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## Former UK defense secretary urges Foreign Minister Hon. Lammy to listen to cross-party support for recognition of Somaliland

- Ethiopia became the first African country to have any form of recognition with Somaliland last year in a deal to give it access to the sea.
- Tory former defence secretary Gavin Williamson has hailed Labour-run Liverpool City Council for 'recognising' the former UK protectorate of Somaliland as an independent country



Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the United Kingdom Hon. David Lammy is being pushed to urgently review Britain's foreign policy towards a potential key ally in the Red Sea conflict with the Houthis and officially recognise Somaliland. The former UK protectorate on the Horn of Africa has functioned as an independent state since 1991 after

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### The government has welcomed the re-recognition by Liverpool City Council of the Republic of Somaliland

Mohamoud Walaaleye



Ambassador Abdi Abdilahi Hirsi Dayah-weerar thanked the Liverpool council for the re-recognition of the Republic of Somaliland. He thanked the cross-party councilors who voted for the matter. read excerpts of his speech

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### Weeklong Hargeisa International Book Fair 2024 Wraps Up,



### Minister Sa'ad presides bi-annual Treasury meeting



### Somaliland reaffirms commitment to fostering strong bilateral relations with neighbors



### Ambassador Adan Attends Somaliland Military Graduation Ceremony in Ethiopia



By Mohamoud Walaaleye  
The Ambassador of the Republic of Somaliland to Ethiopia Amb. Adam Gedi Qayad along with the Deputy Minister of Trade and Tourism Hon. Faisal Mohamud Said and the

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### Lord Polak's Insights: The Significance of the Ethiopia-Somaliland MoU for Regional Stability



Lord Polak states that the Ethiopia-Somaliland MoU addresses crucial economic and security needs while setting a new path for regional diplomacy and international recognition

In a House of Lords debate on

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### Information Minister Hints At Anticipatory Good News



### "IS THE KULMIYE PARTY REGAINING ITS CAMPAIGN MOMENTUM?"

Eng. Ahmed Adare



### The Berbera Breakthrough: Somaliland's Ascent in the Horn of Africa



Sun Tzu says, "To subdue the enemy without fighting is supreme excellence." This perfectly fits the conflict between Somaliland and Somalia and the

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# Former UK defense secretary urges Foreign Minister Hon. Lammy to listen to cross-party support for recognition of Somaliland



unrecognized state in the UK has been Tory former defense secretary Sir Gavin Williamson who praised Liverpool's decision and urged the foreign secretary to take note. He told *The Independent*: "This is an important symbolic step and I hope the Foreign Secretary listens to the growing cross-party voices on this matter and acts to move UK policy to recognize Somaliland so recognizing the reality on the ground."

Since the UK and US were forced to intervene against Houthi terrorists from Yemen in the Gulf of Aden on one of the key shipping routes in the world, pressure has increased to rethink recognition of Somaliland. Its major port of Berbera has been described as a potential base for UK and US military operations.

Ethiopia became the first African country to have any form of recognition with Somaliland last year in a deal to give it access to the sea. But the memorandum of understanding infuriated Somalia who claim that Somaliland is part of their territory and led to mass protests.

Critics of Somalia have described it as a "failed stated", wracked with civil war and a haven for piracy with Somaliland, in comparison, holding democratic elections later this year. But its claim to Somaliland was supported by Barack Obama's administration and has recently had renewed backed from Joe Biden's White House.

The UK took part in talks during David Cameron's premiership but still does not recognize Somaliland's claim for independence.

breaking away from Somalia following a civil war but has not received official recognition by the international community. The two countries had unified within days of the UK giving Somaliland independence in 1960 but broke up again after a civil war.

The renewed calls came this week after Labour run Liverpool City Council unanimously backed a motion recognizing Somaliland in what has been hailed as a significant move in the country's relations with the rest of the world. Liverpool's Lord Mayor Richard Kemp announced: "Liverpool council unanimously agreed a motion calling upon HMG to recognize the former British Protectorate of Somaliland as an independent Country free from

Somalia. The Somaliland Representative to the UK and local Somaliland residents were delighted."

Somaliland's diaspora office Tweeted: "We deeply appreciate Liverpool City Council's July 24th, 2024 motion re-recognizing Somaliland's independence. This milestone is a testament to the tireless efforts of the Somaliland community in Liverpool, the UK Mission, and advocates worldwide. We congratulate all involved!"

Pressure was mounting on the previous Tory UK government and Joe Biden's administration in the US to change their position on Somaliland which is seen as a functioning democracy in a troubled part of the world.

The leading advocate for the

## The government has welcomed the re-recognition by Liverpool City Council of the Republic of Somaliland

below;

"Hon Leader of the Liverpool Council, distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

"It is with immense gratitude and pride that I stand before you today on behalf of the Republic of Somaliland and as the Head of Somaliland UK Mission.

"First and foremost, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Liverpool members of the cross-party Council particularly Councilor Lucille Harvey, Councilor Tricia O'brien and the people of Liverpool for their unwavering support and the motion of recognition for Somaliland. Your solidarity and commitment have touched our hearts deeply and renewed our hope for a brighter future.

"I would also like to thank the support for this campaign by Liverpool MP's Hon Kim Johnson and Hon Paula Barker for their support with the APPG, we are also grateful for the support from local MPs, the City Councils of Sheffield, Cardiff, Birmingham and London Borough



of Tower Hamlet and would encourage other local MP's and Cllrs to join this noble cause.

"Honourable Councilors, Liverpool was and is always in our hearts. As you all know, the earliest Somaliland immigrants arrived in this city in the

19th century who were lascars and merchants. A second group of seamen came during the second world war with the royal navy from British Somaliland.

