

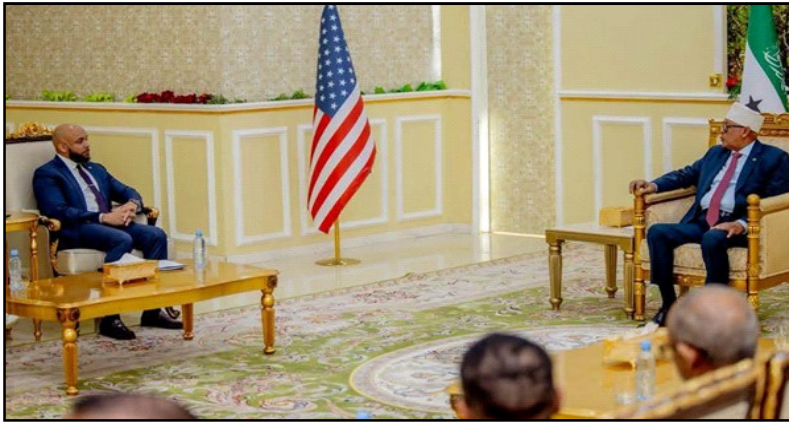
The Horn Tribune

Vol VI/ Issue 1651 Sunday 07 June 2026 (www.horntribune.com/info@horntribune.com) Dul-Haj 21, 1447 AH

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

U.S. Signals Stronger Strategic Partnership with Somaliland During High-Level Meeting with President Irro

President emphasizes that Somaliland remains a peaceful, democratic, and stable nation capable of contributing meaningfully to regional security and international cooperation



By M. A. Egge

The United States has expressed its readiness to deepen cooperation with Somaliland across a broad range of strategic sectors, including security, defense, maritime security, intelligence sharing, investment, trade, economic infrastructure, minerals, and energy.

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Somaliland's Top Diplomat Talks Recognition, Port Deal, and Investment-The Reporter Ethiopia

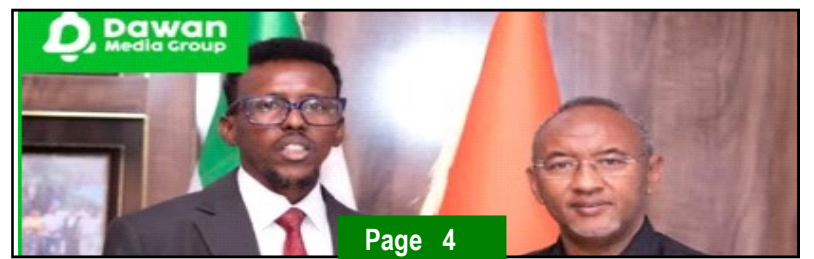
On January 1, 2024, Ethiopia and Somaliland signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) granting landlocked Ethiopia access to the sea in exchange for potential recognition of Somaliland's sovereignty. The agreement,



signed by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) and former Somaliland President Muse Bihi Abdi, reportedly involved a 20-kilometer coastal lease and a naval base. It sparked strong opposition

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WADDANI Chairman Welcomes Veteran Party Figure Jama Feyte, Praises His Enduring Commitment to the Party's Struggle



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New US Report Recognizes Somaliland's Growing Strategic Importance, says Amb. Bashir Goth

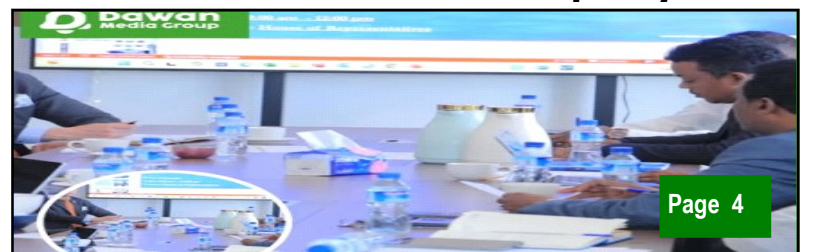


Mohamoud Walaaleye

A new report is reinforcing Somaliland's growing profile in Washington, identifying the nation as a stable and capable partner that can help advance

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Somaliland Parliament Committee and EUCAP Hold High-Level Talks to Strengthen Security Laws and Institutional Capacity



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Environment Minister, Police Chief Meet on Boosting Environmental Protection

By Goth Mohamed Goth

The Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Hon. Abdullahi Jama Osman, officially received the Commander



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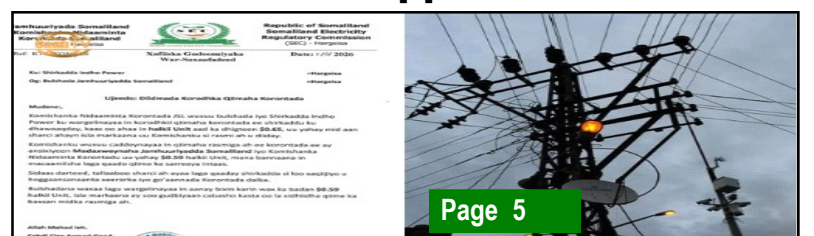
Somaliland Champions Regional Trade Integration at High-Level African Economic Summit in Addis Ababa



