

# The Horn Tribune

Vol VI/ Issue 1655 Sunday 28 June 2026 (www.horntribune.com/info@horntribune.com) Muharam 13, 1448 AH

An Independent Weekly Newspaper of Dawan Media Group, Tel: 0634108231/0634424590/0634615145

## President formally launches Somaliland National Secondary and Primary Schools' Examinations, with highest number of candidates ever



By: M.A. Egge

The President H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi Irro formally inaugurated the 2026 national certificate examinations for both primary and secondary schools at Farah Omar Secondary School in Hargeisa.

This year witnesses the highest ever number of candidates sitting for the  
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## Somaliland National Examinations Begin Safely Across the Country as 42,519 Students Start One-Week Assessment

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Somaliland National Examinations Office has announced that a total of 42,519 students have begun sitting for the 2026 national



certificate examinations across the country.

According to the office, 26,119 candidates are taking

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## President leads the nation in commemorating 66th Anniversary of Independence Day on June 26



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## WADDANI Chairman Wishes Success to 42,519 Students Sitting Somaliland's National Certificate Examinations

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Chairman of the ruling WADDANI Party, Hirsi Ali Haji Hassan, has extended his heartfelt congratulations, encouragement, and prayers to thousands of students sitting for Somaliland's National Certificate

Examinations, wishing them success as they embark on one of the most significant milestones in their academic journey.

In a message issued on June 27, Hirsi also commended the Ministry

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## Somaliland Societies in Europe: An Open Letter to International Bodies (UN, EU, and the African Union)



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## Somaliland Foreign Minister Receives German Delegation

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Somaliland, H.E. Abdirahman Dahir Aden, accompanied by the Director General, Mohamed Abdirahman Hassan, today received Germany's



## Somaliland Central Bank Unveils Sweeping Financial Reforms, Prioritizes Modern Payment Systems

By Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Governor of the Central Bank of the Republic of Somaliland, Abdinasir Ahmed Hirsi, has announced an ambitious  
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## NEC Unveils New Voter Registration Roadmap in Landmark Meeting with Political Parties' Taskforce

By Mohamoud Walaaleye

The National Electoral Commission (NEC) of the Republic of Somaliland on 22nd June 2026, held a high-level consultative meeting at its headquarters with the National

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## Outrage as woman jailed for three years after criticizing Somalia government online



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## The Republic of Somaliland commemorated the 66th anniversary of its Independence Day on Friday, 26 June 2026



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### Inside

**BID INVITATION FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES – SUPERVISION ENGINEER FOR EXPLORATORY BOREHOLE IN ODWEINE DISTRICT** [Continue on page 6](#)

# President formally.....



Addressing the event, President Abdirahman Irro congratulated underscoring the importance of education in shaping a nation's future hence encouraged all candidates; wishing them success and expressing confidence that their results would reflect the hard work, dedication, and knowledge they had acquired throughout their studies.

He commended the Ministry of Education, Training and Science, the National Examinations Office, the Somaliland Police Force, teachers, and all other stakeholders for their efforts in organizing, securing, and successfully administering the nationwide examinations.

exams at a go in both categories with a total of 42 519. Invigilation centres where the exams are being undertaken has been set up all across the nation, both at regional and district levels. It's a

and serve as a key measure of the quality and integrity of Somaliland's national education system. This year's examinations have set a new national record, with 42,519 students sitting for the intermediate



centralized system in which all exams are undertaken at the same time. The Head of State kicked-off the occasion by personally opening the question papers and distribute it in a class at the school. The annual examinations assess students' academic achievement

and secondary school certificate exams—the highest number in Somaliland's history; 16,123 sitting for the secondary certificate and 26,119 in the primary exams. A further 277 candidates are enrolled in technical and vocational training centres, (TVET).

The official launch marks the beginning of this year's examination process across Somaliland, with thousands of students taking a significant step toward advancing their education and future careers.

# Somaliland Foreign Minister.....

Deputy Ambassador, Ms. Katrin Josten, and the Head of Development Cooperation, Mr. Simon Hagemann, at the Ministry's headquarters during their working visit to the Republic of Somaliland. The German delegation briefed the Minister on Germany's long-standing support for Somaliland's water sector, particularly its contribution to expanding water access in Hargeisa. They highlighted the extensive assistance provided to the Hargeisa Water Agency and the progress achieved in improving the capital's water supply over the years. The delegation also discussed the recently launched second phase of the Hargeisa Water Expansion Project, funded by the German Government through the German Development Bank. They noted that the project is expected to play a major role in addressing Hargeisa's



water shortages once completed and outlined its implementation plans and budget. In addition, they reviewed other development initiatives supported by Germany across Somaliland. For his part, Minister Abdirahman Dahir Aden commended the German Government for its continued support to Somaliland,

particularly its long-term investment in the expansion of Hargeisa's water infrastructure. He emphasized that Germany's assistance has significantly contributed to alleviating water shortages affecting residents of the capital, while acknowledging that further efforts are still needed to achieve a comprehensive and lasting solution.

