



# The Ethiopian Herald

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## Renewed provocation counterproductive to T-TPLF's

BY ABDUREZAK MOHAMMED

ADDIS ABABA – Having rejected the peace alternatives offered by the federal government and triggering another round of war, the terrorist TPLF is setting itself up for disappearance, the Government Communication Service (GCS) said.

In a press briefing he held yesterday, GCS State Minister Kebede Desisa noted that, the criminal faction is causing the renewed conflict and invaded some parts of the Amhara State by an age-old human wave military tactic. “Let alone deploying underage children as of now, the T-TPLF could not win against the Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF) whilst looting the mechanized weaponry and capability of the Northern Command, where most of the Ethiopian armaments had been stationed.”

In line with the government’s direction to solving problems peacefully, the ENDF is still on the defensive, not on the offensive position and the international community should exert pressure on the terrorist TPLF to come into a negotiation table, the state

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## Experts slam silence on T- TPLF's belligerence

BY TAMERU REGASA

ADDIS ABABA- Some Western powers’ silence on the terrorist TPLF child soldieries recruitment, execution of grave humanitarian violation in the neighboring states and obstruct national dialogue is something worth condemnation, social science experts said.

Speaking to local media, social science experts said that the radical element has been committing atrocious crimes in Amhara and Afar states and obstructing the delivery of humanitarian supplies and looting the resources of aid agencies that have been operating in the Tigray State.

Accordingly, Political Science Lecturer at Dire- Dawa University Surafel Getachew said some Western organizations including their media have not condemned these crimes instead they are exerting due pressure on the federal government. “Considering UNICEF, it is established to protect the



Surafel Getachew

rights of children; however it keeps silent when the T-TPLF deploys children for active conflicts.”

Surafel stressed that 570 thousand liters of the WFP’s fuel intended for the delivery of essential life- saving humanitarian assistance have been seized by the criminal clique. “However, there is no international organization that has condemned this evil act.”



Worku Yekob(PhD)

Senior Researcher at the Institute of Foreign Affairs Worku Yekob (PhD) said for his part that most of the western organizations have been siding with the T-TPLF to weaken Ethiopia and achieve their political interest under the guise of humanitarian support.

He called on the public to uphold their collaboration with the government in safeguarding their own peace and fight the western-backed TPLF propaganda.

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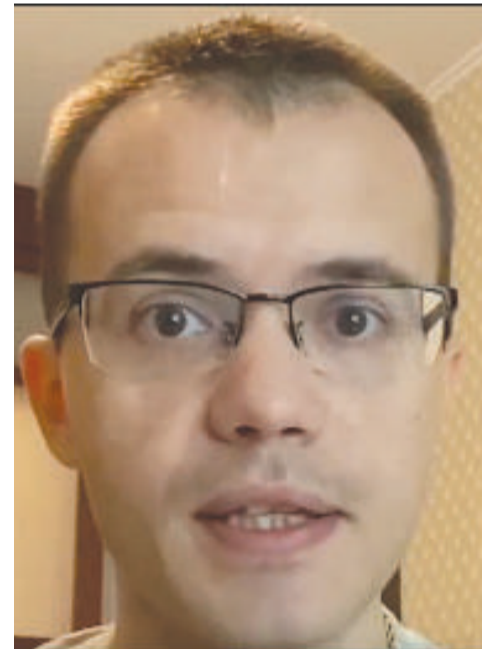


## # TPLF is The Cause twitter campaign hits new record

BY TSEGAYE TILAHUN

ADDIS ABABA –The #TPLFisTheCause twitter campaign that Ethiopians in home have launched to denounce the terrorist TPLF’s triggering of a military conflict and

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# News

## ENDF in better position to prevent any attack

BY STAFF REPORTER

**ADDIS ABABA** - The Ethiopian National Defense Force (ENDF) announced that it is in a better position to ward off Ethiopia from any attack and ready to safeguard the national interest and peace of the people while respecting laws.

ENDF has recently briefed Military Attaché residing in Addis Ababa on the current security situations in Ethiopia and members of international community on current issues in the light of the renewed TPLF's belligerence respective measures being taken by the government.

The briefing came after the terrorist TPLF has opened renewed war against Ethiopia by avoiding peace options put in place by the federal government.

Briefing the representatives of the international community ENDF International Relations and Military Cooperation Director General, Major General Teshome Gemechu stated that: "We do not want to violate any international law. As military institution, we cannot take any stance which will contradict with the position of the government. However, safeguarding the wellbeing of our people and the national interest of the country will not be compromised because it is our mandate and obligation. This is our duty and



responsibility."

ENDF is in a better position to prevent Ethiopia from any attack and thwart any belligerence against the nation. The National Army is ready to safeguard the national interest and peace of the people while respecting the peace options set by the Federal Government, he reiterated.

TPLF has launched attacks in Wotwot Rama, Bisober and Zobl fronts and border areas of neighboring Afar state, Maj. General Teshome said, assuring them that the aggressing by the rebel forces can be confirmed through technological devices.

ENDF has institutional responsibility to defend sovereignty and interest of the nation from any security threat, called on the international community to take account of the efforts exerted by the government of Ethiopia to solve the situation with peaceful

manner.

Representative of the Defense Attaché at Austria embassy, Johann Jamnig said such briefings was helpful for us to get a wide understanding about the ongoing security situation in the country.

"The briefing is a good opportunity for us for the international community to hear official assessment from the national defense force so that we do not have to rely on media reports. It is really grateful for getting this opportunity," he stated.

Representative of Defense Attaché at Germany embassy, Thomas Reiberling on his part said: "It was a very interesting briefing which contributed for us to understand the situation in Ethiopia. I hope that peace and stability will come back very soon in this wonderful country with its wonderful people."



## Office working on auditing reform, avoiding extravagance

BY MESERET BEHAILU

**HARARI**- Office of the Federal Auditor General has been embarking of improving auditing system, ensuring accountability, encouraging auditors' institutions and training on capacity building for employees to succeed national goals.

During the recent 23rd General Auditors and Stakeholders discussion forum, the Office Head Meseret Damtie said that, Ethiopia has to ensure modernized audit operation in a bid to realize national prosperity via ensuring democratic institutions in the country.

As to her, the federal institutions have to bring significant impact on ensuring accountability, assisting the democratic system, avoiding bureaucratic red tape, and ensuring justice though some challenges are still there.

She, therefore, said that the country has requested stakeholders to move in unison to realize a fair, accountable operation, creditable audit system and so forth.

Meseret further stated that, the federal auditor has been carrying out 20 discussion forums and recorded fruitful outcome over the past years. However, the Federal Auditor did not conduct discussion during the past two years due to COVID-19 and northern conflict.

"The Federal Auditor has provided employees with various trainings to help them achieve appreciable result. So far, it has provided trainings on capacity building for its employees in Sidama, South West, Amhara, Oromia, and the federal auditor.

Particularly, some 462 federal auditing employees have secured training on capacity building either attended physically or using zoom meeting over the past one year, it was learnt.

Harari State President, Ordin Bedri on the occasion said that, the implementation of effective auditing is a symbol of being committed in coming up with capability to attain national interest.

"Though Ethiopia has been facing various issues so far, it is capable of registering remarkable outcomes in all aspects through encouraging unity, tolerance, accountability, and improving auditing system. Besides, capitalizing on effective auditing system will play a paramount role unprotecting public and private properties from extravagance," he noted.

He further noted that, building peace, improving the system, encouraging auditing institutions are the priority agenda of the state in the years to come, and the 11 states discussed their one year auditing work performance during the forum.

## Safaricom Ethiopia to install network service nationwide

BY YESUF ENDRIS

**ADDIS ABABA**- Safaricom Ethiopia has recently announced that, it has launched large-scale customer pilot of its service in Dire Dawa.

The company has introduced 2G, 3G and 4G network services with 07 code SIM cards in Dire Dawa. According to Al-Ain news-Amharic, the company has set tariffs for voice services; so, customers can purchase 1 minute voice service with 50 [Ethiopian] cents for domestic voice service. Besides, the company is providing data services; 120 Mb with 10 ETB, 900Mb with 50 ETB and 2 GB data service with 100 ETB purchasing price.

