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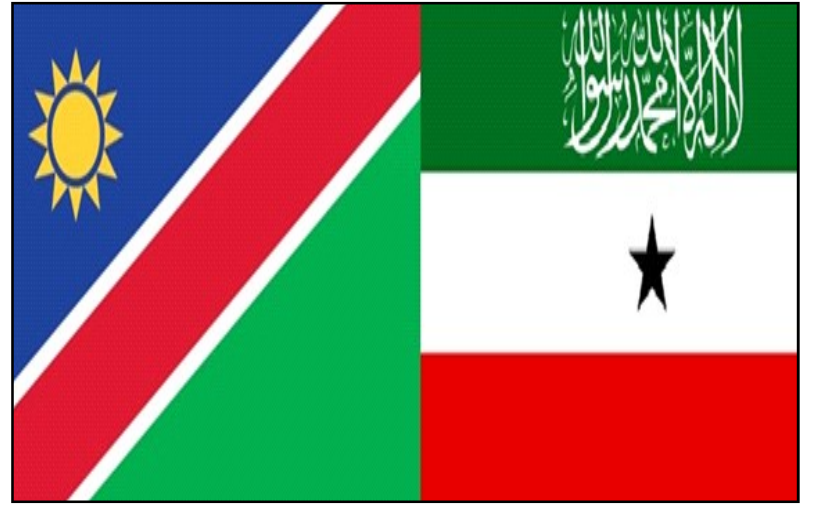
Namibia, Somaliland Representatives Meet in Kenya to Discuss Trade and Regional Cooperation



By M.A. Egge

Namibia's Honorary Consul to Kenya, H.C. Said Mwangi Ali, held a cordial meeting with Amb. Dr. Mohammed Omar, the Republic of Somaliland's Representative to Kenya, in Nairobi, according to a statement published at the official X account of the Namibian Consulate in Kenya. The meeting focused on trade, regional cooperation and diplomatic ties, with both sides

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Somaliland Reaffirms Ties with Taiwan in National Day Congratulations



Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Government of the Republic of Somaliland has congratulated the government and people of Taiwan on their National Day, reaffirming its commitment to strengthening bilateral relations and expanding cooperation between the two sides.

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Somaliland Ruling Party Chief Hirsi Congratulates New Ethiopian Parliament Speaker, Praises Somali Political Rise



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Somaliland Coast Guard Issue Safety Alert as Heavy Rains, Strong Winds and Rough Seas Loom



Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Somaliland Coast Guard Command has issued a weather and maritime safety alert, warning coastal communities of heavy rainfall, strong winds and rough sea conditions expected to affect parts of the coastline.

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Somaliland Central Bank Advances National Instant Payment System at Global Finance Conference in Ghana



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Finance Ministry Reviews Third-Quarter Performance, Pushes for Stronger Revenue Collection

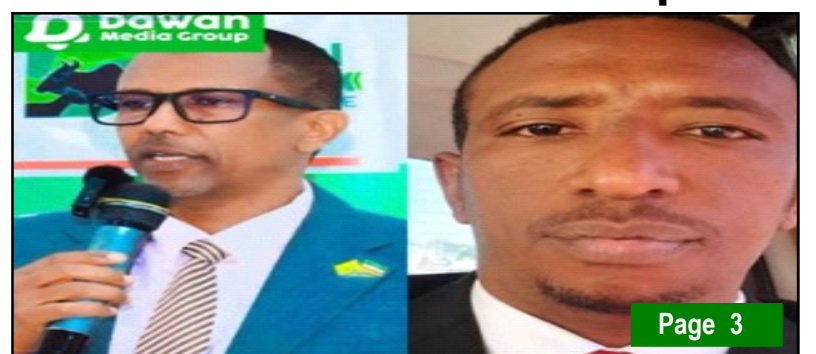
Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development of the Republic of Somaliland has reviewed its departmental performance for July–September 2026, focusing on public financial management reforms, domestic revenue mobilization, customs



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Somaliland Livestock Minister Omar Shucayb Highlights 12 Key Achievements in Sector Development



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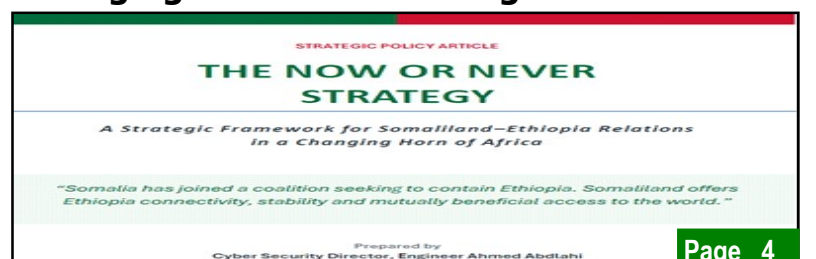
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Namibia, Somaliland.....



emphasizing the importance of mutual understanding and constructive engagement. The Namibian Consulate described the discussions as cordial, highlighting areas of common interest between the two representatives and the potential for strengthening cooperation on regional and economic issues. The meeting comes as Somaliland continues to expand its diplomatic and economic engagement with countries and representatives across Africa, while seeking greater international cooperation and recognition. The discussions between the Namibian and Somaliland representatives underscore the role of diplomatic channels in promoting trade relations, regional partnerships and closer people-to-people understanding across Africa.