# Somaliland National.....

the Primary School Leaving Examination, while 16,123 students are sitting for the Secondary School

strengthened, with 983 police officers deployed to safeguard examination centres. A further 987



Certificate Examination. An additional 277 students are undertaking Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) examinations. The examinations are being conducted at 299 examination centres, utilizing 1,755 examination rooms nationwide. To ensure the smooth administration of the examinations, 299 supervisors have been appointed to oversee the process, supported by 2,040 invigilators responsible for monitoring examination rooms. Security has also been

support personnel are assisting with the coordination and logistics of the nationwide exercise. The national examinations officially commenced on 27 June and are scheduled to run for one week, concluding on 2 July. The annual examinations are regarded as a key milestone in Somaliland's education calendar, determining students' progression to higher levels of education and assessing learning outcomes across the country.

# WADDANI Chairman Wishes....



of Education and everyone involved in organizing the nationwide examinations, expressing hope for a smooth and successful examination process. The WADDANI chairman stressed the importance of safeguarding the well-being and safety of all students throughout the examination period, calling on all stakeholders to ensure

that candidates are treated with care and respect. Addressing the students directly, Hirsi encouraged them to rely on their own knowledge and abilities. "An examination is not an act of hostility or an attempt to make students suffer," he said. "It is simply

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### NEC Unveils New Voter Registration.....

Political Parties' Taskforce, marking a significant step toward key election stakeholders. Participants emphasized the need for constructive engagement with the commission, recognizing the



the country's upcoming voter registration exercise and future electoral processes. During the meeting, NEC officials presented a preliminary voter registration plan, outlining the commission's overall vision, key objectives, guiding principles, and ongoing preparations for the implementation of a comprehensive voter registration process across Somaliland.

The discussions centred on the importance of sustained cooperation and regular consultation between the NEC and

to strengthen mutual understanding, deepen collaboration among political actors, and foster a conducive environment for the successful implementation of voter registration and future elections. NEC highlighted that the new voter registration initiative is designed to enhance the integrity of the electoral system by ensuring broad participation, transparency, and accountability throughout the process.

Representatives from the National Political Parties Taskforce welcomed the initiative and reaffirmed their commitment to

critical role of cooperation in safeguarding democratic progress and public confidence in Somaliland's elections.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment from all stakeholders to work together in ensuring a transparent, inclusive, and credible electoral process that reflects the democratic aspirations of the people of Somaliland.

The consultation is expected to pave the way for further dialogue and coordination as preparations for voter registration and future elections continue to advance.

### Somaliland Central Bank Unveils Sweeping.....

and wide-ranging reform agenda aimed at modernizing the country's financial sector through enhanced legislation, policy frameworks, and critical financial infrastructure.

Speaking at the launch of the National Payment System Integration Program, Governor Hirsi said the Central Bank is implementing a comprehensive reform package designed to strengthen the foundations of Somaliland's financial system and prepare it for future growth.

According to the Governor, the reform initiative encompasses legal, regulatory, and institutional changes, alongside investments in the infrastructure needed to support a more efficient and interconnected financial ecosystem.

A key pillar of the reform program is the development and integration of modern payment systems, which he described as essential to improving efficiency, transparency, trust, and accessibility across financial services.

"The reform project currently underway at the Central Bank is a broad initiative encompassing legislation, policies, and infrastructure. Payment systems are among the key components of these reforms. Once these projects are completed, they will bring significant



benefits to our country's financial system," Governor Hirsi said.

He stressed that strengthening and modernizing Somaliland's financial infrastructure remains the institution's highest priority as it seeks to build a resilient and competitive financial sector. "Our foremost task now is to strengthen and modernize our financial systems," he stated.

The National Payment System Integration Program is expected to enhance connectivity among financial institutions, streamline transactions, and support broader efforts to improve financial inclusion and economic development across Somaliland.

The Central Bank's reform drive marks a significant step toward

creating a more modern, secure, and efficient financial environment capable of meeting the evolving needs of businesses, financial institutions, and citizens alike.

gathering brings together senior government officials, development partners, and a visiting World Bank delegation to assess progress made under the project and chart the way forward before its completion.

The review focuses on evaluating achievements across key reform areas, identifying implementation challenges, and developing practical strategies to ensure the successful delivery of the project's

### President leads the nation in ....

By Goth

The President of the Republic of Somaliland, H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi (Irro), attended the national celebration marking the 66th anniversary of the historic day of June 26, 1960, held on its eve at the Presidential Palace.

