



# **SOMALILAND ECONOMIC FORUM**

**SOMALILAND'S ECONOMIC FUTURE:  
INVESTING IN DIVERSIFICATION AND  
MODERNIZATION**

**PROGRAM AGENDA**

**14 - 15 OCTOBER 2023**

**Ambassador- Hargeisa, Somaliland**

# Introduction

## **Somaliland's Economic Future: Investing in Diversification and Modernization**

The 2023 Somaliland Economic Forum is a two-day event that will bring together government officials, business leaders, academics, and development experts to discuss the future of Somaliland's economy. The theme of the forum is "Investing in Diversification and Modernization."

Somaliland's economy is currently heavily reliant on the exportation of live livestock and agriculture. The 2023 Somaliland Economic Forum will explore ways to diversify the economy away from this reliance on a few key exports.

The forum will also focus on the importance of modernizing the economy through investment in infrastructure, education, technology, and the service sector. By investing in these areas, Somaliland can create a more resilient and sustainable economy that is better able to create jobs and improve the lives of its citizens.

The 2023 Somaliland Economic Forum is the second iteration of this annual event. The 2022 forum was a success, attracting over 200 participants. The 2023 forum is expected to be even larger and more successful.

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# Objectives

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**01**

**Bring together experts from all sectors of society with decision-makers to discuss initiatives that have a tangible impact on the economy.**

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**02**

**Identify the critical issues affecting the economy of Somaliland and their solutions from the perspectives of professionals and economists.**

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**03**

**Provide specific and long-lasting suggestions for outcomes that have a significant influence on society as a whole through collaboration across stakeholders with diverse opinions.**

# Sessions

## 01 Opening Remarks

07:30 AM -  
11:00 AM

## Saturday

**Sunday** Note: Sunday features parallel sessions happening simultaneously in different rooms

13:30 PM -  
15:00 PM **Promoting Sustainable  
Investment Development**

## 02

## 03

**Sustainable  
Food Systems**

08:00 AM -  
10:00 AM

08:00 AM -  
09:30 AM **Trade and Regional  
Integration**

## 04

## 05

**Mining and  
Minerals**

10:30 AM -  
12:00 PM

10:30 AM -  
12:00 PM **Government Budget  
Diversification**

## 06

## 07

**Financial Sector  
Development**

13:30 PM -  
15:00 PM

**01**

**Review of the previous economic forum progress**

Presentation of the 2022 Economic Forum report, identification of the progress achieved and remaining challenges.

**Facilitated by Nimco Ahmed Ismail.**

# **Welcoming Remarks**

**02**

**H.E Dr. Ahmed Adan Buuhane**

Minister of Planning and National Development

Welcoming remarks and deliberate the SDF's support for economic development in Somaliland, and the specific projects and programs that the SDF is implementing.

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**03**

**H.E Dr. Sa'ad Ali Shire**

Minister of Finance Development

Discuss on the government's plans and priorities for promoting economic development.

# **Opening Remarks**

**04**

**H.E Musa Bihi Abdi**

President of the Republic of Somaliland

About Somaliland Economic Forum

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**Visit to the exhibition hall and break and refreshment (9:15 AM – 10:30 AM)**

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

### 05 **H.E Khadar-Nur Ahmed**

Deputy Mayor of Hargeisa

Highlight the role of Hargeisa as a regional trade and economic hub.

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### 06 **Dr. Osman Sheikh Ahmed Nuur**

Economist

To discuss the economic benefits of a private sector-based growth and transformation strategy.

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### 07 **H.E Ali Abdillahi Dahir**

Governor of Somaliland Central Bank of Somaliland

Somaliland's Pursuit of Price Stability as a Cornerstone for Economic Growth.

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### 08 **En. Abdiqadir Iman Warsame**

Minister of Agricultural Development

To discuss the government's plans and priorities for promoting food security and local production development.

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### 09 **H.E. Mohamoud Hassan Sa'ad**

Minister of Trade and Tourism

To discuss the government's plans and priorities for promoting trade and regional integration, and policy reforms that the government is implementing.

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# Saturday 14th October

**01** Promoting Sustainable Investment 07:30 AM - 11:00 AM

## Panel Session: Promoting Sustainable Investment

### Opening

- Mohamed Farah Jihad, Head of Pharo Venture
- Mohamed Osman, Director General - MiiD

### Presentation from the University of Hargeisa

Presentation of a policy brief on “Determinants of sustainable investment”

### Panel discussion

Topics to include:

- The role of the government in promoting sustainable investment
- Challenges and opportunities for sustainable investment in Somaliland
- Recommendations for how the government can play a role in encouraging sustainable investment
- Q&A with the audience

### Panelists

- Dr. Mohamed Abdi, Energy Sector Expert
- Abdirashid M. Abdi, Investment Expert
- Mustafe Mohamed Adan, Local Investor
- Fuad Rashid Bullo, Moderator

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## **Closing of day 1 by the Minister of Investment and Industrial Development**

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# Sunday 15th October

**02**

**Sustainable Food  
Systems**

**08:00 AM -  
10:00 AM**

## **Panel Session: Investment in Sustainable Food Systems for Sustainable Food Security**

### **Opening Remarks:**

- H.E Dr. Ahmed Ali Maah, Director General of Ministry of Livestock and Fishery Development
- H.E Adan Abdillahi Sh. Muse, Director General of Ministry of Agriculture Development

### **Presentations:**

- Somaliland Agricultural Research Center: “Investment in Sustainable Food System for Sustainable Food Security”
- Amoud University: Unlocking the potential of Somaliland’s Fishery Sector and Marine Ecosystem.
- Burao University: “Livestock Productivity, Investment and Sustainability.”