Somaliland Reaffirms Ties with.....

In a statement issued on October 10, 2026, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Somaliland conveyed its sincere congratulations to Taiwan, expressing its commitment to maintaining and deepening the friendship between the two sides. "The Government of the Republic of Somaliland extends its sincere congratulations to the Government and people of Taiwan on the occasion of their National Day," the ministry said. The statement added that Somaliland remains committed to strengthening bilateral cooperation and reinforcing the friendly relations between the two sides. The message underscores Somaliland's continued emphasis



on its relationship with Taiwan, which has developed through diplomatic engagement and cooperation in areas of mutual interest.

Somaliland Coast Guard Issue Safety Alert.....



The warning, signed by Coast Guard Commander Admiral Ahmed Hurre Hariye on October 6, 2026, specifically urged residents in Zeyla, Lughaya, El-Sheikh and Berbera to exercise heightened caution as weather conditions are expected to deteriorate. According to the Coast Guard, heavy rains accompanied by strong winds could affect coastal areas and surrounding communities, creating risks associated with flooding, strong winds and hazardous sea conditions.

The command also cautioned that the El Niño weather phenomenon could contribute to increased climate variability, potentially bringing heavier rainfall, flash floods, stronger winds and rougher waves along the coast. The Coast Guard issued a particular appeal to fishermen, coastal residents, swimmers and tourists, urging them to take extra precautions and avoid going to sea when conditions become unstable or dangerous.

The command also advised residents to stay away from valleys, waterways and drainage channels, where sudden flooding could pose a significant risk during periods of heavy rainfall. The alert comes as Somaliland's Coast Guard continues to emphasize maritime safety and preparedness along the nation's extensive coastline, where changing weather and sea conditions can pose significant risks to coastal communities and maritime activities.

Finance Ministry Reviews.....



modernization and improved budget oversight. The review workshop was held at the ministry's headquarters in Hargeisa and brought together senior officials and departmental directors to assess progress against targets set for the third quarter, identify outstanding activities and examine challenges that hindered implementation. The meeting was chaired by Finance and Economic Development Minister Abdillahi Hassan Aden, alongside State Minister Ismail Mawlid Abdillahi, Director General Mohamed Hassan Salebaan, Accountant General Hassan Muse Khalif and heads of the ministry's departments. During the workshop, departmental directors presented reports detailing their achievements, activities that remained incomplete and the reasons for delays, while highlighting challenges affecting their respective operations. The review indicated progress in several areas of the government's public financial management reform programme, including the implementation of the Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS), efforts to accelerate domestic revenue collection and the modernization of customs operations. Officials also assessed initiatives to raise taxpayer awareness,

strengthen engagement between the government and taxpayers, enforce financial regulations and improve budget management and expenditure control. Public procurement and reforms involving the civil service and workforce were also discussed, with participants conducting further analysis of implementation progress and areas requiring additional attention. The ministry operates under an annual work plan and a five-year strategic plan that guide departmental activities and define institutional priorities. Quarterly performance reviews are conducted to measure progress, identify implementation gaps and ensure that departments remain aligned with their objectives. Minister Abdillahi praised departmental officials for their commitment and efforts in carrying out their responsibilities despite broader economic and regional challenges, particularly those affecting the Horn of Africa. He urged department heads to intensify their efforts during the current quarter to ensure that planned activities are completed and the ministry's targets are achieved. The quarterly review forms part of the ministry's ongoing efforts to strengthen financial administration, improve revenue collection and advance reforms aimed at enhancing the management of public resources in the Republic of Somaliland.

Somaliland Livestock Minister Omar Shucayb Highlights 12 Key.....