Trade is not only an engine of economic growth but also a powerful instrument for peace-building, job creation, and long-term economic resilience- the minister tells delegates

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Somaliland Electricity Commission Blocks Price Hike, Orders Indho Power to Maintain Approved Tariff



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U.S. State Department Report Signals Diplomatic Shift Toward Somaliland and Somalia

By Salma A. Sheikh

First, let us be clear: the State Department's Report published this week is not an



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Somaliland Sets Deadline for Old Vehicle Plates: Minister Warns Non-Compliant Vehicles Will Be Barred from plying Roads

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Minister of Transport and Road Development of Somaliland, Hon. Osman Afaab Noor, has announced a major push to complete the long-delayed replacement of old vehicle registration plates, declaring that



June and July will be dedicated to finalizing the nationwide exercise. Speaking on the matter, the minister said the replacement program, which was launched in 2018, has taken far longer than originally intended. He described the

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Inside

A Rare Act of Political Integrity: Abdikarim Ahmed Mooge Honors His Promise and Vacates Hargeisa Council Seat

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U.S. Signals Stronger Strategic.....

New US Report Recognizes.....



The commitment was conveyed during a high-level meeting at the Presidential Palace in Hargeisa, where Republic of Somaliland President H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro received a delegation led by Justin Davis, the U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission and Acting Ambassador. According to a statement issued by the Presidency, President Abdirahman Irro welcomed the delegation and expressed appreciation for the growing interest and engagement that the United States has shown toward Somaliland. The discussions focused on strengthening bilateral relations and expanding cooperation in key areas, including regional security,

safeguarding Red Sea maritime routes, intelligence sharing, economic development, democratic governance, and advancing mutual strategic interests. The Head of State also thanked the United States for legislative initiatives and political developments within American policymaking institutions that directly relate to Somaliland and its future. Highlighting Somaliland's credentials as a reliable partner, the President emphasized that Somaliland remains a peaceful, democratic, and stable nation capable of contributing meaningfully to regional security and international cooperation.

For his part, Acting Ambassador Justin Davis praised Somaliland's record of peace, stability, and democratic governance. He reaffirmed Washington's willingness to expand collaboration in security, defense, maritime affairs, intelligence cooperation, investment, trade, infrastructure development, mineral resources, and energy projects. Davis further stressed that Somaliland's progress and its growing strategic importance in the Horn of Africa cannot be overlooked, underscoring the nation's increasingly significant role in regional stability and international maritime security. The meeting is widely viewed as another indication of strengthening ties between Somaliland and the United States. It reflects Somaliland's continuing efforts to broaden diplomatic, economic, and security partnerships with Washington based on shared interests, mutual respect, and long-term strategic cooperation. As geopolitical competition intensifies in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea corridor gains increasing global importance, the discussions signal a potentially significant new chapter in U.S.-Somaliland engagement.



United States interests across the Horn of Africa, according to Somaliland's representative to the US, Ambassador Bashir Goth. Speaking to The Africa Report, Amb. Goth welcomed the findings, saying the document formally recognizes what many policymakers have already come to understand about Somaliland's strategic value. "This report puts on the record what many policymakers have come to recognize Somaliland as a 'stable, capable partner that can help advance US interests in the Horn of Africa'", Goth said. He noted that the report highlights several areas for deeper cooperation between Somaliland and the United States, including security, trade, investment, critical minerals, and maritime stability. "It identifies opportunities for cooperation on security, trade, investment, critical minerals, and maritime stability," he added. According to Goth, the report reflects a broader shift in Washington toward a more pragmatic approach to Somaliland, driven by regional security concerns and evolving geopolitical dynamics.

"That reflects a growing momentum in Washington toward a more pragmatic approach to Somaliland, particularly given the deepening relationship between Somaliland and Israel," Goth said. The Somaliland envoy emphasized that interest in strengthening ties with Hargeisa continues to grow among US policymakers, with discussions increasingly focused on security cooperation and regional stability. "Congress and the public can judge the report on its merits as we continue to work toward a closer bilateral security relationship," Goth stated. The report comes at a time of heightened international attention on the Horn of Africa, where maritime security, strategic trade routes, and competition for influence have elevated Somaliland's importance in regional and global calculations. Observers say the report will further contribute to policy discussions in Washington regarding future engagement with Somaliland, particularly in areas of defense, economic development, and strategic partnerships.

Somaliland Champions Regional Trade Integration at....



