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President Highlights U.S. Visit Gains, Reaffirms Ethiopia Ties and Rejects Regional Interference

I express my profound gratitude to President Donald J. Trump for distinguishing the Republic of Somaliland from failed Somalia, says President Irro



By M.A. Egge,
The President of the Republic of Somaliland H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdirahman popularly known as Irro has, upon arrival, highlighted the outcomes of his working visits to the United States and the United Arab Emirates, expressing confidence in

Continue on Page 2



Trump in Ohio Rally: Minnesota Is "Somaliaa-Land," Not Somaliland — "A Totally Different Country"



Mohamoud Walaaleye
President Donald Trump, campaigning for Republican candidates at the Covelli Centre in Youngstown, referred to Minnesota as "Somalia-land" while attacking the state's large Somali immigrant community, then

Page 2

Waddani Chairman Backs Trump's 'Name change' Idea, Urges U.S. Recognition of Somaliland



Page 3

Somaliland Welcomes President Trump's Acknowledgement of Its Sovereign Status, Seeks Deeper US Ties



Mohamoud Walaaleye
The Government of the Republic of Somaliland has welcomed US President Donald J. Trump's acknowledgement of Somaliland as a distinct country, saying his remarks affirm its longstanding status as a self-governing nation with defined borders, democratic

institutions and independent foreign relations. In a press statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Somaliland on Tuesday, the government said Somaliland's borders were inherited at independence and

Continue on Page 2

Somaliland and Ethiopia Discuss Strengthening Defense Ties and Regional Security



Page 3

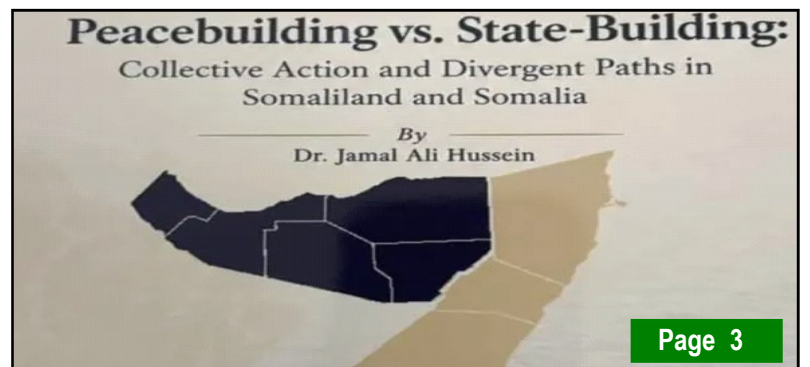
Somaliland Ohio Association Welcomes Trump's Remarks, Hopes for Full U.S. Recognition

The Somaliland Ohio Association (SOA) has welcomed what it described as an encouraging statement by U.S. President Donald J. Trump recognizing the distinction between Somaliland and Somalia, expressing hope that the remarks will pave the way for stronger



Continue on Page 2

Somaliland-Somalia Study Set to Reach Johns Hopkins University's International Relations Classroom



Page 3

Somaliland Strengthens Collective Action on Immunization and Polio Eradication



Page 4

Inside

Somaliland President Tells Trump: You Can Make More History by Recognizing Our Nation

Page 7

WADDANI Chairman Hersi Appoints Committee to Shape Party's Political Ideology Ahead of Congress

Page 6

President Highlights U.S.....



new opportunities for international cooperation while reaffirming Somaliland's relationship with neighbouring Ethiopia and opposing what he described as actions against Somaliland's sovereignty. Addressing senior government officials, members of both Houses of Parliament, military commanders, designed guests from the traditional leaders, religious scholars, businesspeople, academics, women and other prominent members of society at the Presidential Palace in Hargeisa, President Iro said he and his delegation had returned with success, confidence and high hopes for Somaliland's future. The President said the visit to the United States had opened new avenues for cooperation that his administration would continue to pursue, emphasizing that the outcomes could contribute significantly to the future of the Republic of Somaliland. He expressed particular appreciation to U.S. President Donald J. Trump, saying he was grateful that Trump had distinguished Somaliland from Somalia. "I would like to express my profound gratitude to President Donald J. Trump for distinguishing the differences between the Republic of Somaliland from failed Somalia," President Iro said. Somaliland Presents Its Case to U.S. Officials and Investors

President Iro said that during the delegation's stay in Washington, D.C., and New York, Somaliland's case was presented to U.S. government officials, members of both chambers of Congress, influential policy figures, institutes specializing in international politics and diplomacy, investors and international organizations based in the United States. He described the engagements as an opportunity to advance Somaliland's interests and establish new channels of cooperation, adding that the government would continue working to translate the opportunities into tangible results. The President's remarks followed his return from the overseas visits, during which he led a delegation representing Somaliland's government. President Reaffirms Somaliland's Cooperation with Ethiopia Addressing regional relations, President Iro described Ethiopia as an important neighbouring country and reaffirmed his administration's confidence in cooperation between the two sides. "Ethiopia is our neighbouring country, and we have considerable confidence in cooperation with it. We oppose interference and any action that could threaten its stability and the existence of its statehood," he said. The President's statement underscored his position that regional cooperation should respect the stability and sovereignty of neighbouring countries.