"I am also grateful to Shukri Jama for her continuous campaign for Somaliland's re-recognition". End.

# Ambassador Adan Attends Somaliland Military Graduation Ceremony in Ethiopia



Education attaché of Somaliland embassy to Ethiopia Mr. Abdikhalaq Mohamed Ase, participated in the ceremony held for the troops who graduated from the military training college in Ethiopia, which had amongst them, officers from the Republic of Somaliland.

The officials also met with the Commander of the Ethiopian Military Forces Field Marshal

Birhanu Jula, the Kenyan Ambassador to Ethiopia and other leaders and eminent personalities who attended the ceremony.

The Ambassador thanked the government of Ethiopia for the scholarship given to the Republic of Somaliland and congratulated the graduate officers for having completed their courses successfully.

## Somaliland reaffirms commitment to fostering strong bilateral relations with neighbors



- This includes its strategic ally of Ethiopia, based on mutual respect and cooperation
- Tells the failed regime in Somalia to prioritize stabilizing its own affairs rather than persistently attempting to destabilize Somaliland

The Government of the Republic of Somaliland reaffirms the significance of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Somaliland and Ethiopia, emphasizing its focus on mutual benefits and cooperative efforts between the two sisterly neighboring nations.

These sentiments were contained in a press release by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in which Somaliland reaffirmed its commitment to "fostering strong bilateral relations with its neighbors including the strategic ally of Ethiopia based on mutual respect and cooperation". Since restoring its independence and separation from the tumultuous Somali Republic in 1991, Somaliland has charted its own course towards stability, democracy, and self-rule. As a sovereign and independent state, Somaliland remains committed to fostering strong bilateral relations with its neighbors including the strategic ally of Ethiopia based on mutual respect and cooperation.

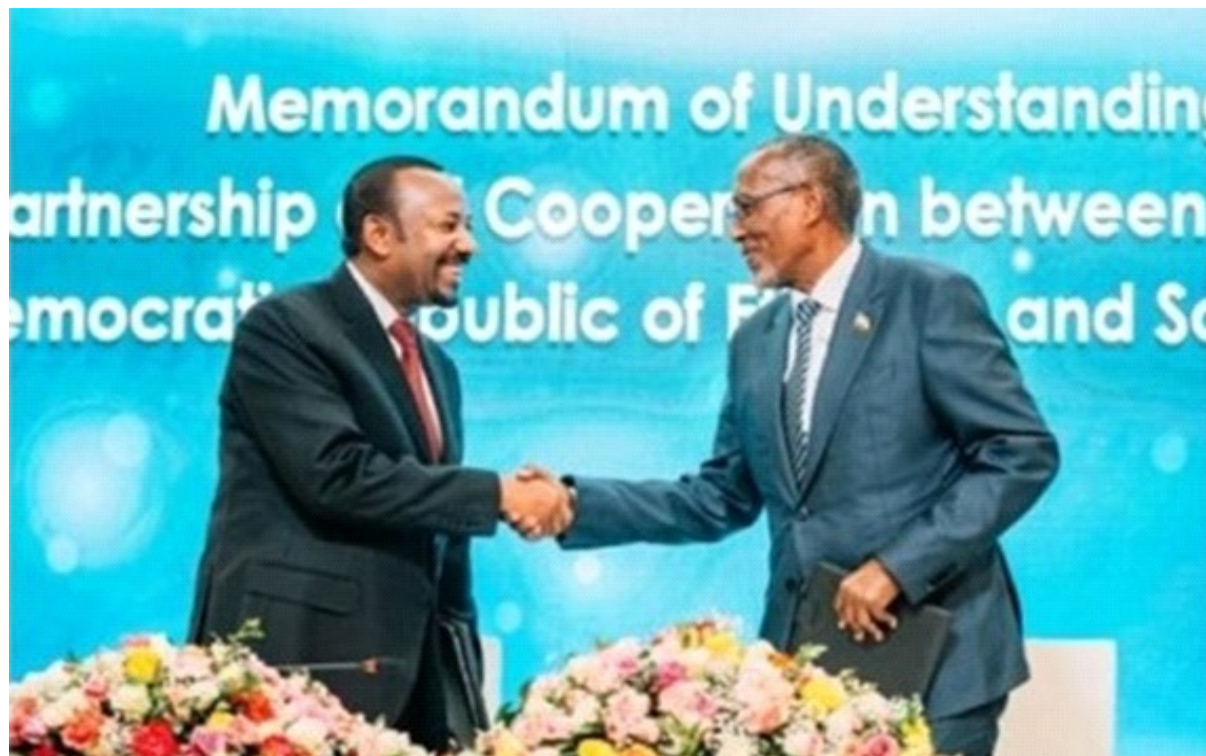
It is regrettable that the Mogadishu Administration, under the leadership of Hassan Sheikh Mohamoud, which is not in full control of its own

capital, persists in attempts to destabilize Somaliland through support for local militia groups. Meanwhile, reports indicate their weaponry and arms are falling into the hands of al Shabaab and clan militias, exacerbating regional instability.

In stark contrast, H.E. President Muse Bihi Abdi of the Republic Somaliland was elected by his people through free and fair elections, a testament to Somaliland's commitment to democratic principles. The so-called government in Mogadishu, by contrast, was nominated by a selection of a few under a tent, a process that falls far short of democratic standards.

