28 April 2026

Statement from Africa Humanitarian Action
On the Passing of Dr. Mohamed W. Dualeh

It is with profound sadness that Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) learned of the passing of Dr. Mohamed W. Dualeh, a Trustee of our organization, an accomplished humanitarian, and a respected diplomat whose life was dedicated to serving vulnerable communities across the Horn of Africa and beyond. A steadfast supporter of AHA's founding motto, *"Restoring Africa's Self-Esteem,"* Dr. Dualeh was a strong advocate for the organization's mission and principles from the outset, embodying these values throughout his life and work.

An outstanding commitment to humanitarian principles and public service marked Dr. Dualeh's career. A medical doctor by training, he began his professional journey in Somalia, serving as a Public Health Coordinator with the Ministry of Health in Mogadishu and Hargeisa, where he worked to strengthen essential health systems in challenging contexts. His dedication to improving the lives of others would define the decades that followed.

For over 27 years with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Dr. Dualeh distinguished himself as a leader of integrity, technical expertise, and strategic vision. He held several senior managerial roles, including as Head of UNHCR Sub-Offices in Sudan and Eritrea, and later as Head of the Southern Africa Desk, where he coordinated complex, multi-country refugee programmes across 12 countries. His work contributed meaningfully to the protection and assistance of displaced populations, reflecting a deep understanding of both humanitarian operations and the broader political and social environments in which they unfold.

In recent years, Dr. Dualeh continued his service on the global stage as the Special Envoy of the Republic of Somaliland to the United Nations and other international organizations, advancing dialogue, cooperation, and representation for his country. His professional trajectory—spanning public health, humanitarian leadership, and diplomacy—illustrates a rare blend of operational excellence and principled advocacy.

Beyond his formal roles, Dr. Dualeh was a valued member of AHA's Board of Trustees. He brought wisdom, humility, and an unwavering commitment to the organization's mission. His counsel was always grounded in experience, guided by compassion, and focused on practical solutions to complex humanitarian challenges.

Dr. Dualeh's passing is a great loss to AHA, the humanitarian community, and all who had the privilege of working alongside him. On behalf of AHA's leadership, staff, and partners, we extend our deepest condolences to his family, colleagues, and all who mourn his passing.

May his soul rest in peace, and may his legacy continue inspiring future generations of pan-African humanitarian leaders.

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