Quoting the East African Safaricom Ethiopia CEO Anwar Soussa said: "The company's pilot in Dire Dawa is part of switching on our network and services in 25 cities by April 2023 working in partnership with government, businesses, local communities, and others stakeholders as part of our long-



term commitment to transforming lives for a digital future in line with the Digital Ethiopia objectives."

The company has announced that its network will be installed in Addis Ababa, Bahir Dar, Gonder, Dessie, Kombolcha, Harar, Adama, Hawassa, Jima, Jigjiga and other cities in the upcoming months.

Customer care services from the call center will be available in Amharic, Tigrigna, Somali, Afan Oromo and English by dialing 700...[] Customers can access telecom services to or from Safaricom Ethiopia lines and Ethio Telecom network as well as to make or receive international calls, According to The East Africa.

## Building regional health capacity key to counter COVID-19 impact

BY TEWODROS KASSA

**ADDIS ABABA** - The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) emphasized the need for strengthening cross-border regional integration of member states to counter the COVID-19 health and socio-economic impacts.

IGAD yesterday handed over COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including K95/N95, face masks, goggles, aprons, head caps, digital thermometers, and safety boxes to the Ministry of Health.

On the handing over ceremony, IGAD National Coordinator for Ethiopia Sister



Tigist Fikru said that, augmenting member states active coordination is important to save the lives of millions from the pandemic.

As to her, the PPE will play an indispensable

role to help the vulnerable communities around border areas.

Thus, similar COVID-19 assistance will be delivered to the pastoralist areas of Afar and Somali states in the near future.

Moreover, the IGAD is working to strengthening regional health capacity of cross-border agencies and Member States to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, she noted.

Accordingly, the donated PPE is part of the IGAD and the African Development Fund COVID-19 Project "Emergency Assistance to Support COVID-19 Response in East Africa".

# News

## Efforts put to attract more investment in South Gondar

BY BETELHEM BEDLU

**ADDIS ABABA-** South Gondar Zone Administration is undertaking several activities to attract more investment opportunities in identified potential investment areas, said Zone's Government Communication Bureau Head.

Speaking with the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA), the Zone's Government Communication Bureau Head Tadele Eshete noted that, through the efforts put towards promoting investment in the area, service industry and manufacturing sector have shown meaningful performance so far.

As to him, investors that opt to be engaged in flour, soap and steel production have received production area and are on the go to start manufacturing.

Besides the hotel and tourism sector, public enterprises and local investors are taking steps to engage in different investment areas such as Dera, Qorata, Wanzaya and Debre tabor town.

The Communication Head further said that, as Eucalyptus highly grows in the area; it is suitable for Chip wood production. Similarly, lime as well as agro-processing sectors such as tomato and onion processing could feed Fogera, kemkem and Dera agriculture, he stressed.

According to him, hotel and tourism



sectors are another area where investors could be advantageous to invest in. The fact that the zone has age-long history; it could be interpreted to different economic benefits.

“Given the strategic location of the Zone to Lake Tana and mount Guna, which is the origin of seventy seven rivers, the Zone has vast investment opportunities”, he underscored.

Furthermore, he added that the more investors become interested to invest in

the area, the better job opportunities they bring about. Thus, efforts are being geared towards curbing the bottlenecks such as bureaucratic issues that still hinders investors to engage in the investment.

By the same token, despite the zone's undeniable contribution in unifying the nation, the area have not benefitted as per to its contribution, he underlined.

It was a recent phenomenon that Debre Tabor University, South Gonder Zone Administration as well as Defense

Engineering College have signed MOI to develop Gafat Industry Zone which is expected to contribute to bring light to the Zone in many aspects, he stated.

Debre Tabor is an area where Emperor Tewodros II launched 'Gafat industry Zone' – first industry zone in the country. Still, there are number of demanding issues that need timely response from the government, concerned bodies and scholars to use the potential of the area to the fullest, as to him.

## T-TPLF takes blame for reopening war: Journalist

BY MISGANAW ASNAKE

**ADDIS ABABA-** Terrorist TPLF is utilizing human wave strategy recruiting child soldiers and is blamed for the reopening of war against Amhara and Afar states though both are defending the group well, said American Political Analyst and Journalist.

In his latest interview with international media, Moscow based American Political Analyst and Journalist Andrew Korybko further said that: “For carrying out the ongoing attacks against the Ethiopian government, the group stole over half million liters of fuel last week. Such shameful act is being condemned by the WFP as the condition has made aid distribution to war affected citizens impossible. T-TPLF is backed by [sworn enemies of Ethiopia].”

It is to be recalled that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recently said that the terrorist TPLF forcefully conscripted and trained the youth to mobilize the population through coercion, propaganda, and launched the offensive

as expected.

The Government has also taken a number of activities to resolve the conflict in the Tigray state peacefully including declaring a unilateral indefinite humanitarian truce on March 24, 2022.

T-TPLF however, true to its character, repeatedly downplayed the peace efforts in fact failed to reciprocate the confidence-building measures taken by the government of Ethiopia. The group belligerent rhetoric has recently been intensified after the Peace Committee's announcement, on August 17, 2022 of additional steps towards peace including the readiness to sign a permanent ceasefire and agree on arrangements for the restoration of services that would have paved the way for the commencement of political settlement.

This propaganda machine, T-TPLF, has also been intensively engaged in undermining the peace efforts as well as denigrating and attacking the AU.

## Renewed provocation...

minister added.

In the meantime, Kebede highlighted that the country has registered remarkable successes in various arenas in the current fiscal year notably repulsing the T-TPLF invasion, thwarting Al-Shabaab's repeated attacks and completing the third filling of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD). Accordingly, Ethiopia started power generation from the GERD's second turbine.

By the same token, Ethiopia's efforts to ensure food self-sufficiency is quite fruitful and the country has also completed the Green legacy Initiative successfully by planting 25 billion seedlings within the past four years. While consolidated efforts have been carried out to rehabilitate citizens affected by drought and war in various parts of the country, drought, conflict and high cost of living have remained the major challenges of the country, he remarked

## # TPLF is The Cause...

rejecting truce hit new record in the platform, according to data analysis.

Accordingly, over the past seven days, more than 312,000 messages have been transmitted by #TPLFisTheCause campaign to expose the criminal clique's atrocious crimes in various parts of the Amhara and Afar states. Also, Ethiopians residing in the U.S, Netherlands, India, Malaysia, Canada, Italy, England and Germany have made overwhelming participation in transmitting the same message. In their hashtag messages, the participants said the government is legally and morally responsible to protect citizens and repulse the T-TPLF belligerence in the Amhara and Afar states.

The criminal faction and its supporters are campaigning to belittle the peace efforts of the AU Special Envoy Olusegun Obasanjo and the AU without justified reason. Like any self-respecting African nation, Ethiopia has no reason to deal with such a pipe dream.

Commenting on the issue, Ethiopian

Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Suleiman Dedefo stated that as an African, respecting the AU is respecting itself. “This is the only way we can let others to take us seriously. Only the unfortunate ones, in particular the T- TPLF, look for redemption from outside to solve the internal problem.”

For Ethiopian Ambassador to the U.S. Seleshi Bekele, the radical element should commit itself to seek a solution under the auspices of the African Union rather than undermining the institution and its mechanisms. “Africa has wisdom to solve its problems.”

Noting the government's readiness to defend the nation's territorial integrity and sovereignty, the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister Demeke Mekonnen said that, the state is equally committed to using peaceful means to end the conflict and collaborating with humanitarian partners to lessen needless suffering.

# Opinion

## Atrocities: T- TPLF's routine tasks ignored by the world

BY DANIEL ALEMAYEHU

Needless to say, the continuous recurrence of war heavily affects the economic, political and social foundations of a nation. More than that, the lives of citizens face great danger. Human beings are easily to be broken by the experience they have encountered.

In the current Ethiopian context, the people and government of Ethiopia are facing the consequences of war and other pressures from a number of directions. The current occupant is leaving no stone unturned to secure the peace and security of the nation.

