

DOWLADDA PUNTLAND		PUNTLAND STATE
EE SOOMAALIYA		OF SOMALIA
XAFIISKA MADAXWEYNAHA		OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

The honorable members of Puntland state councils, other senior members of the government, traditional elders, civil society organizations, and representative from CORMIO Engineering Company, who will be undertaking the construction of the Bossaso airport runway. On behalf of the Puntland state, I would like to convey my best greetings to you.

Today I am very glad that we are in a historic moment, in which we have come to lay down the foundation stone of the Bossaso international airport runway.

As you are aware, the government has set a development program in social affairs such as education, health, water and public infrastructure development. The government's development policy pays great considerations and efforts to public infrastructure, such as airports, roads and seaports which are the backbone and base of overall development

The Government paid a great effort on how to realize the construction of the Bossaso international airport. The building of the airport terminal is solely funded by Puntland Government and currently is in the finishing stages. Today, we come together and to observe the starting and laying down of the foundation stone of the airport runway which is also funded by the Government of Puntland.

On the other hand, we are also planning the extension of Bossaso seaport, which I believe will play a great role in the growth of our trade and commerce capacity. We are also planning to apply to the Bossaso port modern port administration and management system.

The Government has it's plan of constructing up to 7 small ports along the Puntland State coast in the near future.

The government is executing its national development policy, to give a priority to the national program of road network construction across the country, and that will facilitate the overall social development in all aspects.

The government programs of developing public infrastructure are also contributing to the creation of employment opportunities, which will reduce the widespread poverty across our nation at different levels and areas.

This project, which we are laying down its foundation stone today, has great value to the Puntland community and it is a clear example of realizing everything that is sought with great will and dedication.

Finally, on behalf of Puntland Government and its people, I would like to extend my deep thanks to the CORMIO Engineering Company, which will undertake the construction of Bossaso international airport runway.

Once again, I would like to confirm to you that the government will put most of its effort to the execution of its national development programs.

Mohamoud Muse Hersi
Puntland State President

Bossaso, 22.11.2006