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Aregawi Berhe (PhD)



Nebiyu Schul-Mikael

T-TPLF's belligerence turns fully genocidal: Tigray politicians

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA – The Terrorist TPLF's triggering of another round of war is a genocidal attempt to destroy the remaining people of Tigray, ethnic Tigray politicians said, adding the criminal faction is committing war crimes by recruiting underage children and the elderly.

Speaking to The Ethiopian Herald, Tigray Democratic Party (TDP) President Aregawi Berhe (PhD) stated that the

renewed conflict is a clear indication that the T-TPLF continues to believe in a military solution and fully disregard the plight of innocent civilians. The terrorist enterprise is forcibly conscripting the Tigray youth for another round of aimless and destructive war with a view to quenching its thrust for political power.

Noting the federal government's unwavering commitment for resolving differences amicably, Aregawi highlighted that the outlawed group is employing the

age-old human wave strategy by using children and the elderly as human shields.

The criminals have been terrorizing the people of Tigray and forced each family to contribute at least one child to warfronts which is a clear violation of international laws and norms. Accordingly, the global media and other concerned bodies need to play their role in exposing the group's crimes and force it to desist provocations.

"It is a visible evidence that those children
See T-TPLF's Page 3



Journalist Fitsum Tsegaye

Embedded journalist unmask T-TPLF's heinous crimes

BY ABDUREZAK MOHAMMED

ADDIS ABABA – Terrorist TPLF's war embedded journalist reaffirmed that the thug has ignited the third round of war at the Kobo front and exposed the group's

See Embedded journalist Page 3

Tedros needs advice to speak as Int'l civil servant: David Shinn

- Terrorist's external mouthpiece silent on Amhara, Afar atrocities

BY STAFF REPORTER

ADDIS ABABA - Former US Ambassador to Ethiopia David H. Shinn said as an international civil servant, the WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom (PhD) needs to be well-advised to avoid making statements on matters that are not within the purview of the WHO.

In an interview on email with *The Ethiopian Herald* that he responded on Sept. 17, 2022, Shinn said on several occasions, he has spoken even on matters that are not directly related to the WHO.

On those issues, including atrocities, in Ethiopia that are within the jurisdiction of the WHO, it is important that he pursue a balanced approach, he added.

The WHO Head has been making various

See Tedros needs Page 3



Amb. Jorge Lefebre Nicolas

Commission's "report" attests unrelenting pressure on Ethiopia: Cuban Ambassador

BY STAFF REPORTER

ADDIS ABABA- Cuban Ambassador to Ethiopia Jorge Lefebre Nicolas said the recent report of the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on

See Commission's "report" Page 3

News

Rethinking Nat'l tourism activities vital to unlock sector's potentials : Ministry

◆ Assosa marks 42nd World Tourism Day

BY MENGESHA AMARE

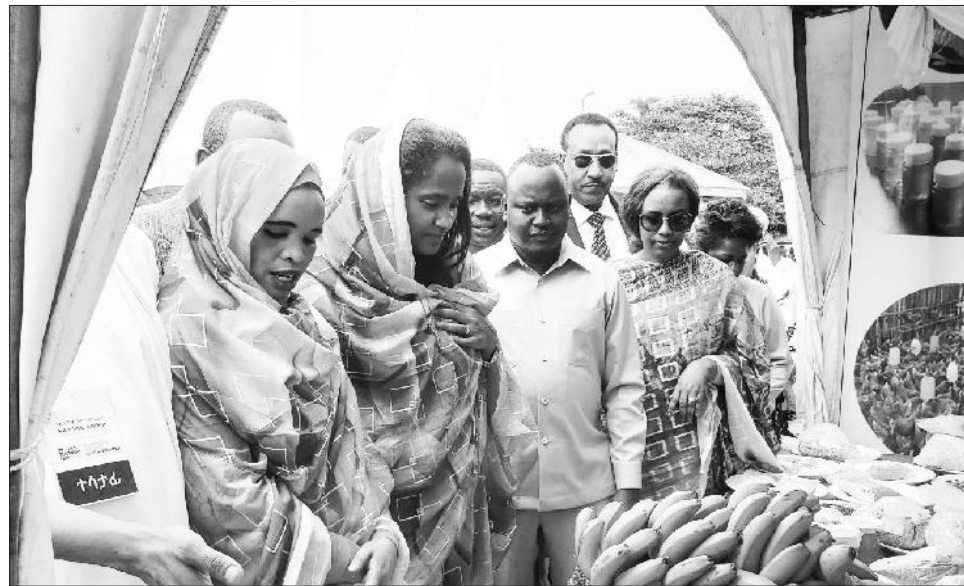
ASSOSA- Ethiopia needs to transform the traditional way of running tourism activities into a modern one so as to garner benefits it deserves out of the tourism sector, Ministry of Tourism said.

Speaking at an event organized to mark the 42nd World Tourism Day in Assosa Town yesterday under the theme: "Rethinking Tourism", Tourism Minister Ambassador Nassisie Chali stated that Ethiopia is highly endowed with numerous tourism potentials despite its low level of benefiting from the smokeless industry mainly due to the traditional means of utilizing tourism potentials and other related natural and manmade factors so far.

She noted that the sector has helped the country boost people to people ties and balance climate change apart from providing countries with economic and social benefit thereby building Ethiopia's image.

Talking about the advantages of marking the day in Assosa, She pointed out that the celebration would also be instrumental in grabbing the attention of citizens towards the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), raising public awareness about tourism and the numerous tourist attraction sites in the country in general and in the state in particular.

She further elucidated that so Ethiopia has



not yet benefited out of the tourism sector so far as it deserves, the rethinking or new approach would help the nation come up with paradigm shift thereby transforming the way the tourism sector has been run for years.