Somaliland asserts its sovereign right to engage in relations and agreements with other nations. Situated at a strategic location, Somaliland is a key stakeholder in the geopolitics of the Red Sea region and beyond. The Mogadishu failed regime, lacking control and credibility, is not and will never be part of this strategic equation. It is incumbent upon them to stabilize their own affairs before interfering in Somaliland's internal matters

## The Berbera Breakthrough: Somaliland's Ascent in the Horn of Africa



leadership of Muse Bihi Abdi. Somaliland, emerging as a significant entity in the eastern horn of Africa, gained independence from British colonial rule on June 26, 1960. Its history includes a notable struggle for freedom and overcoming the dictatorship of Mohamed Siad Barre. After the Somali National Army overthrew the regime, Somaliland established itself as an independent nation, separate from Mogadishu's Somalia. Today, Somaliland is a democratically independent country. In a May 31, 2001 referendum, 97.1% of voters supported establishing a constitutional government with legislative, executive, and judiciary branches. Somaliland is now politically autonomous, egalitarian, economically prosperous, peaceful, socially vibrant, and a mature liberal democracy. Regular elections and visionary leadership affirm its democratic values. However, Somaliland continues to seek international recognition as an independent country. Currently, the strategically located port city of Berbera in the Sahil region is at the center of a beneficial diplomatic agreement between Somaliland and Ethiopia. Berbera has a rich history as a significant trade town, recognized by early Arab geographers like Ibn Sa'id in 1286. It was attacked by the Portuguese in 1518, controlled by the sharifs of Mocha in the 17th century, the Egyptians in 1875, and the British in 1884. In 1941, it became the capital of British Somaliland. Today, Berbera stands as a beacon of hope for Somaliland's economic prosperity. On Jan 1st, 2024, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for partnership and co-operation etched a new **renaissance movement** in the historical ties between **Somaliland and Ethiopia**. This MOU is assumed to assure a few critical things at a **juncture of economic**

**opportunity and recognition of Somaliland**. Ethiopia is a landlocked country and is wishing for a port to serve its trade prospects. Somaliland, on a similar page, seeks recognition as an extended effort from Ethiopia. Within the ambit of an **undisclosed MOU**, Ethiopia is supposed to promise **recognition** of the state of Somaliland in the international arena (UN), the Somaliland administration has in turn allowed **trade access** for Ethiopia in Berbera port. It's a **win-win situation** for both countries. The Somaliland leadership under **Muse Bihi Abdi**, the President of Somaliland, has vouched for a **strong economy and sustenance of National interest** beyond regional apprehensions of political debacles. His intentions to put **the Nation first** and consider **pragmatism as the ethics of politics** will help Somaliland in the long run with democratic contentions and international recognition. The question which arises here is, how helpful is the MOU? It was under the able leadership of Mr. Bihi that a justifiable MoU was framed. A fact to be noted is that the **President himself was a participant of the historic independence and freedom struggle**. Returning to the MoU, Ethiopia, Africa's oldest independent country, has a long history of relations with Somaliland. This relationship dates back to 1982 when the Somali National Movement allied with Ethiopia's communist Derg regime against Somali dictator Siad Barre. Since Somaliland declared independence on May 18, 1991, relations between Somaliland and Ethiopia have been marked by optimism, trust, and brotherhood. The Berbera port, by 2035 is supposed to contribute nearly **27% of Somaliland's GDP and 75% of its total trade**. The MOU would benefit **1.6 million people** and provide **employment**

**opportunities to 53,000 Somalilanders**. In turn, the increase in trade would indeed **increase the purchase power parity** of the state and ease of access to affordable goods. **It not only promises economic viability but transcends to long pending international recognition**. Ethiopia currently relies on Djibouti for 95% of its trade routes. Seeking to reduce this dependency, Ethiopia views Somaliland as a valuable diplomatic partner. This partnership benefits both nations, balancing their interests. Concerns about Ethiopia dominating Somaliland are unfounded and stem from outdated colonial mindsets. Independent nations must make pragmatic decisions to foster growth. Trade-offs, like the one between Ethiopia and Somaliland, are justifiable when they align with national interests and recognition. Somaliland's ongoing peace and the need to counter false propaganda require such strategic diplomatic actions. **Mr. Muse Bihi Abdi** has shed historical barriers and has **penetrated deep diplomatic channels** to enable recognition for Somaliland. His efforts towards nation-building draw no parallel. His consequential trade deal would bring **not only economic prosperity but also build soft power, smart power, and fast power**. The Somaliland pride has been revived by Bihi's efforts and the visionary leadership will attain much greater heights for Somaliland. In this international balance of power, trade-offs are essential for internal and external balancing. Somaliland's presidential efforts for the Berbera port **MOU are an exemplary example of Natural, Strategic, and Peace diplomacy**. In this ever-expanding multipolar world and multipolar Africa, Somaliland is all set to emerge as a major political player and it is all set to put **national interest** first.

## Weeklong Hargeisa International Book Fair 2024 Wraps Up,

**As Hargeisa Cultural Center reels with visiting patrons attending the expo event**

By M.A. Egge

The Hargeisa International Book Fair, which held its 17th exhibition this year, has just concluded at the Hargeisa Cultural Center after running for about a week.

The exposition had the center reel with the multitude of people who thronged it to attend the event in their thousands.

The 17th exhibition, which this year has had its theme as "Togetherness", with this year's hosting partner country being Tunisia, saw various presentations of wonderful scientific debates on culture, literature, books including availing of new ones and exchanges of a large ken of knowledge and related intellectual development, and of course assorted concerts.

The event was moreover blessed with the witnessing of attendances of foreign delegates from 16 countries around the world that included writers, academics, researchers, poets, inventors and play-writes and, of course thousands of people thronging the center throughout who were from all cadres of the society.

