peace and stability to attract international partnerships. The commitments made during these discussions signal a promising future for enhanced cooperation between Somaliland and Qatar in economic, developmental, and humanitarian spheres.

Somaliland Minister Pitches Energy and Mining Opportunities in High-Level UAE Investment Tour

Hon. Eng. Ahmed Jama Barre, Somaliland's Minister for Energy and Minerals, led a delegation of senior officials on a strategic investment tour across Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Sharjah, promoting Somaliland as a prime destination for investments in Energy, Mining & Minerals, and Hydrocarbons.

During high-level discussions with global industry leaders, including Mubadala, Skyline, Masdar Tech City, and BB Energy, Minister Barre showcased Somaliland's unique investment potential, highlighting:

- 34 Years of Stability: Peace and security since restoring independence in 1991.
- Democratic Excellence: Regular free, fair, and transparent elections with smooth power transitions.
- Investor-Friendly Economy: A liberal, market-driven framework with attractive fiscal policies and governance.



– Rich Resources: Vast mineral deposits, hydrocarbons potential, and untapped energy sector opportunities.

– Strategic Gateway: Proximity to GCC markets, bolstered by Berbera Port and the Berbera Road Corridor, positioning Somaliland as a vital link between Africa and the world.

The Minister presented a range of opportunities, including onshore and offshore oil block concessions,

mineral rights tenements, and partnerships with Somaliland's forthcoming National Energy Company and National Mining Corporation. These entities are set to spearhead government-led investments in the energy and mining sectors.

Investors expressed keen interest in Somaliland's offerings, particularly in:

- Energy Development: Power generation, off-take agreements, and joint ventures for transmission infrastructure via Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs).
 - Hydrocarbons: Acquisition of oil blocks under UAE-based oil and gas companies.
- The tour underscored Somaliland's emergence as a stable and

Somaliland Ministry of Planning and MedAcross Forge Partnership to Enhance Healthcare Services

In a significant step toward advancing Somaliland's healthcare infrastructure, the Minister of Planning and National Development, Ms. Kaltun Sheikh Hassan Abdi, hosted a high-level delegation from the international humanitarian organization MedAcross at her office today. The delegation, led by MedAcross President Dr. Daniele Regge, included Jessica Genove, Regional Manager for Africa, Somaliland's Ambassador to Italy, Mohamed Mohamud, and Abdifatah Abdissalam, Head of MedAcross's Hargeisa Office.



toward achieving our vision of accessible and quality healthcare for all Somalilanders," she stated. Dr. Regge expressed optimism about the collaboration, underscoring MedAcross's commitment to delivering urgent



The meeting focused on deepening collaboration between the Ministry and MedAcross to finalize a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This agreement aims to facilitate healthcare projects aligned with Somaliland's National Development Plan (NDP III), emphasizing the enhancement of social services, particularly in healthcare delivery. Discussions highlighted opportunities to improve medical services and support vulnerable communities, addressing critical needs across Somaliland's regions.

Minister Kaltun praised MedAcross for its impactful work across Africa and its dedication to supporting Somaliland's healthcare goals. "This partnership is a vital step

medical services to underserved populations.

The meeting concluded with both parties agreeing to expedite consultations to finalize the MoU, with formal signing expected in the coming weeks. This partnership aligns with Somaliland's broader strategy to strengthen ties with international organizations, prioritizing health, well-being, and sustainable development for its citizens.

MedAcross, founded in Italy in 2016, specializes in providing rapid medical interventions to communities lacking access to basic healthcare, making it a key ally in Somaliland's development agenda.

resource-rich investment hub, with strong potential for partnerships that could drive economic growth and regional connectivity. Minister Barre's engagements signal Somaliland's readiness to welcome global investors into its dynamic energy and minerals sectors.

THT Puzzle

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Across

- 1 Current
- 5 Masculine
- 8 Several
- 9 Similar
- 10 On the way to
- 11 Not any
- 12 Beverages
- 14 Move
- 15 Remarks
- 17 No one
- 19 Movie star
- 22 Holdup
- 23 one of the colors
- 24 Weapon/ arm gun
- 25 a number less than 10
- 27 Find

Down

- 2 feedbacks
- 3 snoozes/ night bed
- 4 demands/ wants
- 5 moon on
- 6 EXIST or morning short form
- 7 lens of the eye
- 8 shame / bring shame on
- 13 Kingstone/ a company of insurance in America
- 16 organic fertilizer
- 20 quantities of papers
- 21 horrible or opposite of pretty
- 24 have it or get into
- 25 no way
- 26 short forms of not applicable

Previous Answer

S ¹		I ²	N	S ³	T	A	N ⁴	T		T ⁵	O ⁶
K ⁷	I	D		P			O		S ⁸	O	N
Y			S ⁹	A	D ¹⁰		W ¹¹	A	I	T	
	S ¹²	E	A	R	C	H ¹³			T ¹⁴	A	P
A ¹⁵	T		W ¹⁶	E		O		P ¹⁷		L	
L ¹⁸	A	W ¹⁹			G ²⁰	R	O ²¹	U	P ²²		
I ²³	R	O	N		U ²⁴	N	I	T	E	D ²⁵	
		R		O ²⁶	N		L		A ²⁷	I	D
A ²⁸	L	L	O ²⁹	W		B ³⁰		A ³¹	S	S	
D		D ³²	A	N	C ³³	E		R ³⁴	E	S	T ³⁵
D ³⁶	O ³⁷		T		A			E			R
	N ³⁸	O		A ³⁹	N	N	U	A	L		Y