Mohamoud Walaaleye
Minister of Livestock and Rural Development Omar Shucayb Mohamed has overseen a series of initiatives aimed at strengthening Somaliland's livestock sector, expanding veterinary services, improving export infrastructure and supporting pastoral communities, according to an assessment by Sultan Yoonis. Omar Shucayb, the former leader of the Waaberi political association, joined the WADDANI Party, led by President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi (Irro). Following WADDANI's victory in the 2024 elections, President Irro appointed him Minister of Livestock and Rural Development. During his tenure, the ministry has pursued a range of programmes covering livestock healthcare, vaccination, quarantine facilities, animal feed, exports and regulatory reform. The following are 12

- achievements highlighted in the assessment.
- 1. Increased allowances for veterinarians in Berbera**
For the first time in 30 years, the minister increased allowances for veterinarians working at livestock quarantine facilities in Berbera, recognising the role they play in safeguarding animal health and supporting the livestock export industry.
- 2. Government-funded livestock vaccination programme**
The ministry implemented a livestock vaccination programme funded through the government budget. According to the assessment, the ministry had previously depended on external organisations to support vaccination activities rather than implementing a programme of its own using government funding.
- 3. Modern veterinary hospital built in Hargeisa**

A modern veterinary hospital was constructed at the ministry's headquarters in Hargeisa. The facility is designed to perform various surgical procedures on livestock, strengthening the ministry's capacity to provide specialised animal healthcare.

4. Qool-aday pasture development project
The ministry advanced the Qool-aday pasture development project, which aims to improve grazing land and support pastoral communities. The initiative is presented as a renewed effort to develop pasture resources following difficulties encountered under previous administrations.

5. National veterinary laboratory and livestock facilities
The ministry laid the foundation stone for a National Veterinary Laboratory and initiated plans for 15 facilities comprising slaughterhouses, veterinary health posts and livestock markets.

- The locations listed in the assessment include Lawyo-ado, Xariirad, Baki, Borama, Gabiley, Wajaale, Allay-baday, Higlada, Ina Guuxaa, Mandhera, Go'da Weyn, Qorilugud, Berbera, El-afwayn, Erigavo and Qool-buulale. These facilities are intended to strengthen veterinary services, improve livestock handling and support the infrastructure needed for domestic and international trade.
- 6. Ten livestock feed storage and processing centres**
The ministry established 10 centres for livestock feed storage and processing, alongside training for the personnel responsible for managing them. The initiative covers the Gabiley and Awdal regions and is aimed at improving access to animal feed and strengthening support for livestock producers.
- 7. Livestock exports projected to reach 4.5 million in 2026**
Livestock exports have remained a central focus of the ministry's efforts to expand Somaliland's principal economic sector. According to the figures provided in the assessment, exports reached 3.7 million head in 2024 and rose to 3.8 million in 2025. The ministry's target for 2026 was 4.5 million, with exports reported at 3.6 million by September. The projected increase reflects efforts to expand export capacity and strengthen the infrastructure supporting the livestock trade.
- 8. Expansion of livestock quarantine facilities**
When Omar Shucayb assumed office, only two livestock quarantine facilities were operational, according to the assessment. His administration subsequently brought two additional facilities into operation, while construction of further facilities was nearing completion. The expansion is expected to increase the sector's capacity to handle livestock exports and create employment opportunities, including for veterinarians who had previously been without work.
- 9. Livestock Products Exhibition enters its second year**
The ministry introduced an exhibition showcasing livestock products to promote the sector and encourage pastoral communities. The event is now being held for the second consecutive year, with the next edition scheduled for October 20 in Borama. The exhibition provides an opportunity to showcase livestock-related products and highlight the contribution of pastoral communities to Somaliland's economy.
- 10. Training 280 community animal health workers**

The ministry has adopted a decentralised approach to veterinary service delivery, focusing on expanding access to animal healthcare in rural and underserved areas. Under this initiative, 280 Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) were trained and equipped. The ministry also renovated and reopened 11 service centres in Xagal, Laas-ciidle, Bullaxaar, Qoryaale, Xaaji Saalax, Dila, Farawayne, Lebi-sagaale, Jirjirka, Qoluheed and Garebis. The measures are intended to bring veterinary services closer to livestock-owning communities, particularly those living far from major towns.

11. Restoration of veterinary services in Badhan
The minister also oversaw the reopening of the ministry's office in Ceel-buh and the resumption of operations by teams responsible for delivering veterinary healthcare in the Badhan region. The move was intended to restore access to essential animal health services and strengthen the ministry's presence in the region.

12. New regulations aimed at attracting livestock investment
Regulatory reform has also featured among the minister's priorities. The assessment highlights the introduction of legislation governing the management of livestock quarantine facilities. The measure is intended to improve the management of quarantine infrastructure, strengthen the livestock export system and create a more reliable environment for investment. The assessment states that these reforms have helped build international investors' confidence in Somaliland's livestock sector.