It is obvious that when a war erupts, it becomes the cause of destruction and displacement of citizens. Lately, the peoples of Ethiopia are fighting in solidarity to defend the sovereignty of the nation from the threat orchestrated by the Terrorist TPLF group and its cliques.

The war, specially the T- TPLF, has committed heinous and inhuman crimes on the people of Amhara and Afar and destroyed infrastructures. Besides, the people living in the aforementioned regions suffered multiple crimes and evacuate the area leaving all behind.

After all these sufferings, the federal government and the Terrorist TPLF group declared a cease fire which would be assumed as a spring board for further concrete agreements.

In this short period of silence of weapons, the terrorist group is trying to reach to people who have come across the flame of terror. It is also witnessed and reported that the government and responsible organs are working together to rebuild essential infrastructures. A simple illustration is that Education Minister Birhanu Nega (Prof.) recently visited war torn areas and laid foundation stones in Mersa town of Amhara State and in Afar region Chifra Town. The objective of the visit was to rebuild those destroyed schools in Amhara and Afar regions. In addition, the government is working closely with stakeholders that stand to support the people. From those responsible stakeholders Munschen für Munschen plays a vital role by promising to build 10 schools in different parts of the country.

Now a day, restoring peace in various areas would cost an arm and a leg for the government. One of the major reasons is that TPLF is resting its arms against the federal government as it is assisted by foreign powers that tend to neglect the devilish acts of the terrorist group.

The world might have a skewed perception towards the existing truth in Ethiopia. This happens due to the misinformation spread by the international media and higher officials of international organizations. In a number of occasions representatives of international



**The international community is trying to forward worthless statements to the people of the world. It seems like the international community considers such act of breaking agreements is normal for the terrorist group**

organs have given their backs to the solid truth in Ethiopia and showed the blind fold perceptions to the acts of the terrorist group.

The so called 'the guardians of human rights' were blowing your own horns to restore peace by applying negative pressure on the federal government and put the well-being of terrorist group as their top agenda.

On the onset of starting the national dialogue and the peace talk between the federal government and the terrorist group based in Tigray which is decided to be mediated by the African Union, the terrorist group announced that the cease fire agreement has been broken and they have started the second phase of the war.

In this regard, the international community is trying to forward worthless statements to the people of the world. It seems like the international community considers such act of breaking agreements is normal for the terrorist group.

Moreover, the government of Ethiopia has been shouting in several occasions in relation to the improper allocation and stealing of humanitarian assistances. Albeit, the international organization including the World Food Program (WFP) condemns the act of stealing, it was full of jokes. Lately, the new development was about the act of stealing fuel by the terrorist group from the humanitarian assistance organizations typically from World Food Program.

Such acts were deliberately ignored by the international communities along with those media that the world trusts. Just to seem fair and just, some officials call on the returning of the stolen fuel. Deep inside, these officials have been trying to shift the situation into another way and show the reality in a skewed manner. An illustration can be the tweet from Samantha Power. She tweeted, "*@USAID strongly condemns the TPLF's theft of over 150,000 gallons of fuel from @WFP's work, and its harassment of aid workers. Impeding efforts to help feed Ethiopian civilians is deeply cruel, and we call on the TPLF to return the fuel and respect humanitarian operations.*"

It seems that this tweet has no intentions of expressing partial perspective; however, she was trying to minimize the number so that she used British way of measuring units rather than the common unit that Africans use. Though the number is almost similar to the metric measurements, most people might find it smaller compared to the 570,000 liters of fuel. It is also noted that the representative of the USAID has shown her deep concern for those aid workers, but it is important to remember that the organization as a whole showed its negligence towards the harassment committed on Amhara and Afar citizens by the Terrorist TPLF.

What if this act were committed by the federal government? Will their response be the same with the response they forwarded to the terrorist group? This might be a simple question to those who know the issue. It will not be the same. In a broad daylight, these world power houses have shown their stronger fist on the federal government and put pressure in various directions by putting aside the crimes committed by TPLF.

The terrorist group spokesman said they retake what they have lent to the WFP. What a joke! Those international organization representatives have said nothing in response to the spokesman. This shows that there is something behind the curtain of lies.

The people and friends of Ethiopia have witnessed the inhuman crimes that TPLF committed against civilians in Amhara and Afar regions. Most infrastructures have been destroyed including schools and health centers. To one's surprise, these damages and crimes were ignored by the international community due to the partisan information.

All in all, the act of stealing fuel from the international organization might be seen as a simple misdeed, but no one knows what happened in the scandal of stolen fuel. It is also better to see the action in reverse.

**Editor's Note: The views entertained in this article do not necessarily reflect the stance of The Ethiopian Herald**

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# Editorial

## UN: Respect int'l order!

The Terrorist TPLF (T-TPLF) faction that cannot exist without war has continued taking actions amounting to war crimes. The other way around, the International Community (IC) and most organizations, which claim to have been “working to sustain peace and security across the globe”, have preferred to turn a blind eye and deaf ear to the war crimes the terrorist group has perpetrated.

The T-TPLF has been and is still committing crimes that violate the laws and principles of war; codified in several multilateral treaties, including the recruitment and use of children in armed conflicts.

The IC and some organizations, however, are still reluctant to strongly condemn the faction and hold it accountable for the crimes it has been committing. Even some entities and individuals, for instance, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) and others are openly and secretly supporting the terrorist group going behind Ethiopia's back.

To speak the truth, such sneaky behavior and hidden act could not bring about any goal, other than making an already worse situation a rather worst one. The acts of heads of multilateral organizations including the UN, the only global body mandated to maintain international peace and security, is hijacked by self-interest individuals.

Pieces of evidence are now coming out that the UN boss “António Guterres spoke last week for a “short while” with Debretsion Gebremichael of the TPLF.” This is outrageous. Secretly dealing with a terrorist group ignoring the plight of the founding member of the UN, Ethiopia, is an affront to the global body itself. We have never seen before and do not want to see even in the future the head of an international body, UN, secretly dealing with a terrorist group. It is unprecedented. Has he done it with ISIS or Alshabaab or other terrorist groups?

Unquestionably, respecting international laws, orders and principles; acting seriously and making sure that others are also exercising them accordingly is fundamental to addressing human rights challenges and maintaining peace and stability among countries. And this, without exaggeration, is the sole responsibility of global actors and organizations entitled to do so.

In its earlier wicked and destabilizing activities, the rebel group snatched aid convoys that were entering Mekelle; and devoured aid supplies that were meant to be delivered to the people of Tigray who are in dire need of humanitarian assistance.

Even though the international community and concerned organizations including the UN have learned the reality on the ground, (because they could not shut their ears as they did to their eyes), they remain muted instead of condemning the rebel group and holding it accountable.

The old saying goes “old habits die hard.” Recently, the terrorist group stole 570,000 liters of fuel from warehouses of WFP in Mekelle, which was kept to be used to transport food and other items to Tigray.

Of course, most state and non-state actors seriously have condemned the act. But, it should not stop there. We are witnessing that the humanitarian fuel is used to invade neighboring Amhara and Afar people. The loot has added to the destructive mobilization of the heinous forces. Global actors should therefore hold the group to account, on the one hand.

Attempting to ignore the facts which are crystal clear before us, and making backroom dealings with the criminal gangs would not only add insult to the wounds of victims of the T-TPLF provoked war but it will also put the very existence of the prestigious global body, UN, under a question mark.

# Opinion

## A praiseworthy effort ought to be revered

BY TIRUSEW GERESU

Since the launch of the green legacy initiative in 2019 Ethiopia managed to plant more than 20 billion trees in different regions of the country. More than 20 million Ethiopians actively participated in this green legacy initiative. By any measure this is a remarkable achievement. Then why the international community gave a deaf ear to this effort?

The green legacy initiative in Ethiopia is aligned with both the United Nations sustainable development goal 13 and the Paris climate agreement. There is no question about it. The initiative has impacted positively the lives of many who are dependent on agriculture and helped reverse the impacts of drought on agricultural productivity in Ethiopia. The impact is immense. This is the fact on the ground. But neither the UN nor the countries in the west acknowledged the efforts of the Ethiopian people, which is really shocking.