The event was attended by top government officials, political party

the safeguarding of national identity. The President extended his congratulations to the people on this occasion, urging them to further strengthen peace, unity, and nationhood. He also briefly briefed the gathering on his official visit to Israel and the meetings he held with the leadership there.

The President of the Republic of Somaliland underscored that



leaders, traditional elders, diplomats from countries friendly to Somaliland, and numerous other distinguished guests.

During the ceremony, programs were showcased reflecting entertainment, poetry, comedy, the struggle for the restoration of Somaliland's nationhood, and the legacy of the dark history of the failed union.

Numerous officials delivered speeches congratulating the resilience of Somaliland's freedom and statehood, emphasizing the importance of unity, solidarity, and

Somaliland is a free and sovereign state, and that the people of Somaliland have fully deliberated on their destiny and decided their future in accordance with their will and the vital matters concerning their country.

At midnight (12:00 AM), the President of Somaliland witnessed the national flag-raising ceremony and received a salute of honour from units of the national armed forces.

The event concluded in an atmosphere of patriotism, joy, and national pride.

### WADDANI Chairman Wishes....

an opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge you have acquired and to compete fairly with your fellow students."

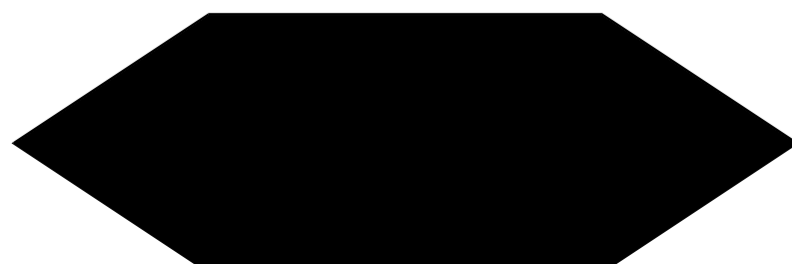
He urged candidates to avoid any form of examination malpractice, emphasizing that there is no reason to fear the exams. According to Hirsi, most students have prepared well and should approach the tests with confidence, while reassuring those who remain anxious that, with determination and God's help, they too can succeed.

The WADDANI leader also paid tribute to parents and teachers whose dedication and hard work have helped prepare students for this important academic challenge, acknowledging their vital role in shaping the country's future generation.

As national examinations get underway across Somaliland, Hirsi's message joins a wave of support from public leaders encouraging students to uphold integrity, remain confident, and strive for academic excellence.

The Somaliland Examinations Office has announced that 42,519 students are sitting for this year's national certificate examinations across the country.

Of the total, 26,119 students are taking the primary and intermediate school examinations, while 16,123 students are sitting for the secondary school examinations. A further 277 candidates are enrolled in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) examinations.



# Somaliland Societies in Europe: An Open Letter to International Bodies (UN, EU, and the African Union)

This open letter is issued by Somaliland diaspora societies across Europe to express collective concerns, aspirations, and perspectives regarding the political status, development trajectory, and international engagement of Somaliland. It reflects the shared views of communities who maintain strong cultural, economic, and social ties with Somaliland while residing abroad.

The letter is directed to the United Nations, the European Union, and the African Union in recognition of their influential roles in global governance, regional stability, and international recognition processes. It seeks to highlight Somaliland's historical context, its long-standing self-governance since 1991, and its efforts to build democratic institutions, maintain peace, and contribute to regional security in the Horn of Africa.

It further emphasizes the role of the Somaliland diaspora in Europe as active participants in development through remittances, advocacy, investment, and civic engagement. The document aims to encourage constructive dialogue, increased international understanding, and consideration of Somaliland's case within the framework of international law, self-determination, and African regional dynamics.

Ultimately, this open letter serves as both a call for attention and a request for meaningful engagement with Somaliland's evolving political and developmental reality.

Subject: Recognition of the Republic of Somaliland and Legal Foundations of Somaliland's Sovereignty.

We, the Somaliland Societies in Europe (SSE), representing Somaliland communities across European countries, write this open letter to express our deep concern regarding the continued lack of international recognition for the Republic of Somaliland and the ongoing interference and destabilization efforts directed against Somaliland by Somalia.

It is time for the international community to acknowledge the legitimacy of Somaliland's statehood and nationhood. At the same time, the world must recognize the persistent political interference and hostile actions undertaken by Somalia against the Republic of Somaliland.

Although the Government of Israel has officially recognized Somaliland, and the people of Somaliland appreciate this step, many within the international community continue to overlook Somaliland's achievements, democratic progress, and legitimate aspirations.