He also rejected what he described as actions against Somaliland's sovereignty by a group of states recently aligned under Egypt's leadership. "We oppose the action taken against our sovereignty by the states that recently formed an alliance led by Egypt," President Iro said. He further stressed that regional cooperation could not meaningfully exclude Somaliland, declaring: "Cooperation that excludes Somaliland from the region cannot be possible." President Calls for National Unity and Support for Vulnerable Communities Beyond foreign relations, President Iro called on religious leaders, businesspeople and wealthy members of society to pay greater attention to citizens facing economic hardship. He urged those with greater financial means to support vulnerable communities, particularly people with limited resources and low incomes. The President also reiterated his commitment to consultation on matters of national importance, saying his administration remained open to engagement with Parliament, political parties, religious and traditional leaders, academics, businesspeople, women, young people and citizens across society. In his concluding remarks, President Iro acknowledged that differences could arise over government policies and how national responsibilities should be carried out. However, he emphasized that such disagreements should not undermine unity on matters concerning Somaliland's continued existence and vital national interests. He called on Somalilanders to remain united in safeguarding the country's national interests, while the government continues to pursue international cooperation and address domestic economic and social challenges.

Trump in Ohio Rally: Minnesota Is "Somaliaa-Land,"



immediately distinguished it from Somaliland. In remarks at the rally, Trump said: "I call it Somaliaa-land, not Somaliland, because actually it's a totally different country. Some people like Somaliland. It has

nothing to do, you know that, has nothing to do. I said, you got to be kidding. I think they should change the name immediately." The comments came amid a broader attack on Somali immigrants in Minnesota, which Trump has repeatedly described as being "destroyed" or "taken over," citing fraud cases, crime, and other issues. He linked the topic to Haitian immigrants in Springfield, Ohio, and criticized Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.), a Somali-born U.S. citizen. Crowd members chanted "deport" during portions of the speech. Trump's Youngstown comments distinguish the name and entity of Somaliland from the Somali

diaspora issues he criticizes in Minnesota. However, they do not constitute formal diplomatic recognition or a change in U.S. policy. In late December 2025, after Israel's formal recognition of Somaliland the move elicited a lot of focus from the international community. Somaliland's leaders have sought U.S. recognition, offering strategic assets such as access related to the port of Berbera, and some Republican lawmakers have introduced supportive legislation. The Trump administration has not shifted official policy yet.

Somaliland Welcomes President.....

were consistent with the African Union's principle of respecting borders that existed at the time of independence. The statement highlighted Somaliland's history of independence on 26 June 1960 and its restoration of sovereignty within its 1960 borders on 18 May 1991. Since then, it said, Somaliland has developed functioning institutions and held successive presidential, parliamentary and local elections. The November 2024 presidential election marked the sixth peaceful transfer of power, the government said, reaffirming Somaliland's democratic tradition. The government also emphasized Somaliland's strategic importance in the Horn of Africa, citing its 850-kilometre coastline along the Gulf of Aden and its proximity to the Bab el-Mandeb Strait. It said Berbera Port and the Berbera Corridor provide an important gateway for trade into the Horn of Africa, while Somaliland's experience in counter-terrorism and maritime security contributes to efforts to protect regional stability and international shipping. The statement added that Somaliland welcomes responsible investment in its mineral resources, energy, fisheries and livestock sectors.

The government also referred to recent meetings between President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi (Irra) and US government officials in Washington, during which the Somaliland president reaffirmed his administration's commitment to peace, stability and constructive cooperation. According to the statement, Irra outlined a vision for stronger Somaliland-US relations based on shared interests and mutual benefits, including regional security, trade and investment. The government further pointed to Somaliland's international relations, stating that Israel became the first United Nations member state to formally recognize the Republic of Somaliland on 26 December 2025. It also cited Somaliland's established partnership with Taiwan. Reaffirming its commitment to peaceful relations with neighbouring countries, the government said it supports resolving differences through respectful dialogue. The statement expressed gratitude to Trump for acknowledging Somaliland as a sovereign and independent country and said the government looks forward to working with his administration to deepen constructive engagement between the two sides.

Somaliland Ohio Association.....



bilateral cooperation and eventual U.S. recognition of the Republic of Somaliland. In an official statement dated October 13, 2026, the association's chairman, Faisal Subane, expressed appreciation to Trump for addressing what he described as an important historical and political issue. "President Trump's remarks reflect a growing understanding of Somaliland's unique history, people, and political reality," Subane said, adding that the president's leadership and attention to the issue were valued by Somalilanders in the United States, particularly the Somaliland community in Ohio. The association reiterated its position that Somaliland's sovereignty dates to June 26, 1960, when the former British Somaliland Protectorate gained independence as the sovereign State of Somaliland, before the subsequent union with Somalia on July 1, 1960. It argued that the union lacked the necessary legal foundation, maintaining that the two states never

executed a mutually agreed and legally ratified Act of Union and that the arrangement did not lawfully extinguish Somaliland's sovereignty. Somaliland reaffirmed and restored its independence on May 18, 1991, and has since developed its own governing institutions and a political system that the association described as peaceful, stable and democratic. The statement also highlighted Somaliland's record over more than three decades, citing its commitment to democracy, the rule of law, peaceful transfers of power, human rights, religious tolerance and regional security. "Its people continue to show resilience and responsibility, making Somaliland a reliable partner for peace and stability in the Horn of Africa," the statement said. The association expressed hope that Trump's remarks would usher in a new phase of relations between Washington and Hargeisa, spanning diplomacy, security, trade and investment. It said it hoped these developments would eventually lead to full U.S. recognition of the Republic of Somaliland. "On behalf of the Somaliland Ohio Association and our members across Ohio, I thank President Trump for his leadership and welcome this encouraging message with great hope and appreciation," Subane said.