In his official visit to Mongolia, August 9, 2022, United nations Secretary General praised an effort of tree planting which is very less contribution compared to that of Ethiopia. This one scenario where the international community chose to ignore the effort by Ethiopia while praising others. This is a double standard.

Ethiopia is one of the few countries that are committed to the United Nations sustainable development goal 13 that envisions limiting the increase in global mean temperature to two degrees Celsius above pre industrial levels aiming at 1.50C. Ethiopia's commitment is clearly indicated by integrating climate change measures into its national policies, strategies and planning. Climate Action tracker rated Ethiopia's climate policies and action consistent with limiting warming to 1.5°C. Fewer countries managed to achieve this.

Moreover, Ethiopia developed and implemented a mitigation policy which is based on its Climate-Resilient Green Economy strategy, scaled up its renewable energy program and introduced transport services like railways which are renewable energy powered. Again another achievement worth praising! Even though the Ethiopian people and government dedicated their time and effort to this common global cause the developed world failed to recognize this effort.

Much is needed to limit the global warming to 1.5 degree centigrade and the world should take additional 28 Giga tonnes of CO2 off annual emissions to meet the 2030 commitments but most of the developed nations failed to keep their promise .Unlike the developed

*Giving a deaf ear to the efforts of the developing nations like Ethiopia is just small bushes that were no good for an ostrich to hide behind*



world that are responsible to climate change Ethiopia and other few other nations' are committed over the years to the Paris Climate Agreement and the UN SDG 13. Undermining or overlooking the achievement of Ethiopia in combating climate change will never undermine the chance of achieving its goals in 2030.

Unlike ignoring efforts made the developed nation should give finance and technological support so that the developing world adapt to climate change. Moreover, compensation to the developing nations is out of question. Developed nations should also abide to their commitment to contribute 100 Billion dollar compensations scheme. Giving a deaf ear to the efforts of the developing nations like Ethiopia is just small bushes that were no good for an ostrich to hide behind. The efforts of countries like Ethiopia that are the most climate innocent nations on earth shouldn't be overlooked. It should be praised and deserves proper recognition by the international community. Ethiopia succeeded not only with planting, but also with the maintenance and nurturing of the trees.

One thing should be underscored in this regard. Ethiopia is managing to be successful in creating environmentally conscious society and development this is what commitment to our collective future means in its practical senses. The world should take lessons from Ethiopia's success.

**Editor's Note: The views entertained in this article do not necessarily reflect the stance of The Ethiopian Herald**

# Business & Economy

## Ethiopia's effort to benefit from China-Africa trade

BY MENGISTEAB TESHOME

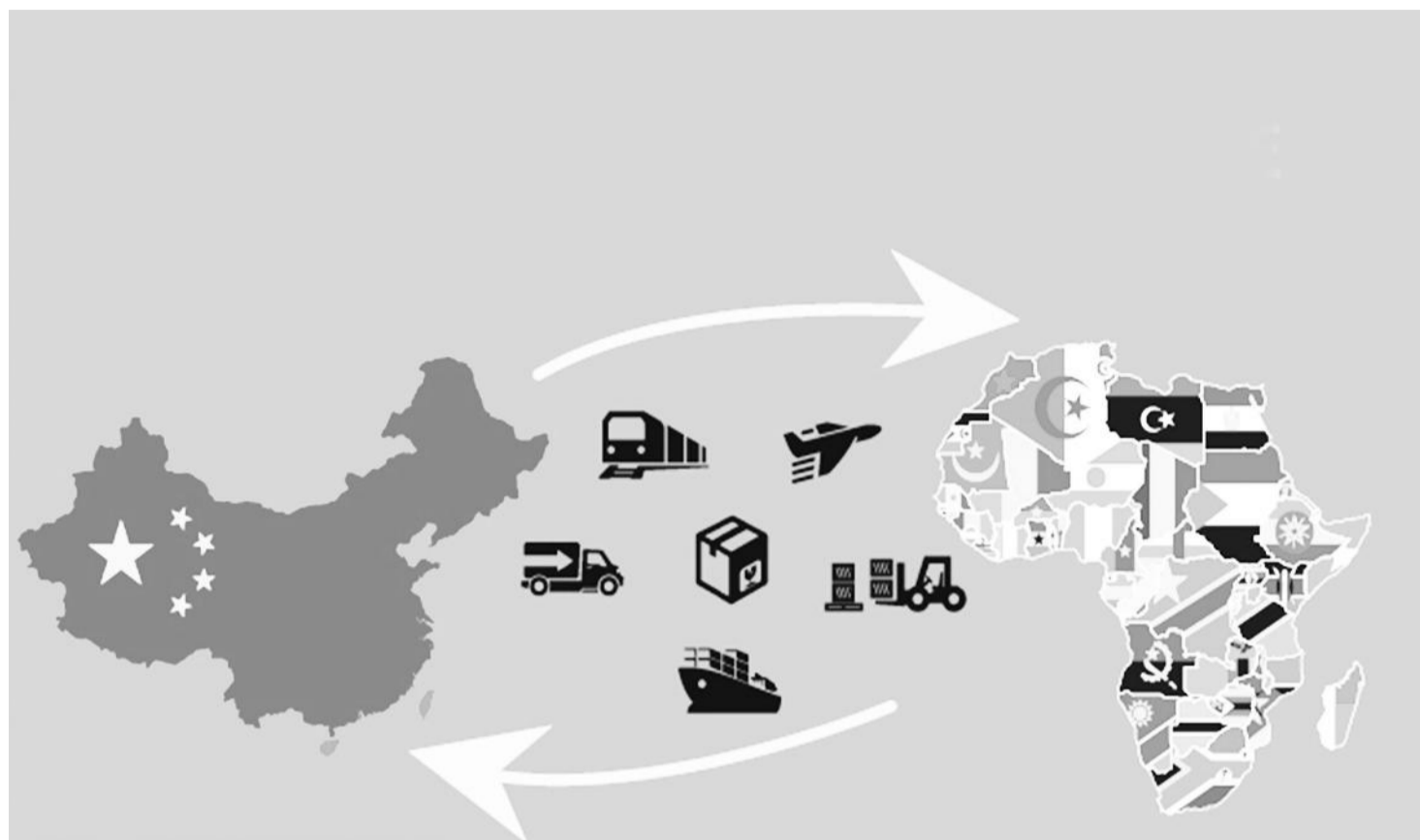
Over the past 20 years, China's trade with Africa has increased twentyfold making China Africa's second largest importer of Agriculture products as well as the largest bilateral infrastructure financing partner. China has also emerged as one of Africa's major providers of economic inputs. Since 2000, Chinese's investment in Africa has been rising slowly but steadily, with private enterprises as a major player in economic, trade and investment cooperation.

According to data from China's Ministry of Commerce, China's stock of direct investment in Africa at the end of 2020 stood at USD 47.35 billion. In 2019 the Ministry pointed out that private companies have accounted for around 70 % of Chinese investment in Africa. A 2021 China-Africa Business Council (CABC) survey of nearly 100 key private companies found that the proportion of "reinvestment" in Africa was found to be 30 %. Given that a number of companies have not "registered" in the investment system and that "reinvestment" by companies is not included in the statistics, this report estimates that by the end of 2020 the stock of Chinese business investment in Africa is not less than USD 56 billion.

This signals that as China-Africa cooperation upgrades and expands in depth and quality. Chinese enterprises are evolved to be a strong force, and the presence of Chinese private enterprises in Africa, which dates back to the 1980, is worth our attention.

Following the "Ten Major Cooperation Programs" and the "Eight Major Initiatives" jointly formulated and implemented within the framework of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation 2018, investments in infrastructure, manufacturing, mining, agribusiness, industrial parks and other areas have gained momentum. A large number of rail, road, airport, seaport, power plant and other projects have been successfully implemented, bringing significant changes to the economic and social development of Africa. An increasing presence of Chinese companies can be particularly observed in countries such as Nigeria, South Africa, Egypt, Angola, Zambia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Congo-Brazzaville, Ghana, Algeria and Tanzania. Recent trends also indicate that "China's Top 500 Private Enterprises" have increasingly shown interest in development and investment in Africa.