Somaliland's Case for Recognition



Somaliland's claim to international recognition rests upon four fundamental pillars:

1. A Strong Juridical and Historical Case

Somaliland possesses a unique colonial history and a distinct national identity separate from Somalia.

2. Fulfilment of the Criteria for Statehood

Somaliland meets the requirements established under the Montevideo Convention regarding permanent population, defined territory, effective government, and the capacity to engage in international relations.

3. The Right to Self-Determination

The people of Somaliland have the legal and moral right to determine their own political future within the international order.

4. Protection Against Mass Atrocities

The Isaaq genocide, including the destruction of Hargeisa and other cities during the Siyad Barre regime, remains one of the gravest tragedies in the Horn of Africa. The international community has a responsibility to ensure such atrocities are never repeated.

Somaliland's Independence and Historical Background

Somaliland was a British Protectorate for 76 years, from 1884 until 26 June 1960, when it gained full independence from the United Kingdom as the State of Somaliland. Following independence, Somaliland was recognized by more than 30 countries as a sovereign and independent state. However, driven by the political aspirations of Somali unity at the time, Somaliland entered into a union with Somalia shortly thereafter.

Importantly, this union lacked proper legal and constitutional foundations

because:

- \* There was no formally ratified Act of Union;

- \* There was no valid parliamentary approval from both sides;

- \* There was no judicial or constitutional endorsement of the union;

- \* There was no United Nations resolution recognizing or formalizing the union.

After three decades of political marginalization, human rights abuses, and violent repression under the Somali regime, Somaliland reclaimed its sovereignty in 1991 and restored the independence it had attained on 26 June 1960.

Legal Foundations of Somaliland's Sovereignty

Somaliland's sovereignty is grounded in several legal and historical facts, including:

- \* The London Constitutional Conference held from 4–12 May 1960 formally agreed upon Somaliland's independence date of 26 June 1960;

- \* Her Majesty's Government officially proclaimed Somaliland's independence on 24 June 1960;

- \* Somaliland's independence was published in official British records, including the London Gazette;

- \* Political independence of Somaliland was registered in court at Buckingham;

- \* International treaties concluded between Somaliland and the UK Government on 26 June 1960 — UK Treaty Series No. 44 (1960) — were submitted to the UK Parliament;

- \* International treaties between Somaliland and the United Kingdom were concluded and registered with the United Nations in 1960;

- \* Somaliland's borders correspond

Somaliland Protectorate and therefore comply with the African Union principle of uti possidetis, which preserves inherited colonial boundaries (Act of the African Union (Session in Cairo, UAR, from 17 to 21 July 1964).)

- \* African Union Fact-Finding Mission to Somaliland (30 April to 4 May 2005): The fact that the "union between Somaliland and Somalia was never ratified" and also malfunctioned when it went into action from 1960 to 1990 makes Somaliland's search for recognition historically unique and self-justified in African political history. Somaliland and the Montevideo Convention.

Somaliland satisfies all internationally accepted criteria for statehood under the Montevideo Convention:

- \* A permanent population;
- \* A defined territory;
- \* An effective government;
- \* The capacity to enter into relations with other states.

For more than three decades, Somaliland has maintained peace, stability, democratic governance, and functioning state institutions without international recognition. Somaliland's Democratic and Strategic Importance Despite limited international support, Somaliland has achieved remarkable progress:

- \* Somaliland has established democratic institutions and conducted peaceful elections;
- \* Somaliland contributes significantly to regional and international security through efforts against terrorism, piracy, and organized crime;
- \* Somaliland occupies a strategically important location

along the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea maritime corridor;

- \* Somaliland remains one of the most stable and peaceful territories in the Horn of Africa.

In contrast, Somalia continues to face severe internal instability and governance challenges despite receiving extensive international financial and military assistance.

Our Message to the International Community

We respectfully call upon international stakeholders to:

A. Recognize the reality that Somalia exercises neither de facto jurisdiction nor legitimate legal authority over Somaliland, and therefore should not interfere in Somaliland's internal political affairs.

B. Acknowledge that continued attempts to undermine Somaliland's peace, stability, and economic progress threaten not only Somaliland itself, but also the wider security of the Horn of Africa and the Gulf of Aden region.

Conclusion

The people of Somaliland have demonstrated resilience, democratic commitment, and responsible governance for more than thirty years. Somaliland has rebuilt its nation from devastation without substantial international assistance.

We therefore urge the United Nations, the European Union, the African Union, and all international partners to engage constructively with Somaliland and to seriously consider Somaliland's legitimate claim to international recognition.

Yours sincerely,  
Executive Committee  
Somaliland Societies in Europe (SSE)

## The Republic of Somaliland commemorated the 66th anniversary of its Independence Day on Friday, 26 June 2026

Does Somaliland celebrate its national day on two different days? I am sure that many people familiar with its history can easily understand why I raise this question.