Benishangul Gumuz State Chief Administrator Ashadli Hassen on his part stated that utilizing untapped resources properly and completing mega projects such as the GERD within the shortest time possible would help build the image of the country.

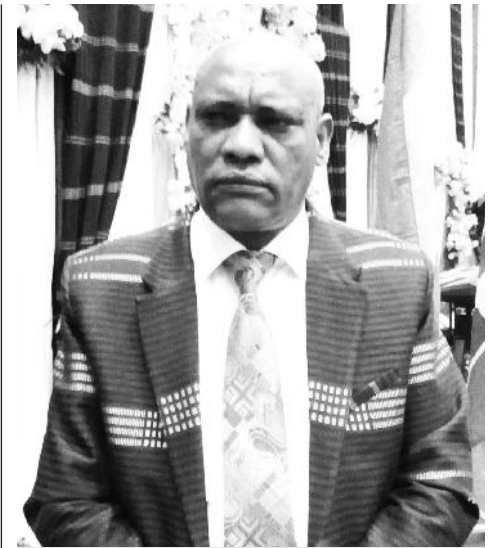
"Timely completion of new projects like Gorgora, Wonchi and Koisha is also of

instrumental in making our country affluent apart from building its image."

The celebration of the day in the state is indispensable in paving the way to effectively utilize tourism potentials and attracting investors towards it.

Senior officials, Harar and Dire Dawa administration mayors, religious leaders and the elderly as well as officials of various concerned sector offices had graced the event.

It was learnt that this year's World Tourism Day will be celebrated around the world in Bali, Indonesia on 17 September, 2022 with the theme of 'Rethinking Tourism'



State prioritizes latest construction tech

BY MISGANAW ASNAKE

HAWASA- The Sidama State Urban Development and Construction Bureau announced that it has started its operation in a new structure through utilizing latest construction technologies towards making city more attractive and leading the sector in an advanced way.

Bureau Head Fosseha Fichola told *The Ethiopian Herald* that the state has now introduced a new structure that is being undertaken in order to bring new and advanced construction structure.

Accordingly, from now on any road or houses construction will be undertaken in a new form to create attractive and advanced construction system in the state's cities and towns.

"The sector was highly exposed to corruption and known with complex bureaucratic problems. However, we are now undertaking new system to create a conducive construction environment and tackle such misconduct and corruption," he stated.

As to him, the state has prepared a new construction sector guiding policy based on federal urban development and construction ministry proclamation to achieve the state construction plan to make best and productive.

In the past, many projects were delayed and did not complete in schedule time but now such delayed projects are restarted to ensure good governance and create smooth environment to the public in general.

Currently, the state is providing good service to the public in construction sector and to accomplish projects timely, he said.

UNDP to share Ethiopia's Green Legacy with African countries

BY ESSEYE MENGISTE

ADDIS ABABA- UNDP has planned to share Ethiopia's Green Legacy initiative experiences with about 10 other African countries thereby making the initiative pan-African, UNDP said.

Speaking on behalf of Ahunna Eziakonwa, Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Africa at the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Alhaji Fall described UNDP has planned to share the green legacy initiatives for other African countries.

Alhaji Fall made the remarks during a high-level UN side event about Ethiopia's Green Legacy initiative and its role in battling climate change and easing the socio-economic crisis. And he said the Green Legacy initiative as a stepping stone to a better future for Ethiopia.

He applauded Ethiopia for setting the pace in combating climate change and for fostering community resilience.

At the event, the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Demeke Mekonnen thanked UNDP for its partnership with



Ethiopia and called on support for the Initiative from bilateral and multilateral development partners.

As to Demeke supporting the Green Legacy Initiative have enormous advantages for national, regional, and international adaptation and mitigation of the harmful effects of climate change, biodiversity preservation, combating desertification, ensuring green development, ensuring food security, and achieving the SDGs.

Ethiopia's Green Legacy Initiative strengthens regional cooperation and will ultimately serve as a crucial platform to ensure peace and stability in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa, Demeke said.

Ethiopia provided high-quality seedlings of preference to some of its neighbors last year and plans to do the same in the years to come in an effort to promote regional cooperation and combat the negative effects of climate change, Demeke said.

News

EMI steps up efforts in fighting climate change

BY MESERET BEHAILU

ADAMA –The short, medium, and long term climate change forecasting has been playing vital role in reducing the negative impacts of climate change on social and economic developments, Ethiopian Metrology Institute (EMI) said.

This was noted yesterday during discussion forum that was held under the theme: “National Climate Outlook Forum for Bega”

In his opening speech, EMI Director General Fetene Teshome said that EMI has been providing climate early warning, and forecasting of the climate to aware the citizens aiming at fostering the economic and social development in the Bega season through utilizing the relevant information.

Mines Minister Advisor, Motuma Mekassa

on his part said that EMI has been striving to fight the bad climate change through providing relevant information for the people on the right time. “Though EMI has been working to bring significant impact in fighting against climate change, stakeholders and media should have responsible to aware the people in this end.”

He further stated that the climate outlook has multifaceted significances such as expanding industrialization, agriculture, health, education, aviation industry, energy, and water through providing advice service and solution. Therefore, the sectors, which expose to climate change, should make close ties with EMI to realize the expected result across the nation.

Approached by the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA), International Livestock Research Center Senior Researcher Tefri Demissie

(PhD) said that: “We are focusing on the way to develop the weather forecasting system, adopting the forecasting system, capacity building, and gathering the relevant data to safe the community from climate change impacts.”

