



The Diplomat

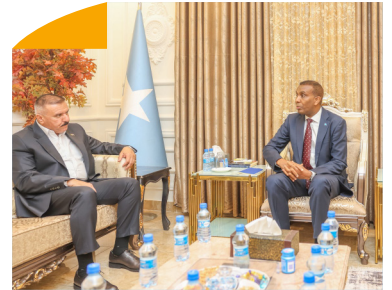
Issue 01 April 2025

MONTHLY MAGAZINE



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

SOMALI PRESIDENT HIGHLIGHTS MILITARY GAINS AT ENTEBBE SUMMIT



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H.E. Amb. Ahmed Moallim Fiqi Ahmed
Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

SOMALIA'S FOREIGN POLICY: GUIDED BY PRINCIPLES, DRIVEN BY PURPOSE

The Federal Republic of Somalia continues to pursue a principled, proactive, and purpose-driven foreign policy, guided by the unified vision of His Excellency President Dr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud and Prime Minister Hamza Abdi Barre. This joint commitment reflects the nation's aspiration to build lasting partnerships with sisterly and friendly countries, strengthen bilateral cooperation across key sectors for mutual benefit, and enhance Somalia's presence at both the regional and international levels.

Somalia's foreign policy is grounded in a thoughtful, values-based approach that emphasizes mutual respect, non-interference, constructive engagement, and full adherence to international law and agreements. The leadership has shown unwavering determination to deepen diplomatic relations and elevate the country's global standing. These efforts are closely aligned with national priorities and are driven by the collective will of the Somali people.

The strategic priorities of Somalia's foreign policy are shaped by the directives of the President and the national development agenda set forth by the Council of Ministers under the leadership of Prime Minister Hamza Abdi Barre. These frameworks aim to transform diplomatic efforts into practical achievements that promote peace, stability, and sustainable development.

At the heart of this vision is the belief that diplomacy must directly serve the people. Somalia's foreign policy is integrated with its development objectives and views diplomacy as an essential tool for securing economic opportunities, encouraging political dialogue, facilitating cultural exchange, and strengthening regional and international security cooperation.

These efforts embody the nation's core values of good neighborliness, mutual respect, tolerance, and peaceful coexistence.

Somalia seeks to play a constructive and credible role in regional and international forums. The country values partnerships based on shared interests and strives to contribute positively to global discussions on peacebuilding, development, climate resilience, and multilateral cooperation. Somalia's diplomatic approach increasingly reflects maturity, pragmatism, and proactive engagement, which highlight the country's resilience and commitment to institutional development.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation plays a central role in achieving Somalia's foreign policy goals. As the lead body responsible for foreign relations, the Ministry coordinates and implements the diplomatic agenda, strengthens international engagement, and drives forward institutional reforms. It ensures the realization of the leadership's vision and effectively represents Somalia's interests on the global stage. Somalia's diplomatic presence continues to grow, as reflected in the expansion of bilateral ties, active involvement in multilateral platforms, and renewed cooperation with traditional partners.

A notable milestone is Somalia's election to the United Nations Security Council for the 2025–2026 term, a development that signifies international recognition of Somalia's role in promoting global peace and security.

This progress is supported by wide-ranging internal reforms within the Ministry. These reforms focus on modernizing diplomatic operations, improving coordination among missions, and enhancing the capabilities of Somalia's diplomatic corps. Such improvements are essential to ensuring that Somali diplomacy remains adaptable, effective, and responsive to global challenges.

Somalia views diplomacy as a bridge for dialogue between cultures, communities, and nations. Cultural exchange and intercultural dialogue are integral components of the country's foreign policy, strengthening the foundations of international cooperation and positioning Somalia as a valuable partner in global understanding and collaboration.

As the country navigates a rapidly evolving geopolitical environment, Somalia remains steadfast, confident, and forward-looking.

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H.E. Dr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud
President of the Federal Republic of Somalia

SECURING THE RED SEA AND GULF
OF ADEN IS OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY



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The Diplomat



Federal Republic of Somalia
Ministry of Foreign Affairs &
International Cooperation



National
Transformation
Plan 2025-2030
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA

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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

In this edition of «The Diplomat» magazine, we highlight the dynamic diplomacy of the Federal Republic of Somalia, driven by the wisdom and vision of its leadership for a brighter future. Through active engagement in key international forums and events, Somalia continues to assert itself as a key player on the global stage.

The country's diplomatic efforts, coupled with its growing political and economic presence, are a reflection of the balance and stability that guide its foreign policy. Somalia is advancing with confidence, building strong partnerships, and fostering dialogue and cooperation across various sectors. This has solidified Somalia's position as an influential regional power and a trusted global partner, earning recognition from international organizations for the success and growth of its initiatives.

Aligned with the National Transformation Plan, Somalia's diplomacy is being translated into impactful development projects that showcase the nation's unique cultural identity and progress across multiple fields.



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SOMALIA WELCOMES NEW AU SRCC



SOMALI FM DISCUSSES JOINT EFFORTS AGAINST AL-SHABAAB WITH NEW AU SRCC

Mogadishu, April 28, 2025 - The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, H.E. Amb. Ahmed Moallim Fiqi Ahmed, received on Monday at his office Mr. Rahmon Adebayo, the newly appointed interim Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission (SRCC) for Somalia, where he congratulated him on his appointment, expressed his willingness to strengthen collaboration, and to work closely with him.

The discussions during the meeting focused on advancing security collaboration, supporting ongoing military efforts against the Al-Shabaab terrorist group, and exploring opportunities to deepen coordination between the Federal Government of Somalia and the African Union Support and Stabilisation Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM).

Diplomatic Updates



SOMALI PRESIDENT HIGHLIGHTS KEY POLITICAL PRIORITIES IN MEETING WITH EU DELEGATION

Mogadishu, April 24, 2025 – The President of the Federal Republic of Somalia, His Excellency Dr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, held a meeting on Wednesday (April 23) in Mogadishu with the Delegation of the European Union to Somalia, ambassadors, and representatives from relevant institutions to discuss the Somali Political Dialogue and the Joint Operational Roadmap.

President Hassan Sheikh expressed appreciation for the European Union's continued support in rebuilding state institutions, promoting the federal system, and standing with the Somali people during challenging times.

The President outlined the government's priorities, including national reconciliation, strengthening good governance, developing a democratic system based on direct elections, and shared details on the ongoing national consultations and efforts to stabilize the political landscape.

Diplomatic Updates

SOMALI FM SAYS AL-SHABAAB IS SIGNIFICANTLY WEAKENED AFTER TWO YEARS OF OPERATIONS



The

Minister described the armed forces, whether stationed in defensive positions or leading operations on the frontlines, as the backbone of the nation's security and sovereignty, underscoring their dedication to justice and public safety, and urged all segments of society to offer unwavering support to their mission and sacrifices.