Yes, it is true that the people of Somaliland celebrate two different days, one on the day Somaliland gained independence from British rule on June 26, 1960, after 8 decades of being a protectorate and the other on the day Somaliland regained its independence from Somalia on May 18, 1991, after 31 years with the failed union with Somalia.

They are two days, each with its own unique history. These two days are part of Somaliland's journey, and they do not contradict each other but complement each other. These are two days our youth deserve to be aware of and to understand the difference between them and why they are celebrated.

The 66th anniversary coincided with the State of Israel granted full recognition to Somaliland

Today, 66 years later, Somaliland's independence is re-recognized by the state of Israel. As the president of Somaliland stated during his state visit, Israel was the first country to recognize Somaliland on June 26, 1960 and again Israel is the first country to grant re-recognition to Somaliland On 26 December 2025. It is a historical milestone. After 66 years, 31 years with the failed union and 35 years since Somaliland reclaimed its sovereignty, there is no doubt Somaliland has stepped into a new era following its re-recognised by Israel.

Israel's re-recognition of Somaliland marked the foundation of a strong relationship between the two countries. This is evidenced by the high-level welcome extended by the Israeli government to the president of Somaliland and his delegation during their visit. The president of Somaliland opened the first Somaliland Embassy in the city of Jerusalem. This move is a great opportunity to commemorate the 66th anniversary with special significance. According to reports from government officials, the level of understanding between the two sides was very high, bilateral agreements were signed, and press conferences were held jointly. Overall, it was a strategic visit that is expected to yield positive results, and this trip will

certainly change the relationship and cooperation between the two countries. The relationship between the two countries is expected to pave the way for a long-term commitment to both countries' security. As Somaliland is located in a region that is both security and economically unstable, it is expected that this partnership with Israel will serve as a solid foundation for regional stability. Somaliland will also benefit from Israeli's advanced know-how in the sectors of technology, agriculture and energy.

What the 26th June stands for and why Somalilanders celebrate?

The occasion of June 26th is not only for Somalilanders to celebrate Independence Day, but is about reflecting on the eight decades that Somaliland was under the British protectorate. It is a historical moment worth remembering and a testament to the fact that Somaliland was a country that was administratively and historically distinct from Somalia.

26th June is also an occasion to reflect on the nation's journey towards how Somaliland gained its freedom from the protectorate of the United Kingdom. This day, June 26th symbolizes us of the people's determination to achieve independence for Somaliland from the British protectorate system.

This anniversary also serves as a bridge to connect the different memories that Somaliland as a country went through, firstly independence on 26th June 1960, the union with Somalia on 1st July 1960, and the most important date, May 18th, which is the date Somaliland restored its independence and withdrew from the union with Somalia. There is no doubt that the day of 26th June brings back to our memory all the political movements that aimed to liberate Somaliland from the British protectorate system. We can name movements like Dervish movement, SNS (Somaliland National Society), SNL (Somali National League), USP (United Somali Party), NUF (National United Front) and Hesbollah). The movements we have mentioned stand as a major symbol of the struggle for the independence and freedom of Somaliland, which has lasted for 8 decades.

From a historical point of view, Somalilanders remember on this day the figures who were influential and led the struggle against the British protectorate regime, iconic figures such as

Sayid Mohamed Abdulle Hassan, who led Dervish fighters, Haji Farah Omaar and Sheikh Bashir and many other national heroes who cannot be mentioned in this brief text.

This 66 Anniversary is also provides the Somalilanders the opportunity to remember other heroes who fought for the country's independence. These include religious leaders, business men, poets and the singers of the nation who themselves were leaders in the struggle for independence.

On this day, Somaliland people remember the institutions established before unification, such as the government led by the Prime minister of Somaliland (Mohamed Haji Ibrahim Egal) and the legislative assembly that consisted of 33 seats.

Despite Somaliland gained its independence on 26th June, it lost it five days later on July 1, 1960, when Somaliland merged with illegal union with Somalia. However, this day still stands as a symbol of the nation's first independence, and its unique history is remembered by different generations at different times.

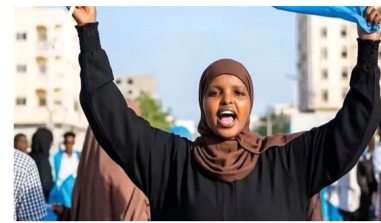
On this day, the people of Somaliland remember the difficult days of injustice and oppression the people of Somaliland faced under successive Somali governments during their unification with Somalia. What is particularly remembered on this day is the brutal regime of Siyad Barre, which resulted in the death of thousands and the destruction of all major cities.