Waddani Chairman Backs Trump’s ‘Name change’.....



Mohamoud Walaaleye
WADDANI Party Chairman Hersi Ali H. Hassan has welcomed an idea attributed to U.S. President Donald Trump that Somaliland could adopt a new name to distinguish itself more clearly from Somalia, suggesting that “The Red Sea Republic” could be a strong option. In a statement shared on social media, Hersi said he welcomed the proposal and expressed hope that President Trump would take the further step of formally recognizing Somaliland as an independent state.
“President Trump has made other remarkable decisions and has the courage to formally recognize Somaliland, and there is great hope that he will do so,” Hersi said. Hersi argued that while Somalilanders and Somalian’s

share an ethnic identity, Somaliland and Somalia are politically distinct, reflecting separate national aspirations and political trajectories.
“Ethnically, we are Somalis, but politically Somaliland and Somalia are two distinct countries,” he said. He added that Somaliland’s claim to statehood rests on the will of its people and their longstanding pursuit of self-determination, describing the decision to restore Somaliland’s independence as a sovereign choice made 35 years ago.
Hirsi also pointed to Somaliland’s history as a separate territory under British rule, noting that the United Kingdom recognized Somaliland as an independent state in 1960, before it voluntarily united with the

former Italian-administered Somalia.
He argued that the subsequent union had failed, reinforcing Somaliland’s position that its political status should reflect the wishes of its people.
His remarks come amid continued efforts by Somaliland to secure international recognition and strengthen its diplomatic relationships, with supporters arguing that its strategic location along the Gulf of Aden and near the Red Sea makes it an important partner in regional security and international trade.
The proposed name, “The Red Sea Republic,” would place greater emphasis on Somaliland’s maritime geography and distinguish it more clearly from Somalia in international affairs. However, Hersi presented it as a possible option rather than an adopted official name.

Somaliland and Ethiopia Discuss.....



Mohamoud Walaaleye
The Commander-in-Chief of the Somaliland National Armed Forces, Brigadier General Nim’an Yusuf Gahnug, has held talks with senior Ethiopian diplomatic and defense officials on strengthening bilateral defense cooperation and addressing regional security challenges.
The meeting took place at the General Command Headquarters of the Somaliland National Armed Forces in Hargeisa, where the Somaliland military chief received Ethiopia’s Consular General to Somaliland, Ambassador

Teshome, and the defense attaché at the Ethiopian Consular General. Discussions focused on relations between the two sides, with particular emphasis on defense cooperation and strengthening security coordination amid evolving regional developments.
During the meeting, Ambassador Teshome briefed Brigadier General Gahnug on the latest developments and ongoing progress across the region.
The two sides also discussed ways to deepen security cooperation and address emerging security

challenges affecting regional peace and stability.
Brigadier General Gahnug reaffirmed Somaliland’s commitment to strengthening cooperation between the two-armed forces, stressing the importance of joint efforts to support peace and stability in the region.
The meeting highlights continued engagement between Somaliland and Ethiopia on defense and security matters as regional actors seek to address shared challenges and promote stability in the Horn of Africa.

Somaliland–Somalia Study Set.....

Mohamoud Walaaleye
A research paper comparing the peacebuilding and state-building experiences of Somaliland and Somalia is expected to be included in coursework at Johns Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), according to its author, Dr. Jamal Ali Hussein.
Titled “Peacebuilding vs. State-Building: Collective Action and Divergent Paths in Somaliland and Somalia,” the paper was published in the June 2026 edition of the Cornell International Affairs Review. Dr. Jamal announced on Tuesday that he had been informed that the paper was expected to feature in a class related to international relations at the prestigious US university.
The study examines the contrasting approaches and trajectories of Somaliland and Somalia in peacebuilding and state-building, contributing to academic discussions on governance,

political development and institution-building in the Horn of Africa.
Expressing gratitude for the news, Dr. Jamal said the prospect of his work being studied at a leading international university was particularly meaningful after the considerable time and effort he had invested in the research.
He also expressed hope that the paper would become a useful reference for scholars, researchers and other writers exploring the political development of Somaliland and Somalia.
If confirmed, the paper’s inclusion in the university’s coursework would represent a significant academic milestone for the author and provide an opportunity to broaden international academic engagement with the two countries’ distinct experiences.
The reported inclusion has not yet been independently confirmed by Johns Hopkins University.

WADDANI Chairman Urges Somalilanders to Safeguard Peace at Borama University Graduation



Mohamoud walaaleye
WADDANI Party Chairman Hersi Ali Haji Hassan joined the 2026 graduating class of Borama University at a ceremony in Borama, the capital of the Awdal Region, celebrating academic achievement while emphasising the importance of peace and security in advancing education.
Hersi said it was a great pleasure to attend the graduation ceremony, noting that he had completed his own academic journey earlier in May this year, when he defended his master’s degree.
The WADDANI chairman also congratulated his wife, Guddoon Xaashi Dharaar, who graduated alongside him and specialised in health sciences. He

extended his congratulations to all his fellow graduates, celebrating their dedication and academic accomplishments.
Emphasising the relationship between education and stability, Hersi highlighted knowledge and peace as two of the most important foundations of society.
“Knowledge key is peace and security that make it possible to acquire it are the two most important things,” he said, urging everyone to contribute to maintaining peace and security.
He stressed that peace is essential for education and called on Somalilanders to work collectively to preserve stability, which enables students to pursue their studies and communities to advance through knowledge and learning.