Mogadishu, April 20, 2025 – The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, H.E. Amb. Ahmed Moallim Fiqi Ahmed, stated that the Al-Shabaab terrorist group has been significantly weakened following two consecutive years of sustained military operations by the Somali National Armed Forces (SNAF) coupled with strategic efforts to restrict its financial networks and counter its extremist ideology.

The Minister, speaking at an event held at the Ministry's headquarters in Mogadishu in support of the Somali National Army, highlighted the Ministry's commitment by donating a truckload of dry food rations, as a gesture of solidarity and support for the armed forces.

The Minister emphasized that it is impossible for terrorist groups to control the country, recognizing the bravery of the Somali people in fighting the Kharijite ideology, urging politicians and the public to support the national army, and praying to Allah to grant the martyrs Jannatul Ferdous and to bless the injured with a swift and full recovery.



Diplomatic Updates

SOMALI STATE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS DISCUSSES EXPANDING COOPERATION WITH UN POLITICAL CHIEF

Antalya, April 11, 2025 – The State Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, H.E. Ali Mohamed Omar, met on Friday in Antalya with the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Ms. Rosemary Anne DiCarlo, on the sidelines of the 4th Antalya Diplomacy Forum (ADF2025), which officially opened today and discussed with her strengthening collaboration and a wide range of relevant issues.

The meeting focused on the ongoing fight against Al-Shabaab terrorists, the progress of offensive operations, continued support for the Somali National Armed Forces (SNAF), the prevention agenda, promotion of peace and security, developments in the region, and the African Union Security Support Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM).

SOMALI DEPUTY FM PARTICIPATES IN 6TH G7+ MINISTERIAL MEETING IN TIMOR-LESTE



Dili, April 11, 2025 – The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, H.E. Mr. Isaak Mohamud Mursal, participated in the 6th g7+ Ministerial Meeting held in Dili on Friday, April 11, under the theme “Fifteen Years of Unity: Shaping the Future of Peace and Resilience”.

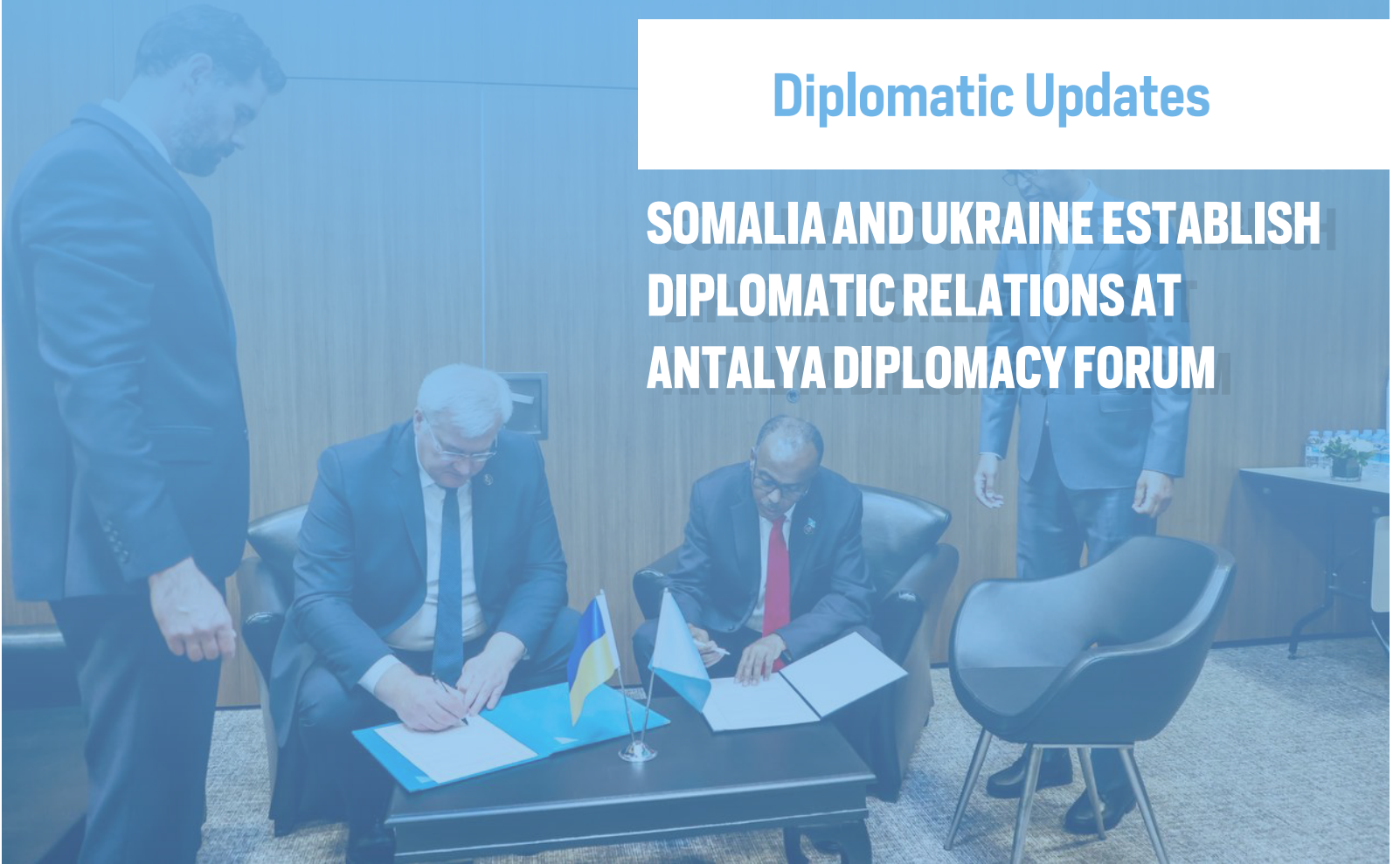
The two-day Ministerial-level Meeting, which runs from April 11–12, brings together representatives from the 20 member states to reflect on the organization's achievements over the past fifteen years and to outline strategies for future peacebuilding and development efforts.



In his address, the Deputy Minister highlighted Somalia's progress in state-building, focusing on institutional reform, national stabilization, and the strengthening of international confidence. He underscored the country's recent election to a non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council as a symbol of resilience and growing international trust in Somalia's recovery and leadership role on the global stage.

Diplomatic Updates

SOMALIA AND UKRAINE ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AT ANTALYA DIPLOMACY FORUM



Antalya, April 11, 2025 – The State Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, H.E. Ali Mohamed Omar, met on Friday with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, H.E. Amb. Andrii Sybiha, on the sidelines of the 4th Antalya Diplomacy Forum (ADF2025), which was officially launched today under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Türkiye, H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, and hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Türkiye from April 11 to 13.

During the meeting, the two sides signed a protocol formalizing the establishment of diplomatic relations between Somalia and Ukraine, reflecting a shared commitment to deepening engagement and fostering mutual understanding.