The director of the Hargeisa Cultural Center, Issa Musa Adan, wrapped up the activities of the weeklong event of the Hargeisa International Book Fair with the words, "During the six days of the International Book Fair in Hargeisa, 25 different scientific discussions were held at the center. 15 book fairs were also presented that saw the launching presentations of 35 new ones.

150 participants that had researchers, writers, poets and scholars conducted presentations and gave diverse lectures throughout the event.

He observed that the expo was

arguably the biggest book fair in going by the number of patrons who visited the expo on day and night basis by the tens of thousands throughout the exhibition.

Various certificates were awarded to 40 students who attended several weeks' course at the center on literal prose.

Chairman of the Cultural Center of Hargeisa Dr. Jama Musa Jama who spoke on the occasion, thanked all the people of the world and the country who came to attend the Hargeisa International Book Fair, which this year is the 17th edition of the Redsea Cultural Foundation Club organized by the Cultural Center Hargeisa has been a part of it since its inception in 2008. He thanked the staff of the Cultural Center and 25 young volunteers from the regions of Somaliland.

He also thanked the Hargeisa Group Hospital for participating in the exhibition this year. He also thanked everyone who made the success of the event either through participation or contribution to the exhibition.

He announced the most popular book at the event as "Mana-Fay" as he revealed the top four and hailed them.

He said, "The best-selling book during this exhibition is the book Mana-Fay written by Mohamed Dahir Afrah. The second book is 'The Invincible State' written by Dr. Jama Guled. The third book is 'Danjire Kongo', and the fourth place is the book 'Hundred Projects and Projects' written by Sheikh Hamse". Saying that he was elated by the contents of the Mana-Fay, he praised the message it relayed to the youth about the essence of reading, he congratulated them for their fetes.



# Minister Sa'ad presides bi-annual Treasury meeting



be placed on accelerating the preparation of the State Budget for the following year, 2025, in accordance with the budget preparation schedule, the Budget Calendar.

He also instructed the heads of the departments and the general staff of the ministry not to get involved in political issues nor tangle in political rivalries especially in the electioneering period.

He cautioned them to be wary of anything that may cause them to neglect their national duties. In fact, it is illegal for civil servants to indulge publicly in politics.

The mandate of the ministry of finance is derived from the constitution, which provides for the establishment and management of a budget suitable for the financial resources of the country, while being responsible for ensuring the smooth functioning of the financial system authorized by it, as above-sustainability and accountability of Government Institutions' expenditures, while on the other hand it is working on an annual plan and also a Five Year Strategic Plan 2024-8 which is the road-map for earmarked activities.

Therefore, it is necessary to carry out regular self-evaluation, to ensure that the activities are going as per schedule as intended.

By M.A. Egge

Minister of Finance Hon. Dr. Saad Ali Shire praised the performance of the ministry's departments in the last six months of this year, and instructed them to strive further hence fulfill their obligations to the nation.

A bi-annual treasury meeting held over the week at the General Accounts Office and the Director General of the Ministry Mr. Mohamed Hussein Osman (Mu'dainka) who was present, the directors and heads of the various departments and sections gave reports on the performance of their departments during the period January-June/2024.

This six-monthly meeting was aimed at evaluating what each department and section has done in terms of its plans, reviewing what has been done or not, the expectations, pros and cons entailed and the next steps forward in face of challenges.

The minister praised the departmental officials and the entire staffers for the effective performance of their duties.

"I am urging you to step up your efforts in the next six months such that we may fully cover the expected duties and targets set", said the minister.

He pointed out that emphasis should

# Information Minister Hints At Anticipatory Good News



By M. A. Egge

Given the inkling of information provided, it seems that the Minister of Information, Culture, and National Guidance of Somaliland, Hon. Ali Hassan Mohamed, has hinted at significant news that will bring happiness to the citizens of Somaliland in the coming weeks.

The minister mentioned this during a dinner with Somaliland's diaspora in Hargeisa without further elaborative details.

The anticipated news includes the possibility of Somaliland and Ethiopia signing a Memorandum of

Understanding (MoU) for a military navy base, which would likely be a most significant development.

This entails, in its essence, Ethiopia potentially recognizing Somaliland, which would mark a diplomatic milestone for the region.

However, it's important to note that such announcements and agreements are subject to concrete confirmation and formalization through official channels.

However, it's important to note that such announcements and agreements are subject to concrete confirmation and formalization through official channels.

# "IS THE KULMIYE PARTY REGAINING ITS CAMPAIGN MOMENTUM?"

Eng. Ahmed Adare



Kulmiye party has had outstanding performances and successful electoral victories over the past two presidential elections. Also on the coming election 13th November 2024, the party has several common themes and strategies in place as usual.

However, I saw an article on Araweelo News Network titled: "The shift of former Kulmiye supporters to Wadani Party dated on 24th July 2024". Surprisingly the author highlighted that "the former Kulmiye members who switched to Wadani party are idle and have nothing to do other than spending their days in tea shops".

Somaliland is a democratic nation and we respect member's freedom to choose their own political party.

However, there are a very few political elites who choose to toggle between the parties without a genuine change in their political ideology or beliefs, but perceived as putting their personal interests above the principles and platform of their party. Those unethical turncoats surely will switch to another party sooner or later.

Our party grass-root and supports are intact, we know our core themes and values that resonate with our voters. We identifying and appealing to our key demographic and interest groups, our strong organizational

infrastructure that is in place will deliver an efficient campaign operations, logistics, and effective campaign resource management. Our party knows how to project an image of integrity, empathy, and leadership, we know how to connecting with our voters on a personal level through relatability and charisma. We will showcase our fourteenth years in government achievements by demonstrating our track record of public service, infrastructure developments, good governance, successful foreign policy that resulted region's political shift and many other accomplishments

Our candidates' profiles, backgrounds, achievements and personalities will surely enhance the campaign's political context and deliver the long-awaited recognition. We are confident and ready for the upcoming elections contest.