Somaliland Strengthens Collective Action.....



By Horn Tribune Contributors

Government, health partners, private healthcare providers and community representatives have reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening immunization services and sustaining progress towards polio eradication in Somaliland.

The commitment was highlighted on 26 August 2026 in Hargeisa during the Inclusive Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Immunization and Polio Eradication, convened by the Somaliland Ministry of Health Development and UNICEF at Maansoor Hotel.

The forum brought together immunization stakeholders, including the World Health Organization (WHO), private hospitals, community leaders, youth advocates, parents, and polio survivors, to identify practical actions to improve vaccination coverage and protect children against vaccine-preventable diseases.

The meeting took place as Somaliland advances implementation of its National Immunization Strategy 2026–2030, with discussions focusing on strengthening routine immunization, improving disease surveillance and ensuring that children in underserved communities are not left behind.

Reaching Every Child with Life-Saving Vaccines

Despite progress in immunization services, gaps in vaccination coverage persist, particularly among children in nomadic communities, remote settlements and underserved urban areas. Children who have never received a routine vaccine, known as zero-dose children, remain a priority for immunization programmes.

Participants emphasized the importance of identifying and reaching these children through targeted outreach, stronger health service delivery and sustained community engagement. They also

highlighted the need to ensure that under-immunized children complete their recommended vaccination schedules.

Strengthening routine immunization was identified as essential to maintaining population immunity and reducing the risk of outbreaks, including poliovirus transmission. Participants called for continued vigilance, effective disease surveillance and timely response to potential public health threats.

Discussions also addressed the importance of reliable cold chain systems to maintain vaccine quality and ensure that life-saving vaccines remain available at health facilities and outreach service points.

Communities at the Centre of Immunization Efforts

The participation of parents, community leaders, youth advocates and polio survivors brought valuable community perspectives to the discussions. Their contributions highlighted the importance of building trust, addressing misconceptions about vaccines and providing families with accurate, accessible information on the benefits of immunization.

Participants emphasized that community engagement must be continuous and inclusive, with religious leaders, youth and other trusted voices playing an important role in encouraging parents and caregivers to vaccinate their children.

The experiences of polio survivors also served as a reminder of the potentially lifelong consequences of vaccine-preventable diseases and the importance of sustaining high vaccination coverage to protect future generations.

Participants called for meaningful community involvement in immunization planning, implementation and accountability to ensure that services respond to the needs of families, particularly those facing barriers to access.

Strengthening Partnerships for Sustainable Results

The forum highlighted the importance of collaboration between government, UNICEF, WHO, private healthcare providers and communities in expanding access to immunization services.

Private hospitals were recognized as important partners in improving access to routine childhood vaccination, complementing services delivered through public health facilities and outreach programmes.

Participants called for stronger coordination among immunization partners to maximize available resources, avoid duplication and support implementation of the National Immunization Strategy 2026–2030. They also underscored the importance of sustained political commitment and adequate financing to maintain progress and strengthen the resilience of immunization services.

A Shared Commitment to Protecting Every Child

The forum concluded with recommendations to strengthen routine immunization, prioritize zero-dose and under-immunized children, enhance surveillance and outbreak preparedness, improve cold chain management, expand community engagement and reinforce public-private collaboration.

Participants reaffirmed the importance of a whole-of-society approach to immunization and polio prevention, recognizing that protecting children requires coordinated action across government institutions, health partners, service providers and communities.

As Somaliland advances its immunization priorities for 2026–2030, continued collaboration and investment will be essential to reaching children who remain unreached and ensuring that every child has access to life-saving vaccines.

Every child vaccinated is a step towards a healthier, polio-free future.

Religious Leaders Commit to Promoting Immunization, Polio Eradication and Better Maternal and Child Health

By Horn Tribune Contributors

Religious leaders in Somaliland have committed to using their influence within mosques, religious gatherings and communities to promote childhood immunization, polio eradication, maternal health and better nutrition for women and children.

The commitment followed a two-day dialogue led by Somaliland Ministry of Health Development and partners on 15–16 September 2026, bringing together 20 religious leaders alongside government health officials, UNICEF and World Health Organization (WHO) representatives and polio survivors. The dialogue aimed to strengthen faith-based advocacy, address misconceptions about vaccination and encourage families to access essential health and nutrition services.

The discussions came as Somaliland advances its National Immunization Strategy 2026–2030, with continued efforts needed to reach children who have never received routine vaccines, particularly those living in nomadic communities, remote settlements and underserved urban areas.

Building Trust in Immunization Through Faith

The first day focused on immunization and polio eradication, bringing together religious leaders and health experts to discuss vaccine safety, routine immunization schedules and the risks posed by vaccine-preventable diseases, including polio and measles.

Senior officials from the Somaliland Ministry of Health Development, including the Director General, the Director of Child Health and Immunization, the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) Manager and a WHO immunization representative, participated in the discussions.

Health experts responded to questions and concerns raised by leaders about vaccine ingredients, safety, sourcing and storage. Participants also discussed how misinformation and rumours can undermine public confidence and prevent children from receiving life-saving vaccines.

The dialogue explored the relationship between Islamic teachings and preventive healthcare, emphasizing the shared responsibility to protect life, care for vulnerable members of society and seek appropriate medical treatment.

