29th Meeting of Horn of Africa Initiative
Agenda
Nairobi Kenya, 28 September 2026, KICC building, Lenana Hall

Members

- Hon. Mr. Bihi Iman Egeh, Minister of Finance, Somalia, Chair
- Mr. Volker Oel, Director-General for Reconstruction and Stability, MENA, Sahel, Horn of Africa, Eastern Europe, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany, Co-Chair,
- Hon. Mr. Ahmed Shide, Minister of Finance Ethiopia (virtual)
- Hon. Mr. Abdourazak Ahmed Idriss, Secretary General, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Djibouti
- Hon. Dr. Bonface Makokha, Principal Secretary State Department for Economic Planning, National Treasury, Kenya
- Hon. Mr. Benjamin Ayali Koyongwa, Undersecretary for Planning, Ministry of Finance and Planning, Republic of South Sudan, South Sudan
- Hon. H.E. Mr. Mohamed Nour Abdeldaim, State Minister of Finance, Ministry of Finance and Economic planning, Republic of Sudan
- Mr. Alex Mubiru, Director General for East Africa, AfDB
- (tbc) Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, (virtual)
- H.E, Andreas Peschke, Ambassador to Kenya, The European Union
- Mr. Alex Fraser, Senior Adviser, Africa Trade and Development, FCDO, UK
- Mr. Nathan M. Belete, Director for Regional Programs, Africa, World Bank

Permanent Observer

- H.E. Dr. Workneh Gebeyehu, Executive Secretary, IGAD (tbc)

Observer

- Mr. Anders Skiöldebrand, Counsellor Somalia section, Embassy of Sweden in Nairobi

The 29th Horn of Africa Initiative Ministerial will be held in Nairobi, Kenya on 28 September 2026. It will be co-chaired by Hon. Mr. Bihi Iman Egeh, Minister of Finance, Somalia, and Mr. Volker Oel, Director-General for Reconstruction and Stability, MENA, Sahel, Horn of Africa, Eastern Europe, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany. The meeting will follow a hybrid format with most participants present in person. VC Links will be provided on request.

Taking advantage of the presence of HoAI delegations, two events are being organized on the sidelines of the Ministerial. The first on 29 September will entail a field visit to a regional project supporting the livestock value chains. This visit will help observe realizations on the ground and provide the opportunity to exchange with beneficiaries and other stakeholders. The agenda for this visit will be circulated separately. The second event on 29 September entails the first meeting of the Regional Trade Facilitation Committee (RTFC). It will represent a concrete example of implementation of Ministerial Decisions. This meeting will only be open to RTFC members and any technical assistance they may request and will be followed by designated observers.

As decided at the 28th HoAI Ministerial, the Ministerial meeting will be focused on Trade. There will also be a short session on Monitoring Ministerial Decisions through a recently completed pilot exercise covering the energy sector in collaboration with EAPP. In addition, the meeting will hear a brief presentation by the World Bank Africa Chief Economist Office based on its review of trade integration in Africa and how it can inform further regional integration in the Horn.

The Trade presentation and subsequent discussions will build on the whole Government approach being piloted under HoAI, with the 3rd September 2026 HoAI Trade Ministers Meeting serving as the start point. Ministers will be briefed on follow-up steps and will be requested to confirm their support of the revised roadmap, its intermediate steps and the priority actions adopted at the earlier meeting of Trade Ministers. The meeting will also discuss funding needs and options, and opportunities ahead and consider concrete actions to be supported by Finance the Ministers.

Continuing with the streamlined format adopted at the 16th Ministerial Meeting, following remarks by the Chair on behalf of HoA countries and Germany on behalf of DPs. All members are requested to make their interventions following the presentation, or under AoB.

The technical presentations will be circulated and uploaded on the HoAI website after the meeting. The following background documents were distributed prior to the meeting:

- Note on the updated Trade roadmap and agenda for action.
- Implementation Tracker of Ministerial Decisions: Energy Sector Pilot.
- Portfolio and Pipeline and updates.
- What Integration Means for the Horn: https://www.worldbank.org/en/brief/2026/08/25/integrating-africa-from-threads-to-hubs
- Draft Communique. Dr. Bonface Makokha, Principal Secretary State Department for Economic Planning, National Treasury, Kenya
- VC Link.

HoAI Ministerial Meeting Agenda: 9:00-12:30

Closed Meeting	
9:00-10:00	Coffee/Snacks and Networking
10:00-10:05	Welcome remarks by Dr. Bonface Makokha, Permanent Secretary State Department for Economic Planning, National Treasury, Kenya
10:05-10:20	Address by Hon. Mr. Bihi Iman Egeh, Minister of Finance, Somalia, Chair
10:20-10:35	Address on behalf of Development Partners – Mr. Volker Oel, Germany. Co-chair
10:35-10:55	Presentation of the updated trade roadmap and proposed intermediate steps
10:55-11:20	Discussion of the presentation, proposed actions and next steps
11:20-11:35	Presentation of pilot monitoring of Ministerial decisions in the energy sector
11:35-11:50	Discussion of implementation tracker
11:50-12:10	Presentation of World Bank study of trade integration in Africa: What Integration Means for the Horn (Mr. Woubet Kassa, primary author, World Bank)
12:10-12:20	Any Other Business
12:20-12:30	Concluding Remarks by the Chair and Family photos