Strengthening a pillar of Somaliland's economy
Livestock remains one of the foundations of Somaliland's economy, supporting pastoral livelihoods, export earnings and employment across the country. Improvements in animal healthcare, quarantine infrastructure, feed availability and export regulation are therefore central to the sector's long-term development. The 12 initiatives outlined in Sultan Yoonis's assessment reflect the ministry's stated efforts to expand public investment, improve veterinary services and strengthen the infrastructure supporting livestock production and trade. The extent of their long-term impact will depend on continued implementation, adequate funding, effective oversight and measurable improvements in services for livestock producers and pastoral communities.

By Sultan Yoonis

Somaliland Ruling Party Chief Hirsi.....



Mohamoud Walaaleye
Hon. Hirsi Ali H. Hassan, Chairman of the ruling WADDANI Party of the Republic of Somaliland, has congratulated Hon. Ahmed Shide Mohamed on his election as Speaker of the House of Peoples' Representatives of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. In a congratulatory message, Hirsi described Ahmed Shide as a prominent Somali politician who has risen to a senior position in the

Horn of Africa, saying his election reflected the confidence placed in him by the Ethiopian people. "I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Hon. Ahmed Shide Mohamed, who has been elected Speaker of the House of Peoples' Representatives of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia," Hirsi said. He praised Ahmed Shide for emerging as one of the prominent Somali politicians in the region and

reaching what he described as the highest level of political leadership. Hirsi also addressed the Somali community in Ethiopia's Somali Regional State, emphasizing their place within Ethiopia and urging them to safeguard peace and development. "The Somali ethnicity from which you originate does not prevent you from being a meaningful constituent community of Ethiopia," Hirsi said. "You are part of Ethiopia, so take pride in that and safeguard your development and peace." He wished the Somali community in Ethiopia continued progress and expressed hope that they would reach even greater heights in the future. Hirsi concluded his message by extending his wishes for peace and development to the people of Ethiopia as a whole.

Somaliland Central Bank Advances National Instant Payment.....



Mohamoud Walaaleye
The Somaliland Central Bank has highlighted its progress in modernising the country's financial infrastructure and developing a national instant payment system during an international financial institutions conference in Accra, Ghana. Somaliland Central Bank Deputy Governor Hamza Abdirahman Khaire, accompanied by senior Bank officials, attended the

conference organised by MojaLoop, which brought together central banks, commercial banks, payment service providers, FinTech companies and other institutions involved in developing National Payment Systems (NPS). Addressing the conference, Deputy Governor Khaire outlined Somaliland's progress in strengthening its national payment infrastructure and presented plans for the Somaliland Inclusive Instant Payment System (SL-IIPS). He emphasised the importance of the planned system in improving interoperability between commercial banks, mobile money operators and other financial institutions, potentially enabling faster and more integrated digital financial services across Somaliland. Somaliland Central Bank officials also took part in technical sessions

and discussions focused on the architecture of Instant Payment Systems (IPS), cybersecurity and interoperability among financial institutions. The conference provided the Central Bank with an opportunity to exchange technical expertise and experiences with financial institutions and payment-system specialists from different markets. The Bank also used the gathering to strengthen its cooperation with MojaLoop, AfricaNenda and the Gates Foundation, which are supporting the Central Bank's efforts to establish Somaliland's national instant payment system. The development of SL-IIPS is part of broader efforts by the Somaliland Central Bank to modernise the country's financial system, strengthen connections between financial service providers and expand access to efficient digital payment services.



Executive Summary

The El Alamein alignment among Somalia, Egypt, Eritrea and Sudan has altered the strategic environment of the Horn of Africa. By combining opposition to Somaliland's recognition with positions that challenge Ethiopia on the Nile, maritime access and Red Sea governance, the coalition has tied Somaliland's diplomatic future to a wider regional contest. This development increases Somaliland's value to Ethiopia—but it does not automatically produce Ethiopian recognition. Hargeisa must turn the present opening into a structured, reciprocal and enforceable partnership.

The central recommendation of this paper is immediate, disciplined engagement with Addis Ababa around an updated Somaliland–Ethiopia package: dependable access through Berbera, accelerated corridor development, integrated customs and logistics, Ethiopian investment, maritime and intelligence cooperation, and a written political roadmap toward recognition. Somaliland should frame the initiative as a peaceful economic partnership serving regional integration—not as an anti-Somalia military bloc.

STRATEGIC JUDGMENT

Somaliland's leverage has increased, but the window is time-sensitive. Recognition must be secured through measurable reciprocity before Somaliland grants irreversible strategic concessions.

1. A New Strategic Environment

The geopolitical environment surrounding Somaliland has changed sharply. Somalia's participation in the El Alamein Declaration was not merely symbolic diplomacy. The declaration linked four positions: support for Somalia's territorial claims, rejection of recognition or support for Somaliland, exclusion of non-littoral states from Red Sea governance, and opposition to

unilateral action affecting existing Nile-water uses. Together, these positions create a coordinated regional front whose practical effect is to constrain both Somaliland and Ethiopia.