By bringing religious perspectives together with evidence-based health information, the session provided an opportunity to address concerns openly and strengthen religious leaders' capacity to communicate accurate information to their communities.

Bringing Maternal and Child Health to the Community

The second day focused on maternal and child health and nutrition, highlighting the importance of antenatal and postnatal care, breastfeeding,

maternal nutrition, micronutrient supplementation, anaemia prevention and appropriate feeding practices for infants and young children.

Participants discussed the need to encourage early initiation of breastfeeding and exclusive breastfeeding during the first six months of a child's life, alongside appropriate complementary feeding thereafter.

Attention was given to the role of fathers and other family members in supporting women during pregnancy and breastfeeding, helping them access health services and ensuring that mothers and children receive adequate nutrition.

Religious leaders recognized that religious platforms and community gatherings offer important opportunities to share accurate health information, challenge misconceptions and encourage families to adopt positive health-seeking behaviours.

Faith Leaders as Champions for Child Health

At the conclusion of the dialogue, participants committed to integrating messages on immunization, polio prevention, maternal health and nutrition into Friday sermons, religious gatherings and community outreach activities.

They also pledged to encourage parents to complete their children's vaccination schedules, promote optimal infant and young child feeding practices, support maternal health service uptake and raise awareness of anaemia prevention. To sustain these efforts, the workshop identified community advocates, including faith leaders and polio survivors, who can help mobilize communities and promote positive health behaviours.

Advocacy video messages recorded during the workshop will also support efforts to communicate key health messages more widely.

The participation of polio survivors provided a powerful reminder of the long-term consequences of polio and the importance of protecting every child through vaccination.

Strengthening Collaboration for Lasting Impact

The Somaliland Ministry of Health Development welcomed the engagement of religious leaders ensuring that trusted community voices complement the delivery of essential health services.

As Somaliland works to improve immunization coverage and maternal and child health outcomes, engaging faith leaders will remain an important approach to reaching underserved populations, building public confidence and encouraging families to make informed decisions about their health.

By working together, faith leaders, health authorities and communities can help ensure that every child is protected through immunization and that every mother and child has the opportunity to thrive.

Somaliland Central Bank Backs Financial Training to Empower Women Entrepreneurs



Deputy Director of the Legal Department at the Central Bank of Somaliland; Khalif Sheikh Omar, Chairman of the Somaliland Bankers Association; Maryan Sa'ad, Chairperson of SWIFI; representatives from the Ministries of Trade and Finance; and women entrepreneurs.

The training is designed to strengthen participants' understanding of financial management, helping them manage their business finances more effectively, make informed financial decisions and identify opportunities to grow their enterprises.

The initiative forms part of the Central Bank of Somaliland's broader efforts to promote financial literacy and strengthen the economic capacity of women entrepreneurs, recognizing their role in local markets and the wider economy.

Through its collaboration with SWIFI, the Central Bank aims to expand financial knowledge among women in business and support their efforts to build stronger, more sustainable enterprises.

The programme, financially supported by the Central Bank of Somaliland, targets women running businesses in local markets, equipping them with financial knowledge and practical skills to improve money management and expand their commercial activities. The opening ceremony was attended by Muna Mohamed Artan,

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Central Bank of Somaliland, in partnership with the Somaliland Women in Finance (SWIFI) Association, has launched a financial literacy training programme aimed at empowering women entrepreneurs and strengthening their businesses across Somaliland.

Somaliland Finance Ministry Opens Taxpayer Forum to Strengthen Ties with Business Community

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development of the Republic of Somaliland has held a Taxpayer Forum aimed at strengthening engagement with the business community, improving tax awareness and fostering cooperation between the government and businesses.

The forum was opened by the ministry's State Minister, Hon. Ismail Mawlid Abdillahi, and brought together business representatives from various sectors and levels of the economy to discuss tax-related issues and explore ways to improve collaboration between taxpayers and the government.

The initiative provides a platform for the ministry and business community to exchange information; address concerns surrounding the tax system and strengthen communication on matters affecting taxpayers.

Speaking at the opening session, State Minister Ismail Mawlid Abdillahi thanked the participating business representatives for attending and underscored the important role of businesses in driving Somaliland's economic development and boosting government revenue.

Mr. Hassan Farah Mohamed, Director of the Financial Management Reform Department, outlined the objectives and significance of the forum, highlighting its contribution to promoting mutual understanding,



facilitating information sharing and building a sustainable working relationship between the ministry and the business community. During the discussions, ministry officials and business representatives exchanged questions, views and practical recommendations on taxation. The dialogue allowed participants to raise key concerns directly and propose measures to improve the tax system and strengthen cooperation between the government and taxpayers.

The Taxpayer Forum is part of the ministry's broader efforts to deepen engagement with the business community, enhance public awareness of tax obligations and promote a tax system built on mutual understanding, transparency, information sharing and shared responsibility. Through the initiative, the ministry seeks to encourage constructive dialogue with taxpayers and strengthen cooperation in support of public revenue collection and Somaliland's economic development.

Somaliland FM Draws Red Line Against Türkiye: "Ankara Is Free to Choose Its Allies, but Cannot Deny Somaliland the Same Right"



Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Foreign Minister of the Republic of Somaliland Hon. Abdirahman Bakaal has firmly rejected Türkiye's opposition to Somaliland's diplomatic relations with Israel, saying Ankara cannot dictate Hargeisa's foreign-policy choices while exercising its own freedom to establish international partnerships.