He further noted that the World Bank (WB) has assisted 6 million USD for Ethiopia to strengthen its metrology system. As part of this, the WB has allocated some 60 million USD for Africa to realize similar activities. Ethiopia, Kenya, and Zambia from East Africa and Mali, Ghana and Senegal from West Africa benefited from WB assistant to develop the metrology system.

On the occasion, it was announced that Somalia state, South Oromia, and Sidama will have get huge rainfall in the Bega season (from October up to January) as they secure a total of 250 mm rainfall.

T-TPLF's...

are not even able to hold the weapon given to them, let alone fighting with the Ethiopian joint forces. Apart from using children as a cannon fodder, the T-TPLF continues committing atrocious crimes on the civilian population of Amhara and Afar.”

For the former Head of Prosperity Party's

Office in the Tigray State Nebiyu Sehul-Mikael, the radical clique incited another round of war and ordering the people of Tigray including children, elders and others to join the war efforts simply to eliminate them from the earth.

“The intention of the T-TPLF is merely to destroy the existing generation of Tigray and they have no care for the wellbeing of civilians under their control. The recent call-for-arms is a failure sign of the group's

ill-conceived aim.”

From the beginning, the war is incited by the leaders of the radical element and their close associates who could benefit from the situation and it is not the interest of the people of Tigray. “The war is not a public war; rather it is the interest of a few elites to achieve their hidden interest and that is why they are engaged in a forceful conscription of underage children and the elderly,” Nebiyu emphasized.

Tedros needs...

statements that most commentators said would go utterly in contradiction to his position at the helm of the prestigious world's health body. In his tweeter post on June 28, Tedros shared picture of child soldiers which also the New York Times published. A NYT photo captioned as ‘highly motivated young recruits’ is credited to Finbarr O'Reilly that outraged many for posting underage children recruited for war purposes.

Also, on June 30, 2022, he shared a post that six million people in Tigray have been sealed off in Tigray. The Government of Ethiopia, however, declared an indefinite humanitarian truce aimed at facilitating the delivery of aids to Tigray state. Tedros tweeted as there was shortage of supplies in

the region.

However, facts have it that only within a year, several food and non-food items were transported to the region. “240.73 Metric tons of food, 52,645metric tons of non-food items, 258 metric tons of medicines 7,275 metric tons of fertilizers, 2.9billion Birr in cash for admin. cost, 1 million 749 thousand 722 liters of fuel were delivered to the regions,” according to government statement.

A July 15, 2022 interview on BBC Focus on Africa with WFP official indicated that Famine in Ethiopia's conflict-hit Tigray region has been averted, says WFP Director for Northern Ethiopia Adrian van der Knaap speaking to the BBC Focus on Africa.

In a dramatic turn of events days after the DG blamed the government for fuel shortage

in Tigray, the terrorist forces looted over half a million liters of fuel from WFP depot in Tigray.

Also, despite the ransacking and destructions of health facilities in Amhara and Afar states by the terrorist group, the DG has muted himself in what once again could prove his affinity with the terrorist clique.

It is to be recalled that T-TPLF has destroyed and looted over 500 health facilities and 1,706 health posts in Amhara. Similarly, out of the total of 414 medical institutions, only 94 health facilities, two hospitals, and 31 health centers are functional, which means merely 22% of the health institutions could deliver service in Afar. However, the WHO Chief has not yet uttered a word about the above mentioned inhumane actions and atrocities of the terrorist group.

Embedded ...

unspeakable atrocities as well.

Speaking to local media, Journalist Fitsum Tsegaye who has recently surrendered to the Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF) stated that though they are the ones who renewed the conflict ignoring peace alternatives by the Ethiopian government, the T-TPLF's officials are now shouting as if they are victims.

He added that he has surrendered to the ENDF, understanding that the war is purposeless and started by the group for its

own benefit only.

According to him, the ethnic-Tigray youth do not believe that war brings a solution, they are being forced by the terrorist group to go to the battlefield. And also, many parents have been detained for being an unwillingness to send their children to war.

Many youths were shot for questioning the commanders about the purpose of the conflict and retreating on the battlefield, he said adding that commanders of the group declared that any ethnic-Tigray soldier who is not prepared to die for Tigray and retreated on the battlefield should be shot.

He further indicated that there are many youths who have been killed and arrested for demanding the purpose of the war and protesting it.

Fitsum called up on the people of Tigray to fight against the terrorist group which has been causing loss of lives and property damage in Tigray. He added that the people of Tigray cannot face a crueller group than the T-TPLF.

He also insisted that the parents have to ask whereabouts of their children. “And, the youths of Tigray, who are dying for the aimless war, must surrender to the ENDF and save their lives.”

Commission's "report"...

Ethiopia (ICHREE) is part of the continued coercive measures being imposed by some interest groups on Ethiopia.

Some interest groups are imposing a variety of sanctions on Ethiopia to bend the nation to their will forcefully, but Ethiopia is in a position to withstand the pressures and step up its development endeavors, the Ambassador told FBC.

Referring to the UN's August 22 report, he indicated the report is not merely a document but also a political tool aimed at putting more pressure on Ethiopia. Some powers in the guise of the UN are acting in an unfair manner and devising such documents only to achieve their political objectives.

As to the Ambassador, the continued pressure from some groups on Ethiopia could prove counterproductive and bring more social and economic complications to the country. “Sanctions in my home country Cuba are devastating tools that put the livelihood of the people in a catastrophic situation. And the sanctions imposed by the U.S. on Ethiopia only affect the livelihood of poor Ethiopians.”

“Cuba opposes any undue pressure on Ethiopia from any interest group,” the Ambassador said, reiterating the commitment of his country to bolster the longstanding and historical relationship with Ethiopia in the bilateral and international arenas. Cuba sent more than 15,000 soldiers to Ethiopia to support the latter's war against the invading Somalia forces under Siad Barre in 1976-77 and hundreds of Cubans paid noble sacrifices to help safeguard the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ethiopia.