The two ministers held constructive discussions on enhancing bilateral cooperation and exploring opportunities for collaboration across various fields for the benefit of both nations.



SOMALI PM RECEIVES IRAQI INTERIOR MINISTER IN MOGADISHU

Mogadishu, April 24, 2025 - The Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E. Hamza Abdi Barre, received on Thursday the Minister of Interior of the Republic of Iraq, H.E. Abdul-Amir Al-Shammari, who arrived in the country on an official visit to enhance bilateral cooperation.

The discussions focused on strengthening the longstanding fraternal relations between Somalia and Iraq, with particular emphasis on cooperation in security, counter-terrorism, military training, and the exchange of expertise.

The Prime Minister warmly welcomed the Iraqi delegation and described the visit as a positive step toward deepening ties and advancing mutual interests between the two countries.

For his part, Minister Al-Shammari reiterated his government's commitment to supporting Somalia and expressed readiness to accelerate cooperation in key areas, including security, immigration, education, and the training of security personnel.

Diplomatic Updates





💡 **April 26**

WE CONVEY OUR SINCERE

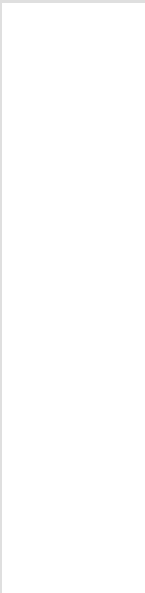
CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA ON THE CELEBRATION OF THE 61st ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THEIR NATION





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💡 **April 27**

WE EXTEND OUR WARM

congratulations to the Government and people of the Republic of South Africa on the occasion of Freedom Day, a momentous celebration that marks 31 years of democracy, unity, and national renewal.





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SOMALI FM EXPLORES NEW AVENUES FOR COOPERATION WITH RUSSIAN DEPUTY FM



Mogadishu, April 27, 2025 – The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, H.E. Amb. Ahmed Moallim Fiqi Ahmed, received on Sunday at his office in Mogadishu, H.E. Mikhail Bogdanov, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation and Special Representative of the President for the Middle East and African Countries, and discussed with him ways to enhance the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, in a spirit of mutual respect and constructive engagement.

Commemorating 65 years of diplomatic relations, the meeting underscored the enduring strength of Somalia-Russia ties, with both sides reaffirming their commitment to further deepening their partnership.

The two sides engaged in a comprehensive exchange of views on advancing bilateral cooperation, identifying key sectors where collaboration could be deepened for mutual benefit, reaffirming their shared commitment to nurturing a strong partnership guided by common interests and a mutual desire to contribute to the prosperity and stability of both countries.

The meeting further addressed regional and international issues of common concern, highlighting the importance of sustained dialogue and coordination between the two countries, emphasizing the need to reactivate and consolidate existing agreements and partnerships to strengthen the foundations of their longstanding cooperation.



Diplomatic Updates

SOMALI FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES ENHANCED COOPERATION WITH SWEDISH STATE SECRETARY TO MINISTER FOR MIGRATION



Cairo, April 10, 2025 – The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, H.E. Amb. Ahmed Moallim Fiqi Ahmed, met in Cairo with the Swedish State Secretary to the Minister of Migration at the Ministry of Justice, H.E. Anders Tore Hall, on the margins of the 2nd Ministerial Meeting of the Khartoum Process, hosted by Egypt on April 9.

During their meeting, the two sides discussed ways to strengthen bilateral relations and enhance cooperation in key areas of mutual interest, particularly in the fields of migration management and strategic partnerships.

The discussions focused on fostering joint efforts to address the challenges of irregular migration, while promoting development, stability, and sustainable progress.

Minister Fiqi conveyed his deep appreciation for Sweden's hospitality towards the Somali community and underscored the long-standing partnership between Somalia and Sweden, especially in the area of development cooperation. He expressed his aspiration to see these ties further strengthened to serve the mutual interests of both nations.





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Diplomatic Updates

SOMALI FM DISCUSSES BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH AUSTRIAN DEPUTY FM IN CAIRO



Cairo, April 10, 2025 – The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, H.E. Amb. Ahmed Moallim Fiqi Ahmed, held a meeting on Wednesday with the Deputy Foreign Minister of Austria, H.E. Georg Stillfried, on the sidelines of the 2nd Ministerial Meeting of the Khartoum Process, hosted by Egypt on April 9, and discussed with him enhancing bilateral relations and deepening cooperation.

Discussions during the meeting covered a range of shared interests, with particular focus on migration management and development cooperation, as both sides explored new avenues for joint initiatives aimed at advancing economic opportunities and fostering institutional collaboration between the two friendly countries.





SCRIPT OF THE SPEECH DELIVERED BY H.E. HAMZA ADAN HAADOOW,

Script of the speech delivered by H.E. Hamza Adan Haadoow, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, at the meeting of Troop Contributing Countries (TCC) held in Kampala, Uganda.

Excellencies,

Distinguished Colleagues,

On behalf of the Somali delegation and the Federal Government of Somalia, I wish to express our profound gratitude to the Government of Uganda for hosting this pivotal summit, and to all Troop-Contributing Countries for your unwavering dedication to peace, security, and stability in Somalia.

We convene at a decisive moment as we collectively manage the transition from ATMIS to its successor mission, AUSSOM. The decisions we take here will be instrumental in ensuring the effective implementation of AUSSOM and safeguarding the future of regional security and the durability of our joint efforts.

Allow me to acknowledge once again, with deep appreciation, the sacrifices made by your governments and the brave personnel serving in Somalia. The progress achieved since our last meeting in Kampala stands as a testament to the strength of African solidarity—Somalia

Excellencies,

Somalia reaffirms its full support for AUSSOM as a technical, security-centered mission. In this context, we believe that effective oversight is essential—not through a political structure, but through an accountability and oversight body dedicated to guiding the implementation of AUSSOM’s mandate, as outlined in the CONOPS.

Somalia, having benefited from years of state-building support, has established capable institutions to manage its political affairs in accordance with its constitutional framework. Therefore, any oversight mechanism must respect Somalia’s sovereignty and avoid encroaching upon national political domains.

We propose the establishment of a time-bound, peer-review of oversight body—focused solely on enhancing operational coordination, improving implementation mechanisms, and ensuring alignment with the agreed objectives of AUSSOM. This approach will foster constructive technical collaboration while preserving the sovereign rights of Somalia and reinforcing accountability within the mission’s operational scope. We have a proposed concept note that we will share with you.

As technical experts, it is our shared responsibility to develop practical, consensus-driven recommendations that provide clarity and unity for our Heads of State and Government.