For Somaliland, the declaration confirms that Mogadishu is internationalizing its campaign against recognition. For Ethiopia, it demonstrates that Somalia is prepared to coordinate with Cairo and Asmara on issues that Addis Ababa considers central to its national security and long-term development. The result is a convergence of interests between Somaliland and Ethiopia that is more pronounced than it was before the summit.

2. Somalia's Strategic Contradiction

Only days before the summit, Somalia's president stated publicly that Mogadishu did not oppose Ethiopia obtaining access to the sea. Ethiopian state media initially treated those remarks as a constructive opening based on dialogue, international standards and regional integration. Yet Somalia then joined a declaration asserting exclusive littoral control over Red Sea governance while aligning with Ethiopia's principal regional rivals.

This creates a credibility problem. Mogadishu may offer commercial access in principle, but any arrangement negotiated through Somalia could remain vulnerable to Egyptian influence, domestic political reversal or renewed diplomatic confrontation. Ethiopia does not merely require permission to use a port; it requires an efficient, secure and politically dependable maritime corridor capable of supporting national development over decades.

3. Somaliland's Strategic Proposition

Somaliland offers Ethiopia a fundamentally different proposition. It does not treat Ethiopia's economic transformation or maritime ambition as a threat. It can connect Ethiopia's

large internal market to the Gulf of Aden through Berbera while generating investment, employment, infrastructure and revenue for Somaliland.

Somaliland can offer Ethiopia:

- A stable and dependable political partner on the Gulf of Aden.
- Predictable, long-term commercial access through the Port of Berbera.
- An existing transport corridor toward the Ethiopian border.
- Integrated customs, logistics, dry-port and industrial-zone arrangements.
- Opportunities for Ethiopian equity participation and infrastructure investment.

- Cooperation in counterterrorism, border security, intelligence and maritime awareness.
- A relationship founded on reciprocal strategic interests rather than temporary political calculation.

The essential point is that Somaliland is not merely offering a port. It is offering a complete maritime, commercial and security partnership that can become a durable pillar of regional connectivity.

4. Ethiopia's Emerging Direction

Ethiopia's official response to the regional alignment has been firm but measured. Its Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that Ethiopia's geographic and historical relationship with the Red Sea

cannot be erased through political rhetoric, coercive measures, destabilization or proxy action. President Taye Atske-Selassie subsequently reaffirmed reliable sea access as a national priority to be pursued through diplomacy, mutual benefit and the principle of "give-and-take."

The language of mutual benefit creates an opening for Somaliland. It also demands clarity. Somaliland should not exchange strategic access for general expressions of goodwill or indefinite promises. Any renewed agreement must define the economic benefit, security responsibilities, political milestones and timetable expected from both parties.

5. The Updated Somaliland–Ethiopia Package #	Pillar	Required Action
1	Reliable access through Berbera	Establish predictable, long-term Ethiopian commercial access under a transparent agreement that explicitly protects Somaliland's sovereignty, jurisdiction and economic interests.
2	Accelerated corridor development	Create binding deadlines for upgrading the Berbera–Tog Wajaale–Ethiopia route, expanding border facilities and improving the speed and reliability of cross-border trade.
3	Integrated logistics and	Develop coordinated customs systems, dry ports, bonded warehouses, industrial

THE NOW OR NEVER STRATEGY- A Framework.....

customs		arrangements.
4	Ethiopian investment and participation	Invite structured Ethiopian participation in mutually agreed corridor, logistics, energy and industrial projects so that the relationship acquires permanent commercial value.
5	Security cooperation	Strengthen intelligence sharing, counterterrorism, border security and maritime-domain awareness while avoiding unnecessary regional militarization.
6	A written recognition roadmap	Require specific diplomatic steps, deadlines and deliverables leading toward formal Ethiopian recognition of Somaliland. Recognition cannot remain an undefined future

Eswatini defies Beijing.....