Mohamoud Walaaleye The Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Hon. Abdillahi Hassan Aden, has reaffirmed Somaliland's commitment to regional trade integration, economic cooperation, and trade facilitation during a high-level African economic summit held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The minister joined senior government officials, development partners, and business leaders from across the continent at a strategic gathering of the African Trade Facilitation Network (NOC), alongside the Board of Directors and Consultative Council of Trademark Africa (TMA). The meeting was chaired by former Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn Boshe, who currently serves as Chairman of the Trademark Africa Board, and Leo

Svahnback, Deputy Ambassador of Finland to East Africa and Chairman of TMA's Consultative Council. Among the distinguished participants was Ethiopia's Minister of Transport and Logistics, Dr. Alemu Sime Feyisa, together with ministers, policymakers, and representatives from African nations and international development institutions. Somaliland Highlights Trade and Infrastructure Progress Addressing the summit, Minister Abdillahi Hassan Aden underscored Somaliland's determination to strengthen regional economic ties and promote cross-border trade as a catalyst for sustainable development. "Trade is not only an engine of economic growth but also a powerful instrument for peace-

building, job creation, and long-term economic resilience," the minister told delegates. He outlined Somaliland's significant investments in trade infrastructure, particularly the modernization and expansion of the Port of Berbera, which continues to emerge as one of the most strategic maritime gateways in the Horn of Africa. The minister also highlighted ongoing reforms aimed at modernizing customs systems, improving supply chain efficiency, facilitating the movement of goods and transport, and enhancing the competitiveness of regional trade corridors. Focus on Jobs and Africa's Economic Future Discussions during the summit centered on two critical themes: the role of trade in generating

employment opportunities and the impact of global economic challenges on Africa's trade landscape. Participants exchanged views on practical measures to reduce non-tariff trade barriers, lower business costs, improve customs procedures, strengthen digital trade systems, and harmonize regional trade policies. The deliberations reflected a shared commitment among African leaders and development partners to accelerate economic integration and unlock the continent's vast trade potential. Call for Stronger Regional Cooperation Minister Abdillahi Hassan Aden reaffirmed Somaliland's commitment to customs modernization, digital transformation, regional cooperation, and private sector-led economic growth.

He called for deeper collaboration between African governments, regional institutions, and development partners to create new opportunities in trade and investment while fostering sustainable and inclusive economic development. The Addis Ababa summit served as an important platform for regional leaders to share experiences, discuss emerging trade challenges, and advance practical solutions aimed at strengthening Africa's economic integration and competitiveness in the global marketplace. As African economies seek to navigate an increasingly complex global environment, the meeting highlighted the growing importance of cooperation, innovation, and strategic investment in building a more connected and prosperous continent.

Somaliland's Top Diplomat Talks Recognition, Port Deal.....

from Somalia, which denounced it as a violation of its sovereignty. Subsequent Turkish shuttle diplomacy led to the Ankara Declaration in December 2024, where Ethiopia and Somalia agreed to pursue technical talks on sea access while respecting Somalia's territorial integrity. However, those talks yielded little progress, and Ethiopia has since explored alternative port access, including Assab in Eritrea.

As Somaliland recently celebrated its 35th Independence Day, following Israel's recognition of its sovereignty, The Reporter's Sisay Sahlu sat down with Abdirahman Dahir Adan Bakal, minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation under President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi Cirro, to discuss Ethiopia-Somaliland relations, Somaliland's recognition efforts, and broader regional issues. **EXCERPTS:**

The Reporter: What do current diplomatic relations between Ethiopia and Somaliland look like?

Abdirahman Dahir Adan Bakal: Ethiopia is one of the closest friends that we have in the region. Ethiopia has always been and will always be one of the most important countries for us. Our relationship has always been good. It has not changed; it has continuously improved each day. We see our relationship with Ethiopia as very, very important and we have absolutely no problem whatsoever. **The MoU was signed under the tenure of former Somaliland President Muse Bihi. A new president, Irro, took the helm last year. Have policies changed since?**

No, there has not been any change and we are always willing to discuss with Ethiopia for anything that is of mutual interest for both countries. We understand the importance of Ethiopia having access to the sea. We understand them and they are our brothers, and if there's any way we can help them, we are always willing.

Apart from the MoU, Ethiopia was once linked to a 19 percent stake in Somaliland's Berbera port. Where does this stand? Are there any new developments?

The port is ready for Ethiopia to use at any time. They have not been using it to the full extent, but it's there for them. The corridor is here. So, if Ethiopia wants to make full use of that, we have absolutely no problem and it's ready for them.

Any news discussions about the MOU?

I can tell you we are willing to discuss with the Ethiopian government their needs, having access to the seaport or access to the sea. We understand they have the right and we are willing to discuss with them.



Can we say the MOU still valid, or is it already void? At the time of the signing, many Ethiopians had a positive view of the agreement. Is it still possible to be optimistic ever after Turkish mediation between Ethiopia and the Government of Somalia?

No, the MoU is not the only thing. Once again, I said we understand the need for Ethiopia having access to the sea and Berbera port is one of the best ports in Africa. They can utilize [Berbera] as much as they want and any other need of access to the sea.

Have there been any official visits from Ethiopia in the year since Mohamed Abdullahi Cirro was elected president?

Myself and the president both have met with Ethiopian officials. Our relationship is always good. There's no problem between us and Ethiopia. We see them as our close allies. We see them as our brothers. Somaliland and Ethiopia; for us they are just the same, two sides of the same coin. So, we are willing to discuss anything with Ethiopia and we are willing to work together. Our relationship has always been good and still good and it's our understanding that it will grow as well and will continue to improve.

What exactly happened to Ethiopia's purported 19 percent stake in Berbera?

All I can tell you is that the port is huge and Ethiopia has not utilized it to the full extent, but it is there for them to utilize. But, once again, that need has to come from Ethiopia.

Is Ethiopia currently using the Berbera corridor for its international trade?