### **Panel Discussion:**

Topics to include:

- Livestock: rearing, infrastructure, exports.
- Agriculture: development, diversification, management, access to water, access to credit.
- Marine resources: sustainable fishing practices, processing, marketing, cold storage.

### **Panelists:**

- Ahmed Adan Madoobe, Livestock Expert
- Khyre Cali Xasan Mahamed, Fishery Expert
- Ahmed Aden Mohamed, Agriculture Expert
- Abubakar Maxamuud Aadan, Session Moderator

# Sunday 15th October

<b>03</b>	<b>Trade and Regional Integration</b>	08:00 AM - 09:30 AM
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## **Panel Session: Trade and regional integration: a new era of cooperation**

### **Opening Remarks:**

- MoTT Director General - Abdirashid Sh Ibrahim

### **Presentation:**

- Trademark Africa: " Technical Barriers to Trade along Berbera Corridor."

### **Panel Discussion:**

Topics to include:

- Key opportunities and challenges for Somaliland's trade development.
- Role of the Berbera Corridor in promoting trade and regional integration.
- How Somaliland can become a trade and a service hub.

### **Panelists:**

- Dr. Khalid Ahmed Abdi, Trade Infrastructure and Logistics Expert
- Abdirahman Osman, Country Director for Trademark Africa in Somaliland
- Dr. Ahmed Nour Mouse, ICT Expert for Trade in Services
- Mustafe Mohamed Dahir, International Trade Specialist - Moderator

# Sunday 15th October

**04**

**Mining and  
Minerals**

10:30 AM -  
12:00 AM

## **Panel Session: Mining and Minerals**

### **Opening of the session**

- Mining video showcase
- Mr Abshiik bashe, Operation Manager, First Africa PLC

### **Presentation:**

- Gollis University: "Barrier of Mining and Minerals on social economics."

### **Panel Discussion:**

Topics to include:

- The key challenges to improving the mining sector in Somaliland
- How Somaliland can attract more investment in the mining sector

### **Panelists:**

- Hinda Jamac Xirse, CEO of Rahma Mining and Company, a leading mining company in Somaliland
- Omar Yusuf Omar, Director of Warsan Energy and Mining Services, a company that provides a range of services to the mining sector in Somaliland
- Dr Abdikadir Hersi Mohamed, Mining Expert and Technical Advisor to Rooble Mining Company, a mining company that is developing a new gold mine in Somaliland
- Eng. Mohamud Jama Mohamed (Jabali), Geoscientist, Hydrologist and Contracting Expert
- Eng. Fahima Mohamed Hassan, Session Moderator

# Sunday 15th October

**05**

**Government Budget  
Diversification**

**10:30 PM -  
12:00 PM**

## **Panel Session: Government Budget Diversification**

### **Presentation:**

- Civil Service Institute: " Government revenue diversification"

### **Panel Discussion:**

Topics to include:

- Diversifying the revenue base
- Reducing dependence on customs
- Using new technologies to make government budgeting more transparent and efficient
- Government investment

### **Panelists:**

- Ahmed Dalal Farah, Economist
- Abdirisak Siyad Aw Abdi, PFM Specialist
- Abdallah Abdi Hariir, Economist
- Yassin Abdillahi Ahmed, Session Moderator

# Sunday 15th October

## 06 Financial Sector Development

13:30 PM -  
15:00 PM

### **Panel Session: Financial sector development: banking and insurance and digital economy**

#### **Opening:**

- Welcome and introductions by the moderator
- Keynote address by Chairman of Somaliland Banking Association – Financial expert Khalif Sheikh Omer
- Keynote address by the Chairman of Somaliland Insurance Authority H.E Guled Muse Galal

#### **Presentation:**

- Admas University: "Financial Products diversification: Challenges and Opportunities."

#### **Panel Discussion:**

Topics to include:

- Product innovation for better financial inclusion
- Adaptation of Fintech
- Policy incentives for more risk sharing instruments
- Legal infrastructure

#### **Panelists:**

- Omer Haji Hussien, Insurance Expert and Founder of Takaful Insurance in Somaliland
- Yasin Aweis, Expert in Finance & Banking

- Abdihakim Mohamed Ismail, Expert in Finance & Banking
- Noradin Osman Mohamed, Expert in Finance & Banking -  
Session Moderator

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## **Closing of day 2 by the Vice President of the Republic of Somaliland**

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