King Mswati III said Eswatini valued its longstanding relationship with Taiwan and would continue advocating for the island’s meaningful participation in the United Nations, where it remains excluded because of China’s opposition. Eswatini’s King Mswati III has pledged to deepen ties with Taiwan, reaffirming the kingdom’s diplomatic support for the self-governing island despite Beijing’s efforts to isolate it internationally. The southern African kingdom is one of only 12 countries that maintain formal diplomatic relations with Taipei, making it an important partner in Taiwan’s campaign for international recognition and participation in multilateral institutions. Speaking at a welcome ceremony at Taipei’s Liberty Square, King Mswati said Eswatini valued its longstanding relationship with Taiwan and would continue advocating for the island’s meaningful participation in the United Nations, where it remains excluded because of China’s opposition. “We deeply value the enduring friendship and cooperation between our two countries, and we look forward to strengthening these bonds for the benefit of our peoples,” he said. Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te described the relationship as one built on trust, saying the two sides had consistently supported each other’s development. The visit underscores Taiwan’s reliance on a small network of diplomatic partners as China intensifies efforts to restrict its international engagement. Beijing considers Taiwan part of its territory and opposes its participation in international organisations as a sovereign state. The diplomatic contest has increasingly extended beyond formal recognition to the practicalities of international travel.

In April, Taiwan accused China of pressuring three African countries to deny overflight permission to Lai’s aircraft, forcing him to postpone a planned visit to Eswatini for celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of Mswati’s accession to the throne. The episode was particularly significant because it marked the first time a Taiwanese president had cancelled an entire foreign trip after being denied airspace access, highlighting the logistical challenges facing Taipei as it seeks to maintain international partnerships. The United States (US), European Union (EU) and Britain expressed concern over the incident. Lai subsequently travelled to Eswatini in May using an unconventional “arrive, then announce” approach, limiting advance publicity surrounding his visit. His return flight to Taipei, aboard the King’s private Airbus A340, followed a route that skirted airspace controlled by Mauritius and Madagascar, two countries Taiwan said had been pressured to deny his aircraft access. China condemned Eswatini’s leadership following the visit, accusing its leaders of being “kept and fed” by Taiwan. For Eswatini, the relationship reflects a diplomatic choice that places it at odds with Beijing’s longstanding campaign to secure universal recognition of its “One China” principle. For Taiwan, maintaining partnerships such as this remains central to its efforts to preserve international visibility and demonstrate that it retains diplomatic support. The dispute also illustrates how competition between China and Taiwan can affect countries far beyond East Asia, drawing African governments into a contest over diplomatic recognition, access and political influence.

6. A Phased Implementation Roadmap
Phase I — Political Reaffirmation: Reaffirm the bilateral partnership at head-of-government level; establish a joint steering committee; agree on confidentiality, sovereignty and dispute-resolution principles.
Phase II — Technical and Commercial Agreements: Finalize corridor, customs, investment, infrastructure and security protocols with measurable milestones and assigned institutional responsibility.
Phase III — Diplomatic Advancement: Upgrade Ethiopia’s official representation in Hargeisa and Somaliland’s representation in Addis Ababa; publish the agreed recognition pathway and initial diplomatic steps.
Phase IV — Recognition and Full Implementation: Complete the recognition process alongside the activation of long-term strategic, commercial and security arrangements.
7. Strategic Safeguards
Somaliland must avoid becoming a proxy in a wider confrontation. The partnership should be communicated as a lawful, peaceful and development-oriented arrangement that benefits regional trade. Berbera can serve Ethiopia without threatening Somalia, Egypt, Eritrea, Djibouti or any other neighboring state. At the same time, Hargeisa must guard against being used merely as leverage in negotiations between

Addis Ababa and Mogadishu. Ethiopia could revive the Somaliland option to secure more favorable terms elsewhere and then postpone its political commitments. Somaliland should therefore apply four safeguards:
• No irreversible concession without a reciprocal and documented Ethiopian commitment.
• No open-ended implementation schedule; every stage must have deadlines and review points.
• No transfer of sovereign authority; all arrangements must remain under Somaliland law and jurisdiction.
• No secret divergence between economic and political commitments; recognition milestones must form part of the same strategic framework.
8. The Diplomatic Narrative
Conclusion: The Moment of Decision
The El Alamein alignment has increased Somaliland’s strategic value by demonstrating that Mogadishu is prepared to coordinate with countries seeking to restrict Ethiopia’s position on the Nile, the Red Sea and regional

security. Somaliland stands on the other side of that equation: it offers a friendly coastline, a viable corridor and a partnership grounded in mutual benefit. Yet geopolitical openings do not remain available indefinitely. If Somaliland acts decisively, it can transform Berbera into Ethiopia’s dependable maritime gateway and convert strategic cooperation into formal diplomatic recognition. If it hesitates—or accepts vague assurances—Ethiopia may use the Somaliland option only to improve its negotiating position elsewhere. This is the time for disciplined diplomacy, written commitments and strategic reciprocity. Somaliland must secure the partnership, protect its sovereignty and obtain a defined recognition roadmap. That is the essence of the Now or Never Strategy.
ABOUT THE AUTHOR Cyber Security Director, Engineer Ahmed Abdlahi, writes on technology, national resilience, regional connectivity and strategic policy for the US–Somaliland Big Ideas Forum

Somaliland’s external message should remain disciplined and consistent: it supports peaceful access, regional integration and mutually beneficial development. It is not asking Ethiopia to confront Somalia; it is inviting Ethiopia to choose the most stable and commercially credible route to the Gulf of Aden. Somalia has joined a coalition seeking to contain Ethiopia. Somaliland offers Ethiopia connectivity, stability and mutually beneficial access to the world.