Finally let's play on a level playground, focus on policy differences rather than personal attacks or hate speech. Candidates and parties should avoid inflammatory rhetoric that could incite tribal, violence or society divisions. Campaign activities should be with the boundaries of our constitution, respect rule of law and encourage national unity.

# Lord Polak's Insights: The Significance of the Ethiopia-Somaliland MoU for Regional Stability

foreign affairs and defense on July 25, 2024, Lord Stuart Polak CBE praised the historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Somaliland and Ethiopia on January 1, 2024. He noted that this agreement would significantly enhance peace and development in the Horn of Africa.

Lord Polak expressed gratitude to UK supporters of Somaliland in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords for their unwavering commitment to strengthening relations between Somaliland and Ethiopia, which is vital for regional stability and progress.

During the debate, he remarked, "My Lords, I refer the House to my registered interests and I welcome the noble Baroness, Lady Anderson, and the noble Lord, Lord Coaker—who seems to have just nipped out—as well as the noble Lord, Lord Collins, who has been announced as Minister for Africa. I am sorry the noble Lord is not in his place because, on January 1, 2024, Ethiopia and Somaliland signed a landmark memorandum that promises to alter regional dynamics considerably.

The agreement grants Ethiopia access to the Red Sea via the port of Berbera. Somaliland will lease a



20-kilometer stretch of coastline to Ethiopia for 50 years, and in return, Ethiopia has committed to recognizing Somaliland as an independent state, making it the first United Nations member state to do so, a historic milestone. From Ethiopia's perspective, the MoU highlights a strategic necessity. As a landlocked country, Ethiopia has long needed reliable and cost-effective access to the sea to enhance trade, and this agreement addresses that economic need and enhances security.

The Ethiopia-Somaliland MoU is a landmark agreement with wide-reaching implications. It addresses crucial economic and security needs while setting a new path for regional diplomacy and international recognition. As we navigate these complex geopolitical landscapes, it is essential that we remain engaged and proactive in

fostering stability and cooperation in the Horn of Africa. We must support the efforts of countries such as Somaliland and Ethiopia to bring stability in this region, and I look forward to working with the noble Lord, Lord Collins, on this matter going forward."

In conclusion, the memorandum of understanding between Ethiopia and Somaliland has the potential to reshape regional dynamics and pave the way for enhanced economic integration and security cooperation in the Horn of Africa. As the international community navigates these complex geopolitical landscapes, it is crucial to remain engaged and proactive in fostering stability and cooperation in the region. The Ethiopia-Somaliland MoU represents a significant opportunity to advance these shared goals and promote enduring peace and prosperity in the Horn of Africa.

# The Central Bank in pegging currency operations to stabilize exchange rates



By M.A. Egge

The Central Bank of Somaliland on Tuesday carried out an operation in the city of Hargeisa to peg currency in an effort to stabilize the local shilling.

The policy has been in place to fight inflation from time to time.

The bank has also cautioned unscrupulous business fraternity not to fleece consumers by unnecessarily hiking prices.

The local power and water suppliers have also been directed to bill their clients in local currency. Given the latest jittery exchange rates that have threatened to destabilize the market, the Central Bank has swiftly moved to buy the shilling by injecting foreign hard currencies to stabilize the market

economy.

By thus, the excess and surplus cash is temporarily withdrawn from the market to maintain confidence. In recent weeks the markets have been jittery since inflation has been felt and the members of the public have been grumbling.

The pegging operation was led by the deputy governor of the Central Bank who was flanked by the bank's Director General Mr. Mohamed Qasim Hussein.

The DG elaborated on the essence of the exercise.

He said, "We have carried out an operation in the exchange rates' market in Hargeisa city, fighting against the recent inflation in the foreign exchange market. We have floated US dollars in the market and

taken surplus Somaliland shillings cash out of it to stabilize it".

He continued, "We inform the community that the exchange rate of the dollar to be pegged is 9350 shillings and 9450 shillings on buying and selling".

He cautioned all money changers to stick to the stipulated rate.

He was categorical that, "The central bank has an obligation to maintain the stability of the currency, to raise the quality of the Somaliland shilling. All money changers are thus advised to go by the rate set by the bank. Anything to the contrary will thus be illegal".

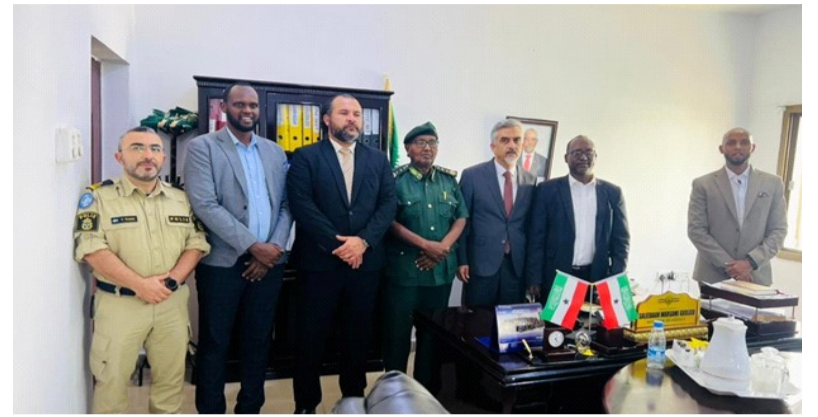
Likewise, the DG warned the local power and water supply services to bill their clients in local currency.