This day is a day Somalilanders cannot forget the sacrifices made by the SNM movement to reclaim their hard earned sovereignty, which they sacrificed when they mistakenly went into a failed unification with Somalia on 1st of July 1960.

Finally, as Somaliland commemorates its 66th anniversary, there are challenges and opportunities. Since Israel granted diplomatic recognition to Somaliland, countries led by Somalia and Turkey have created a diplomatic war against Somaliland.

Somaliland views its relationship with Israel as a fundamental opportunity not only for Somaliland but also for the Horn of Africa. It is hoped that the relationship between the two countries will be a catalyst for economic development in the Horn of Africa. It is hoped that the relationship between the two countries will contribute

## Outrage as woman jailed for three years after criticizing Somalia government online



A rickshaw driver in Somalia has been sentenced to three years in prison for comments she made on social media, in a case that has caught the public's attention and provoked outrage in the country.

Sadia Moalim Ali, a 27-year-old nursing graduate, was originally charged with insulting government institutions and incitement to commit a crime, but convicted only of the former. Her sentence, immediately condemned as "fundamentally unjust", was handed down on 25 June.

She had made critical comments on Facebook and TikTok about the federal government of Somalia, speaking out about the youth unemployment and high fuel prices gripping the country, as well as against alleged corruption, nepotism and forced evictions.

The sentencing of the young mother has been condemned by former high-ranking government officials, including the former president of Somalia, Sharif Sheikh Ahmed, and human rights organisations.

Hassan Ali Khaire, former prime minister of Somalia, wrote on X: "The three-year prison sentence handed down today ... is deeply troubling and fundamentally unjust. This politically motivated arrest and conviction ... reflects a disturbing pattern of judicial overreach, political retaliation, and abuse of state authority."

In a statement, the Coalition of Somali Human Rights Defenders called for her immediate release, saying: "Ali's conviction and harsh sentence represent a serious attack on freedom of expression and the legitimate work of human rights defenders in Somalia."

It said her case reflected a broader

significantly to the region's stability and security.

In conclusion, Israel's recognition of Somaliland is not controversial; it is a fact that needs to be accepted and praised. The people of Somaliland believe that other countries will soon recognise Somaliland. It is in the interest of the Horn of Africa and the region as a whole to accept Somaliland's sovereignty. We all want to see neighbouring countries such as Somalia, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Eritrea trading freely and cooperating to lead to progress and a better life for the people of the region. By: Abdirahman Abdillahi Jibril (Awliyo)

Email: jabdi35@yahoo.com

pattern of systematic discrimination against women who advocated for social and political change. "Female human rights defenders in Somalia continue to face disproportionate risks," it said, "including arbitrary arrest, judicial harassment, intimidation, online abuse and gender-based discrimination, aimed at excluding them from civic and political participation."

Somali media reported that Mohamed Sheikh Osman, one of Ali's lawyers, rejected the ruling and said the defence would appeal.

"[Ali] is not satisfied with the decision of the Banaadir Regional Court," he told reporters. "The court issued a harsh ruling that could have been avoided."

Ali, who is the main breadwinner for her family and has a one-year-old daughter, has been in custody since 12 April. In an interview from prison in May, she told the Guardian she had been subjected to torture. She said: "I was forced to lie face down on the ground, and water was poured on me. I was kicked by guards with boots on. They stood over me and beat me with a baton. "I was taken into solitary confinement and kept there for two days. I was deprived of food and basic necessities while I was locked in that cell. I wasn't allowed to leave to go to the toilet."

At court, Ali said police officers had threatened her with rape.

Torture – defined as any act by which severe pain or suffering, physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted – is prohibited under international law and by the UN Convention against Torture in all circumstances.

Since 2022, Somalia authorities have been accused of engaging in a systematic and escalating crackdown on human rights, using arbitrary arrests, detention, harassment, threats and intimidation to silence journalists, activists and other people who express dissenting views.

N.B -Some of the historical text in this article is referenced from other sources, including:

[http://www.somalilandlaw.com/state\\_of\\_somaliland\\_1960.htm](http://www.somalilandlaw.com/state_of_somaliland_1960.htm): Mark Bradbury: Becoming Somaliland (Catholic Institute for international Relations): Ayan Ali: A history of Somaliland.

Gerard Prunier: The country that does not exist: A history of Somaliland: Somaliland: Africa's longest de facto: Independent State: Boobe Yusuf Duale: 60 sano ka dib xoriyadda: Sooyaalkii Xisbigii SNL ee 1960- kii: Abdirahman Abdillahi Jibril (Somaliland Celebrates 30th Anniversary of Independence).

