

## United States Senate

August 14, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

I write to urge your Administration to formally recognize the Republic of Somaliland as an independent state, with sovereignty within its 1960 borders.

Somaliland first gained independence and international recognition in 1960, before voluntarily uniting with Somalia later that year. Since moving to reclaim its independence in 1991, it has functioned as a stable, self-governing, democratic nation. It has held several peaceful elections since 2003, marked by strong voter turnout and peaceful transitions of power.

Somaliland has emerged as a critical security and diplomatic partner for the United States, helping America advance our national security interests in the Horn of Africa and beyond. It is strategically located along the Gulf of Aden, putting it near one of the world's busiest maritime corridors. It possesses capable armed forces and contributes to regional counterterrorism and piracy operations. It has enabled the opening of a Taiwanese Representative Office in the capital of Hargeisa, sought to strengthen ties with Israel, and voiced support for the Abraham Accords. It has proposed hosting a U.S. military presence near the Red Sea along the Gulf of Aden and is open to critical minerals agreements that would support our supply chain resilience. The U.S.-Somaliland partnership is robust, and it is deepening.

Somaliland faces mounting pressure from adversaries, due in no small part to its role as a partner for the United States and our allies. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is using economic and diplomatic coercion to punish Somaliland for its support for Taiwan, as well as to undermine that support. The government of Somalia has played an unfortunate role in these efforts: in April 2025, the CCP arranged for Somalia to bar Taiwanese passport holders from transiting into Somaliland, and Chinese support to Somalia is benefiting anti-Somaliland groups working to erode its sovereignty.

Despite these threats, Somaliland remains committed to forging closer ties with the U.S. and is actively engaged in enhancing military cooperation, counterterrorism efforts, and economy and trade partnerships. To do so to the greatest effect and the greatest benefit to American national security interests, it requires the status of a state. I urge you to grant it that recognition.

As always, I stand ready to provide you with whatever resources and support you require in helping to secure this goal.

Sincerely,



Ted Cruz  
United States Senator