The utilization of the port, including Ethiopia and Somaliland, the capacity of that port, it's about 20 to 30 percent. So, you understand that there's a lot more that they can utilize.

Somaliland is a peaceful country compared to neighboring eastern Africa nations. What can we expect from Somaliland in the near future? Are there plans, perhaps, of trade or investment with Ethiopia? Anything new on the table?

Somaliland has been a reliable and the most stable partner that Ethiopia has. So, I know it's always in the interest of both Ethiopia and Somaliland to work together. I understand that Ethiopia might have some relationship with Somalia. We

have no problem with that, but all I know is that, at the end of the day, Somaliland will always be the most reliable and the most stable partner that Ethiopia could ever have.

With regard to the recognition of Somaliland, your country wants to see something from Ethiopia. During the recent Somaliland Independence Day celebrations, you and the president mentioned your hope that Ethiopia and the UAE will be the next to recognize Somaliland, following the Israeli government decision to do the same. Can you tell us more about this?

We believe Ethiopia has always been our friend and will always be our friend and we will never push Ethiopia to recognize Somaliland. But I'm sure at some point Ethiopia will see that Somaliland is a reliable and stable partner that they will eventually recognize.

Are there Ethiopian investors in Somaliland?

Business people from Ethiopia come to Somaliland. They are very interested but, there's no major investment at the moment. We have seen many Ethiopian individuals come here in the construction business and other businesses as well, and this tells us that they are very much interested in investing.

Are there any Ethiopian or any other foreign military forces stationed in Somaliland?

There has never been and there will never be any foreign forces. And as you know, the long border we have with Ethiopia is the safest border Ethiopia has with any of its neighboring countries. There isn't even a Somaliland military presence at the border. There's no Ethiopian military on our border. Our border is the most secure. There are no foreign forces on our soil.

We build this nation with rules. We started from zero the reconciliation process and established institutions, established a democracy. We have done this without the help of anyone except Ethiopia. Ethiopia has always been there for us. We could not do it without the help of Ethiopia.

People-to-people relations are at the very center of diplomacy. How do you characterize the people-to-people relations between the two nations?

Being a Somalilander and going to Ethiopia is like you going home, and vice versa. There's no difference.

We travel freely. There's absolutely no problem. It will continue to grow. All we need is to work together more. There's a lot that we can do for Ethiopia and there's a lot that they can do for us. The amount of cooperation that we can do here is unlimited. It's unlimited. At some point, we will utilize and maximize our cooperation and hopefully that will come soon.

How do Somalilanders view Ethiopians? Have you observed the public perception towards Ethiopia from Somalilanders?

Somalilanders see Ethiopians as their brothers. The same way, Ethiopians see Somalilanders as their brothers. They don't see it as two different countries. There is mutual respect.

A year before the new president came to power, rumors suggested the new administration favored a policy change towards Ethiopia. Is it really the same policy towards Ethiopia with the current Somaliland administration?

I would like to touch on that point indeed. Because obviously every country has the right to discuss their own matters and do whatever they think is in their best interest. But here's what we have always known: it doesn't matter what that relationship is, but Somalia will never be and has never been a reliable and stable country. So, at some point Ethiopia will figure out that Somalia is not a reliable and stable partner. We knew that's not going to work. But I mean we respect the Ethiopian government's sovereign policy and their right to what they think is in their best interest. But we know the best interest is to work with Somaliland.

So, can we say your government is still looking to pursue the MoU?

Yes. What I can say is that this government is willing to discuss with Ethiopia in terms of their needs and in terms of cooperation between the two countries. We are more than happy to work together. While looking and also understanding that the Ethiopian need for access to a seaport is very important here. Somaliland is a partner that is willing to discuss with Ethiopia in anything that they need.

Following Israel's recognition, expectations were growing that the UAE and US will be the next to do so. Some even speculate that Ethiopia will follow. Are there any ongoing discussions with governments of UN member states regarding recognition, including Ethiopia?

Ethiopia and the UAE are the closest allies to Somaliland. We also have many other friends that we work with. We are hoping that those friends will come and also recognize us, whether they recognize us now or later. Some might recognize Somaliland now;

some might do it later. But for each individual country, it's up to them to see when they think it fits. So, as I said before, Ethiopia is our closest friend and we never push them to recognize.

We will give them time and I hope Ethiopia at some point will realize that here is a peaceful, peace loving nation and reliable country that has a lot to offer by working together by collaborating together, and it can benefit both countries.

The deputy head of the Berbera Port Authority recently told The Reporter that traffic from Ethiopia has declined in light of the war in Iran. Has your government taken note of this impact?

Yes, since the war in the Middle East broke out, there has been an effect on all areas, not just Ethiopian shipments but Somaliland shipments as well. That's the general decrease. Yes, there has been at least a roughly 40 percent decline.

How would you describe Somaliland's current relations with Somalia, especially as they relate to regional stability?

The legal case for Somaliland is very, very obvious. It's black and white. Anybody who wants to look at it, it's a clear-cut. Somaliland has been an independent nation just like any other African country. After gaining independence, every African country kept the borders that the Europeans had drawn. So, Somaliland is a sovereign country with a clear border. Somaliland voluntarily united with Somalia. That union is not a constitution. There was no binding law—it was not justified and it ultimately failed. Here's what we need to understand: Somaliland is not a secessionist. We are only claiming our independence; the sovereignty that we received in 1960 just like any other African country.

