

H.E. Mr. Yusuf Garaad

On March 29, 2017, Ambassador Yusuf-Garaad Omar was sworn in as the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Investment Promotion of the Federal Republic of Somalia.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation has overall responsibility for the work of pursuing the nation's foreign policy and Investment Promotion goals with the overarching objectives of protecting, promoting and advancing the nation's interests abroad.

Ambassador Yusuf Served as the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Somalia to the United Nations

Ambassador Yusuf-Garaad has served as a senior Adviser to the President of the Federal Republic of Somalia on Strategic Communications. He was also assigned to a number of key tasks including negotiations with the Breakaway Somali Region of Somaliland aimed at safeguarding the territorial integrity and the unity of Somalia. Ambassador Yusuf-Garaad was the lead interagency team involving several key Ministries as well as police and security agencies to plan components of stabilization program.

Before returning to Somalia to work for the Government, Mr. Yusuf-Garaad was a senior Editor at the BBC World Service in London for nearly two decades, impacting on Media development by negotiating with Media regulators, Media owners and training journalists in several African capitals.

Prior to the BBC, the he worked in Humanitarian sector in Somalia with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Somali Red Crescent Society.

Ambassador Yusuf-Garaad is a regular blogger and provides a platform where his huge and active social media followers in Somalia and in the diaspora discuss and exchange views on various issues ranging from reconciliation, Human Rights, youth, migration, radicalization, terrorism, security matters, development, Governance, Somali literature, Sports, diaspora contribution to the country, fun and above all, Hope for a better future for Somalia.

Mr. Yusuf-Garaad graduated from the Somali National University with a French Major. He later on attended the Global Master of Arts Program at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in Massachusetts, USA.

At University, Ambassador Yusuf-Garaad was President of the Student Association. He was a Red Cross volunteer primarily campaigning against misconceptions associated with blood donation, a blood donor and a Basketball and Chess player.

Ambassador Yusuf-Garaad is married.