



SOMALILAND DIRECTION

The Way Forward

12- December, 2017 **Maansoor Hotel**

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Hilinka La Qaadayo

SOMALILAND DIRECTION “The Way Forward”

Hargeisa, 12 December 2017

Venue: Maansoor Hotel

Background

Inspire Group is an independent, youth-led think tank that strives to promote good governance, transparency and accountability in Africa, and Somaliland in particular. We have recently organized the first Somaliland Presidential Candidates’ Debate, which was widely welcomed by the public and the international community. We aim to build on the momentum and give open-minded scholars a platform to assess the challenges and present recommendations for the new government and international partners.

Conference

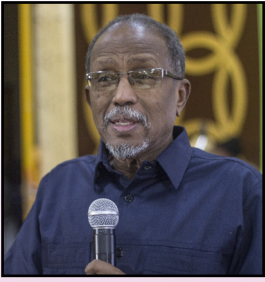


Inspire Group is proud to host Somaliland Direction Conference-the new beginning. Somaliland has recently concluded its third democratic presidential election, which was credited to be largely credible, free and fair election. The new President will take power on 13th December 2017.



There are enormous challenges facing the new government from the onset. Moreover, the expectations from the electorate are understandably high and will need the new government’s full attention and careful prioritization. This Conference will be opened by Khatumo Leader Ali Khalif Galeyr and UCID Presidential Candidate Faisal Ali Waraabe. HRC Chairman Guleid Ahmed Jama

The Conference aims to create scholarly discussion on sociopolitical and economic challenges and opportunities. We believe that the first 100 days set the tone for the new administration progress, effectiveness and focus. This Conference aims to bring together key scholars and experts across Somaliland to share insights on issues that are critical for the new



administration to tackle.

Our main is to help carve a new direction on the main loopholes that are recognized to have created hurdles for the previous Government to work well with other key public institutions such as the Parliament. It also creates opportunities for both the policy and legislative making institutions to understand the issues that hold great public concern and require their concerted efforts and attention to keep the Government on track and deliver for its citizens. We are hoping that the Conference will be a platform to discuss and generate helpful discussions on policy formulation on critical government approaches including the interaction between Parliament, other government institutions and the citizens, the engagement with foreign countries and their leaders, the public, the media, and other relevant stakeholders.

Against this background, Inspire Group is organizing a Conference to discuss “what next for Somaliland”. This Conference will focus on key challenges and opportunities and priorities for the new government. We hope to bring together wide-ranging scholars and intellectuals and stimulate a debate on the crucial areas of public concern. There will be three main agenda points for the Conference – foreign policy/recognition, socio-economic issues and infrastructure, as well as domestic matters. In each area papers will be presented and debated.



Finally, the Conference aims to document key recommendations made by the panelist and produce a report, which will be shared with the President. This is going to be a scholarly contribution to bridge the gap between policy and practice and make an attempt to stimulate objective discussions about how the government should deal with socio-

economic and political challenges. The documents will also be refined to check its quality, relevance and content, aligning it to global best practices and standards and current government policies.

Conference Host: Dr. Jama Musse Jama

Dr. Jama Musse Jama is an ethnomathematician and author of Somali language and literature. He has a PhD in African Studies specializing in Computational Linguistics of African Languages. He has created and currently directs the Somali Corpus, an online platform to manage a corpus database for Somali language with over 5 million words tagged. A cultural activist, researcher on historical documents, traditional architecture, oral history of Somali society, and their preservation, Dr. Jama is known for his research on African traditional games and their possible use for formal education. His leadership and work at Redsea Cultural Foundation and Hargeysa



Cultural Centre earned him recognition in Somaliland and internationally. Author or editor of several books and book chapters, Dr. Jama Musse Jama is also the founder and yearly organizer of Hargeysa International Book Fair, one of the most important literature festivals and book celebration in Africa.

6:00 – 6:30 pm: Opening Remarks and Introduction
Former President of Somaliland H.E. Dahir Rayaale Kahin,
UCID Presidential Candidate, Faisal Ali Waraabe
Khatumo leader, Ali Khalif Galaydh
CHAIRMAN OF HRC Guleid Ahmed Jama

SESSIONS I

6:30 – 7:15 pm: Focus: Monetary Policy, Local Governance & Decentralization, Good Governance and Education & Health

In this section, we hear from prominent Somalilanders that focus on factors, which are shaping Somaliland's socio-economic and domestic policy. Such as Inflation, education & health, local government and good governance & accountability.

Somaliland is facing a hyperinflation, averaged at a remarkable 204% for the past seven years. Both the Ministry of Finance and The Central Bank of Somaliland have been struggling to keep the economy going and effectively deal with the rampant inflation. The living conditions of ordinary local citizens have been invariably inflated by the ever-increasing dollar against the Somaliland Shilling given the fact that both currencies are usually used equally for daily transactions.



Thus, both health and education play a vital role in improving productivity and economic growth. Due to their dual role both their inputs and outputs have a central role in progressive economic development.

Panelists/Presenters:

Jamal Ali Hussein, has been Chief Executive Officer of Citibank Tanzania Limited since July 1, 2010. Mr. Hussein has 20 years' experience as an accountant, a consultant and senior banker to the local financial institution. He joined the Citi Group in New York in 1997 and served in different capacities in Trinidad and Tobago, the Bahamas, Saudi Arabia, Poland, Mexico, Britain, Indonesia and Kenya. Mr. Hussein served Chief Executive Officer of Citi Bank Ivory Coast since May 2006. He holds Masters in Business



Administration (MBA) from Harvard University in the United States.