The legal case is there. Unless somebody is blind, it's a clear case. We are not secessionists. Yes, we tried to reunite voluntarily. There was no concession, there was no constitution, there was nothing that had been ratified. That union collapsed and as you know for the past 35 years the international community and the African Union has been trying to build an effective government in Somalia. Unfortunately, the efforts failed each time. As you know there are terrorists which are a threat to all neighboring countries, including Ethiopia. There are African Union forces. There are US forces. All of this for 35 years, government after government, each time it failed and it will continue to fail.

So, it's about time for the African Union and our neighboring countries to face the facts. The fact is do not blindside, do not ignore the most stable, peace loving and the most reliable country in the east

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Somaliland's Top Diplomat.....

of Africa: Somaliland. It's time for all African countries, including East African countries, to work with Somaliland. They need Somaliland. We need them. By cooperating with Somaliland, East African countries could benefit. All of them can benefit instead of spending time and energy on failing states.

Is there any active current cooperation between Ethiopia and Somaliland?

Ethiopia is one of the best allies that we have. We could not do it alone; we could not exist without the help of Ethiopia. Ethiopia has always been there for us and they are still there for us and they will still be there for us in the future. But it's time. It's time to do that cooperation to the maximum level in all areas. There's a lot of Ethiopians that can benefit by cooperation in

Somaliland. We have what they need and they have what we need. So, we need to maximize that cooperation, and the best way that can happen is when Ethiopia, East African countries, and the African Union realize the facts on the ground. I don't want to just push Ethiopia to recognize Somaliland, but all African countries and the African Union need to face the facts, the reality.

I mean I don't know why for 35 years the African Union or this African country has not taken this case very seriously. In 2005 African Union sent a fact-finding mission to Somaliland. The report published by this mission clearly states that the Somaliland case is a reality, it's not a secession and it's a case that needs to be treated as such. All they need is to look. The African Union is not able to solve the issues that

are facing Africa—I don't know what they are there for. So, it's not just one member of the African Union but the African Union as a whole that needs to move in this case. We are not simply asking to be recognized. No, we are asking them to look into this case. This is a clear case. This is black and white.

This is an African issue. We hope we would not have been going to Europe or America or other countries if African people—African Union countries—are willing to solve the African problems. This is an African problem. They need to get together and do the right thing.

What do you believe the future holds for Ethiopia and Somaliland?

My final say is that we are always there for Ethiopia. They have always been there for us and we will always be there for them.

Somaliland Parliament Committee



Mohamoud Walaaleye
The Committee on Internal Affairs, Defense and Security of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Somaliland held a high-level meeting on 3rd June, 2026, with the European Union Capacity Building Mission in Somalia (EUCAP Somalia), focusing on strengthening security legislation, enhancing institutional cooperation, and expanding technical support for legal and security sector reforms.

The meeting took place in the conference hall of the House of Representatives and centered on accelerating the review and improvement of national security laws. Both sides emphasized the need for a modern, responsive legal framework capable of addressing evolving security challenges and the country's growing governance needs.

The EUCAP delegation, led by the Head of Mission in Somaliland, Mr. Artsi Alanne, highlighted the mission's continued commitment to providing technical assistance and expertise aimed at strengthening security institutions and improving legal and regulatory systems. The delegation stressed that effective

cooperation remains key to building sustainable institutional capacity.

On the parliamentary side, the session was chaired by the Deputy Chairperson of the Internal Affairs, Defence and Security Committee, Hon. Guleed Warsame, alongside other committee members. They underscored the importance of deepening collaboration with international partners supporting security sector development and institutional strengthening in Somaliland.

The two sides concluded the meeting with a shared agreement to continue enhancing cooperation through knowledge exchange, technical assistance, and policy support. The goal, they noted, is to develop a robust legal framework that contributes to long-term stability, improved security governance, and national development.

The engagement forms part of ongoing efforts to strengthen partnerships between Somaliland's national institutions and international actors working on security reform, governance improvement, and institutional capacity building.

Somaliland Sets Deadline for Old Vehicle.....

prolonged transition period as unsatisfactory and stressed that the government is now determined to bring the process to a close.

According to the minister, the ministry has introduced measures aimed at accelerating the replacement campaign and ensuring that all vehicles still carrying the old registration plates are switched to the new standardized plates.

"During the two months of June and July, we will focus all our efforts on replacing the old vehicle plates," Minister Afgaab stated.

He added, "This process should not have continued until now. It began in 2018, and the fact that it is still ongoing shows that things have not progressed as they should have."

He further warned that vehicle owners who fail to comply with the directive risk being prohibited from



operating their vehicles on Somaliland's roads.

"Anyone still using the old plate will have it replaced, and every vehicle owner should understand that their vehicle will not be allowed to operate if it does not carry the new registration plate," he added.

The announcement signals the government's intention to enforce stricter compliance measures after

years of gradual implementation. Authorities are urging vehicle owners across Somaliland to complete the plate replacement process before the end of July to avoid disruptions and possible penalties.