# THT Puzzle

Prepared by: Abdillahi Said Muhummed

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42							43					

**ACROSS**

- 1. Impressive or breathtaking
- 9. Similar to or same with
- 10. Orange tree
- 11. On the way to
- 13. Puppy (kind of animal)
- 15. ocean
- 16. way of thinking
- 18. be real
- 19. Sick
- 22. round (lap up)
- 26. principles
- 30. control power socket
- 31. One of the computer devices and printer name
- 32. gentleman
- 34. constant
- 35. Glad
- 37. unconsciousness
- 38. Boys/ men
- 39. brand new
- 42. prepared
- 43. clever insect makes Honey

**DOWN**

- 1. SUPERSTORE
- 2. DELETE
- 3. BIG CAT
- 4. GREATEST
- 5. PUMA/ FAMILY CAT
- 6. ONE OF THE GUNS' NAME
- 7. ONE OF THE COLORS
- 8. JOKE
- 16. MASCULINE
- 20. LG
- 21. CATASTROPHE
- 23. BRAKE HORSEPOWER
- 24. ONE OF THE AFRICAN COUNTRY'S NAME
- 25. SCHOOL/ COLLEGE
- 29. SNAPSHOT
- 35. HOUSE/ HOME-GROUND
- 39. nota bene
- 41. PLURAL PRONOUN

## Previous Answer

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## Somaliland and World Bank Intensify Public Finance Reforms as SERP Project Enters Crucial Review Phase



By Mohamoud Walaaleye

Republic of Somaliland and the World Bank have launched a high-level review of the Somaliland Enhancing Public Resource Management Project (SERP), marking a significant step in the country's ongoing efforts to modernize public financial management, strengthen accountability, and improve government service delivery. The two-day review meeting was officially opened on Monday by Somaliland's Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Hon. Abdillahi Hassan Adan, at the Ambassador Hotel in Hargeisa. The objectives. Joining the minister at the opening session were the Director General of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, the Accountant General, and senior representatives from several government institutions involved in the project. Participants included the Auditor General, the Civil Service Commission, the Good Governance Commission, the National Tender Board, and the Parliamentary Committee responsible for monitoring and safeguarding national assets. A high-level World Bank delegation led by SERP Project Manager May Ololia is also attending the meeting. The delegation arrived in Somaliland to monitor implementation progress and reaffirm the Bank's support for the country's public sector reform agenda. Speaking during the opening ceremony, officials highlighted the transformative role of the SERP initiative in promoting transparency, accountability, and efficient management of public resources. They pointed to notable achievements in public financial management, domestic revenue collection, civil service administration, national procurement systems, and the

strengthening of oversight institutions. Minister Abdillahi Hassan Adan welcomed the World Bank delegation and expressed appreciation for the institution's continued partnership with Somaliland. He particularly praised the additional financing and extension granted to the project, describing them as critical opportunities to deepen institutional reforms, modernize financial management systems, and enhance public services for citizens. A major focus of the review will be the implementation of the Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS), progress on the Ministry of Finance's Data Center, advancements in the Somaliland Financial Management Information System (SLFMIS), improvements to the Human Resource Management Information System (HRMIS), and the rollout of a comprehensive government workforce management framework. Participants are also expected to examine lessons learned, address remaining challenges, and identify priority actions needed to sustain momentum and maximize the project's impact. By the conclusion of the meeting, stakeholders are expected to produce a detailed action plan and a set of practical recommendations aimed at accelerating public finance reforms, strengthening inter-agency cooperation, improving the management of public resources, and safeguarding the long-term gains achieved through the SERP project. The review comes at a pivotal moment for Somaliland's reform agenda, underscoring the government's commitment to building stronger institutions, improving fiscal governance, and laying the foundations for sustainable economic development.

Jamhuuriyada Somaliland  
Wasaarada Horumarinta  
Biyaha  
(WHB) -Hargeisa



Republic of Somaliland  
Ministry of Water  
Development  
(MoWD) -Hargeisa

## BID INVITATION FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES – SUPERVISION ENGINEER FOR EXPLORATORY BOREHOLE IN ODWEINE DISTRICT, TOGDHER REGION, SOMALILAND

**Date:** 22nd June 2026 **Reference:** MoWD/CS/003/06/2026

### 1. Background

The **Ministry of Water Development (MoWD)** of Somaliland, with technical and financial support from **UNICEF**, is implementing the drilling of one exploratory borehole in the Odweine District, Togdher Region, Somaliland. To ensure the highest technical standards, quality control, and value for money, MoWD hereby invites **qualified Consultancy Firms or Independent Supervision Engineers** to submit bids for the provision of **Construction Supervision and Hydrogeological Oversight Services** for the aforementioned drilling project.