Mohamed Ali Bile, has three-decade experience in planning and leading education programs, especially in conflict affected and fragile zones. In-depth expertise on Middle East and Africa socio-political affairs, threat dynamics and opportunities. Skillful in negotiations and dealing with difficult partners. Worked with Government, UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank, USAID funded programs. Trained at California State University, University of London, Harvard University, UNESCO IIEP (Paris), IIE Matei Urbino (Italy), Maastricht University and the Somali National University. Fluent in English, Arabic and Somali.



Good in Italian.

Hinda M. Jama, experienced scholar, whose experience including designing and implementing core state functions programmes aimed at supporting fragile states with more than 30 years of professional experience in the US and in Somaliland.



Dr. Mohamed Aden Hassan, holds an MA in Migration and Diaspora Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies and a PhD in Sociology from the University of London. Hassan's current and ongoing research focuses on the social, economic and political impact of Mobile Money with the emphasis on safe and secure ways to uphold cash flow and transactions taking Somaliland as a case study. He is further involved in developing a practical solution to enable local businesses to transfer money through the global financial hub ensuring instant transfer of cash. Furthermore, Hassan works with Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) on projects related to accountability, diaspora and transnationalism, youth and migration in Somaliland. He also combines academic research with public media engagement, social entrepreneurship and community activism.

Panelists/Presenters:

SESSIONS II

7:25 - 9:35 pm: Focus: Recognition, invest in Somaliland and International Community Engagement and Somaliland-Somalia Dialogue

Over the past 26 years, Somaliland has grown into an independent, stable, and self-reliant state, one that is increasingly willing and able to participate in regional and international affairs. Somaliland, at least for the immediate future, remains an unrecognized state. Despite this fact, Somaliland is deepening its relations with other states, engaging with

the international community and reinforcing its claim to sovereignty by addressing the challenges it generally faces through responsible governance. Although Somaliland faces a long road to recognition, it is time to consider its past and look towards a brighter future. Therefore, it is paramount to discuss critical matters on Somaliland-Somalia



while focusing on fostering a fruitful dialogue as well as promoting a conducive environment to hold progressive debates on the Somaliland National Development Plan II, as Somaliland is focusing a rapid economic growth, sustainable development and poverty reduction. We believe that Somaliland is a good place to do business, and has a rapidly growing economy with many opportunities. The country needs to simplify policies, which govern investment and business creation as part of its efforts to strengthen trade and attract foreign and local investors. Furthermore, adequate capital investment can only be fully utilized if there is a healthy and educated workforce that possesses the necessary skills and capacity required to run a viable economy

Prof. Ahmed Ismail Samatar, a founding Dean of Macalester's Institute for Global Citizenship, has lectured at many universities and colleges, including Cornell, Harvard, Iowa, London School of African and Oriental Studies, London School of Economics and Political Science, Somali National University, Toronto, University of Amsterdam, University of Pennsylvania, North Carolina (Chapel Hill), York, University of Otago, and Wellesley College. Samatar, whose expertise is in the areas of



global political economy, political and social thought, and African development, is the author/co-author/editor of five books and over forty articles and reviews.

Mohamed A. Mohamoud (Barawani) PhD candidate in Peace, Governance and Development at the United Nations University for Peace, Africa Program in Addis Ababa. Mohamed is the Executive Director of Somaliland Non-State Actors Forum (SONSAF) the largest civil society policy platform in Somaliland that coordinates all non- state actors. He has 17 years working experiences in civil society, institutional development, governance, peace- building, conflict resolution, democratization and elections.





Dr. Edna Adan, is world-renowned nurse-midwife and founder of the Edna Adan University Hospital in Hargeisa, Somaliland. Adan, former World Health Organization Regional Nursing Advisor is an internationally acclaimed nurse who has changed the face of healthcare in Africa as the former First Lady of Somalia and former Foreign Minister of Somaliland. She was awarded the French Legion of Honor. Edna Adan is serving as Somaliland’s Representative for peace talks between Somaliland and Somalia.



Osman Badmah, Graduated from American College of Switzerland with a degree in International law and International Relations. work for the last 30 years in Major Oil and Gas Companies Aramco. Saudi and Adnoc Abu Dhabi. worked at different Divisions. As a Manager and executive Director. Contracts a department, Trade Department and Investment Department

Foreign policy	Socio-Economic & Infrastructure Policy
<p>Prof. Ahmed I. Samatar Recognition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National recognition plan - Regional and international relations. <p>Osman Badmah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investment - Entrepreneurship - Infrastructural dev 	<p>Jamal Ali Hussein Economic challenges/opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PFM, Monetary policy - Unemployment <p>Mohamed Ali Bile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education Reform
<p>Mohamed A Mohamoud Barawani Somaliland Engagements on donor communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NDP2 - SDGs16 - SDF - Role of NSA 	<p>Mohamed Adan Hassan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good governance and accountability - Public policy Institutional development
<p>Dr. Edna Adan Somalia-Somaliland Dialogue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Negotiations - Air space - The way forward - Migration 	<p>Hinda M. Jama Local governance and decentralisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local gov'ts - Urban planning



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