Given their advantage over Chinese SMEs in terms of capital, technology, talent and internationalization, countries are emerging to think that the top 500 Chinese Private Enterprises will assume a prominent role in furthering Africa's industrialization and integrated development, and introduce innovative investment models within China-Africa economic and trade cooperation.



With a more market-oriented approach, and boosting investment into Africa continue to grow, private companies have an essential role to play in this process. In addition to traditional sectors, Chinese enterprises are exploring and venturing into new areas such as medium and high-tech manufacturing, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, digital economy, aviation industry and more.

Apart from trade and investment, Chinese enterprises are also becoming an important force behind Africa's inclusive economic development. African nations have not only warmly welcomed contributions of Chinese enterprises in industrialization and employment, but also in people's livelihoods. Bringing a unique approach and features to poverty reduction to African countries, Chinese enterprises have met their corporate social responsibilities and most recently, strongly supported local public health efforts in the fight against the current pandemic. Despite being faced with challenges of the pandemic, global economic slowdown, trade protectionism and rising debt, Chinese companies have remained optimistic and willing to invest in Africa and are committed to achieve more.

In addition they improve their aptitude to address their own problems and gaps, particularly gaps in understanding of Africa's diverse cultures, laws and policies, thus, strengthening their capacity to face high risks, explore tripartite cooperation, formulate long-term business plans and successfully integrate into Africa's economic and social development endeavor.

In line with the effort to diversify the destination of export and increase the number of exporters, Ethiopia is working in established fashion to meet the huge demand of the nation foreign currency. According to Ethiopian Ambassador to China, Teshome Toga, recently Ethiopia has begun negotiations with its Chinese

counterpart to export fruits and meat products to the China market.

Following the establishment of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in 2018, China promised to publish a Report on Chinese Investment in Africa on a regular basis.

Accordingly, China has issued the second report published by China-Africa Business Council (CABC) at a ceremony held in Beijing on last Tuesday.

The report, released under the title "Chinese Investment in Africa (2022): China-Africa Cooperation from a Supply Chain Perspective," reviews the experience of China-Africa investment cooperation and put forward proposals for future cooperation.

This year's report has featured statistical and research data from diverse sources in addition to the analysis presented on the Chinese-African business cooperation.

It also showcased efforts made by Chinese enterprises in supporting Africa's supply chain development as well as the challenges faced during the process.

The report provided 32 recommendations for Chinese and African governments as well as enterprises.

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Teshome said that Ethiopia has been working to strengthen bilateral trade and investment with China.

Noting that the two countries have been enjoying a strong bilateral economic cooperation, the ambassador said Ethiopia is one of the beneficiary countries under the Belt and Road Initiative of China.

The Addis Ababa-Djibouti railway and a

significant number of other huge industrial parks are the results of this cooperation, he added.

According to him, Ethiopia is keen to strengthen its strategic cooperation with China with a view to realizing the economic transformation of the country as it requires technological capability and huge investment, ambassador Teshome stressed.

Now, in a bid to boost trade relations with China, Ethiopia has started negotiations with its Chinese counterpart to export meat and fruit productions to the China market, he noted.

The negotiation is being undertaken in line with the step put forward by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed that paves the way for Ethiopian Agricultural products to penetrate into the global market, Teshome added.

According to the ambassador, banana, avocado and mango will be the first batch of Ethiopia's agricultural productions planned to be exported to China after the negotiations and other requirements are settled.

This year's report was launched in the presence of the Director-General of the Department of African Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, Wu Peng and Permanent Representative of the African Union to China, Rahamtalla M. Osman and ambassadors of African countries.

It was indicated during the occasion that due to the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, the Belt and Road Initiative and other government efforts, China and Africa have realized practical cooperation in a wide range of areas, in particular, in industrial and supply chain development.

# Art & Culture

## The potential of arts as a locomotive of progress

BY FITSUM GETACHEW

We remember a few years ago when the government of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed came to office, what he did first was engage in discussions with various sections of the population, various communities in diverse parts. We remember he traveled to all four corners of the country to meet representatives of people and discuss with them matters that were of serious concern to them. There was a feeling of change and new spirit in the air and these trips of the premier and his close aids were taken as the beginning of a new era in which government and people would work in close collaboration and consultation.

The premier presented to these communities his vision of a new country and the future of the people. He explained his views on how his government would operate and what his priorities would be. But we also saw him gather people belonging to this or that profession and had discussions with them. Among the first with whom he consulted were the community of artists. He convened them and had long discussions raising various issues around their profession but also about their role in the country. Almost all of the most renowned and loved artists were in attendance. However, many people were heard expressing reservations on how they could have been among the priorities of the premier. They must have thought that discussing with artists was not that important or urgent to deserve the attention of the premier at that juncture. And yet the premier knew well about the role these artists could have in any thing that is bound to happen in the country.

Many people were surprised to see the premier spend a lot of time with these people while according to them there were other more urgent matters. Evidently these people did not think of the importance of the role of arts in the making of a people, in the life of a community, and how much the arts are part and parcel of everyday life of people. Their main attention was directed only towards the various political forces or academics and intellectuals. They had professions such as economists, doctors etc. in their minds, but not artists. Evidently they did not stop a moment to focus what meanings arts could have in a people and what role it could play to shape the destiny of a people, a community.

But the premier knew that the arts are a very important instrument in contributing to the promotion and advancement of government policies and programs. Many people may not notice or observe it because they may not give much attention to the arts and personalities of art considering them as mere entertainment. And yet the arts have always been part of the focus

of any government policies and ideas. Besides the normal and well acknowledged role of the media in being a close partner of governments, they could also have a negative influence, very critical of the operations of government. No doubt, without the media, proper communication between people and government may not be realized. As much as it can be an ally of governments the media can also be a watchdog and controller of government with its revelations, investigative reporting and criticisms. More or less the same can be said of the arts and people engaged in the arts world.

During the discussions the premier had with artists, he asked them what they have done with their talent to contribute for the growth of the society given their immense influence over it. He asked them to ponder and question themselves what their contribution has been for the promotion of peace and harmony among communities. He asked them what they did to hamper or counter the negative influence of certain extremists who preach and spread hate and hostilities among communities. What did they do to counter the venomous messages of certain irresponsible elements that may be on the payroll of terrorist groups or enemies of Ethiopia?

That means he knows that the arts are a formidable force that can be used to change a society by promoting certain values and help spread certain ideas initiated or suggested by the government and its close associates. It is well known that the arts are a big part of what a society is composed of. It is in a way part of the psyche of people because through the arts, people express their emotions, frustrations as well as aspirations with for instance songs especially when they are happy and forget their immediate worries. They enjoy moments of joy and comfort by the works of artists. It could be music, it could be literature with poetry and poems etc. that people engage their time in and enjoy their leisure by unknowingly taking some of the messages contained in the works.

It could be films in which certain characters are represented in the stories and influence people's sentiments. It could also be dramas, plays presented on stages depicting certain characters. It could as well be painting works presented on canvas or sculpture carved by well trained and talented professionals. All these works could have a message or a meaning that could be taken into consideration by the viewers, by the audience. In this sense the works of arts become a vehicle of communication that can be used to transmit some meaningful message. Hence artistic works can have multifaceted presence in society. They do have the potential to

deeply influence society. At times they can lead society, presenting new views, new ideas, and new dreams anticipating the times. At others they are seen pushing from behind so that ideas are well spread and penetrate society's mindset.

Their message can very easily spread because artists are usually very popular among ordinary people as they have easy access to their hearts. They can easily create an atmosphere of delight and comfort or hope in society and in this sense their influence can be formidable. That is why we observe clever governments use them to advance their policies or have them portrayed in positive posture. Just as could be the case with the media, where criticism could be one of their duties, so also could be with works of art if there is an atmosphere of freedom in which to operate. If however there is censorship of certain products of arts such as songs or films or even books etc it would be hard for artists to express their full potential because censorship stifles creativity.