### 2. Scope of Services

The selected Supervision Engineer will be responsible for the following key tasks:

- Providing full-time, on-site technical supervision of the drilling contractor's operations.
- Conducting geological and hydrogeological logging of drilled formations.
- Verifying drilling depths, casing installation, and well development procedures.
- Supervising and validating aquifer pumping tests and water quality sampling.
- Ensuring strict adherence to environmental safeguards and health & safety protocols.
- Reviewing and certifying contractor payment certificates.
- Preparing and submitting detailed daily, weekly, and final completion reports to MoWD and UNICEF.

### 3. Eligibility and Required Documentation

Interested and eligible Consultancy Firms or Engineers must provide the following documentation:

- A valid certified copy of the company's Registration/Legal document in Somaliland (or valid work permit for individual consultants).
- A certified copy of a valid Tax Compliance Certificate or Exemption Certificate.
- A current single business permit in Somaliland.
- A comprehensive company/individual profile, including a list of major clients and similar **drilling supervision or hydrogeological consultancy projects** completed in the last **three years**, along with project values.
- Detailed Technical Approach and Methodology for supervising this specific exploratory borehole.
- Updated CVs and academic/professional certificates of key personnel, particularly a **Qualified Hydrogeologist** and a **Civil/Water Engineer** with proven field supervision experience.

### 4. Bid Document Collection

Eligible and interested firms/individuals may collect the tender documents (including Terms of Reference and Standard Bidding Documents) from the **Ministry of Water Development** starting from **22nd June 2026**.

### 5. Submission Guidelines

All bid submissions must be addressed to the **Office of the Director General**, Ministry of Water Development, in a **sealed envelope** clearly marked:

**"Expression of Interest – Supervision Engineer for UNICEF Exploratory Borehole in Odweine District, Togdher Region, Somaliland"**

Submissions must be delivered to the Ministry's UNICEF office **no later than 1:00 PM (Somaliland local time) on 29th June 2026**. The tender opening will take place on **30th June 2026** at the Ministry's main hall at 9:00 AM.

## National Printing Press CEO Briefs Parliamentary Committee on Performance, Challenges and Future Plans

By Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Economic, Finance and Trade Committee of the Republic of Somaliland's House of Representatives on 22nd June 2026 held a comprehensive oversight and information-sharing session with Abdirahman Ibrahim Adan (Abees), the Manager of the National Printing Press of the Republic of Somaliland. The meeting was chaired by MP Ahmed Mohamed Hurre (Barkhad), Chairman of the Economic, Finance and Trade Committee, and attended by committee members and parliamentary staff.

Discussions focused on the National Printing Press's operations, the services it provides to government institutions and the public, the challenges affecting its performance, and strategies to enhance cooperation between state agencies.

The session formed part of the committee's parliamentary mandate to oversee and hold government institutions accountable. During the meeting, committee members raised a series of questions regarding the institution's achievements, service delivery, operational challenges,



and long-term development goals. Responding to the inquiries, CEO Abdirahman Ibrahim Adan (Abees) provided detailed explanations and briefed the committee on the overall status of the National Printing Press. He highlighted the range of services offered by the institution, outlined the obstacles it currently faces, and presented plans aimed at modernizing and improving its future performance.

The engagement reflects the House of Representatives' ongoing efforts to strengthen transparency, accountability, and institutional effectiveness across Somaliland's public sector, while ensuring that key national institutions continue to improve their service delivery and operational capacity.

## Somaliland Launches Major Review of Health Sector Spending

Mohamoud Walaaleye

A high-level one-day workshop examining how public funds are spent on the country's Health Sector Partnership was held today at the Ambassador Hotel in Hargeisa.

The workshop, organized jointly by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, the Ministry of Health Development, and UNICEF, brought together senior government officials, health sector partners, and key stakeholders to scrutinize current spending patterns and outcomes.

The main goal of the session was to assess the true state of the Health Partnership, understand the gap between investments and results, and generate reliable data to guide smarter budget decisions for the coming years.

Speaking at the opening, the Director General of the Ministry of Health welcomed participants and stressed the critical importance of conducting a thorough review of health partnership expenditures to ensure future decisions are based on solid evidence.

Deputy Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Hon. Ismail Mawlid Abdillahi, officially opened the workshop and delivered a strong message on the need for accountability.

He emphasized that the workshop aims to answer three pressing questions:



Are the funds Somaliland invests in the health partnership delivering results that match the money spent? Do the government's strategic plans align with the actual financial allocations?

Are budget resources for the health sector being used effectively and meaningfully?

The Deputy Minister added: "We can only make effective and impactful decisions when we are guided by accurate and credible data."

The report presented during the workshop, prepared through a collaborative study, is expected to provide clear insights that will shape future health financing strategies in Somaliland.

The event reflects the government's growing commitment to transparency, results-based management, and evidence-driven governance in the vital health sector.