Noting thousands of Ethiopian students who pursued their higher education in Cuba are now serving their homeland in various careers, he expressed his country's commitment to support Ethiopia in various areas of cooperation. Cuba also wants to take lessons from Ethiopia in the coffee development sector.

In a similar development, led by Côte d'Ivoire, the African Group representing the continent at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), has voiced its rejection of the so-called “investigation report” of the ICHREE.

Speaking on the occasion, Côte d'Ivoire's Counselor Konan Francois Kouame stated that the Africa Group understands the ICHREE actually went beyond its mandate and made statements on things that are not within its remit. “We would like to recall that the protection and promotion of human rights is a responsibility that lies first and foremost within states; and that the international mechanisms should play a complementary role but not substitute the national mechanisms.”

The Group further urged the Commission not to undermine the measures of accountability undertaken by the Ethiopian government. The Group also encourages the Commission to use advantage to investigate the abuses committed in the northern part of Ethiopia that are not covered by the Joint mechanism and to ensure that accountability is upheld.

It is to be recalled that Ethiopia and many countries including China, Russia, Cuba, Belarus, North Korea, Venezuela and African countries that participated in the United Nations Human Rights Council 51st Session have rejected the ICHREE's report, citing its partiality and for being a politically-motivated one.

Opinion

Perverting media objectives: new threat for the globe

BY LAKACHEW ATINAFU

Tenets of journalism has been bite and teased every here and there for the media industry has served only those the only livers on the deaths of others who do not give leap service for massacres and atrocities of thousands innocent poor as mind seemed to be professional slat as one can see the solemn state funeral of queen Elizabeth as if she is going to end the era of injustice.

These guys are playing their card well in deceiving Africa tying minds with superstitious rope and for one's surprise they tend to pick the feeling of pity and compassion. Are they humans? Of course they are. But what is the factor to label some is human and the other is not.

The tendency to eat the other had been considered as something special and wisdom. To execute the sin in formal ways the Europeans devised mechanisms deceiving the Supreme Being and the intrinsic moral using media grapevines the current modus operandi to sustain oppressions.

It was a universally accepted fact that the federal government of Ethiopia has tried every effort to reverse T-TPLFS's aggression through peaceful means though the effort aborted to bear fruit due to the stubborn stance of the former and the International Community (IC) is well aware of the course but continued airing to defend the interest of certain group violating the tenets of journalism.

Leaders of Africa are currently on the alert and persuade the hypocrites to refrain from their ill deeds and escape to the pavilion of justice in time other ways the planet would rotate and revolve out of its axis and orbit which is an apocalypse for the existence.

According to analysis of Yonas Biru (PhD), the IC has been trying to bring an end to the senseless war. It has also generously provided humanitarian aid to mitigate the crisis that the war has wrought.

For this the government of Ethiopia has expressed gratitude. In the meantime, the international community's both sidesism has created false equivalency. This has not only freed the TPLF from accountability.

Even its most outrageous use of child soldiers has not received the unequivocal condemnation it deserves. The international community has turned a blind eye to the TPLF's brutal use of over 100,000 child soldiers. Far from condemning the TPLF's war crime, some international media outlets described child soldiers as "highly motivated young recruit In New York, on 20 September 2022 77th Ordinary Session of the United Nations General Assembly Speech by SEM Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal, Acting President of the African Union under the theme: Crunching Moment: Transformative Solutions to Interdependent Challenges

the acting president conveyed across messages in verbal irony to those chairing to navigate the world and better of abusing humanity.

The African began to pull trigger to address the white fake that Africa is on the alert for everything that the western are busy addressing ill wind to the ears of humanity and manage to live unnaturally.

The chair of Africa said terrorism gaining ground on the continent is not just an African affair. It is a global threat that is the primary responsibility of the Council, guarantor of the collective security mechanism, under the Charter of the Organization.

Also, we invite the Council to better engage with us in the fight against terrorism in Africa, with better mandates and more consistent means. Nearly eighty years after the birth of the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods Institutions, it is time to establish fairer, more inclusive and more adaptable to the realities of our time.

It's time to overcome the reluctance and dismantle the narratives that keep Africa locked on the margins of the ruling circles.

It is time to stand up for Africa's just and legitimate claim on Security Council reform as reflected in Ezulwini Consensus.

Africans are on the spring board to and began to quest the conspiracies and on the path to stand on legs that were technically crippled by nations fear neither God nor moral that end up nation's impotence to dwell naturally.

When writing journalistically, one has to take into account not only one's audience, but also the tone in which the piece is delivered, as well as the ABCs of news writing: Accuracy, Brevity, and Clarity.

A media objective is a clear, succinct statement of a goal. It tells what the media plan should accomplish in very specific, often measurable terms. The rationale supports the media objective with marketing facts – it tells why the objective makes sense. It is a common courtesy to the reader to label each objective. These 3 objectives include building relationships, raising awareness, and ultimately growing sales as a result. Let's dive into each of these and learn more about how you can implement them to successfully launch a media relations campaign.

According to the perception and value judgment of Yonas, on August 24, the Tigryan People's Liberation Front (TPLF) waged a war against the Ethiopian National Defense Force (ENDF) for the third time. The front lodged its first war that it dubbed a "lightning strike" on November 4, 2020, with aim to "demobilize the federal forces and take control of 70 to 80 percent of the nation's military fire power." In response, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed ordered the Ethiopian National Defense Force (ENDF) to restore the constitutional

order. on June 28, 2021, the Ethiopian government declared a unilateral ceasefire.