However, it is also hard to blame governments that put certain restrictions on certain works of art which seem to be highly abusive with their freedom. Governments smell the potential of danger for their authority as real because of the immense influence artists can have on people. As artists are loved by their admirers, the more admirers they have, the more powerful they are, and the more significant their influence is. Hence, they tend to receive more attention in government circles.

We see that it is through the use arts that every business enterprise and every commodity, every service is promoted and sold. The world of advertisements exists and thrives only through more and more artistic expressions and the kinds of highly original works of arts that are exhibited. Actions, words, voices and graphics all contribute to the success of a work of art and its capacity to attract the attention of the audience. That is why it is also a vehicle of success and marketing.

Messages that are transmitted through works of art are often very effective and influential. They can help shape the mind set and attitude of people. When these works of art are transmitted repeatedly through all sorts of media (and today beside the mainstream media there is the huge influence of the social media), it becomes a huge force that exerts a lot of pressure on people. That is why proper and intelligent use of the role of artists becomes a key in any public endeavor.

The premier's suggestion that artists must use their God given talent to promote the advancement of peace and harmony

in society and other values that are fundamental in creating a more reflecting society based on reasoning rather than be pushed by certain extremist narratives and propaganda was timely. Ethiopia needs the solid contribution of its esteemed artists to the promotion of peace and tolerance in diversity and not creation of a feeling of revenge and discrepancy among various communities. Undoubtedly, Ethiopia is a special country composed of various peoples and cultures. Historians and academics have witnessed that such diversity must be used to promote the growth and development of the country and not be a point of contention and disputes.

In short, the messages artists can transmit through their works here can be vital because they are capable of fascinating their audience as they are popular and well heeded. They are viewed as a sort of authority and when these messages are aired repeatedly they can potentially reshape the minds of many. They can mold them. Even at the subconscious level messages that are conveyed in lyrics of songs or poems or any drama or film have more chance of penetrating people and remaining there for long.

That is why governments cannot afford to disregard works of art or artists. Rather they must create the atmosphere in which they can operate with originality and creativity. Works of art are beautiful. They have the magnetism of a huge audience for a long period of time, and we should be clever enough to use this instrument to advance real values that help transform our society towards a more just and equitable one rather than one that engages only in negative energy of spreading venomous messages that can only result in hatred and conflict.

### Blame Game

BY SENAIT G/HIWOT

*Your mind blames you  
For what you go through  
It may be right or wrong  
But it keeps on going  
Playing the blame game  
Of what it thinks is lame  
You become a victim of it  
And get stuck in the pit  
Of sadness and misery  
Then you feel so lonely  
Until you realize the pain  
Isn't working for your gain  
And you let go again.*

## Global Affairs

# The TPLF's latest terrorist offensive is meant to punish Ethiopia for its summer of success

BY ANDREW KORYBKO

The West and Egypt want their TPLF proxies to punish Ethiopia for its rising global role as recognized by the BRICS countries and especially Russia, Prime Minister Abiy decisively avoiding war with Sudan earlier this summer, and Addis' third filling of GERD.

The TPLF unsurprisingly launched another terrorist offensive in northern Ethiopia after being resupplied over the past few months through UN aid shipments that were exploited to clandestinely smuggle arms to these terrorists-separatists. There's no doubt that this group is to blame for violating the ceasefire from earlier this year since even the UN spokesman for Secretary-General Guterres confirmed that they broke into one of the global body's local warehouses in order to steal 12 tankers of fuel.

Their latest offensive isn't just intended to cause random carnage as part of their foreign patrons' policy of weaponizing chaos against their opponents, but is specifically meant to punish this Horn of Africa leader for its summer of success. All of its recent achievements build upon its consistent policy of principled neutrality in the New Cold War, which was what provoked the US-led West and Egypt into launching the TPLF-driven Hybrid War of Terror on Ethiopia in the first place.

In early June, the Ethiopian Ambassador to Russia told Sputnik that not only is his civilization-state eager to participate in Moscow's financial multi-polarity platform, but also that Addis won't let America legislate its relations with that Eurasian Great Power through the "Countering Malign Russian Activities In Africa Act". Around the same time, his Russian counterpart to Ethiopia reminded everyone how peace in his host country is integral to ensuring peace across the entire continent.

It's also important to point out that the African Union (AU) praised Ethiopia's peace process as well, which shattered Western lies that exclusively blamed its government for the conflict. The formula of "African solutions for African problems" fully aligns with the spirit of the global systemic transition to multi-polarity. No non-African force has the right to interfere in any process on the continent, not least of which are those that concern the resolution of conflicts that they themselves are responsible for.

Later that month, Prime Minister Abiy participated in the BRICS framework, which testified to his country's growing role in the future of the global economy. Even though nearby Egypt also took part in this meeting, Cairo clearly became jealous that Addis was receiving wider



recognition by the world community, hence why it unsuccessfully tried provoking a conflict between Ethiopia and Sudan that was narrowly averted after Prime Minister Abiy's decisive Twitter message in Arabic helped calm tensions.

Moving along to July, Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov's trip around the end of the month was a milestone in their bilateral relations and for that Eurasian Great Power's ties with Africa more broadly after its top diplomat promised to help the continent fully complete its decolonization processes. As always, Egypt couldn't accept foreign recognition of Ethiopia's growing role, which explains why it made a huge fuss about that country's third filling of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD).

That was just a false pretext for pressuring its Hybrid War victim and preceded Western envoys' trip to Ethiopia's Tigray Region, where they infamously took a selfie with a TPLF terrorist leader that confirmed their countries' tacit support for his group's terrorist-separatist cause. Shortly after, it became obvious that Al Shabaab was being cultivated as another one of the West's proxies in parallel with the larger plot to replace the AU-led peace process with their own alternative one for breathing new life into the TPLF.

**Quite clearly, the West and Egypt want their TPLF proxies to punish Ethiopia for its rising global role as recognized by the BRICS countries and especially Russia**

international norms and standards. Quite clearly, the West and Egypt want their TPLF proxies to punish Ethiopia for its rising global role as recognized by the BRICS countries and especially Russia, Prime Minister Abiy decisively avoiding war with Sudan earlier this summer, and Addis' third filling of GERD.

What's so dangerous about this latest escalation and which sets it apart from the prior rounds of conflict is that the terrorists' backers are no longer shy about directly supporting their puppets after the Ethiopian Air Force (EAF) just announced that it shot down a plane entering the country's airspace from Sudan. Their representative revealed that "it is believed to be from our historical enemies who have been working to weaken Ethiopia", which was likely a reference to the US-led West and/or Egypt.

Without a doubt, those who ordered the TPLF to stage its latest terrorist attack intend to internationalize the conflict for the purpose of sowing as much chaos as they can in a desperate last-ditch attempt to weaponize it in order to punish Ethiopia for its summer of successes. While it remains uncertain how long the latest round of fighting will last, nobody should forget how far Ethiopia has already come since the conflict started, which is why it's predicted to prevail this time around too.

It's against this dynamic background that those terrorists just launched their latest offensive, which nobody can forget also resulted in them attacking a UN aid warehouse in complete contravention of all



# Law & Politics

## Robbing, denying: Warfare strategies of TPLF criminal gangs

BY ADDISALEM MULAT

In the current state of affairs, the criminal TPLF enterprise has continued stealing humanitarian assistance in pursuit of lining up its pockets, raising the stakes, instigating wars, and twisting the knife in the wound of the Ethiopian people. Even though the incumbent has been going to the end of the earth on many occasions with a focus on delivering humanitarian aid to the people of Tigray, the Terrorist TPLF group has been making use of the much-needed food deliveries for its criminal deeds.

Notwithstanding the fact that the government has been oiling the wheels of humanitarian assistance, the organized criminal gang around the clock has kept on playing the victim card and confounding the broader international community with a make-believe story.

It becomes apparent that the criminal gang has been pulling out all the stops to up the ante making the most of the much-needed humanitarian assistance to purchase weapons and trigger off another round of bloody war in the areas adjoining the Amhara and Afar states.

As the illegal enterprise does not feel itself in the absence of conflict and robbery, it has been utilizing humanitarian aid for its own purposes cocking a snook at thousands of people fighting against hunger and lack of medical care.