So, too, has he cautioned local business fraternity not to hike their merchandise unnecessarily, to inflate the costs of commodities, and unscrupulously fleece the unsuspecting consumers in the country.

He warned that all those reported for the vice will be prosecuted.

Last week the bank had made a major operation in the frontier town of Tog-Wajaale to round-up about 70 illegal and unregistered money exchangers who were potentially disrupting the rates.

# Somaliland, Turkey discuss rehabilitation and development of correctional centers



By M.A. Egge

The Turkish government is planning to rehabilitate the Berbera prison, a facility which was initially built by the Turks themselves about two centuries ago.

This was revealed when the Minister of Justice affairs Hon. Suleiman Warsame Guled received in his office the ambassador of the Turkish consular office in Somaliland Harun Arslan and the Coordinator of the TIKA Project Cooperation Agency Zafer Ek'ci.

Present at the meeting were the Director General of the ministry Mr. Ismael Suleiman Bawkah and the Chief Prisons Commander Brigadier General Ahmed Awale Yusuf.

Others in attendance at the meeting included the director of the Department of Prisons and Human Rights and the director of Planning. The main purpose of the meeting was cooperation in projects focusing on the field of justice management services.

The Turkish officials visited the ancient prison in Berbera that their country constructed around two centuries ago, a facility that they are planning to renovate.

The Minister of Justice acknowledged that Turkey and Somaliland shared a long history,

and that "there is a need to renew the traces and historical ruins that Turkey left in Somaliland centuries ago".

He also added that Somaliland and Turkey would cooperate in many projects to improve the justice management and dispensing services with Turkey king in support in implementations of the said development projects.

On his part Brigadier General Ahmed Awale Yusuf welcomed the new cooperation between Turkey and Somaliland, pointing out the importance of Turkey's historic construction of the Berbera Prison. Mr. Harun Arslan, head of the Turkish Consulate in Somaliland and Mr. Zafer Ek'ci, project coordinator of TIKA, affirmed that they visited the city of Berbera, especially the Berbera Prison, the Turkish Mosque and the port of Berbera, and promised that the Turkish government plans to renovate the prison an also promote development projects in Somaliland.

In conclusion, the Turkish authorities and the Ministry of Justice agreed to work together on the reconstruction of Berbera Prison, and to plan projects for the development of justice.

# Reckless Drivers Endangering lives and properties Convicted for Racing while Filming Themselves

By M.A. Egge

Four drivers who recklessly drove their vehicles at break-neck speeds while at the same time filming themselves as they transported people and livestock snaking their way dangerously through the highways were traced by police an nabbed following the clips exposing them going viral in the social media.

According to a statement from the Somaliland Police headquarters, the Maroodi-jeeh Regional Court has sentenced four drivers who have recently been arrested for endangering lives and the safety of their people and animals that they were transporting.

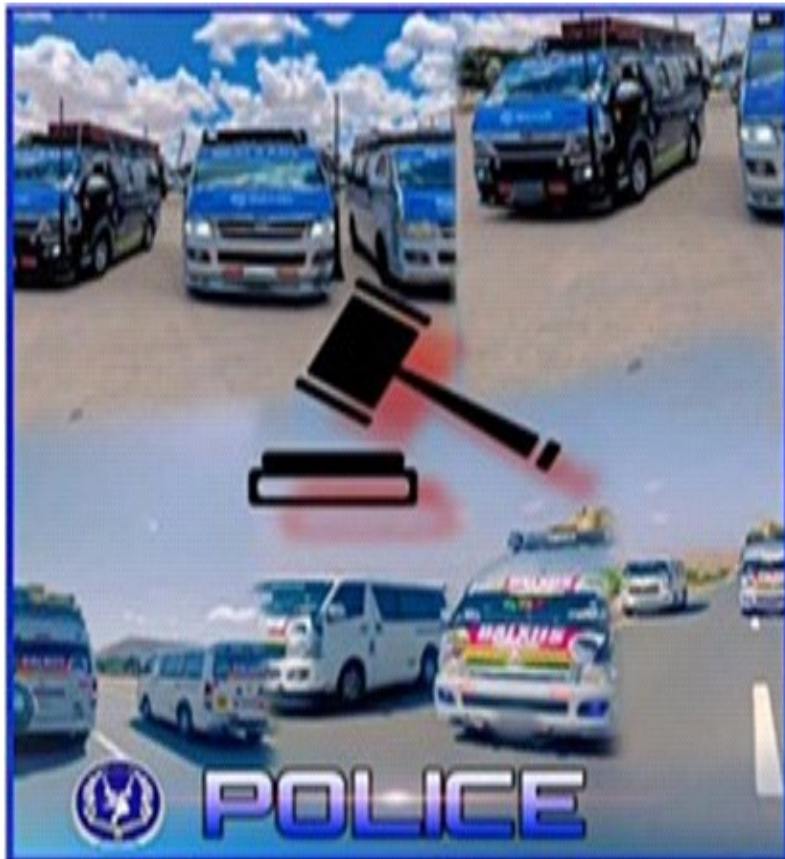
All four culprits were found guilty as charged.

The statement of the police press release gave the details of those involve and their sentences s follows;

1-Khalid Abib Mohamed, son of Hodan Hussein, 22 years old, sentenced for 2 years in prison.

2. Abdihakim Abdisalan Mohamud, son of Halima Mohamed, 30 years old, was sentenced to 2 years in prison.

3- Mohamed Mustafe Jama, son



of Hinda Abdirahman, 29 years old, was sentenced to 2 years in prison.