The TPLF dismissed the gesture and informed CNN that it "will not be a part of such a joke" and invaded two neighboring regions: Amhara and Afar. Jeffrey Feltman, former US envoy to the Horn of Africa rightly noted TPLF's war "widened the conflict and misery into the neighboring states of Amhara and Afar." On November 9, 2021, The Amnesty International (AI) condemned the TPLF's atrocities that "potentially amounts to crimes against humanity and defy morality or any iota of humanity."

On March 24, 2022, having defeated and pushed the TPLF forces out of Amhara and Afar regions the government of Ethiopia decided not to pursue the fleeing Tigryan forces. Instead, it released from prison high-level TPLF officials who were captured during the first round of war. Subsequently, it declared its second unilateral truce to thwart the humanitarian crisis and pave the way for a peaceful resolution. The TPLF agreed to a "cessation of hostilities." Sadly, that did not last long.

The TPLF used the lull period to rearm and forcefully recruit new fighters. Alex De Waal, TPLF's advisor, revealed this, stating: "Sudan has quietly facilitated TDF supplies and allowed the TDF to recruit refugees, including a unit of Tigryan soldiers that had been serving as UN peacekeepers in Sudan prior to the outbreak of the war and who refused to return to Ethiopia at the end of their deployment." Speaking of rearming Tigray by foreign sources, William Davidson of the International Crisis Group said there is "pretty solid evidence."

On August 24, the UN World Food Program (WFP) announced the "TPLF forces stole 12 fuel tankers from its warehouse in Mekelle," the capital of Tigray. The same day, breaching the ceasefire, they used the fuel to launch its third war to invaded Amhara and Afar regions for the second time.

David Beasley, the head of WFP, condemned the looting as "outrageous and disgraceful." The UN Secretary-General's office stressed the TPLF's action "will impact humanitarian operations," such as "the distribution of food, fertilizer, and other emergency relief items." The head of the USAID, Samantha Powers, characterized TPLF's action as "deeply cruel."

The international community is cognizant that this is not the first time TPLF diverted humanitarian aid to its war adventures. In August 2021, USAID officials complained US donated high-energy biscuits that were intended to starving children were confiscated by the TPLF fighters. A month later, the UN lamented the TPLF stole 428 UN aid trucks. The TPLF's recent crimes are not circumstantial transgressions, but reflections of its character that is deeply

embedded in its culture that has earned it a terrorist designation in the 1980s by the US government.

So, what is more to alleviate tension in east Africa and get rid of the western conspiracy first demands to sustain the age long harmony among the diverse nations putting in place answering queries of various elements and affording the basic needs.

The writer of this price seconds the recommendation of the scholar Yonas for termination of conflict and war which is paraphrased as follows-The government of Ethiopia has neither interest nor constitutional authority to concede to the TPLF's demands. The priority must be ending all hostilities between the federal government and the Tigray region. Once this is resolved, all regional governments have constitutional means to raise any political matter through the political framework or through the Independent National Dialogue Commission established by the National Parliament.

Finally, the issue of restoring services such as banking must be a priority for the Ethiopian government, provided certain conditions are met. It is to be remembered that months before the TPLF was forced to relinquish power in 2018, it printed billions of Birr and sent a plane load of it to Tigray. It later used this stolen currency to destabilize the country, financing different subversive forces and converting the ill-gotten Birr to US dollars and Euros through the black currency market. The government of Ethiopia was forced to change its currency because of it.

Restoring the banking services requires transferring billions of the new currency to the TPLF. The government of Ethiopia has no reason to believe the TPLF will not use it for nefarious reasons just as it has done with WFP's fuel, UN's Trucks and USAID's high-energy biscuits.

The international community must come to terms that the TPLF has lost credibility not only with the people of Ethiopia but also with the international community. An institution condemned as "disgraceful" by the UN and "deeply cruel" by the US cannot bring peace in the country or in the greater horn.

The international community must pressure TPLF leaders to accept a safe passage to a life of exile in an agreed safe haven with the following conditions: (i) the safe haven will not be a border nation; (ii) they will not be allowed to leave the safe haven for five years; (iii) they agree not to be involved in Ethiopian or Horn of Africa politics; and (iv) they agree to be extradited to Ethiopia if they violate any of the above three conditions. That will reset the peace process and end the humanitarian crisis.

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

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The Ethiopian Herald

Editorial

UNSC's reform essential for equivalent representation

Issues of some countries, especially of Ethiopia have been tabled several times on the UN Security Council's forum mostly related to hydropower dam construction which is not security issue. It is betrayal for sovereign nations' issues to be treated in the absence of their representatives. Had it not been for the efforts of some balanced member states in the SC, painful decisions would have been passed against Ethiopia.

African, Caribbean and Latin American countries have been repeatedly asking for equivalent representation in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) that requires its reform.

The geopolitical realities have changed drastically since the composition of the Security Council was established in 1945 but the council has changed very little. Presently, the SC is the only UN organ whose decisions are legally binding. Yet its very legitimacy, dominated as it is by the five permanent, veto-wielding members who happened to be on the winning side in the Second World War, is increasingly called into question. It is hardly surprising, then, that this anachronistic and insufficiently representative body has been the object of more recommendations for reform than any other UN entity.

SC reform has, in fact, has been under continuous review within the UN General Assembly ever since the GA's establishment in 1993 of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council.

Africa, home of more than 1.4 billion population, has no even one permanent representative at the Security Council. All the time others have been making decisions on behalf and against its interests. There is zero chance for Africa to oppose imbalanced decisions and sanctions against its member states. Though there are 10 rotating states elected to two-year terms few from Africa, they have no veto-wielding to

defend interests of over fifty member states of the continent.