Regardless of the fact that the incumbent tried every trick in the book to end hostilities in a peaceful setting and give the green light to unfettered access to emergency support, the outlaw gang has sustained making use of the emergency assistance to escalate tensions and back the country into a corner.

It is evident that in the face of confrontations posed in a number of instances by the evil enterprise, the incumbent has been moving heaven and earth aimed at ending hunger once and for all. The other way around, the group has been exerting all possible efforts to utilize humanitarian assistance for its own purposes giving the cold shoulder to the people of Tigray battling at all hours of the day and night with quite a lot of challenges.

In spite of the fact that relief agencies have been sending the much-in-demand emergency support to Tigray State via road and air transportation, the desired goal has not been achieved yet on account of the continued evil deeds of the criminal organization and the silence of the international community.

It is worth mentioning that the government of Ethiopia has been sparing no effort to smooth the pass of the peace process devoid of taking into account the nefarious deeds of the criminal enterprise. However, the ragtag group as things stands at present ended up sparking off another round of war to



exacerbate the suffering of noncombatants in the northern part of the country and looting their hard-earned possessions.

Apart from utilizing the urgently-needed humanitarian aid, the illegal group in numerous situations has been playing the victim card with an eye toward winning the hearts and minds of the wider international community that is yet to boldly condemn the evil deeds of the Terrorist TPLF group.

As nothing makes the crooked group happier than wreaking havoc and creating unrest on a national scale, it has been plotting intrigues that can at the earliest possible juncture put salt in the wound, make the conflict tenser, and the problem worse.

There is no denying the fact that the people of Tigray have been battling a humanitarian crisis brought about by the criminal faction's nefarious deeds. Gloomily, treating with contempt the peace proposal, the clique has sustained taking advantage of humanitarian assistance for lining up its pockets.

Though since the onset of the declaration of a humanitarian truce quite a lot of humanitarian organizations have been sending the desperately needed humanitarian assistance to the people of Tigray, the group has continued putting up for sale the much-needed food deliveries and public health services, and increasing the suffering of the people of Tigray.

The group in the present circumstances has been turning the blind eye to noncombatants fighting humanitarian disasters and escalating tensions. For the sake of truth, unless the criminal enterprise distance itself from its wicked deeds, the suffering of noncombatants would increase more than ever before.

It is worth recalling that irrespective of the criminal enterprise's effort to blemish the positive moves unfolding in the county under the guise of humanitarian assistance, the international community has been praising the commendable work of the government.

To everyone's dismay failing to learn from its past mistakes the Terrorist TPLF group lately ended up looting gasoline from the World Food Program that has been operating in the Tigray State. TPLF stole 570,000 liters of fuel from the World Food Programme (WFP) warehouse in Tigray state capital Mekelle.

In fact, the Terrorist TPLF's stealing of the UN fuel tankers is not something new and its siphoning off millions of dollars of western aid for victims of the 1984-85 famine also demonstrated the faction's age-old and inborn habit.

A 2010 BBC investigation found much of the money raised in the "We Are the World" Live Famine Aid of 1985 was used by the same group to buy weapons to overthrow the government of the time. Former rebel leaders told the BBC that they posed as merchants in meetings with charity workers to get aid money.

T-TPLF had taken twice the amount of fuel they needed to return the trucks. The radical group used the fuel to transport armed militants into the neighboring Amhara and Afar states.

The international community lambasted the terrorist group's disgusting act though it is yet to take concrete and punitive action against the outlawed clique.

Although the government leaned backward to make conversant with the international community about the evil actions of the ragtag group in various instances, for the most part, its stance on humanitarian assistance, remained in several instances tight-lipped. However, through the passage of time, when the evil deeds of the Terrorist TPLF group going on behind closed curtains were revealed, the wider international community set in motion condemning the nefarious deeds of the group.

The German Foreign Office tweeted that the T-TPLF has seized fuel that is going to be utilized to distribute lifesaving humanitarian assistance. The office has also added that the people of Tigray, Amhara, and Afar have

severely suffered from the repercussions of the northern conflict.

The office further stated that it has deeply disappointed on the breach of the ceasefire, instead of coming to round table negotiation. The office has also believed in negotiating and the German government continues supporting the mediation led by the African Union (AU).

Since the start of the conflict, hundreds of thousands of people have been forced to leave their homes and millions are suffering from hunger and misery. Similarly, various innocent daughters and women were seriously exposed to human rights violations, the office noted.

Samantha Power, USAID Head on her part said substantiates the above comment that the TPLF's theft of over 150,000 gallons of fuel from WFP is harassment and a decayed manner against international aid move.

"As the act is severely against feeding innocent Ethiopians, it has to be deeply condemned and we seriously urged TPLF to return the fuel and respect humanitarian operations," she added.

Similarly, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Martin Griffiths on his part said, "The act of T-TPLF plundering of over 570,000 liters fuels is strongly condemned as the fuel is primarily used for the partners of the UN to deliver humanitarian aid to people in need. Due to this reason, the humanitarian aid organizations are incapable of delivering the food to the needy."

He further noted that if the humanitarian delivery is not provided timely, starvation of people would rampant and many citizens will be exposed to lack of medication, food insufficiency, and other humanitarian sufferings in the Tigray state. Therefore, the fuel looted by the TPLF should immediately be returned so as to safeguard a number of citizens from grief and catastrophe.

# Planet Earth

## Green architecture for environmental sustainability in urban areas

BY DARGIE KAHSAY

The rapid rate of urbanization and the urban population growth are becoming additional factors for climate change. The proper management of urban activities and comfortable urban life depends on urban planning. Appropriate urban planning is believed to consider residential areas, road and green spaces with a set standard. But, only appropriate urban planning is not enough to promote the sustainability of the environment, promoting eco-friendly and environmentally conscious green structures are equally important in urban centers.

According to professionals from the architecture sector environmentally conscious structure is a crucial element for societal, resource and economic sustainability in the fast growing urbanization. The architects explain that each building and construction should consider the sustainability of the environment, the resource and the society by implementing all necessary measures starting from the design of the structure. A building or any construction since its inception uses resources that have an implication in the society, environment and the economy.

Recently the architects have forwarded important suggestions in a panel discussion entitled "Environmentalism and Green Design in Architecture and Urban Development," organized by Green Ethiopia, a voluntary youth-based organization. During the panel discussion which focused on the current trends and future prospects of the architecture sector in Ethiopia, the panelists underlined

that implementing eco-friendly green architecture is a must for environmental and societal sustainability. Green architecture is not only limited for considering green space or vegetation, according to the professionals in the architecture sector; it is all about the sustainability and efficiency of the buildings from the design until the output.

"For the efficiency of buildings and for the sustainability and suitability of the building with the environment, promoting green architecture is a timely act" said Elshaday Girma, Environmental Engineer and Founder of Green Ethiopia during the opening of the panel discussion. For her, the construction sector in Ethiopia has huge limitations in giving attention to environmentally friendly buildings. For Elshaday giving priority for nature is a precondition for sustainable growth.

According to Elshaday, in addition to giving enough spaces for green areas and plantation, materials used for a building, the energy it uses, the water and sanitation systems are also key in affecting the environment and climate change either negatively or positively. The energy consumption, the water consumption, the sanitation system and even the materials used for the construction of any building are equally important in maintaining sustainable environment.

On his part, Elias Ayalew, Architect, Lecturer and founder of Breeze Consultancy, during the panel discussion stressed that green architect has its own elements and the aim is to achieve the effectiveness and efficiency of the building for the environment. Sustainability, according

to Elias, is a relationship between the building on one hand and the society, resource and economy on the other hand. Hence, green architecture starts from the design and inputs used for the construction until the completion of the building should be clean and eco-friendly. It is all about using available resources wisely, efficiently and effectively.

According to Elias green architecture is all rounded initiatives of the professionals in the sector to minimize all environmental harms of a construction through appropriate and scientific designs and implementing the designs properly. Eco-friendly green architecture uses innovative methods for the sustainability of the building without compromising the comfort of the environment and it is all about preserving the future generation's resources.