The vehicle plate modernization initiative was introduced to improve vehicle identification, strengthen road transport management, and enhance security and regulatory oversight throughout the country.

WADDANI Chairman Welcomes Veteran.....

Mohamoud Walaaleye
The Chairman of the WADDANI Party, Hirsi Ali Haji Hassan, has received former WADDANI Party Secretary for the United Nations, Jama Ayanle Ismail (Feyte), at his office following the latter's recent short visit to Somaliland.

During the meeting, Chairman Hirsi warmly welcomed Jama Feyte and commended him as a distinguished Somaliland intellectual and journalist whose dedication and contributions have played a significant role in the WADDANI Party's long political journey.

Speaking about the visit, Chairman Hirsi said he was delighted to host Jama Feyte at his office, describing him as an accomplished professional who has remained closely connected to both Somaliland and the party despite living abroad.



"It was a pleasure to receive Mr. Jama Ayanle Ismail (Feyte), the former WADDANI Party Secretary responsible for the United Nations, who is an educated professional and journalist from Somaliland and who recently arrived in the country on a short visit," Hirsi stated.

The WADDANI chairman further highlighted Feyte's unwavering dedication to the party, noting that he had been among the active figures who contributed tirelessly throughout the party's lengthy period of political struggle. "Mr. Jama Feyte is a hardworking and committed

leader who invested considerable effort in the WADDANI Party during the long years of struggle. I commend him for continuing that dedication and for never abandoning the cause," Hirsi added.

The meeting underscored the continued bond between WADDANI's leadership and its long-serving members and supporters, both at home and abroad, as the party seeks to strengthen its political agenda and engagement with Somaliland communities worldwide.

Environment Minister, Police Chief.....



of the Somaliland Police Force, Senior Officer Abdirashid Abdillahi Hassan, at his office.

The high-level meeting focused on how the police force can actively contribute to ongoing efforts to protect the environment and preserve the country's wildlife. Police forces play a critical role in environmental enforcement at all times, working alongside the Ministry to prevent violations and curb the destruction of nature and wildlife.

During the meeting, Minister Osman expressed his appreciation to the Police Commander for the continued cooperation and support extended to the Ministry, particularly in the areas of environmental protection and wildlife conservation. The discussions concluded with a mutual commitment to strengthen collaboration between the two institutions, enhancing coordinated efforts to safeguard the nation's environment and wildlife more effectively.

Somaliland Electricity Commission Blocks Price Hike.....

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Somaliland Electricity Regulatory Commission has officially rejected an electricity price increase announced by Indho Power Company, declaring the move unlawful and reaffirming the government-approved electricity tariff for consumers.

In a statement issued on June 1, 2026, the Chairman of the Commission, Abdi Egge Ahmed, stated that Indho Power's decision to raise the electricity rate to \$0.65 per unit had not received regulatory approval and therefore could not be enforced.

The Commission emphasized that the official electricity tariff approved by both the President of the Republic of Somaliland and the Electricity Regulatory Commission remains \$0.59 per unit, and that no electricity provider is authorized to charge customers above that rate. According to the statement, the Commission has taken legal action against Indho Power Company to ensure compliance with national electricity regulations and



regulatory decisions governing the sector.

The regulatory body stressed that protecting consumers from unauthorized price increases remains a key priority and warned that any violations of approved tariffs would be addressed through the appropriate legal and administrative measures.

The Commission also called on members of the public not to pay

more than the officially approved rate of \$0.59 per unit and encouraged consumers to report any attempts to charge prices above the regulated tariff.

The decision is expected to provide relief to households and businesses concerned about rising energy costs while reinforcing the Commission's role in overseeing Somaliland's electricity sector and safeguarding consumer interests.

U.S. State Department Report Signals.....

advocacy paper produced by a think tank or lobbying group. Rather, it is a report submitted to the U.S. Congress pursuant to a congressional mandate. Every sentence appears carefully drafted to balance U.S. interests, international law, and political sensitivities.

What the Report is Actually Saying

The report identifies three areas where the United States sees opportunities for greater engagement with Somaliland: Security Cooperation, Diplomatic Engagement, and Trade and Investment.

The report is not a declaration of recognition for Somaliland's sovereignty. It repeatedly emphasizes that the United States recognizes the 'sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Somalia, which includes the region of Somaliland'. In diplomatic language, this is engagement without recognition. In an era of strategic competition among the United States, China, Western powers, and regional actors such as Iran and Turkey, realist theory suggests that states prioritize national interests and security above broader moral or legal considerations.

Security Cooperation Analysis

Of course, the strongest section of the report is the security component. It highlights the Bab al-Mandab Strait, Red Sea security, Counterterrorism, Houthi threats, and Al Shabaab threats as critical factors in protecting global trade and regional stability.

What Washington is signaling here is that the United States currently



views Somaliland less as a political issue and more as a strategic asset.

Diplomatic Engagement Analysis

The report notes that the U.S. Embassy in Mogadishu conducts regular, periodic visits to Somaliland. This suggests that Washington considers Somaliland an important political actor and views sustained dialogue as worthwhile.