Excellencies,

Somalia remains steadfast in its commitment to regional peace, security, and African solidarity. At this critical juncture, clarity, coordination, and unity are paramount. Any gaps may inadvertently create opportunities for those who seek to destabilize Somalia and the wider Horn of Africa.

Let us, therefore, approach this dialogue with honesty, unity of purpose, and a collective determination to ensure the success of AUSSOM. Its success is not only vital for Somalia but for the African Union and the enduring principle of “African solutions to African problems.”

Somalia stands ready to engage constructively with all partners in advancing a Somali-led, sovereign transition. May this summit mark a renewed commitment to partnership, operational excellence, and our shared vision for peace and stability.

Let me give the floor to our expert for deliberation of Force Generation, Integration and mentorship, preparedness, security responsibility take over, status of FOBs and AUSSOM exit plan.

I thank you.

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

THE EU AND SOMALIA REAFFIRM PARTNERSHIP

AT POLITICAL DIALOGUE AND JOINT OPERATIONAL ROADMAP MEETING

Diplomatic Standpoints



Mogadishu, 23 April 2025 – The European Union and the Federal Republic of Somalia held a high-level political dialogue in Mogadishu. In the presence of the President of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, alongside EU Ambassadors and Heads of Mission, both sides reviewed the priorities under the EU–Somalia Joint Operational Roadmap. Launched in 2023, the Roadmap outlines shared priorities across three key pillars: 1) Inclusive politics and democratisation; 2) Security and stabilisation; 3) Socio-economic growth.

The EU and its Member States reiterated their support for the Federal Government of Somalia's efforts in state-building, strengthening responsibility for national security, and advancing public financial management in line with the National Transformation Plan. The EU welcomed the announcement of the National Unity Dialogue and called for the inclusivity of all relevant stakeholders in the discussions. The EU expressed concern over the security situation and underscored the need for unity in the fight against al-Shabaab. In this context, the EU expressed readiness to support the efforts for inclusivity in order to reach a broader consensus among all relevant stakeholders. Speaking on behalf of the EU and its Member States, the EU Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E. Karin Johansson, stated:

"Today's political dialogue and Joint Operational Roadmap meeting is a strong reflection of our shared commitment to a peaceful, stable, and prosperous Somalia that benefits all Somalis. The European Union and Somalia remain steadfast partners, and the EU and its Member States stand ready to support efforts in strengthening unity in Somalia in the fight against al-Shabaab."

The Federal Government of Somalia thanked the EU and its Member States for their longstanding support to the population of Somalia. H.E. President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud highlighted the Government's concrete efforts moving towards more inclusive elections for the upcoming local district council elections. This will allow the Somali people to have a direct voice in determining who leads their country. H.E. President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud also addressed the current security situation, and commended the efforts by Somali Security Forces in the fight against al-Shabaab. On behalf of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E. President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, stated

"The Federal Government of Somalia is strongly committed to delivering a more peaceful tomorrow for the Somali population, as outlined in the National Transformation Plan, and we are grateful for the consistent support of the European Union and its Member States in this regard. At this critical moment, there is need for unity and compromise to overcome Somalia's challenges, including in cooperation with international partners, but most importantly, we Somalis must come together against the fight against al-Shabaab."



H.E. ALI MOHAMED OMAR

Script of the speech delivered by H.E. Ali Mohamed Omar, State Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, at the Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) Ministerial Meeting in Kampala, Uganda.

Excellency Representative of the Host Country,
Your Excellency Mohamoud Ali Youusouf, Chairperson of the African Union Commission,
Your Excellency Commissioner Bankole, AUPSC
Excellencies, Distinguished Ministers of Foreign Affairs & Defence,
From Partners of IGAD, UN, UNSON, US, UK and EU
Ladies and Gentlemen,
All Protocols Observed,

It is both an honor and a profound responsibility to address you today at this pivotal moment for Somalia and the region. We stand together, united by a shared vision of peace, stability, and African-led solutions. We will forever honor the fallen heroes—our brothers and sisters—who paid the ultimate price so that Somalia may have a chance at lasting peace. The Somali people are eternally grateful. Your sacrifices have not been in vain; they have laid the foundation for a Somalia that is steadily reclaiming its security and sovereignty.

The Importance of AUSSOM
Excellencies,

The establishment of AUSSOM is not just a continuation of previous efforts—it is a critical evolution. AUSSOM represents a new phase of partnership, one that aligns with Somalia's Security Development Plan and emphasizes Somali ownership while recognizing that the threat posed by Al-Shabaab is far from over.

Diplomatic Standpoints

SOMALI PRESIDENT HIGHLIGHTS KEY POLITICAL PRIORITIES IN MEETING WITH EU DELEGATION SCRIPT OF THE SPEECH DELIVERED

Security Situation & Call for Support

In recent weeks, Al-Shabaab has intensified attacks, particularly in Middle and Lower Shabelle. These setbacks remind us that terrorism remains a persistent threat—not only to Somalia but to regional stability. We call upon all TCCs to strengthen Quick Reaction Forces and coordinate multi-sector offensives. Together, we can break the remaining strongholds of terror.

Mission Financing & Sustainability
Excellencies,

AUSSOM's success depends not only on boots on the ground but also on sustainable, predictable financing. Without it, we risk losing the hard-won gains achieved through blood and sacrifice.

Somalia supports the full implementation of UNSC Resolution 2719 and the Hybrid Model. But we must also innovate—leveraging the AU Peace Fund, engaging new donors, and involving the private sector to ensure that AUSSOM has the resources to fulfill its mandate.

Conclusion

Let me reaffirm: Somalia is committed to standing on its own feet—but no nation overcomes terrorism alone. With your continued support through AUSSOM, we can secure a future where Somali forces take full responsibility for security, and where peace is not just a hope, but a reality.

Today, we ask you to help us finish the job. The Somali people believe in this mission. They believe in African solidarity. And they believe that, together, we will deliver lasting peace—not only for Somalia but for the entire Horn of Africa.

Thank you.

SOMALIA HAILS DRC-RWANDA PEACE DECLARATION FOR GREAT LAKES STABILITY

Diplomatic Standpoints



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS &
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

PRESS STATEMENT

MOGADISHU, SOMALIA
APRIL 27, 2025

The Federal Government of Somalia warmly welcomes the historic Declaration of Principles signed between the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Rwanda, facilitated by the United States. This significant milestone represents a constructive step toward regional stability, peace, and enhanced cooperation in the Great Lakes region.

Somalia commends both nations for their unwavering commitment to dialogue and diplomacy, and appreciates the pivotal role played by the United States in mediating these discussions. We firmly believe that sustained peace and stability in the DRC and Rwanda will positively influence regional security, economic development, and the well-being of millions across the Great Lakes.

Furthermore, Somalia reaffirms its commitment to the principles of international law and the African Union's foundational frameworks, which underscore sovereignty, peaceful dispute resolution, and mutual respect among nations.