In an interview with Sky News, the minister acknowledged Türkiye's strategic interests in Somalia and its substantial military presence in Mogadishu, but stressed that these ties do not give Ankara the right to interfere in Somaliland's diplomatic decisions.

"Türkiye cannot dictate Somaliland's foreign policy or decide who Somaliland can or cannot engage with," the minister said, adding that Somaliland remains open to dialogue with Türkiye and other countries, provided its independent diplomatic choices are respected.

The minister also questioned the consistency of Ankara's position on Somaliland-Israel relations, pointing to Türkiye's establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel in 1949.

His remarks come amid growing regional tensions over Somaliland's international recognition and the strategic balance around the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea.

Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said in a TRT Haber interview on January 9, 2026, that Türkiye had played a role in diplomatic efforts bringing Somalia and Ethiopia together after the January 2024 Ethiopia-Somaliland memorandum of understanding. Ankara has supported Somalia's position on territorial integrity, while Somaliland maintains that its pursuit of international recognition and foreign partnerships reflects its own national interests.

Somaliland's position is that it should be free to develop relations with Israel and other international partners without external pressure. Its strategic location along the Gulf of Aden, near the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, and the importance of Berbera Port further shape its interest in international security and economic cooperation.

Despite the dispute, the Foreign Minister signalled that dialogue with Ankara remains possible, while making clear that Somaliland expects mutual respect and non-interference.

Somaliland Deaf National Football Team to Face Cameroon, Senegal and South Sudan at DAFCON 2026

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Somaliland Deaf National Football Team is set to compete in the upcoming Deaf African Cup of Nations (DAFCON Ethiopia 2026), marking its participation in a continental football tournament organized by the Deaf African Football Confederation (DAFC), according to a statement from the Ministry of Sports of the Republic of Somaliland.

According to the official tournament fixtures, Somaliland has been drawn in **Group C**, alongside Cameroon, Senegal and South Sudan, setting up a series of matches against three national teams during the competition.

The tournament is scheduled to take place from **November 30 to December 13, 2026**, in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital. It is expected to bring together 18 national teams from across Africa, including Egypt, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Mali, Kenya and Côte d'Ivoire.

Somaliland's participation provides an opportunity for its deaf footballers



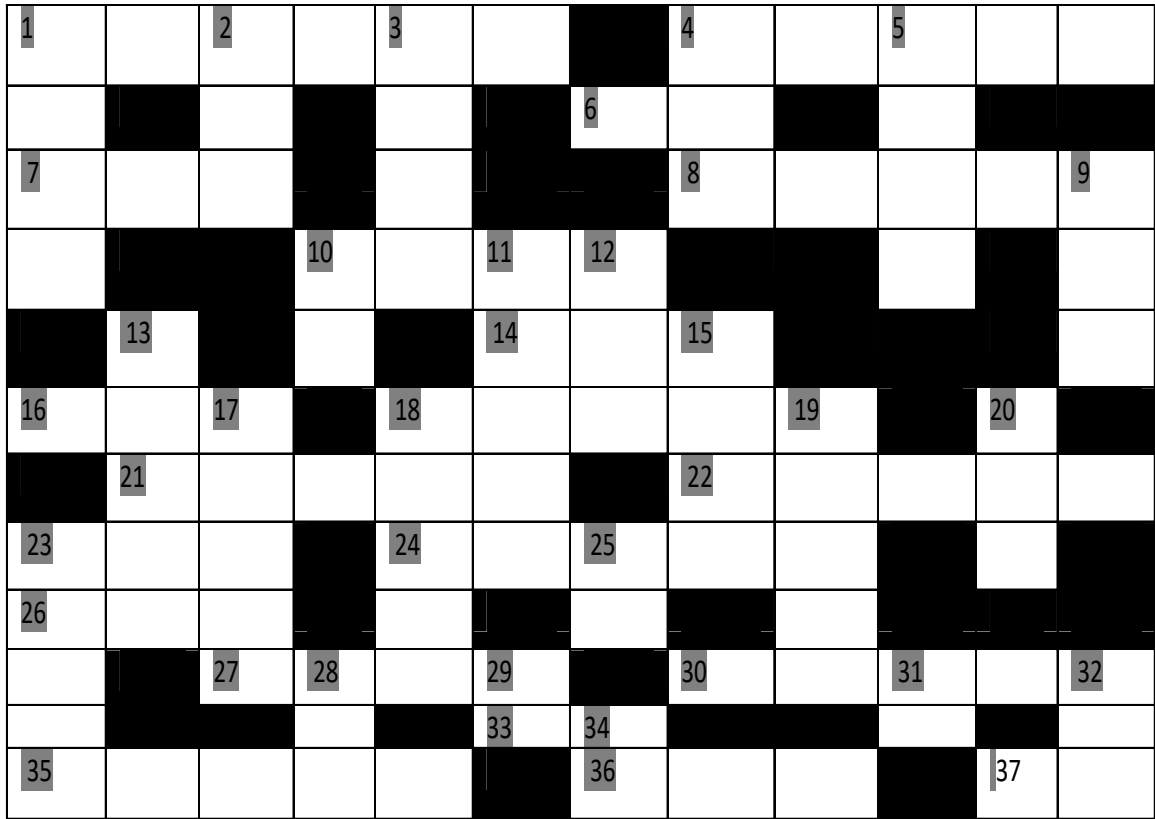
to compete against teams from across the continent, gain international sporting experience and strengthen sporting connections within Africa.

