

# SOMALILAND UK MISSION

## SOMALILAND UK MISSION NEWS BULLETIN



### A message from the Somaliland UK Mission Representative, HE Abdi A. Hersi:

“I would like to begin by expressing my profound sense of privilege in representing the Somaliland UK Mission and being entrusted with the responsibility of upholding the interests of the Somaliland people. The Somaliland UK Mission has played a critical role in strengthening the bonds between Somaliland and the UK. Through our engagement with government officials, businesses, and communities across the UK, we have worked tirelessly to promote Somaliland's interests, facilitate trade and investment, and build lasting relationships. As the representative for the Somaliland UK Mission, I am immensely proud of our achievements to date, and hope that this News Bulletin will offer a glimpse into the remarkable work that our mission has accomplished. I look forward to continuing to work with our partners in the UK to achieve even greater success in the years ahead.



### In this issue you can find:

- How the Somaliland UK Mission is promoting Somaliland Interests in the UK
- Details on Somaliland's New Health Initiative with Kings College and Qatar Charity
- The Somaliland UK Mission's engagement with the community
- Investment Opportunities in Somaliland



President of Somaliland,  
HE Muse Bihi Abdi



Foreign Minister of Somaliland,  
Dr Essa Kayd

# PROMOTING SOMALILAND'S INTERESTS IN THE UK

## Somaliland UK Mission is always working hard to promote Somaliland's Interest

### Case for Somaliland Recognition



The Somaliland UK Mission team is actively promoting Somaliland recognition within Westminster and recently met with Rt Hon MP Sir Gavin Williamson, a member of the **All-Party Parliamentary Group for Somaliland**.

During the meeting, the team provided update on the latest political, economic, and social developments in Somaliland, while Sir Gavin Williamson updated the group on the APPG's activities in support of Somaliland independence and how to group is promoting more group membership in order to strengthen the case for Somaliland recognition in the UK.

### Meeting with the FCDO



The UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) is responsible for promoting the UK's interests overseas, including international development. Recently, the FCDO funded the delivery of life-saving aid to drought-affected communities in the Horn of Africa, including Somaliland.



The Somaliland UK Mission team, with the support of Her Excellency Dr Edna Adan Ismail, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Current Special Envoy for Somaliland-Somalia Talks and UNPO President, met with the FCDO department of Somalia and Somaliland to discuss potential future collaborations. They also discussed the success of the UK's development efforts in Somaliland and explored ways to enhance Somaliland's institutions and infrastructure.

During the meeting, they specifically talked about how the FCDO could further support Somaliland in gaining access to greater humanitarian aid.

# SOMALILAND'S NEW HEALTH INITIATIVE

## King's Global Partnerships and Qatar charity

Professor Shitij Kapur, President and Principal of King's College, and His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Nasser J. Al-Thani, Director of Qatar Charity, have signed a letter of intent to collaborate in improving health outcomes in Somaliland. To support this initiative, Laura Hucks, Director of Kings Global Health Partnerships (KGHP), and Matthew Gorman, Director of Fundraising and Supporter Development, along with Mr. Ahmed Saad Al Rumaihi, Director of External Affairs for Qatar Charity, have signed a grant agreement worth \$1.1 million.



The KGHP will partner with the Ministry of Health Development and the World Health Organisation to improve healthcare in six regional hospitals and enhance higher education opportunities for doctors in Somaliland. The project aims to address the most pressing health needs by supporting a new medical curriculum and conducting a people's voice survey to obtain feedback. This collaboration between King's College London and Qatar Charity aims to create positive change in Somaliland's health system amidst recurring drought and instability.