We emphasize that a coordinated, approach grounded in regional commitments is vital for achieving durable peace and sustainable development in the DRC and the broader Great Lakes region.

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Independence Chronicles



Republic of Senegal

Independence Day: April 4, 1960

Somalia–Senegal Relations:

Diplomatic relations were established on October 2, 1975



Republic of Georgia

National Unity Day: April 9, 1991

Somalia–Georgia Relations:

Diplomatic relations were established on January 26, 2011



Syrian Arab Republic

Evacuation Day: April 17, 1946

Somalia–Syria Relations:

Diplomatic relations were established on December 13, 1964



Republic of Zimbabwe

Independence Day: April 18, 1980

Somalia–Zimbabwe Relations:

Diplomatic relations were established on December 5, 1989



Portuguese Republic

Freedom Day: April 25, 1974
(Carnation Revolution)

Somalia–Portugal Relations:

Diplomatic relations were established on April 3, 1983



United Republic of Tanzania

Union Day: April 26, 1964
(union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar)

Somalia–Tanzania Relations:

Diplomatic relations were established on October 16, 1963



Republic of South Africa

Freedom Day: April 27, 1994
(first democratic elections)

Somalia–South Africa Relations:

Diplomatic relations were established on March 14, 2012



Togolese Republic

Independence Day: April 27, 1960

Somalia–Togo Relations:

Diplomatic relations were established on November 21, 1975



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HONORING HEROIC LEADERSHIP OF ABDULLAHI ISSA MOHAMUD



ABDULLAHI ISSA MOHAMUD

Historic Moments

Abdullahi Issa Mohamud's history is ingrained in the heart of Somalia's struggle for independence and the dignity of its people. His remarkable contributions to the Somali cause continue to inspire and resonate with all who cherish the values of sovereignty and self-determination. As Major General Mohamed Abshir Muse, the first Commander of the Somali Police Force, aptly stated in 1988, Abdullahi Issa Mohamud's legacy is central to Somalia's independence and national pride.

He is as much a symbol of Somalia as the national flag itself, a leader known and revered by all Somalis, both at home and in the diaspora. His role in the nation's history remains unparalleled, and I was privileged to witness his golden years. As Major General Mohamed Abshir, said, Abdullahi Issa Mohamud's contributions were integral to Somalia's independence and national pride. His legacy is one of humility and selfless service, and it is a reminder that Somalis today still need leaders who prioritize the people's welfare above all else. It is our collective responsibility to preserve and honor the legacy he left behind.

Abdullahi Issa served as Prime Minister of Somalia during the trusteeship period from 1956 to 1960, a critical time in the country's journey towards independence. His leadership during this period helped to navigate Somalia through a transformative era. His leadership was never defined by self-interest or arrogance but by his profound dedication to his country. A true statesman, Abdullahi Issa's primary concern was always the dignity and progress of Somalia and its people.

He passed from this world on March 24, 1988, in Rome, Italy, leaving behind a legacy of honor and dignity. Abdullahi Issa's death marked the loss of a unique Somali leader, one who had earned the respect and admiration of all who knew him. Throughout his career, he upheld human rights and justice, never deviating from the principles of fairness.

In 1988, Somali youth leader Salaad Osman Roble reflected on Abdullahi Issa's legacy during his funeral, noting that while he had passed, his influence lived on through the generations that followed. Our current generation continues to follow the honorable path that he set, and his history remains an inspiration to all.

Abdullahi Issa Mohamud was born in 1922 in Afgoye, Lower Shabelle, southern Somalia. From an early age, he was deeply committed to the cause of Somali independence. In 1943, he joined the Central Council of the Somali Youth League (SYL), which played a crucial role in the independence movement. His political career was marked by key milestones, including his election as Secretary-General of the SYL in 1947. That year, he also chaired the General Council of the SYL, which laid the groundwork for Somalia's eventual independence.

In 1948, alongside Mohamed Haji Ibrahim Egal, Abdullahi Issa Mohamud presented a formal petition to the United Nations, calling for Somalia's right to self-determination. His diplomatic campaign continued with a visit to the United Nations headquarters in New York in 1949, where he worked tirelessly to secure international support for Somalia's independence.

As Prime Minister during the trusteeship period from 1956 to 1960, Abdullahi Issa played a key role in Somalia's transition to independence. On April 12, 1960, he issued a historic decree establishing the Somali National Army, appointing Daud Abdullahi Hersi as Commander-in-Chief. This was a defining moment in the nation's history, solidifying the foundation of Somalia's defense forces and contributing to the unification of the North and South regions, which became the Somali Republic on 1 July, 1960. Abdullahi Issa served in several other critical positions in the Somali government, including Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Health, and Minister of Trade and Industry. He was the first Somali Foreign Minister, and his efforts in diplomacy were instrumental in shaping Somalia's foreign policy and strengthening its international standing.

Abdullahi Issa's contributions to Somalia's independence and development are immeasurable. His life and work remain a testament to the power of vision, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to the Somali people. As we reflect on his extraordinary journey, we are reminded of the sacrifices made by leaders like him, whose legacy continues to guide and inspire us.

MUTHAMMA: A PIONEER OF INDIAN DIPLOMACY

CHONIRA BELLIAPPA

Chonira Belliappa Muthamma holds a distinguished place in the history of Indian diplomacy as the first woman to join the Indian Foreign Service. Born in 1924 in India, she demonstrated academic brilliance from an early age, culminating in her post-graduate studies in English Literature at Presidency College in Chennai. Her commitment to public service inspired her to appear for the highly competitive examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission, where she excelled and became the first Indian woman to successfully pass the examination in 1948.

At a time when societal norms often limited women's roles in public service, Muthamma faced significant resistance. Despite successfully clearing the examinations, the interview board expressed reservations about her suitability for the Indian Foreign Service, citing prevailing biases against women in diplomatic roles. Unwilling to accept such discrimination, she asserted her right to serve and successfully joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1949, paving the way for future generations of women diplomats.

Throughout her distinguished career, C. B. Muthamma served with dedication, skill, and an unwavering commitment to the principles of equality and professionalism. In 1970, she was appointed as India's Ambassador to Hungary, making her the first

woman from within the Indian Foreign Service to rise to the rank of Ambassador. Her success was not confined to a single posting; she subsequently served as Ambassador to Ghana in Accra and later to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, where she represented India at The Hague.

In addition to her professional achievements, Muthamma became a powerful advocate for gender equality within the civil service. She challenged discriminatory service rules and filed a legal petition that contributed to reforms ensuring greater equality for women officers in India's diplomatic and administrative services.

C. B. Muthamma's legacy extends beyond her diplomatic postings. She is remembered as a trailblazer who broke barriers with dignity, courage, and excellence, and as a figure who expanded the role of women in diplomacy. Her remarkable journey continues to inspire diplomats around the world, embodying the ideals of perseverance, integrity, and service to the nation.