THT Puzzle

Prepared by: Abdillahi Said Muhummed

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33						34				35	

- ACROSS
- 1 Therefore
- 3 have enough money.
- 6 Wait for
- 8 Being as
- 9 Escaping
- 10 Quantity used on papers
- 11 Eye or lookout
- 13 damaging/opposite of good
- 15 Municipal
- 19 Towards
- 20 Speech
- 23 Go off
- 24 Ocean
- 25 Change or control
- 26 Upon
- 29 Shouts or cracks
- 30 Ticket or meal
- 32 Salaries
- 33 Crash
- 34 Reddish
- 35 Remain
- DOWN
- 1 Secure
- 2 not available in short forms
- 3 breakfasted
- 4 Stand facing
- 5 Repetition
- 7 Calendar week
- 10 Rootle
- 12 amount in cash
- 14 Puppy
- 15 Stairs
- 16 Drink
- 17 Juvenile
- 18 Ending
- 20 Shortly
- 21 BEING AS
- 22 Occasions
- 27 Surname
- 28 Family tree
- 29 Witnessed
- 30 Far away
- 31 Reddish

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
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Washington Examiner: Somaliland Is a Strategic Key for the United States and Its Allies



A new report published by the U.S. newspaper *The Washington Examiner* has described the Republic of Somaliland as a long-standing political reality in the Horn of Africa, urging Washington to seriously assess the strategic, security and economic benefits that could result from recognising Somaliland. The report particularly highlighted Somaliland's geopolitical and strategic importance amid growing security concerns in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

The report, titled "Israel Got It Right: Somaliland Is the Strategic Ally Trump Needs Now," was cited by *Dawan* newspaper. It also described Israel's recognition of Somaliland as a significant decision that has revived debate over Somaliland's international recognition and its potential role in the United States' regional strategy. According to the report, Israel's recognition has also fuelled speculation that President Donald Trump could follow the same path and that the United States might take similar steps by recognising Somaliland. This comes at a time when discussions about Somaliland's importance are gaining momentum and the issue is increasingly featuring in foreign policy debates in Washington.

The report also noted that such a policy shift has long been advocated by prominent politicians and influential figures involved in shaping Washington's foreign policy, including Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX). These advocates believe that recognising Somaliland could help promote stability in the Horn of Africa, secure some of the world's most important maritime trade routes, counter extremism and support economic development. The report placed particular emphasis on Somaliland's strategic location in the Horn of Africa, noting its proximity to the Bab al-Mandab Strait, a vital maritime passage connecting the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden and separating the Horn of Africa from the Arabian Peninsula. It also highlighted the strategic significance of Berbera Port and Somaliland's position at the gateway to the Red Sea, particularly as the region faces mounting security challenges.

The Washington Examiner argued that Somaliland's strategic location is attracting considerable attention from U.S. foreign policy decision-makers, especially amid threats to shipping through the Bab al-Mandab Strait and attacks carried out by Yemen's Houthi movement in the region. The report also described Somaliland as a democratic polity with functioning government institutions, situated in an area of critical importance to international security and trade. According to the report, Somaliland possesses the fundamental attributes of statehood under international law, including a population, territory, defined borders and a government capable of conducting relations with foreign states. It further noted that the government of the Republic of Somaliland has made considerable progress in diplomacy and international engagement, particularly in its relations with the United Arab Emirates and Ethiopia. The report added that deteriorating security conditions in the Red Sea present Washington with an opportunity to reassess its relationship with Somaliland. *The Washington Examiner* proposed that the U.S. government establish diplomatic relations with Hargeisa and encourage its allies to strengthen their own ties with Somaliland.

According to the report, such a move would serve the interests of the United States and its allies, particularly by helping safeguard freedom of navigation and address security threats in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

On the economic front, the report argued that formal recognition of Somaliland could open up new opportunities for economic growth, trade and international investment. It also suggested that recognition of Somaliland's statehood could enable it to engage more extensively with international financial institutions and enter into bilateral trade and investment agreements.

Furthermore, the report argued that international recognition could strengthen confidence among investors and multinational companies, particularly those interested in exploring investment opportunities in Somaliland.