One could argue that this approach reflects Washington's effort to manage potential objections from Somalia and its supporters regarding issues of sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Trade and Investment Analysis

This section is arguably the most economically significant. The report highlights Berbera Port as a potential 'alternative to congested regional ports' and recognizes its growing role in regional trade and logistics.

Large-scale investors generally seek international recognition, treaty protections, legal certainty, and predictable diplomatic relations

before committing substantial investments.

Overall Diplomatic Assessment

In my assessment as a journalist focusing observing Somaliland's foreign affairs, the most encouraging aspect is not recognition itself, but the fact that the U.S. Congress requested a dedicated report on Somaliland and that the U.S. government formally identified concrete areas for expanded cooperation.

What, then, is Somaliland's counter-demand for cooperating with a U.S. engagement strategy that primarily advances American interests?

Will the strategic opportunities and advantages identified in the report ultimately persuade the United States to recognize Somaliland as an independent state?

The answers to both questions are likely to emerge soon. For Somaliland policymakers, diplomats, and observers, this is a development worth watching closely.

President Meets ALGASL to Strengthen Local Governance



By Goth Mohamed Goth

The President of the Republic of Somaliland, H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi (Cirro), has held a high-level meeting with the Local Government Association of Somaliland (ALGASL) to reinforce the role of local councils in service delivery, decentralization, and modern state-building.

President Cirro emphasized that local governments are the tier of administration closest to the citizenry, where people directly experience the presence and effectiveness of state services. Consequently, he stressed the urgent need to enhance the administrative, technical, and financial capacities of local councils to enable them to fulfill their mandated duties efficiently.

The President also underscored the importance of fostering stronger cooperation and coordination among all local governments across Somaliland. He noted that sharing experiences and best practices would accelerate the

delivery of essential public services that communities rely on.

The meeting was also addressed by the Minister of Local Government and Urban Development, along with the mayors of Berbera, Borama, and Hargeisa. They thanked the President for the dialogue and reaffirmed their commitment to decentralization and closer collaboration between the central government and local authorities.

President Cirro further highlighted that the partnership between local and central government is a cornerstone for implementing national development plans, strengthening social cohesion, and advancing national unity.

Following the main session, the President held a separate meeting with the newly appointed Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Executive Secretary of a local council. He advised them to carry out their responsibilities with integrity and dedication, and prayed to Almighty Allah (SWT) to grant them success in their new roles.

Somaliland Launches Nationwide Transport Compliance Drive as Authorities Crack Down on Old Number Plates and Expired Licenses

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Somaliland government has announced the launch of a major nationwide campaign aimed at strengthening transport regulation, improving revenue collection, and modernizing the country's vehicle registration system.

The announcement was made jointly by the Minister of Transport and Road Development Osman Afgaab, the State Minister of Finance and Economic Development Mowlid, and senior officials from both ministries. The campaign is scheduled to commence across all regions of Somaliland on June 6, 2026.

According to officials, the initiative will focus on enhancing the collection of transport-related taxes and service fees, with particular emphasis on the replacement of old vehicle registration plates, renewal of driving licenses, collection of vehicle ownership transfer fees, and road-use taxes.

Authorities also confirmed that strict enforcement measures will accompany the campaign. The use of outdated vehicle plates and expired driving licenses will no longer be tolerated, and legal action may be taken against non-compliant vehicle owners and drivers.

Officials revealed that the first phase of the national number plate replacement project achieved significant success, with 4,275 vehicle plates already replaced. The second phase, beginning on June 6, will concentrate on replacing the remaining plates while verifying the legal status of vehicles and drivers throughout the country.

The government described the campaign as a critical step toward building a modern, secure, and legally compliant transport system capable of supporting national development goals. Officials noted that the initiative is also expected to boost state revenue and improve the quality and efficiency of transport services available to the public.

In closing, authorities called upon all vehicle owners, transport operators, and members of the public to cooperate fully with the campaign, stressing that public participation will be essential to the successful implementation of Somaliland's transport modernization efforts.

"This initiative is not only about revenue collection; it is about creating a safer, more organized, and more accountable transport system for Somaliland," officials said during the announcement.

THT Puzzle

Prepaired by: Abdillahi Said Muhummed

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24										

ACROSS

- 1 Snow
- 4 gases
- 7 opposite of in
- 9 us
- 10 urges
- 11 today
- 12 computer science
- 13 Dark
- 17 kingdom
- 18 debates
- 19 By way of
- 21 hard live
- 23 joined
- 24 school in

DOWN

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

Previous Answer

A ¹	R	E ²		C ³	A ⁴	P ⁵		R ⁶		U ⁷
S		N ⁸	A	R	R	A	T	I	V	E ⁹
K		S		Y ¹⁰	E	S		S		A
		U			A ¹¹	S	S	I	S ¹²	T
C ¹⁴	A ¹⁵	R	E ¹⁶			E		N ¹⁷	O	
	R ¹⁸	E	A	S	O	N		G ¹⁹	O	
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O ³⁴	N		G		N		S ³⁵	A	I	D

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A Rare Act of Political Integrity: Abdikarim Ahmed Mooge Honors His Promise and Vacates Hargeisa Council Seat

Mohamoud Walaaleye

In a move widely hailed as a demonstration of political maturity, integrity, and accountability, former Hargeisa Mayor Abdikarim Ahmed Mooge has officially vacated his seat in the Hargeisa Municipal Council, fulfilling a longstanding commitment he made to the people.