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FROM FOUNDATION TO FUTURE: NAVIGATING REGIONAL DYNAMICS WITH THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

In the intricate tapestry of international relations, regional organizations play a pivotal role in fostering cooperation, addressing shared challenges, and amplifying the collective voice of their member states. Among these esteemed bodies stands the League of Arab States, a testament to the enduring aspiration for unity and collaboration across the Arab world. Established on March 22, 1945, the League has navigated decades of geopolitical shifts, consistently striving to realize its core objectives of consolidating relations, safeguarding independence, and coordinating policies among its member nations, which span the diverse landscapes of both the Asian and African continents.

THE GENESIS OF ARAB SOLIDARITY

The genesis of the League of Arab States can be traced back to a profound recognition of the shared cultural, linguistic, and historical bonds that unite the Arab peoples. In the aftermath of the Second World War, as nations across the globe sought new frameworks for cooperation and collective security, the leaders of several Arab states envisioned a regional platform that would champion their common interests and aspirations. The signing of the Charter of the League of Arab States in Cairo marked a watershed moment, laying the foundation for an organization dedicated to fostering solidarity and mutual support among its members.

CAIRO: THE SEAT OF ARAB UNITY

Cairo, the vibrant capital of the Arab Republic of Egypt, was chosen as the permanent headquarters of the League, a symbolic testament to Egypt's historical and cultural significance within the Arab world. This strategic location has served as the central hub for the League's multifaceted activities, hosting numerous high-level meetings, ministerial councils, and specialized committees dedicated to addressing a wide spectrum of issues of paramount importance to the region.

THE GUIDING HAND OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

At the helm of the League's administrative machinery is the Secretary-General, a distinguished figure entrusted with the responsibility of guiding the organization's work and representing its collective interests on the international stage. Currently, this esteemed position is held by His Excellency Ahmed Aboul Gheit, whose leadership and diplomatic acumen are instrumental in navigating the complex regional and global landscape. The Secretary-General plays a crucial role in facilitating dialogue, mediating disputes, and ensuring the effective implementation of the League's resolutions and initiatives.



SOMALIA'S EMBRACE OF ARAB KINSHIP

The Federal Republic of Somalia, a nation deeply rooted in Arab history and culture, proudly joined the League of Arab States on February 14, 1974. This significant step underscored Somalia's unwavering commitment to Arab solidarity and its desire to actively participate in the collective efforts aimed at promoting regional peace, stability, and development.

Somalia's membership has enriched the League's diverse composition and has provided an important voice on issues affecting the Horn of Africa and the broader Arab world.

CORE OBJECTIVES: A FRAMEWORK FOR COOPERATION

The objectives of the League of Arab States, as enshrined in its charter, provide a comprehensive framework for regional cooperation. Foremost among these is the commitment to consolidating relations among Arab countries. This entails fostering stronger diplomatic ties, promoting cultural exchange, and encouraging greater economic integration to forge a sense of shared destiny and mutual understanding among member states, including Somalia.

Equally significant is the objective of safeguarding the independence of member-states. In a world where sovereignty and territorial integrity can be challenged, the League stands as a collective guarantor, committed to upholding the right of each member nation, including Somalia, to chart its own course and protect its national interests without external interference.

Recognizing the interconnectedness of their challenges and opportunities, the member states of the League are dedicated to coordinating the plans and policies among themselves. This collaborative approach extends across a wide array of sectors, including political affairs, economic development, social progress, and environmental sustainability. By aligning their strategies, member states, with Somalia actively participating, can leverage their collective strength to address common concerns more effectively.

The League also places a strong emphasis on enhancing cooperation in economic, cultural, social, health, and other fields. This multifaceted approach recognizes that true regional integration requires collaboration across all dimensions of human endeavor. Through joint initiatives and the sharing of best practices, member states, including Somalia, strive to improve the lives of their citizens and foster sustainable development throughout the Arab world.

A fundamental aspect of the League's mandate is looking into the Arab states' interests and affairs in general. This broad objective underscores the organization's commitment to serving as a platform for addressing any issue of concern to the Arab world, be it political, economic, social, or humanitarian. The League provides a forum for open dialogue and the articulation of a unified Arab perspective on regional and global matters, with Somalia contributing its unique insights and perspectives.

Furthermore, the League recognizes the importance of its engagement with the wider international community and is committed to cooperating with international bodies to ensure security and peace and regulate economic and social interests. By forging strategic partnerships with international organizations, the League seeks to contribute to global stability and promote a more equitable and just international order that takes into account the specific needs and aspirations of the Arab region, including the priorities of Somalia.

A Continuing Journey of Collaboration

In its journey spanning eight decades, the League of Arab States has served as a vital platform for Arab diplomacy, facilitating dialogue, mediating disputes, and coordinating collective action on issues of shared concern. The membership of nations like Somalia has further enriched this collaborative spirit. While the region has witnessed significant transformations and continues to grapple with complex challenges, the League remains a steadfast symbol of the enduring aspiration for Arab unity and cooperation. Its commitment to its core objectives, coupled with its adaptability to evolving circumstances, ensures its continued relevance as a key actor in the regional and international landscape. As the Arab world, including Somalia, navigates the complexities of the 21st century, the League of Arab States will undoubtedly continue to play a crucial role in fostering a more stable, prosperous, and interconnected future for its member nations and the wider region.

SECURING THE RED SEA AND GULF OF ADEN IS OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Diplomatic Perspectives



H.E. Dr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud

President of the Federal Republic of Somalia

Since I was first elected President of Somalia in 2012, I have survived six assassination attempts by the terrorist group Al-Shabaab. The most recent attempt took place on March 18, 2025, in Mogadishu. On that day, as I was on my way to the airport to visit our courageous forces on the front lines, terrorists tried to sabotage my journey using improvised explosive devices. By the mercy of Allah and the vigilance of our security forces, their plan failed just as all their previous attempts have.

These attacks are not merely aimed at me as an individual. They are a reflection of the enemy's deep concern over the direction our country is taking. Our national mission is to free Somalia from the grip of terrorism and build a stable and prosperous future for our people and the wider region. Al-Shabaab understands that its defeat would mark a turning point not only for Somalia but also for the entire Horn of Africa, threatening the survival of their destructive agenda.

Since beginning my second term in 2022, I have made it a top priority to confront the terrorist organizations Al-Shabaab and ISIS head-on. Our strategy has been comprehensive, focusing on two major fronts: ideology and financing.

On the ideological front, we have worked closely with more than 300 respected scholars and religious leaders to counter the extremist narratives used by these groups. We have reaffirmed that the crimes committed by these terrorists have no foundation in Islam. Through media campaigns and awareness programs, our peaceful people have started to reclaim their understanding and firmly reject all forms of extremism.