4- Mohamed Ibrahim Ahmed (Maqane) was sentenced to 3 years in prison and also fined one million Somaliland shillings.

The police said that upon having the viral videos that went viral in the

social media catching their attention, they sprang into action tracing the culprits and tracking them down successfully.

They, in the same breath of caution, warned motorists to desist from such unnecessary naïve and foolhardy acts that endanger the lives of people and properties.

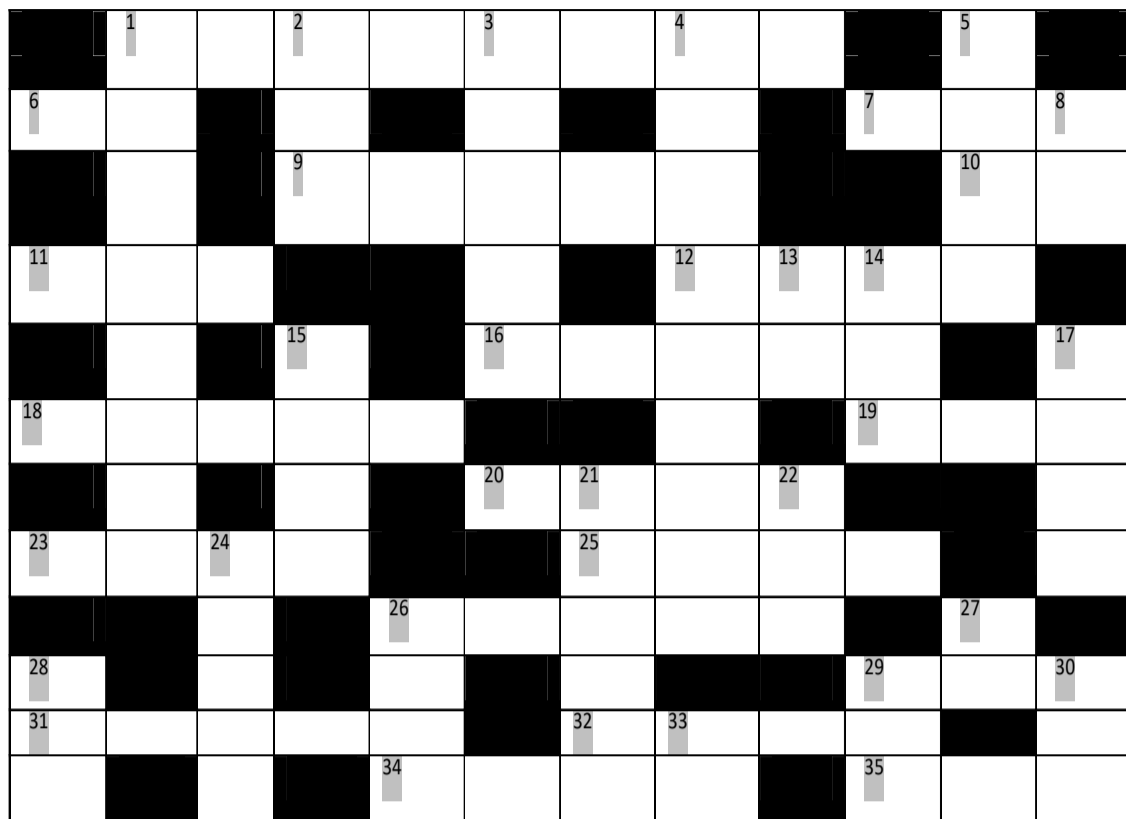
# Elevated Discourse: Somaliland Professionals Unite for Groundbreaking Summit in Atlanta



DEVELOPMENT

Continue on page 6

# THT Puzzle



**Across**

- 1 publish/ broadcast
- 6 otherwise
- 7 father
- 9 in which one
- 10 Negative
- 11 snows
- 12 simple
- 16 northern
- 18 chocolates
- 19 swallow/ dinner
- 20 pop group
- 23 vicinity
- 25 CT scan
- 26 established
- 29 network
- 31 jeans
- 32 period
- 34 exams
- 35 wetness

**Down**

- 1 wing chair
- 2 right now
- 3 confederation
- 4 consistency
- 5 countless
- 8 make
- 31 by the side of
- 14 that girl (pronoun)
- 15 brainstorm
- 17 continues
- 21 belongings
- 22 father
- 24 occurrence
- 26 chosen
- 27 Pronoun
- 28 secret agent
- 29 latest
- 30 at most

## Previous Answer

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

## Puntland Security Forces capture a foreign ISIS fighter Imraan Mohamed Alawi in Bari region

The Puntland Security Forces (PSF) have captured a foreign officer from the Islamic State (Daesh) group in the Almis Mountains of Somalia's Bari Region.

The officer, identified as Imraan Mohamed Alawi from Zanzibar, was apprehended on May 31, 2024, during operations against Daesh militants in the Qanda area.

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# Ethiopia Financial Stability Report



and cheques, embezzlement, the issuance of unauthorized bank guarantees, withdrawals using stolen ATM cards, and false calls or texts. Moreover, robberies amounting to Birr 0.2 billion were reported by three banks at end-June 2023. Commercial banks are introducing technology-based new products and services that enhance efficiency and financial inclusion but entail significant operational risks.

Moreover, an increasing number of banks are applying to introduce digital micro credit & saving services that are provided through partnerships with third parties. As a consequence, incidences of fraud and embezzlement could increase. Major policy developments need to focus on implementing regulations that outline effective strategies for measuring and mitigating operational risks.