The competition will also offer a platform for deaf athletes to showcase their footballing abilities and highlight the role of inclusive sports in promoting participation and representation.

The Ministry of Sports' announcement places the Somaliland Deaf National Football Team among the participants preparing for the continental tournament, with attention now turning to its Group C fixtures in Addis Ababa.

THT Puzzle

Prepared by: Abdillahi Said Muhummed



- Down**
1 Beginning (4)
2 Ending(3)
3 Phone call (4)
4 Have a row or strip(3)
5 Utilized (4)
9 Low down(3)
10 CUBIC CENTIMETER(2)
11 High (5)
12 an active insect(3)
13 Use (5)
15 Newscast (4)
17 Communicate (5)
18 Be asleep (5)
19 Clothing (5)
20 Several (3)
23 Property (5)
25 So (2)
28 Ending (3)
29 Toward (3)
32 Midair
34 Nope
- Across**
1 Break (6)
4 Rounded (5)
6 Leave (2)
7 Depressed (3)
8 Swelling (5)
10 nightclub (4)
14 Fountain pen (3)
16 Donkey/ horse family(3)
18 Speediness (5)
21 fruits (5)
22 Wring (5)
23 Get older(3)
24 Remove (5)
26 Ocean (3)
27 Stored (4)
30 Problem (5)
35 Exchange (5)
36 Single (3)
37 identity (2)

Previous Answer

S ¹	O			N ²		A ³	F	F ⁴	O	R ⁵	D
T		A ⁶	W ⁷	A	I	T		A		E	
A ⁸	S		E			E ⁹	S	C	A	P	E
B		R ¹⁰	E	A	M			E		E	
L ¹¹	O	O	K			S ¹²			B ¹³	A	D ¹⁴
E		O		S ¹⁵	T ¹⁶	A	T ¹⁷	E ¹⁸		T ¹⁹	O
	S ²⁰	T	A ²¹	T	E	M	E	N	T ²²		G
G ²³	O		S ²⁴	E	A		E ²⁵	D	I	T	
	O ²⁶	N ²⁷		P			N		M		T ²⁸
S ²⁹	N	A	P	S		F ³⁰	A	R ³¹	E		R
A		M			W ³²	A	G	E	S		E
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WADDANI Chairman Hersi Appoints Committee to Shape Party’s Political Ideology Ahead of Congress



Mohamoud Walaaleye WADDANI Party Chairman Hon. Hersi Ali Haji Hassan has appointed a committee of party leaders and experienced scholars to finalize the ruling party’s political ideology ahead of its upcoming congress. The committee will be responsible for completing and consolidating WADDANI’s political ideology, which was previously approved by the party’s Central Council, before submitting it to the party’s congress for consideration. In a statement published on his Facebook page, Chairman Hersi described the appointment as part of a long-standing process aimed at developing a political vision that balances present-day realities with the party’s aspirations for the future. He said the work would draw on research already conducted, academic knowledge and lessons learned from experience in governance. Hersi expressed confidence that the committee would contribute the knowledge, insights and wisdom needed to shape the political principles that will guide WADDANI’s future direction. Members of the Committee The newly appointed committee comprises seven members:

- Mohamed Yusuf Ahmed (Waabeye) — Chairman
- Dr. Awale Ibrahim Shirwac — Deputy Chairman
- Abdirashid Mohamoud Ali (Riyo-Raac) — Member
- Fatumo Said Ibrahim — Member
- Abdifatah Ibrahim Hassan — Member
- Mubarak Mohamed Omar — Member
- Abdifatah Ahmed Ileye — Member

The initiative marks a step in WADDANI’s efforts to formalize and consolidate its political ideology, setting out the principles and long-term vision that will guide the party as it continues its political and governance responsibilities.

Somaliland President Tells Trump: You Can Make More History by Recognizing Our Nation

The recognition by Israel of Somaliland was the icebreaker and now Somaliland is globally, he says

Mohamoud Walaaleye

The President of Somaliland Republic H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi, popularly known as Irro, has urged US President Donald Trump to formally recognize the Republic of Somaliland, describing him as a great man who could "make more history" by acknowledging the country's independence.

The Head of State described Israel's decision of formally recognizing the country as a turning point that had brought Somaliland to greater international attention.

"I think I can say that the recognition by Israel of Somaliland was the icebreaker," he said. "Now Somaliland is visible to the whole world."

In an exclusive interview with Breitbart News on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York in late September, Irro said recognition would open the way for closer cooperation between Somaliland and the United States on counterterrorism, maritime security, combating piracy and protecting international trade routes.

"Well, I think President Trump is a great man," Irro told Breitbart News. "He made history, and he could make more history by recognizing the new country called Somaliland, which will cooperate unconditionally in the fight against terrorism, in the fight against piracy, in the fight for marine security, and safer world trade routes as well, in a strategic, very important location." He urged Washington to recognize Somaliland, citing strategic ports, counterterrorism cooperation and opportunities for economic partnership.

Somaliland reclaimed its independence in 1991 after the collapse of the Somali state and has since maintained its own government and security institutions. Israel formally recognized Somaliland in late 2025, marking a significant development in its pursuit of international recognition.