On the financial front, we implemented a firm policy to cut off the sources of terrorist funding. We shut down hundreds of suspicious bank accounts and dismantled money collection networks used by these groups to extort citizens and businesses. As a result of these measures, our armed forces have cleared vast areas of the country of terrorist presence. Despite the significant challenges and sacrifices, our resolve remains strong, our progress is visible, and we continue to record consistent victories.

Our fight against terrorism is not confined to Somalia; it is a struggle for peace and stability across the entire region. Terrorism knows no borders, and defeating it within our country means cutting off its roots before it endangers our neighbors and the wider world.


The Red Sea and Gulf of Aden are of critical strategic importance to global security and economic interests. This region is home to several active terrorist groups, including Al-Qaeda, Al-Shabaab, ISIS, and the Houthis. While these groups may seem distinct, they maintain covert cooperation, sharing resources and coordinating actions that threaten the stability of countries across the region, including Somalia, Saudi Arabia, and the broader Gulf area.

Recognizing the seriousness of these threats, we have stood in solidarity with our brothers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the outset, as part of the Islamic Coalition to Combat Houthi Terrorism. The Houthi group has deliberately targeted the Kingdom's leadership, its religious and economic stature, and has brought suffering to the Yemeni people by exposing them to foreign interference.

Our intelligence services have recently uncovered continued communication between the Houthi group in Yemen and both ISIS and Al-Shabaab in Somalia, which has developed into the exchange of weapons and tactical expertise. We successfully intercepted and seized shipments of explosives and drones originating from Yemen and destined for Somalia, and we arrested a network of smugglers.

On the ground, we are engaged in an intense battle on two major fronts. The first is in the Miskat Mountains and the Golis Range, near the Gulf of Aden in the northeastern part of the country, where our forces are making steady and successive gains. However, to secure these achievements and prevent the Gulf of Aden from becoming a haven for terrorist groups, the support of regional countries remains essential.

The second front is located in the central part of the country, specifically along the banks of the Shabelle River, where our army, with the support of African Union forces and international allies and partners, has been engaged in decisive battles for years to prevent the terrorist group Al-Shabaab from taking control of the Somali coastline along the Indian Ocean, and we are making significant progress there.



Terrorists aim to control crucial maritime waters, whether in the Gulf of Aden or along the Indian Ocean coasts, both of which are vital arteries for the region and the world. Therefore, eliminating terrorist groups in these areas is essential for shaping our shared security and economic future as countries bordering the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, and for preventing the spread of terrorism to other regions.

We have paid a heavy price and traveled a difficult path, but we believe the outcome is worth it. With Allah's will, the determination of our people, and the support of our allies, we will continue moving forward until we see a new, secure Somalia, a pillar of regional and international peace.

Achieving security and peace in Somalia is a crucial component of ensuring regional stability in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. As we continue our unwavering efforts to combat terrorism, we seek the support of our partners and brothers in the region and across the world, believing that the security of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden is a shared responsibility that requires cooperation and unity among all countries in the region.





SOMALIA'S RETURN TO THE GLOBAL STAGE: A VISION FOR RESPONSIBLE LEADERSHIP

BY HAMZA HAADOOW

PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA

A NATION AT A HISTORIC CROSSROADS

Somalia stands at a historic crossroads. After years of determined effort, the foundations of peace, governance, and economic recovery are firmly taking root. Somalia's democratic institutions are growing stronger, our security forces are increasingly capable, and our economy – driven by innovation and entrepreneurship – is showing sustained signs of vitality.

This progress, while hard-earned, is only the beginning. Somalia's ambition extends beyond national recovery; we are committed to playing a full and responsible role in the international system. We recognize that today's global challenges – from insecurity to climate change – require active, cooperative engagement, and Somalia is prepared to be a partner in addressing them.

REVITALIZING SOMALI DIPLOMACY

Rebuilding Somalia's global presence requires a comprehensive and forward-looking diplomatic strategy. Accordingly, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation has articulated a vision rooted in three core pillars: partnership, reform, and leadership.

First, we are reinvigorating our partnerships. We have undertaken an extensive diplomatic outreach, reopening embassies, establishing new missions, and renewing bilateral and multilateral relationships across Africa, the Arab world, Europe, Asia, and the Americas. Somalia's voice is once again present in key regional and global fora, including the African Union, the League of Arab States, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, and the United Nations.

Second, we are advancing critical domestic reforms that align with international norms and expectations. From strengthening fiscal management and promoting good governance, to safeguarding human rights and advancing rule of law, Somalia is demonstrating – through concrete action – its commitment to responsible statehood.

Third, Somalia is embracing leadership where our experience and perspectives add unique value. We are contributing to regional peace and security initiatives, championing climate resilience strategies, and advocating for fairer, more inclusive international economic systems. Somalia's engagement is no longer reactive; it is proactive, principled, and strategic.

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES, SEIZING OPPORTUNITIES

The path to full international reintegration is not without obstacles. Somalia continues to confront serious challenges, including security threats, climate vulnerability, and economic headwinds. Yet these challenges are increasingly outweighed by the opportunities before us. Somalia's strategic location at the crossroads of major global trade routes, its vast maritime resources, its youthful and dynamic population, and its diaspora communities, among the most vibrant in the world, position our nation as an emerging hub of trade, innovation, and cultural exchange.

Critically, Somalia's trajectory will depend not only on our internal efforts but also on how the international community engages with us. We urge our partners to move beyond outdated narratives of Somalia, and to recognize the profound transformation underway. The global community has a vital role to play in supporting Somalia's aspirations – not as a beneficiary of perpetual assistance, but as a sovereign, equal partner.