Every construction uses resources such as energy, water and materials during and after the construction. Architects should use all possible means to construct buildings which can save and conserve the limited natural resources, Elias underlined. "To wisely use the limited resources including land, the action starts from the design," Elias stated adding that "each and every building should apply all possible means to minimize the buildings impacts on the environment, the society and the resources." As to him, through appropriate professional designs, it is possible to save energy and water usage for the building, during the construction and after the completion.

The design of a building can contribute for the efficient use of the available renewable energy at hand using less through healthy means

without affecting the comfort of a building. Similarly, it is possible to increase water efficiency and to reserve more.

Rockstone Ethiopia Real Estate Project Director, Adiyamseged Eyassu, on his part argued that green architecture is not a luxury; it is a must to ensure the sustainability of healthy environment. Urban centers are becoming major causes of environmental pollution and climate change; hence, the buildings should consider all the possible means to minimize the environmental effects. In this regard, according to Adiyamseged, Rockstone is introducing eco-friendly building both in giving due attention for green areas and in wise use of resources.

Cost expensiveness, knowledge gap, shortage of latest technology and attitude are among the factors to implement green architecture in Ethiopia. According to the panelists, Addis Ababa buildings are water intensive, energy consuming and mostly environmentally unfriendly due to several factors. Though, according to the experts, the issue of cost is believed to be the factor to construct green buildings, through professional designs, it is possible to build green architecture.

Professional designs of buildings that consider the sustainability of the environment and natural resources is a key for the physical form, economic functions and social impacts of the urban environment. Hence, considering in mind the eco-friendly architecture needs both policies from the government and professional commitment of architects.



## Published Weekly in Collaboration with Haramaya University

### HU's modern bricks production machine

BY EPHREM ANDARGACHEW

Haramaya University (HU) is a public research University qualified by the former Ministry of Science and Higher Education which is now a subsector of the Ministry of Education. Institute of Technology is one of the major institutions doing grand problem solving researches at the University.

Hence, the Technology Institute has been discharging its responsibility by providing modern, integrated, and community-based technologies. This technology contributes to urban house construction which is helpful to mitigate climate change. And it has designed and produced a modern soil bricks producing machine and put it into operation.

Indeed, an integrated approach to designing and building healthy, comfortable, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly houses are important to mitigate climate change. Currently, states across the globe, regardless of their economic growth, development, and technological advancement, have been striving to build houses that primarily focus on developing sustainable sites, increasing water and energy efficiency, reducing waste and emissions, using eco-friendly building materials, and improving indoor environmental quality



more efficiently than conventional designs.

Taking the importance of environmentally friendly and modern housing technologies into account, the University has completed a prototype of a modern interlocking block/brick manufacturing technology and is conducting a trial run.

Haramaya University Technology Institute Managing Director Engineer Hamza Ahmednur said that the University carries out problem-solving researches at the request of the Oromia State and others and conducts a survey on its own.

Hence, at present, the design, methodology, and prototype work of brick manufacturing technology has been completed and the

communities, surrounding the University, could use it to solve their brick problems, he explained.

In fact, the modern bricks production machine enables the University not only to fulfill its social responsibility to the local community but also helps small and medium-sized industries to produce and market the technology.

Most countries including local governments, via their higher institutions, are taking action to incorporate green building techniques into their planning and policy framework as a base for resource efficiency, a green economy, and sustainable housing development programs.

Accordingly, rapid technological research and development as well as utilization of the developed technology are mentioned among the values held by the institute. Therefore, this technology was developed by the technology Institute, he clarified.

He also recalled that clay content soil can be found in many areas of Ethiopia. Since the trial work of the technology is completed, it is possible to use the technology not only in the Haramaya University area but in all areas where clay soil content is located.

Furthermore, this modern brick production technology will create job opportunities

for many citizens. Because the technology is manual, easy to use, does not consume electricity, and is free from environmental pollution, making it is ideal for any individual to make different types of construction houses using the technology.

In Ethiopia, many brick machines have been imported, but due to cost and other various reasons, they could not be accessible to the communities.

Therefore, the machine, which has been designed, is made and put into operation, it will be easily accessible to the communities, and help to solve the problems faced by them. Moreover, the production of the machine in the country will help to avoid imported machines, brings technology transfer, and save foreign exchange.

If the machine is imported, it will cost up to 200,000 Birr, but this machine does not cost more than 20,000 Birr. It is also a modern technology that is time-saving, pollution-free, easily transported by donkey or cart, and does not require complicated knowledge.

It disclosed that University has been working with the relevant stakeholders to solve the problems of the society through product design and research, design, methodology, and prototype.



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## Renewed provocation counterproductive to T-TPLF's

BY ABDUREZAK MOHAMMED

ADDIS ABABA – Having rejected the peace alternatives offered by the federal government and triggering another round of war, the terrorist TPLF is setting itself up for disappearance, the Government Communication Service (GCS) said.

In a press briefing he held yesterday, GCS State Minister Kebede Desisa noted that, the criminal faction is causing the renewed conflict and invaded some parts of the Amhara State by an age-old human wave military tactic. “Let alone deploying underage children as of now, the T-TPLF could not win against the Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF) whilst looting the mechanized weaponry and capability of the Northern Command, where most of the Ethiopian armaments had been stationed.”

In line with the government’s direction to solving problems peacefully, the ENDF is still on the defensive, not on the offensive position and the international community should exert pressure on the terrorist TPLF to come into a negotiation table, the state

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## Experts slam silence on T- TPLF's belligerence

BY TAMERU REGASA

ADDIS ABABA- Some Western powers' silence on the terrorist TPLF child soldieries recruitment, execution of grave humanitarian violation in the neighboring states and obstruct national dialogue is something worth condemnation, social science experts said.

Speaking to local media, social science experts said that the radical element has been committing atrocious crimes in Amhara and Afar states and obstructing the delivery of humanitarian supplies and looting the resources of aid agencies that have been operating in the Tigray State.

Accordingly, Political Science Lecturer at Dire- Dawa University Surafel Getachew said some Western organizations including their media have not condemned these crimes instead they are exerting due pressure on the federal government. “Considering UNICEF, it is established to protect the



Surafel Getachew

rights of children; however it keeps silent when the T-TPLF deploys children for active conflicts.”

Surafel stressed that 570 thousand liters of the WFP's fuel intended for the delivery of essential life- saving humanitarian assistance have been seized by the criminal clique. “However, there is no international organization that has condemned this evil act.”



Worku Yekob(PhD)

Senior Researcher at the Institute of Foreign Affairs Worku Yekob (PhD) said for his part that most of the western organizations have been siding with the T-TPLF to weaken Ethiopia and achieve their political interest under the guise of humanitarian support.

He called on the public to uphold their collaboration with the government in safeguarding their own peace and fight the western-backed TPLF propaganda.

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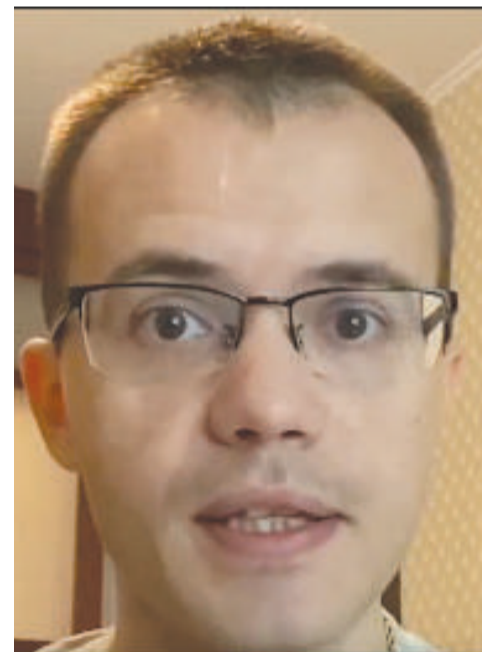


## # TPLF is The Cause twitter campaign hits new record

BY TSEGAYE TILAHUN

ADDIS ABABA –The #TPLFisTheCause twitter campaign that Ethiopians in home have launched to denounce the terrorist TPLF's triggering of a military conflict and

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