Amb. Hagi Says Somaliland–Israel Partnership Could Transform Red Sea Security and Regional Development



Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Republic of Somaliland’s ambassador to Israel, Dr. Mohamed Hagi, has dismissed opposition to Somaliland’s international recognition, arguing that the emerging partnership between two nations could have significant implications for security, technology and economic development in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea. In a statement assessing the development of bilateral relations following Israel’s formal recognition of the Republic of Somaliland in December 2025, Ambassador Hagi said he was not surprised by opposition from Somaliland’s adversaries, arguing that they understood the strategic potential of

closer cooperation between the two sides. “I am not surprised that our adversaries oppose Somaliland’s recognition; they understand the strategic potential of a Somaliland–Israel partnership in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea, combining Somaliland’s natural resources and strategic position with Israeli expertise and technology,” Hagi said. He added that the partnership could produce advances across multiple sectors. “Great things will be achieved across all fronts, advancing prosperity, security, and regional stability,” he said.

Israel became the first country to formally recognize Somaliland in December 2025, after which the two sides moved rapidly to establish diplomatic relations. Israel subsequently accepted Hagi as Somaliland’s first ambassador to the country. In May 2026, Israeli President Isaac Herzog formally received Hagi’s diplomatic credentials in Jerusalem, describing the emerging relationship as a new partnership with potential cooperation in areas including development, security, energy, science and food security. Hagi said at the ceremony that the relationship was strategic and would advance cooperation in development, politics, security and people-to-people ties. The relationship has also expanded through reciprocal diplomatic representation. Israel appointed Michael Lotem as its first ambassador to Somaliland in April, while Somaliland announced plans to establish its embassy in Jerusalem. Hagi’s latest remarks indicate that Somaliland views the relationship with Israel not only as a diplomatic breakthrough but also as a platform for cooperation in strategic sectors, including technology, economic development and maritime security.

Hassan Sheikh Acknowledges UAE’s Direct Engagement with Somaliland, Cites Mogadishu’s Failed Diplomatic Efforts



Despite Mogadishu’s efforts to disrupt the relationship, Somalia’s term-expired President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud has acknowledged that the United Arab Emirates (UAE) maintains direct diplomatic and security cooperation with the Republic of Somaliland. Speaking to Al Jazeera, Hassan Sheikh said the UAE treats Somaliland as an independent entity, maintaining separate diplomatic and security channels with Hargeisa. He admitted that his administration had attempted to close these channels but failed to prevent the UAE from continuing its direct engagement with Somaliland. The Somali president indicated that the UAE’s continued relations with Somaliland had caused considerable frustration in Mogadishu, contributing to his government’s decision to unilaterally terminate bilateral defence and security agreements with the UAE. The remarks highlight the diplomatic differences between Mogadishu and Abu Dhabi over Somaliland’s international relations, particularly the UAE’s longstanding economic, security and strategic engagement with Hargeisa.

A major pillar of the UAE’s partnership with Somaliland is its investment in the expansion and modernisation of the Port of Berbera. Through DP World, the UAE has committed approximately \$440 million to develop the port into a major deep-water maritime terminal and regional trade hub. The Berbera port project is intended to strengthen Somaliland’s position as a strategic gateway to the Horn of Africa, expanding regional trade, improving maritime connectivity and providing landlocked Ethiopia with an alternative route to international markets. The UAE’s engagement with Somaliland has also drawn wider regional attention because of the nation’s strategic location along the Gulf of Aden, close to one of the world’s most important maritime shipping corridors connecting the Red Sea to the Indian Ocean. Hassan Sheikh’s comments underscore the continuing diplomatic tensions between Mogadishu and Abu Dhabi over the UAE’s direct engagement with Somaliland, as Hargeisa continues to pursue international recognition and expand its bilateral partnerships.

Somaliland Finance Ministry Advances Digital Revenue Drive with Training for 20 Hargeisa Notary Offices



The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development of the Republic of Somaliland has stepped up efforts to modernize domestic revenue administration by training management and officials from 20 notary offices in Hargeisa on the use of its online notary system. The training was organized by the Ministry’s Domestic Tax Department in collaboration with the IT and IFMIS Department, with a focus on the digital processing and registration of revenue generated from property sales and transfers.

Officials said the training is part of the Ministry’s broader efforts to accelerate and strengthen the implementation of the online notary system, which is intended to modernize the registration and management of government revenue. The digital platform is designed to improve the efficiency and accountability of domestic revenue collection by streamlining procedures for recording and managing revenue generated through property transactions.

The Ministry said it will continue providing capacity-building and public awareness programs on modern digital systems as part of efforts to expand digital government services and strengthen the management of state revenue. The initiative reflects the government’s wider push to use technology to improve public-sector administration, enhance accountability and make domestic revenue collection more efficient.

SOMALILAND

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