That is why they are asking for permanent representation at the SC. On the 67th Assembly's General Debate, taking place at UN Headquarters in New York from 20 to 26 September, 2022, for instance, African ministers called for expanding the Security Council to include permanent representation for their continent and stressed the vital role of socio-economic development in ensuring peace.

"The working methods of the Security Council must be revised to ensure democratization, and its membership must be expanded to include new permanent and non-permanent members of the developing world, particularly Africa, the cradle of civilization," Algeria's Foreign Minister, Mourad Medelci, said in his [remarks](#) to the Assembly's General Debate.

Truly, it is the time for Africa not to be represented continentally only by one permanent seat, but regionally. Ethiopia is among the leading nations that repeatedly asking for the permanent representation of the continent.

Commendably, US President, Joe Biden also called for reforms to the UN Security Council (UNSC) to make it more inclusive and better equipped to respond to global challenges. He said the number of countries who sit on the 15-member body should be increased.

"We have long supported permanent seats for countries in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean," Biden told the General Assembly.

Thus, as America is one of the decision makers and main contributor to the organization, it must walk the talk by taking pragmatic action to reform the SC. Now is the time to reform the Security Council to better serve global population fairly especially, those in the developing world.

Opinion

T-TPLF, backers never deceive any one anymore

BY SHILOMO MOLLA

As the issue is very close to my heart, I am following the situational in Ethiopia. I understand that the Ethiopian government is fully aware of the dangers posed on Ethiopia as a nation, and the threat to the horn of Africa as a region by the defunct tribal based political unit calling itself "Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF)." In this context, members of the global community need to recognize the threats that countries in the horn of Africa are facing, especially the dangers posed by domestic rebel forces and their foreign terrorist partners.

All international actors engaged in the Ethiopian peace process fully acknowledge that the TPLF reignited the conflict on 24 August, 2022. Yet they remain silent when the TPLF continues to deceive the international community by using such messages as a means to buy some time to prepare for another offensive. It has been in the public domain that the TPLF recruited thousands of youth in Tigray region. A few days ago, TPLF representatives acknowledged this publicly claiming that they used the truce to reorganize their forces for the new offensive. The leaders of the rebel group stated that the main method of pursuing their political objectives would be to launch all round aggression. They were firing long range artillery and deploying fighters to advance to Amhara and Afar

regions. Then they started sending civilians as displaced people seeking humanitarian assistance when in fact they were using them as human waves and shields.

The statement by the TPLF on September 11, 2022 is definitely untruthful and misleading. TPLF is a master of deception; the group has been disseminating insincere statements in its history to mislead the global community. The TPLF recently announced disingenuously that it will accept the AU led peace process, while it started the third round offensive. Some of the global powers welcomed the statement without questioning the validity of the TPLF's declaration, which in actuality was an insincere call. Some opted to wittingly accept deception.

The TPLF has time and again categorically rejected the African Union-led peace efforts. The recent statement comprises preconditions on its acceptance of the African Union framework; but it was issued for propaganda purposes. TPLF should make it clear that it would unconditionally surrender to peace proposals by the federal government, which includes disarming and demobilizing its forces. The TPLF attempts to give the impression that they are relaying a positive message, while putting forth many conditions. The statement is also misleading signifying requirements about mediation and guarantee.

Last year, when the Federal Government declared unilateral ceasefire, TPLF forces escalated the conflict into the Amhara and Afar regions. They marched deeply over 400 kilometers into the Amhara region. The Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF), after chasing the TPLF away from the Afar and Amhara regions, had taken several confidence-building measures such as ending the state of emergency, not returning to the Tigray, releasing prisoners, declaring a humanitarian truce announcing a unilateral ceasefire, expediting humanitarian aid, establishing a Peace Committee, publicly announcing the members, and the Committee declaring that it has prepared a peace proposal.

For terrorist groups, deception and propaganda play a predominant role in their agitation process. The TPLF rejected and ridiculed all efforts made by the African Union to bring about peace. It blatantly violated the humanitarian truce. There is nothing sincere about its statement. It is now using its army of propagandists to claim that the region is under blockade, the region has no basic services. They depict an image that the TPLF was forced to break the siege and that humanitarian aid could not go through, and so forth. The fact is the TPLF blatantly violated the indefinite humanitarian truce. The letter that was sent to the UN is consistent with the strongly held TPLF position of rejecting a peaceful resolution to the

conflict.

There are a series of reports which revealed that the TPLF uses the deception method cunningly. TPLF has continued its attack on different fronts and committed significant harm to the adjacent regions. Thousands of civilians have been victims of extra-judicial killing by TPLF forces, many civilians were inflicted with bodily harm, and many civilians were treated inhumanely. Many were exposed to various forms of sexual violence. The scale of the property damages, destruction, and looting inflicted by TPLF forces is beyond measure. Many people are still displaced from their homes.

TPLF has posed a danger to the country by conspiring with foreign actors. It has put the entire nation in danger. The Government must discharge its legitimate duty to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country, and the safety and livelihoods of its people. The Government remains in a defensive position. Terrorist groups are adamant to accept peace, TPLF can't be an exception. We don't take the call for peace at face value, TPLF, as a terrorist unit, would not be willing to see a stable and unified Ethiopia.

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

Art & Culture



Citizens-government's chemistry in ensuring peaceful, blissful, colorful *Meskel & Irecha*

BY A STAFF REPORTER

We are found at a juncture when internal and external enemies of Ethiopia have exhaustively unleashed their power to fructify the heinous plan they chalked out to derail the country's surge forward.

Turn by turn and in synchronicity; they are launching upfront war, terrorism, diplomatic pressures, and propaganda campaigns. It is important to understand that, as per the nature of the attacks, it is the responsibility of all Ethiopians to foil such attacks targeting the country.

