



Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International  
Cooperation

# Somali Diaspora Conference

**THEME:**

**Harnessing the power of Somali Diaspora for a  
Better and Prosperous Somalia**

- Location: Doha, Qatar
- Date: 22-24 July, 2024

## About the Conference

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Somalia (MoFA) is preparing to host the highly anticipated International Somali Diaspora Conference in Doha, Qatar, from the 22nd to the 24th of July 2024. This significant event revolves around the theme "Harnessing the Power of Somali Diaspora for a Better and Prosperous Somalia."

The conference serves as a critical platform for Somalis globally to come together and engage in discussions concerning the future of the diaspora community and their nation. Topics of focus include immigration, integration into host communities, preservation of Somali culture, challenges and opportunities facing Somalis abroad, as well as developments within Somalia in realms such as security, socio-economics, foreign relations, unity, economic growth, and global recognition.

## Participants:

A diverse array of individuals will participate in this event, including elected Somali officials from abroad, innovators, academics, professionals, media personalities, authors, artists, social activists, businessmen, community leaders in the diaspora, diaspora returnees who have invested in Somalia, and Government Officials working on diaspora-related matters.

Participants will have the opportunity to share their experiences, insights, and best practices, as well as to forge new partnerships and collaborations that can contribute to the rebuilding and advancement of Somalia. The conference also seeks to celebrate the achievements of the Somali diaspora and highlight their contributions to their host countries and their homeland.

By focusing on the theme "Harnessing the Power of Somali Diaspora for a Better and Prosperous Somalia," the conference underscores the vital role that the diaspora plays in the nation's progress. It aims to create a platform for dialogue and action, encouraging the diaspora to take an active part in shaping the future of Somalia. The MoFA is committed to ensuring that this conference catalyzes positive change, fostering a sense of unity and purpose among the Somali diaspora and strengthening their connection to their roots.

## Conference Pillars:

- 1. Somali Diaspora Platform for Advocacy:** Establish a sustainable platform for collaboration among Somalis worldwide in advocating for diaspora-related issues.
- 2. Economic Empowerment through Diaspora Investments:** Explore avenues to harness the considerable financial and intellectual resources within the diaspora for productive investments within Somalia.
- 3. Global Goodwill Ambassadors:** Empower the Somali diaspora to serve as active ambassadors of goodwill, showcasing Somalia's culture, potential, and positive image on a global scale. This initiative aims to reshape global perceptions of Somalia and foster cultural and economic exchanges.

## Program Highlights:

## Day 1

### **Panel 1 - "Harnessing the Power of the Somali Diaspora: Challenges, Opportunities and way forward"**

This panel aims to delve into the multifaceted landscape of the Somali diaspora, highlighting its contributions and obstacles. It seeks to explore ways to overcome challenges related to integration, socio-economic advancement, and empowerment while identifying opportunities for collaboration, youth involvement, and sustainable development within Somalia.

### **Panel 2 "Somali Youth empowerment: Fostering education and technology"**

The panel on "Somali Youth Empowerment: Fostering Education and Technology" will delve into the critical role of education and technology in empowering the next generation of Somali leaders. Recognizing that youth are the backbone of Somalia's future, this panel will explore innovative strategies and programs aimed at enhancing educational opportunities and technological proficiency among Somali youth. Discussions will focus on leveraging digital tools and resources to bridge educational gaps, promote skill development, and create pathways for young Somalis to thrive in a globalized economy. By fostering a culture of learning and technological innovation, the panel aims to equip Somali youth with the knowledge and skills needed to drive economic growth, social progress, and sustainable development in their communities.

## Day 2

### **Panel 3 - "One Nation: The Role of Diaspora in Nation Building"**

Focusing on the pivotal role of the Somali diaspora in shaping Somalia's future, this panel addresses issues regarding national unity, governance, education, economic development, and resilience. By navigating these complexities and harnessing diaspora contributions, the panel aims to foster prosperity and cohesion within the nation

### **Panel 4 - Building Strategic Diaspora Partnerships for Somalia's Prosperity**

This panel discusses forging strategic partnerships between the diaspora, governmental entities, and private sectors to advance economic growth, social development, and sustainable prosperity in Somalia. By exploring innovative collaboration strategies, the panel aims to unlock the potential of the diaspora for transformative impact and progress.

### **Panel 5 - "Leveraging Intellectual and Entrepreneurial Capital of Somali Diaspora for National Development"**

Focusing on the intellectual and entrepreneurial potential of the Somali diaspora, this panel aims to address development challenges in crucial areas like education, healthcare, technology, and entrepreneurship. By sharing best practices and fostering collaboration, the panel seeks to drive sustainable development and innovation in Somalia.

### Day 3

#### **Panel 6 - "Qatar and Somalia: Strategic Partnerships for a Prosperous Future"**

Exploring the collaborative opportunities between Qatar and Somalia, this panel aims to leverage Qatar's expertise in infrastructure, investment, and governance to support Somalia's development. By fostering partnerships and knowledge exchange, the panel endeavors to promote trade, sustainable development, and mutual growth between the two nations.

#### **Panel 7 - "Serving the Somali Diaspora"**

The final panel will focus on "Serving the Somali Diaspora," addressing the unique needs and challenges faced by Somali communities abroad. This session will explore strategies for enhancing support systems, fostering stronger connections with the homeland, and ensuring the well-being and integration of diaspora members in their host countries. Topics will include the provision of essential services, the role of cultural and community organizations, and initiatives aimed at preserving Somali heritage and identity. By prioritizing the needs of the Somali diaspora, this panel seeks to strengthen the bonds between Somali communities worldwide and back home, fostering a sense of unity and mutual support.

#### **Panel 8 - "Global Good Ambassadors: Advocacy and Action for Somalia"**

Dedicated to global advocacy and collective action for Somalia, this panel focuses on raising awareness, mobilizing resources, and driving solutions through international partnerships. By amplifying voices and advocating for positive change, the panel aims to support Somalia's development, peace, and stability through a united global effort.

During the three days of the conference, participants can look forward to a rich and diverse program that includes not only insightful sessions but also five additional activities: Inspiring sessions sharing success stories, a sightseeing tour showcasing local attractions, a book fair featuring a wide selection of literary works, a captivating photo exhibition, and a vibrant cultural night celebrating the rich heritage and traditions of Somalia.