

PRESS RELEASE

Heritage Institute for Policy Studies Announces New Executive Director

31 August 2023

Mogadishu – Somalia: The Board of Directors of the Heritage Institute for Policy Studies (HIPS) is delighted to announce the appointment of Mr. Mursal Mohamud Saney as the new Executive Director, effective from 1 October 2023.

Following an extensive and comprehensive search both internally and externally, the Board unanimously selected Mr. Saney to take on the role as the fourth Executive Director of HIPS since its establishment in December 2012.

Mr. Saney brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this position. Having been part of the HIPS family for the past eight years, his role as the Deputy Director has been marked by steadfast commitment and valuable contributions to the institution. Mr. Saney's background boasts vast experience in research, analysis, and policy development. Additionally, his extensive networks within academic, research, and policy circles have been an invaluable asset to HIPS.

One of Mr. Saney's notable achievements has been the successful organization of HIPS' flagship program, the Annual Forum for Ideas. For six consecutive years, this forum has stood as the largest deliberative platform for Somalis around the world, fostering debates, discussions, and solutions to pressing issues.

The Board would also like to take this opportunity to extend its deepest appreciation to the outgoing Executive Director, Dr. Afyare Elmi. Dr. Elmi's leadership over the past three years has been instrumental in navigating HIPS through challenging times for our nation and its people. His vision in reshaping the institute's research, analysis, and policy development has solidified HIPS' position on the global stage. While Dr. Elmi is stepping down as Executive Director, we are pleased that he will continue his association with HIPS as a Senior Policy Fellow.

The Board is confident in Mr. Saney's capabilities to lead HIPS into its next chapter, building on its legacy and charting new frontiers in research and policy studies.

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About Heritage Institute for Policy Studies

The Heritage Institute for Policy Studies (HIPS) stands as the largest and most influential think tank and policy development organization in Somalia. Based in Mogadishu, this non-profit and non-partisan public policy institute has distinguished itself as a premier hub for research, analysis, and deliberations within the Somali landscape. Driven by its vision to "harness the power of ideas for a better Somalia," HIPS continues to shape policy discourse and decisions, playing a pivotal role in the nation's ongoing journey towards progress and stability.