Including Addis all major cities of the nation must watch things with pelted eyes to parry to dos the Terrorist TPLF has in store for a nasty surprise as things are exposed in the bogeyman's recent leaked document of wrecking down a country that boasts ancient

civilization and time-old unity in diversity.

Obviously the terrorist group and connivers could put Addis top on their target list. Hence, as never before, residents of the town are expected to work hand-in-glove with the City Administration in warding off heinous plans.

In the coming weeks colorful Addis will mark the celebration of *Meskel* (the finding of the true cross) and *Irecha* in a manner that transfix tourists. As the holidays are outdoor celebrations people in droves pour out into the streets taking the vibe to a higher scale. The eve of *Meskel* called *Demera* is the day a bonfire is set ablaze.

In as much as there are citizens eagerly looking forward to the day that promises spiritual nourishment and that serves occasions for soul-searching, there are sadists that aim at attaining wrong political

objectives and busy in counting down days.

Here it is appropriate to recall that the Terrorist TPLF was threatening that as it started a chaos in Addis it would cap it off in Addis. It is crucial to note that in executing its diabolic ends Terrorist TPLF will not bat an eye from clicking with groups of similar nature like OLF Shene. Via people-and-government chemistry the chimera's motives of marring peace in Addis and rocking a nation were arrested. The good job has to continue.

Residents of Addis, organizing themselves in groups, are guarding their surroundings on top of similar activities. Undeterred by the chilling cold of the night they are looking four fifth columnists, whom they hand over to police up on capture. It was via such harmony the previous threat of Terrorist-TPLF went up in smoke. Residents of the

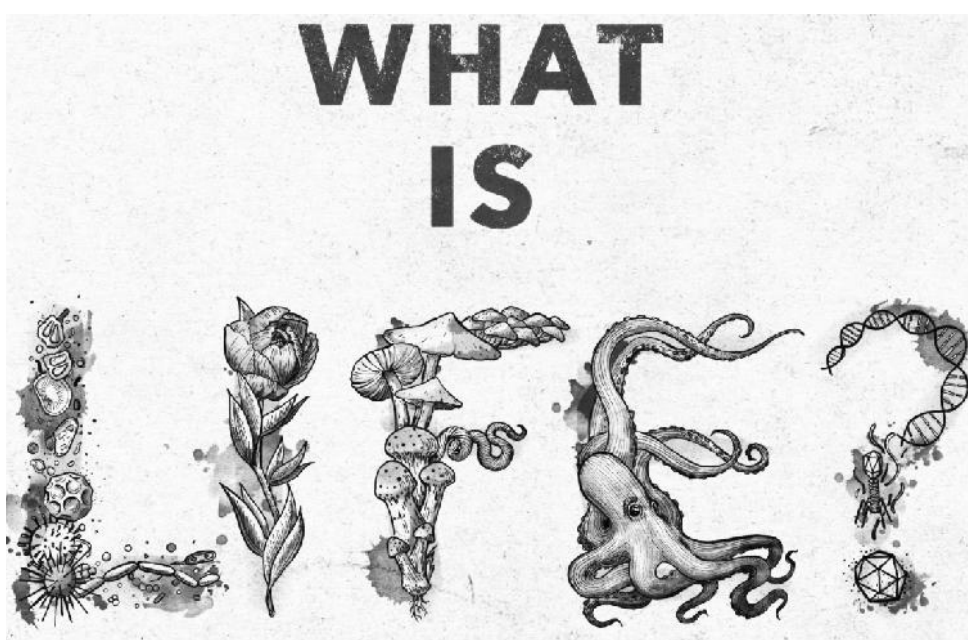
city have proved their own guard.

Consolidating the experience the city administration has set the ball rolling. Residents are resonating with it. What a timely action!

Though maintaining peace is the cardinal task of the government, the active participation of citizens, undoubtedly, consummates it with success.

Aside from the rearguard and support residents of the city are extending to The Ethiopian National Defense Force (ENDF), they are playing quite a role in ensuring a sustainable peace guarding their surroundings. This has to be replicated across the nation. The recent statement of the Mayor to EBC was in the same wavelength.

Wish you peaceful, blissful and colorful *Meskel* and *Irecha*.



What life is?

BY SENAIT G/HIWOT

Life is easy but i find it hard
 I set my self a high standard
 I become sad when i should smile
 I put myself in hurdles of desire
 A desire that may fill
 The emptiness that i feel
 I work on being fulfilled
 But it's a never ending road
 "See the glass half full rather than half empty"
 Is what i've been told
 But this expression is getting old
 My happiness doesn't last
 Because i have a traumatic past.

It could buy the priceless life

BY ALEM HAILU G/KRISTOS

Though life is priceless
 And invaluable,
 To be frank,
 The blood, one donates
 To a blood bank,
 An oasis in
 Life-devoid desert
 A delivering mother's
 An accident victim's
 A nation defending
 Soldier's life,
 Helps to regain back!

What a lofty task!
 What a lofty task!
 Donating the resilient blood
 Does not affect
 Our health's statuesque, so
 Once in a while
 Let us learn, to a nearby
 Blood bank to go!
 When sinks in the idea,
 Of such a holy venture
 Following suit
 All will nurture the culture!



Law & Politics

Denial and deception -TPLF's age-old tactics

BY SOLOMON WASSIHUN

With more than forty years of survival under its belt, the TPLF has perfected its art of deceptions, doubletalk, and denials. A recent statement it released on Ethiopian New Year's day illustrates this point. The statement was intentionally ambiguous and vague to avoid mentioning key issues. Analysts have been struggling to grasp its shadowy intents and contents. For instance, the TPLF statement deliberately failed to clarify whether it stands by or withdraws the demands it set as a prerequisite for negotiations.