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Berbera Port Offers Strategic Opportunities

The president highlighted the growing strategic importance of Berbera, Somaliland's principal port on the Gulf of Aden, arguing that its location and capacity make it increasingly valuable to



international shipping companies and global trade.

"Berbera, as I said, has a very strategic location, and now, because of the certain conditions in the world which now exist regarding the war, even some of the world's largest shipping companies now use Berbera to bring their goods, and later they ship again to their destinations because of security reasons," Irro said.

He added that demand for the port was increasing and that Berbera could accommodate large container shipments.

Irro also presented Somaliland as a potential logistics and trade hub connecting international markets with landlocked Ethiopia, which he said has a population of approximately 130 million, as well as other countries across East and Central Africa.

"No doubt I see a great future cooperation of the United States and Somaliland," he said, adding that Somaliland could become "a very great logistical hub in the whole world."

The president said Somaliland's strategic value had increased amid regional instability, particularly tensions involving Yemen's Houthi movement and Iran's position around the Strait of Hormuz.

Located approximately 100 kms from Yemen, Somaliland occupies a strategic position along important international maritime routes linking the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the wider Indian Ocean.

"For 35 years we have been single-handedly securing our waters, which is very crucial for the world global trade," Irro said.

He argued that Somaliland's location, geography and security capabilities made it an increasingly important partner in efforts to protect international shipping and maintain maritime stability.

Productive US Visit Focused on Cooperation

Reflecting on his visit to the United States, Irro described his meetings in Washington and New York as productive, citing discussions with members of Congress, senators, US administration officials and policy institutions.

"We had a very cordial, friendly reception in the United States," he said.

The president said his delegation met officials from the US State Department, Department of War, Department of Energy and Department of the Treasury, alongside representatives of prominent Washington-based institutions and other organizations. He also delivered a speech at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.

Although the visit had not resulted in formal US recognition, Irro said he was satisfied with the level of engagement and remained hopeful that relations would progress.

"Well, we are actually satisfied with the level of engagement we had in the United States now," he said. "We didn't get the recognition tentatively here, but hopefully things will move forward, and we make great progress."

Irro expressed confidence that cooperation between Somaliland and the United States would deepen in the coming years, particularly in security, trade, investment and counterterrorism. He said Somaliland was already discussing closer counterterrorism cooperation with Washington and was prepared to expand its partnership with the United States. "We're ready to partner with the United States," he said, highlighting opportunities in economic development, trade, security and national security.

Irro had Backed Trump for Nobel Peace Prize

During the interview, Irro also expressed support for Trump receiving the Nobel Peace Prize,

citing his efforts to resolve international conflicts.

The Somaliland president said he believed he was the first African leader to publicly nominate Trump for the award, pointing to the US president's efforts to address conflicts around the world.

"I may be on the record that I am the first African leader to refer the president for a Nobel Peace Prize, because so far for the short time he has been in office, he has resolved many conflicts in the world," Irro told Breitbart News.

He specifically referred to the conflict involving the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda, which he described as one of the world's longest-running wars.

Irro presented closer ties with Washington as an opportunity for both sides to advance shared security and economic interests, particularly as international attention increasingly focuses on Africa's strategic position and resources.

Africa's Economic Potential

The president also stressed Africa's growing economic importance, pointing to opportunities in minerals, energy, agriculture and industry.

"Economically, \$400 billion are now in Africa," Irro said. "So, Africa is important for the United States, for Europe, and for great economic powers because Africa now has the highest resources in the whole world in minerals, in energy, in agriculture, in industry, so Africa now is the future."

He argued that Somaliland could help international partners access African markets by serving as a trade corridor and logistics centre, particularly for landlocked countries in the Horn of Africa.

According to Abdirahman Irro, the combination of Somaliland's geographical position, maritime infrastructure and security experience creates opportunities

for mutually beneficial partnerships with major economic powers.

He said closer US-Somaliland relations could extend beyond security cooperation to encompass investment, commercial exchanges and broader economic development.

Somaliland Offers 2,000 Peacekeepers for Gaza

In another significant statement, Irro said Somaliland was prepared to contribute 2,000 peacekeeping personnel to efforts relating to Gaza under a proposed Board of Peace initiative associated with US President Donald Trump's administration.

"I think I have been questioned by one reporter about what we can do in Gaza," Irro told Breitbart News. "I told them we can provide 2,000 peacekeepers in Gaza. Yes, we are ready for that."

The offer formed part of his broader argument that Somaliland could contribute to international security efforts and establish itself as a dependable partner for the United States.

Irro emphasized that Somaliland was seeking opportunities to contribute to international peace and security rather than relying on external assistance.

"Somaliland Is Not for Aid; It Is for Partnership"

Concluding his message to the American public, Irro called for greater awareness of Somaliland as a peaceful, democratic and strategically located country with significant potential for international cooperation.

"For those who read, my message is that there is an existence of a very democratic, peaceful country called Somaliland, very strategically located," he said.

He reiterated that Trump had an opportunity to make history by recognizing Somaliland and establishing a stronger relationship with a partner he described as committed to counterterrorism, maritime security and the protection of international trade.

"My last message is that we, as a Somalilander, didn't come here for a list of requests or aid," Irro said. "We came with need for partnership. Somaliland is not for aid; it is not for handouts. Somaliland needs partnership in trade, in security, and economic cooperation."

He concluded by expressing confidence that Somaliland could contribute to American economic and strategic objectives.

"I think Somaliland can be part and parcel of making America great."