*With King's Global Health Partnerships' solid groundwork in strengthening health systems, we aim to support the building blocks of a strong, inclusive health system in countries where children, women and fragile populations bear some of the highest rates of disease and mortality.*

*I am a strong believer in partnerships between universities and NGOs, and I am confident that together we will translate today's commitment of partnership into a reality in the lives of the people we serve as we work towards the 2030 development agenda.*

*– His Excellency, Sheikh Hamad Nasser J. Al-Thani,  
Chairman of Qatar Charity*



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Engaging with the Somaliland Diaspora and wider community in the UK



The Somaliland UK Mission had the honor of attending a prestigious Gala dinner in London and took advantage of the opportunity to **connect with business leaders**. The team's primary objective was to showcase the vast economic opportunities and the potential for further economic growth in the region. To do this, the team highlighted several **underutilised industries** in Somaliland such as energy and livestock. We are hopeful that this will lead to more international business contracts for Somaliland.

To strengthen our relationship with the UK Somaliland community, representatives from the Somaliland UK Mission, including HE Abdi A. Hersi and Somaliland's Vice Minister of Agriculture, HE Yurub Abiib Cabdi, attended an **award ceremony** hosted by **The Social Care** - a Somaliland-owned company. The event aimed to recognize and appreciate the hard work and dedication of the company's employees. During the ceremony, the **ambassador presented the awards** and delivered a motivational speech to inspire the employees to continue striving for success and making Somaliland proud..



The Somaliland UK Mission Team recently held a meeting with leaders of the Somaliland community across the UK to discuss **coordination and collaboration efforts**. The aim of the meeting was to find ways to work together towards common goals and improve the community's cohesion. The team acknowledged the importance of community engagement and input in building a stronger Somaliland community in the UK. The meeting was productive and identified several **actionable steps** to enhance collaboration and communication between the community and the Somaliland UK Mission Team



# ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES IN SOMALILAND

## Underutilised Investment opportunities in Somaliland



Mohamed W. Boss, Somaliland UK Mission Political and Trade Counsellor, with ex deputy Prime Minister, Thérèse Coffey

Somaliland boasts a thriving informal economy, largely based on livestock, remittances and money transfer companies, and telecommunications. In 2017, the British Chamber of Commerce reported a significant growth of the private sector, especially in the service industry. There has been substantial unmeasured private investment in commercial activities, primarily financed by the Somalilander diaspora. These activities include trade and marketing, money transfers, transportation, telecommunications, fishery equipment, airlines, education, health, construction, and hotels. As a result, the GDP of Somaliland is estimated to be \$1.5 billion.

### Livestock

Livestock rearing in Somaliland is not only a source of livelihood for many people. The country's strategic location and proximity to the Gulf states make it an ideal location for exporting goats, sheep, and camels. In addition, Somaliland's livestock industry has a strong and established supply chain network that includes experienced traders and exporters. The industry has seen continued growth in recent years and has become more diversified with the introduction of new technologies and farming practices. As a result, investors can expect a stable and profitable investment opportunity.

### Fisheries

Somaliland boasts a long coastline and diverse marine ecosystem. The country's waters are home to a wide range of fish and seafood species, including tuna, shrimp, and lobster. In recent years, the government has been working to attract foreign and local investors to invest in the fishing industry, ranging from small-scale fishing operations to large-scale tuna canning facilities. Furthermore, the development of cold-chain distribution systems can help the country to expand its exports of fish and seafood, and take advantage of the increasing demand for high-quality and sustainable seafood products in international markets.

### Agriculture

In recent years, there has been a growing interest in agricultural investment in Somaliland, particularly in commercial farming of fruit and horticulture. The country's favorable climate and soil conditions make it well-suited for the cultivation of a wide variety of fruits and vegetables, including guava, banana, watermelon, tomato, and onion. In addition, the country's location in the Horn of Africa provides easy access to the regional markets of Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Somalia. Agricultural investment in Somaliland offers investors an opportunity to participate in a growing sector that has the potential to generate significant returns, create jobs, and enhance food security.

# ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES IN SOMALILAND



## Mining

Somaliland's mining industry offers significant potential, with abundant mineral resources including iron ore, titanium, tin, aluminum, copper, and **rare earth metals** such as columbite-tantalite and gypsum. Feasibility studies have identified vast deposits of **raw materials required for cement production**, and with increasing demand for cement, the potential for investment in the sector is significant.

## Oil and Gas

Somaliland's potential oil and gas deposits have attracted the interest of several major exploration companies, including Genel and DNO International ASA. Recent seismic surveys have shown highly encouraging indications of **large-scale hydrocarbon and coal deposits**. The Ministry of Energy and Minerals is actively seeking investment from upstream oil and gas companies with adequate financial and technical capacity and a proven track record. Investment in Somaliland's hydrocarbon sector has the potential to yield significant returns for investors.

## Energy

Investing in Somaliland's energy sector offers significant potential for growth and development. While the sector is currently underdeveloped and underserved, there is a growing interest in alternative energy sources such as solar and wind power. The country's favorable climate conditions make it an **ideal location for renewable energy projects**, with abundant solar and wind resources. The government is actively seeking investment in this sector and has been **working with USAID and development partners** on trial projects to explore the potential for renewable energy in Somaliland. Investing in the energy sector offers an opportunity to participate in a growing industry that has the potential to generate significant returns, create jobs, and enhance the country's energy security.

## Tourism

Somaliland's rich history and diverse geography offer significant potential for tourism investment. The country boasts **coastal links** to ancient Egypt and other classical civilizations, and its interior is scattered with intriguing rock sites, mysterious cairns, and other monuments of a complex pastoral society. The long Somaliland coast is ideal for **beach tourism** and could attract millions of tourists.

Additionally, the mountainous forests of **Daallo**, the magnificent **fort of Taleh**, the idyllic town of **Sheikh, Sa'adadin Islands**, and the historic painted caves of **Laas-Geel** provide unique opportunities for ecotourism. Investing in the tourism industry in Somaliland offers the potential to take advantage of a growing market and contribute to the country's economic development, while also providing visitors with an unparalleled cultural and natural experience.

# ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: BERBERA PORT



## Berbera Port has high Economic Potential!

### Strategic Location

The BEZ in the port city of Berbera is located along one of the world's busiest maritime shipping routes. This location provides access to markets in Europe, Asia, and Africa making the BEZ the perfect hub for world trade activities.

### Access to Transportation Infrastructure:

The BEZ is connected to major transportation infrastructure, including the Berbera-Wajaale Road linking it to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This provides the BEZ with access to landlocked countries in East Africa, further expanding its reach

### Economic Incentives

The BEZ is designed to mirror the highly successful, business-friendly model of DP world's Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA) in Dubai. As a result, the Somaliland government has implemented economic incentives such as tax breaks and streamlined business registration procedures.

## BERBERA ECONOMIC ZONE (BEZ)

The Somaliland Government and DP World, a renowned logistics firm based in Dubai, have successfully launched the Berbera Economic Zone (BEZ). This initiative is expected to attract both local and foreign investment, create jobs, and stimulate economic growth in the region.

## Berbera Port Expansion 2023

DP World and IFFCO, a UAE-based food producer, have agreed to develop an edible oil packing plant in the Berbera Economic Zone in Somaliland. The 25-year lease for a 300,000 sq. ft facility includes plans for future expansion, and the project is expected to create hundreds of jobs and attract foreign investment once complete in 2023.



*"The company has invested \$442 million to rebuild the Berbera Port, and once it is done, Somaliland will be one of the biggest maritime industry in the world in the horn of Africa".*

*- Mr. Federico Banos-Linder, Vice President of the DP World External Operations*

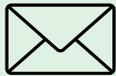
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## Opening Hours

MON-THURS	10:00-16:00
FRI	10:00-12:30

## For Consular Affairs

MON-THURS	11:30-15:00
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**Please Note: We do NOT accept drop-ins. Please book an appointment in advance**