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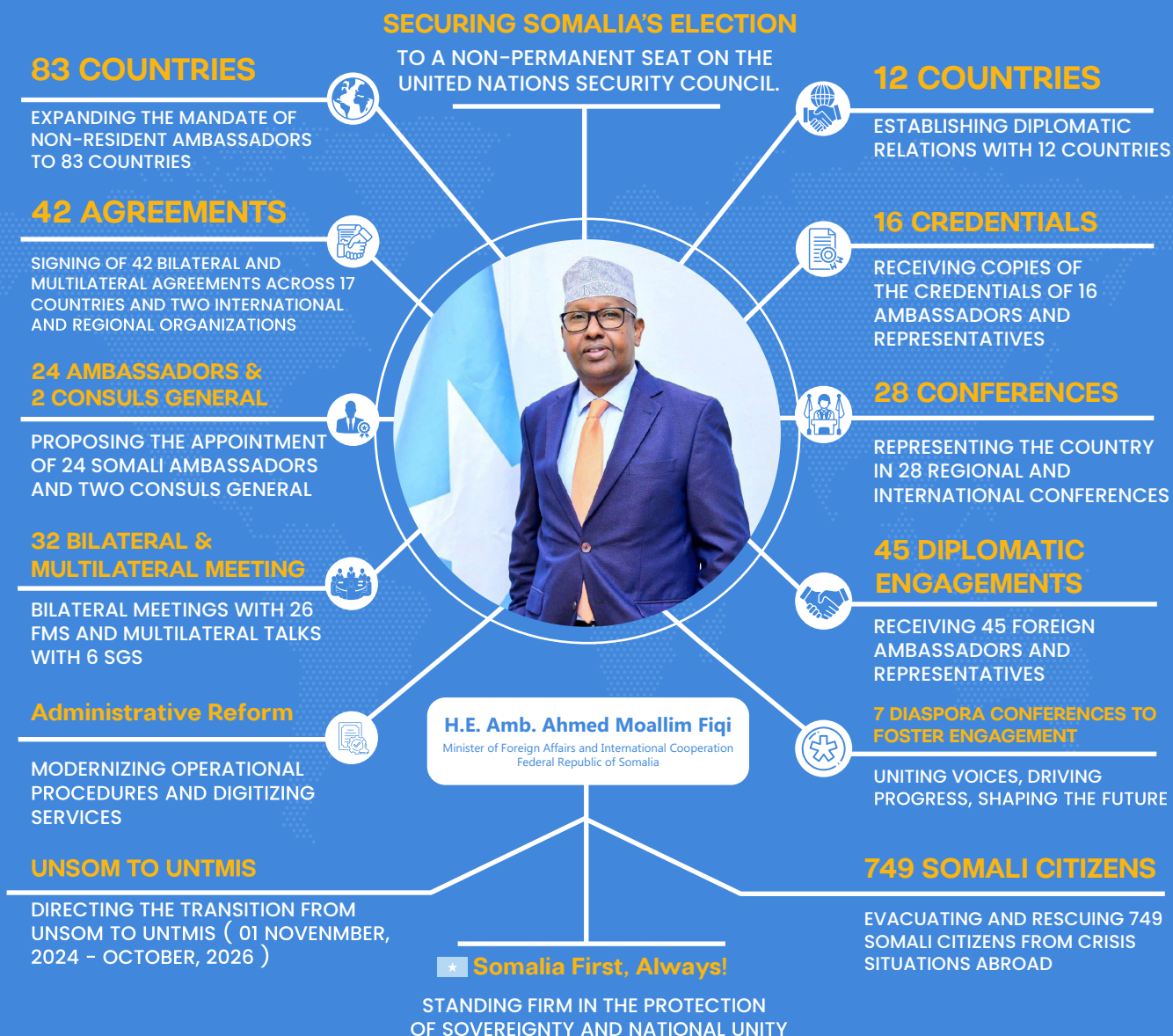
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A YEAR OF PROGRESS: FIQI REPOSITIONS SOMALIA ON WORLD STAGE

Diplomatic Perspectives

Congratulations

To Foreign Minister H.E. Amb. Ahmed Moallim Fiqi
On The Significant Diplomatic Achievements
Realized Within One Year
(April 7, 2024 – April 7, 2025)



Institutional reforms were also undertaken within the Ministry to improve its efficiency and service delivery. Operational procedures were modernized and services were digitized to ensure better coordination and transparency. These reforms form part of a broader vision to build a modern, responsive, and forward-looking foreign service.

Recognizing the important role of the Somali diaspora, the Ministry organized seven conferences focused on diaspora affairs. These events aimed to strengthen the connection between the diaspora and national institutions, encouraging greater involvement in the development and transformation of the country.

The Ministry also prioritized citizen protection by coordinating the evacuation and rescue of 749 Somali nationals from conflict and crisis zones abroad. This humanitarian effort reaffirmed the government's responsibility to protect its people and underscored the value placed on human life.

Another key development was the transition process from the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) to the United Nations Transition Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS). The Ministry has provided strategic leadership in this transition, which began in November 2024 and is expected to conclude in October 2026. The transition reflects Somalia's growing ability to manage its own security and governance priorities.

Guided by the principle of "Somalia First, Always," Minister Ahmed Moallim Fiqi's first year in office has laid a solid foundation for the future of Somalia's diplomacy. The accomplishments achieved during this period reflect the resilience, determination, and ambition of a country committed to progress, sovereignty, and international cooperation.



April 7, 2025 marks one year since H.E. Amb. Ahmed Moallim Fiqi assumed office as the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Federal Republic of Somalia. Over the past twelve months, the Ministry has witnessed a period of dynamic engagement, institutional renewal, and diplomatic advancement. The country's foreign policy agenda has been reinvigorated through meaningful actions and high-level cooperation, earning recognition on the international stage.

A major highlight of the year was Somalia's election to a non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council. This historic success demonstrated the confidence of the international community in Somalia's diplomatic leadership. It also provided the country with a vital platform to contribute to global peace and security while advancing national interests through constructive dialogue and multilateral engagement.

The Ministry worked to enhance Somalia's diplomatic presence worldwide. The mandate of non-resident ambassadors was expanded to cover 83 countries. This move ensured that Somalia's voice is represented in regions where full diplomatic missions have yet to be established. Furthermore, 24 ambassadors and two consuls general were nominated to strengthen diplomatic outreach and promote Somalia's image and interests abroad.

Over the course of the year, Somalia signed 42 bilateral and multilateral agreements with 17 countries and two international and regional organizations. These agreements covered a range of sectors and reflected Somalia's strategic commitment to deepening partnerships, enhancing cooperation, and pursuing mutual development goals.

Diplomatic relations were newly established with twelve countries. These diplomatic breakthroughs have laid the groundwork for stronger political, economic, and cultural ties with new partners around the world. In addition, the Ministry received credentials from 16 ambassadors and representatives, a clear indication of increased diplomatic activity and growing engagement with foreign missions.

Somalia was represented at 28 regional and international conferences. These events provided opportunities to express national perspectives and contribute to global decision-making processes. On the other hand, 45 foreign ambassadors and representatives were received in Mogadishu, reinforcing mutual understanding and collaborative partnership.

The Ministry conducted 32 bilateral and multilateral meetings, including discussions with 26 foreign ministers and high-level talks with six heads of international organizations. These meetings served as a platform to exchange views on critical global issues and promote Somalia's foreign policy priorities.



PEACE FOR A BETTER FUTURE AND PLANET

SOMALIA

UN SECURITY COUNCIL 2025 - 2026



06, JUNE 2025

Somalia has been elected to the United Nations Security Council for the 2025-2026 term. This significant achievement highlights the country's unique diplomatic efforts and its unwavering commitment to global peace.



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Tallaabada Machadku ku soo kordhiyay takhasuska cusub ee heerka labaad ayaa timid kadib markii uu tixgeliyay baahida loo qabo daraasaadka sare ee ku saabsan diblomaasiyadda iyo xiriirka caalamiga.





**SERVING SOMALIA'S INTERESTS,
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