3.2.2 Development Finance Institution The total assets of the DBE grew by 19.8 percent from the previous year to Birr 157.8 billion at end-June 2023. The increase was largely because of the growth of loans and advances by 25.0 percent. Total regulatory capital increased by 2.8 percent from the previous year's Birr 30.1 billion to Birr 31.0 billion. Deposit liabilities more than doubled, but the regulatory capital ratio fell to 30.0 percent, reflecting a large increase in provisioning that by the end of June 2023 more than covered NPLs.

Mainly due to regulatory forbearance and enhanced loan collection, the ratio of NPLs to total loans decreased significantly from 24.3 percent to 7.1 percent. Profitability increased, with return on assets reaching 3.3 percent, and return on capital 15.5 percent (Figure 15, Figure 16 and Annex A).

## Market Risk

Market risk is moderate but is increasing. In a rising interest rate environment, banks' funding costs may increase since deposit liabilities are at variable rates, while a large amount of assets – corporate bonds held by CBE and DBE, and treasury bonds held by private banks – are at fixed rate. Therefore, bank profitability may deteriorate somewhat.

Commercial banks' overall open foreign currency position was 81.7 percent short at end-June 2023, lower than a year earlier but still well above NBE's maximum limit of 15 percent. Commercial banks have experienced fluctuation in the downside open positions. The large open position was concentrated in five banks (the large bank, three medium-size banks and one small

bank).

Market risks rise in the short-term in a continued high interest rate environment.

Banks often have an imbalance between variable rate deposits and a large proportion of the fixed rate assets they hold. NBE will put in place cautious measures to reduce these risks as well as exchange rate risks. Operational Risk

There is significant operational risk in the Ethiopian commercial banking industry and is expected to rise further in the short to medium terms. Incidents of social engineering, insider threats and third-party risks are on the rise. The cost of bank fraud and forgeries almost doubled to Birr 1.0 billion in just a year. These cases occurred at 20 banks, mainly through the use of fake cash notes

Figure 15: DBE Balance Sheet-Based Soundness Indicators, June 2022-2023 (percent)

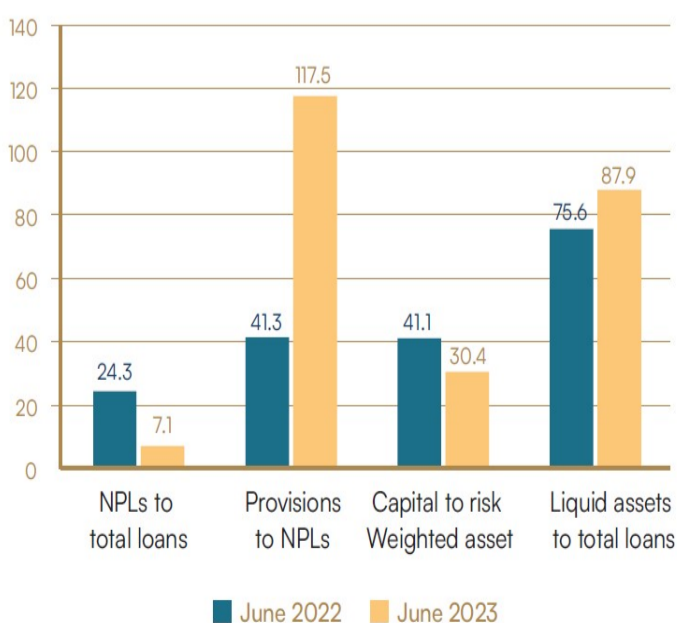
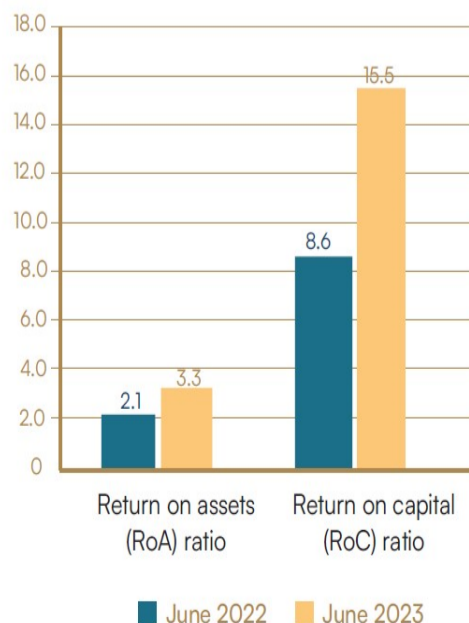


Figure 16: DBE Profitability Indicators, June 2022-2023 (percent)



To be continue next week

## Puntland Security Forces capture a foreign ISIS fighter Imraan Mohamed Alawi in Bari region

Alawi was presented in a video report published on the PSF's official Facebook page. In the video, Alawi admitted to being a member of Daesh and participating in battles against various groups. He disclosed that many of the ISIS fighters in the region are foreigners, including individuals from Ethiopia, Malawi, Yemen, and other countries.

This region, particularly the Cal-Miskaat mountains, has been a stronghold for the Islamic State, which established a base there after defecting from the al-Qaeda-affiliated al-Shabab group in 2015.

In a related development earlier this year, a Somali military court sentenced six Moroccan members of IS to death for terrorism-related crimes. This marked the

first time Puntland authorities have charged foreigners for joining IS.

The Somali branch of ISIS is notorious for extorting locals and conducting small-scale, sporadic attacks. The group has been a significant regional security concern, prompting local and international counter-terrorism efforts.

United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) conducted an airstrike targeting ISIS leader Abdiqadir Mu'min in the Al-Bari mountains on May 31. While the outcome of the airstrike remains unclear, preliminary reports indicated that three Daesh members were killed without civilian casualties. This airstrike highlights the ongoing international efforts to combat extremist groups in Somalia.

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