The decision, announced yesterday, has drawn widespread praise across Somaliland, with many describing it as a powerful example of principled leadership and respect for the public trust. By relinquishing his council membership, Mooge has not only upheld a political promise but also reinforced the values of transparency and accountability that are essential to democratic governance.

Political observers note that the move sends a strong message about the importance of honoring commitments made to voters. At a time when public confidence in political institutions

often depends on the credibility of elected leaders, Mooge's action stands out as a reminder that leadership is measured not only by the offices one holds but also by the principles one chooses to uphold.

His decision reflects a commitment to placing public interest, political principles, and democratic values above personal political considerations. Such actions, analysts say, strengthen citizens' trust in the democratic system and contribute to the development of a political culture rooted in responsibility and ethical leadership.

The announcement has been warmly received by many Somaliland citizens, who view the move as an affirmation of the importance of respecting the mandate and duration of elected office. It also serves as a model for current and future leaders, demonstrating that accountability to voters extends beyond

election campaigns and must be reflected in concrete actions.

Supporters argue that Mooge's decision represents more than a procedural political step; it is a statement about the kind of leadership that Somaliland's democratic institutions require—leadership built on honesty, transparency, and respect for the electorate.

As Somaliland continues to strengthen its democratic traditions, Abdikarim Ahmed Mooge's decision is likely to be remembered as a notable example of political integrity. Many believe it will form an important part of his public legacy, symbolizing fidelity to principle and a steadfast commitment to honoring the trust placed in him by the people.

For many citizens, the move stands as a rare and commendable example of a politician choosing principle over position, reinforcing the belief that public office is ultimately a responsibility to the people rather than a privilege to be held indefinitely.

also gave his brief on the country's security situation, stating that Somaliland remains stable and secure, with no major security threats or incidents reported.

On the economy, the state minister for Finance and Economic Development highlighted the impact of the Middle East conflict on customs revenues and trade activities. He noted that disruptions in global trade, rising fuel prices and increased maritime insurance costs have affected government revenues. The ministry is reportedly exploring alternative markets and more reliable sources of income while preparing major reforms to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) system to strengthen domestic revenue collection.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation updated the ministers on Somaliland's diplomatic engagements and efforts to expand international partnerships. He outlined progress made in raising Somaliland's profile internationally and strengthening diplomatic relations. The minister further noted growing international recognition of Somaliland's strategic importance in Red Sea security, counterterrorism efforts and regional stability.

Public health was a major topic of discussion given the fatal malaise afflicting the populace in the country. The Minister of Health Development informed the Council that Dengue Fever and Chikungunya outbreaks have affected five regions of the country.

He outlined common symptoms, including high fever, headaches, joint pain, vomiting and fatigue.

According to the minister, the government has deployed emergency response teams, intensified mosquito-control campaigns, distributed mosquito nets and expanded public awareness programmes. National and technical committees have also been established to coordinate preparedness and response efforts.

The Deputy Minister of Livestock and Rural Development briefed the Cabinet on livestock exports, particularly shipments linked to the Hajj season. He highlighted ongoing efforts to improve animal health services, strengthen inspections and meet international export standards. He also stressed the need for a dedicated livestock export port to support one of Somaliland's most important economic sectors.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Energy and Minerals discussed the impact of rising fuel prices on electricity production costs. He said the government continues to provide support to fuel-importing companies to help prevent increases in electricity tariffs. The minister also warned electricity providers against raising prices and urged them to adhere to their agreements and obligations with the government with subsidies to the sector on table.

The Cabinet meeting concluded with discussions on maintaining economic stability, strengthening public services and advancing Somaliland's national development priorities.

The state is combating to contain fatal dengue and chikungunya malaise afflicting the nation

By M.A. Egge

The government of the Republic of Somaliland has taken steps in putting on measures both to combat and contain the fatal dengue and chikungunya malaise currently sweeping across the nation, particularly severely afflicting the city of Hargeisa.

The health minister Hon. Hussein Bashir Hirsi revealed that technical task-force committees have been established from as high as national level to coordinate the efforts.

The minister was giving his brief during the 64th weekly session of the Council of Ministers, chaired by the President H.E.

Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro, was held at the Presidential Palace, where ministers reviewed a wide range of issues concerning governance, security, the economy, foreign affairs, public health, livestock exports and energy.

The cabinet mainly reviewed economy, security, public health, livestock marketing and foreign affairs which was main focuses on their itinerary.

One of the key agenda items was a briefing on the Presidential Delivery Unit (PDU), presented jointly by the Minister of the Presidency and the Head of the Unit. Officials explained that the PDU serves as a

technical body responsible for coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the President's priorities and government commitments.

The cabinet was informed that the unit's responsibilities include accelerating the implementation of presidential priorities, measuring progress, strengthening coordination among government institutions, providing technical support, managing performance data and submitting regular progress reports to the President.

The Minister of Interior and National Security