Agriculture Minister Unveils Ambitious 2025–2030 Strategy at Hargeisa Workshop



Somaliland Ministry of Agricultural Development launched a pivotal workshop in Hargeisa to unveil and refine the Strategic Plan for Agricultural Development (2025–2030), a roadmap aimed at transforming the nation’s agricultural sector over the next five years. The event, held at the Ministry’s headquarters, was inaugurated by Minister Dr. Mohamoud Ige Yusuf, who emphasized the strategy’s role in fostering sustainable growth and food security.

The workshop brought together key stakeholders, including agricultural institutions, policymakers, and development partners, to discuss the draft strategy and gather input for its finalization. Minister Yusuf welcomed attendees, underscoring the importance of collaborative efforts to ensure the plan’s success. “This strategy is a collective vision for Somaliland’s agricultural future, and your contributions today will shape its impact,” he stated.

Ibrahim Cumar, Director of the Ministry’s Planning Department, outlined the strategy’s core components, which include detailed policy priorities, implementation plans, and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation. He stressed that all partner organizations must align their projects with the strategy to maximize its effectiveness.

Key highlights of the workshop included:

- Draft Strategy Review: A comprehensive presentation of the strategic plan, inviting feedback to address gaps and strengthen its framework.
- Strategic Pillars: Identification of priority areas for the next five years, focusing on innovation, sustainability, and resilience in agriculture.
- Risk and Monitoring Framework: Discussions on potential challenges and robust mechanisms for tracking progress and evaluating outcomes.

Participants engaged in lively discussions, offering practical recommendations to refine the strategy. The collaborative atmosphere underscored Somaliland’s commitment to inclusive policymaking in its pursuit of agricultural advancement.

The 2025–2030 Strategic Plan is poised to drive modernization, enhance productivity, and bolster food security, aligning with Somaliland’s broader development goals. The Ministry plans to incorporate today’s feedback into the final document, with further reviews scheduled before its official adoption.

Somaliland Seeks Urgent External Aid to Battle Massive Daalo Mountain Wildfire

A devastating wildfire is raging in the Daalo Mountains near Erigavo, Sanaag Region, threatening Somaliland’s biodiversity and local livelihoods. Described as the largest fire in the region’s history

by Minister of State for Internal Affairs and Security, Abdirashid Mohamed Ahmed, the blaze has prompted a unified response from military, police, and local communities working tirelessly to contain it. Director General

Continue on page 7

Somaliland Minister of Finance Holds Key Meeting with University Leaders to Bolster Economic Development



Minister of Finance and Economic Development of Somaliland, Hon. Abdilahi Hassan Adan, alongside State Minister Ismail Mowlid Abdilahi, convened a significant meeting with senior officials from eleven prominent Somaliland universities. The gathering, held at the Minister's office in Hargeisa, focused on integrating financial reforms and taxation policies into the higher education sector to support Somaliland's economic growth.

Key outcomes of the meeting included a commitment to expedite the implementation of university ticketing systems nationwide, streamline employee taxation processes for academic institutions, and enhance tax awareness through academic debates. Additionally, there was a strong emphasis on incorporating taxation education into university curricula to foster a culture of fiscal responsibility among students.

The meeting was attended by the Director General of Somaliland's Higher Education Commission, Mr. Adan Jama Duale, and representatives from Hargeisa University, Golis University, Amoud University, Bader University, Edna Adan University, New Generation University, Admas University, Alpha University, CSI University, FFU University, and Abaarso University.

Minister Adan underscored the critical role of universities in driving Somaliland's economic agenda, stating, "Collaboration with our academic institutions is vital for building a robust financial framework that supports national development." The initiative aligns with Somaliland's broader efforts to strengthen its economic systems, as evidenced by recent engagements with international partners, such as the \$2.5 million humanitarian grant from Taiwin.

This meeting marks a pivotal step toward fostering public-private partnerships and enhancing the role of higher education in Somaliland's economic landscape.

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Somaliland Seeks Urgent External Aid to Battle Massive Daalo Mountain Wildfire

Mukhtar Abdi Jama of the Ministry of Resettlement and Humanitarian Affairs called it a "major disaster," urging immediate community and international support to protect the region's pristine ecosystem. Minister of Environment Abdullahi Jama Osman confirmed that fire brigades and volunteers are battling the fire, which has spread from Daallo to Dowga Tabca, but the rugged terrain and limited equipment are major challenges. The Daalo Mountains, a cherished ecological hotspot,



are at risk of losing unique flora and fauna. The government is appealing to international organizations, NGOs, businesses, and youth for technical and financial aid.

Admas University, Alpha University, CSI University, FFU University, and Abaarso University.

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