As confusing as the statement may sound, it however unequivocally confirms the current state of the TPLF leaders. They are undoubtedly in a state of bewilderment following the catastrophic military setbacks they are suffering on several war fronts, which is apparently what they least expected. They seem to be torn between standing by their previous demand preconditions for negotiation, which is untenable, and the reality that peaceful dialogue is the only way out to ensure their survival as a political entity.

TPLF's New Year statement says "We are convinced that only through peaceful dialogue can we achieve a lasting solution to this tragic conflict." In contrast, the TPLF's classified policy statement written about three weeks earlier, before the restart of the war reads: "We strongly believe that lasting peace to our people is guaranteed by our arms, but not by the peace alternative offered by Abiy[the Premier]."

Before breaching the five-month humanitarian truce on August 25, TPLF military and political leaders were adamant that it is their military might that guaranteed the protection of their interests, and they would force the Ethiopian government to accept their demand either through dialogue or military power. In addition, the New Year's statement came 2 weeks after the TPLF reignited the conflict and suffered heavy military setbacks on several war fronts. A few days ago, on 16 September, the senior propagandist of TPLF, Getachew Reda, made a laughable sound bite boasting about the military might of TPLF saying: "We[TPLF] are one of the strongest militaries in the region now"

One can conclude that TPLF leaders are in denial of the reality on the ground. Reliable military intelligence sources revealed that TPLF has lost over half of the entire fighters population it had before the start of the third round of the war that began almost a month ago. However, TPLF propagandists are bragging that their military power is still in good shape. The denial of TPLF's top propagandist, Getachew Reda, reminds us of Comical Ali [al-Sahhaf], the Iraqi Information Minister under the Saddam regime, who repeatedly insisted that Iraq's army was on the verge

of a major victory as the U.S.-led coalition closed in on Baghdad.

Some analysts conclude that the TPLF's New Year's statement does not clearly indicate major shifts in its strategy to put an end to the northern Ethiopia conflict. A clearly stated change TPLF made is its acceptance of the AU as the lead mediator of the peace process. So it would not be surprising if the Ethiopian government did not make any new reactions to the statement beyond reiterating its readiness for negotiation without preconditions.

Interestingly enough, TPLF has now eaten its words it said a month ago, in which it degraded AU's unqualified institution as incompetent to play a leading role in the mediation of the peace talks over the northern Ethiopia conflict. Besides Getachew Reda has authored an article published in the monthly magazine, The African Report under the title "The African Union cannot deliver peace to Tigray."

Several Analysts agreed that TPLF's unusually soft-toned New Year's statement was just a part of the diplomatic stunt and media campaigns it devised to portray itself as a peace lover, which is the opposite of the reality on the ground. With that statement, the terror group wants to fool the international community that it was the chief brewer of the chaos in Ethiopia and the culprit for the ignition of all three rounds of the north Ethiopia conflict. What is more, just a day after it issued the New Year's statement, TPLF opened two new war fronts in Amhara and Afar regions.

If TPLF were genuinely and sincerely committed to the peaceful resolution of the conflict, it would directly reciprocate the Ethiopian government which requested to sit at the negotiating table without any precondition several months ago. Instead, TPLF tries to pretend as an initiator of peace by proposing an immediate cessation of hostilities after breaching the already existing five-month truce.

No other case in the recent global affair has revealed the decadence, biased and unethical practices of western mainstream media more than the north Ethiopia conflict. The western media as well as some Arabian media like Aljazeera yet again degraded their professional integrity by propagating TPLF's disingenuous and deceptive statement as a genuine peace offer without caring to cross-check the information they get from pro-TPLF sources and maintaining balance and neutrality.

TPLF leaders are deceiving the world with a series of statements they release continuously. But the truth is that TPLF's latest call for peace is not a genuine one made with full commitment and in

good faith. It is only meant to buy time to arrange its forces which are now in disarray following the counter-offensive measures by Ethiopian forces. A classified TPLF policy document published only 9 days before the reigniting of the war, and accessed by Ethiopian security forces recently says "The pretense of being committed to a peaceful resolution of the conflict is crucial for deceiving the international community. It should be underlined that it is one of the mechanisms we use to dominate information warfare and gain the support and favor of several influential powers."

Now almost a month after the start of the third round of the war, TPLF political and military leaders have been giving press conferences almost on daily basis. They are in a frenzy of anxiety, desperately calling out for their external supporters when they knew that their defeat is imminent. The

funny thing is the message TPLF leaders deliver on one day contradicts what they say the next day. That is not surprising, because TPLF propaganda is full of baseless falsehoods. And lies cannot be repeated consistently.

TPLF 's denial and deception have so far somehow helped it convince and maintain the confidence of its followers, and get away with several existential challenges. But as time goes by, and the truth begins to shine though, it would not be

possible to fabricate lies as easy as it used to be. The TPLF is now calling up on all Tigrayans regardless of their age to rise against the advancing liberating army of ENDF and allied forces. But the TPLF leaders do not seem to realize how many Tigrayans are tired of listening to the war drum and blaming the TPLF for the unparalleled loss and pain they endured over the last two years.

It appears that the moments of truth for TPLF are fast approaching. It is time for TPLF leaders to stop their deception and denial and face the truth and reality squarely. First of all, they must admit that TPLF does not equate to the Tigray people. In addition, TPLF can not, and does not have the legal mandate to represent the Tigray people. The situation in the battleground is fast changing. TPLF could even lose its last chance for negotiating ways to secure its political future. The agenda of the negotiation, if happen, would also change with the changing situation on the battlefield. Some analysts even are beginning to conclude that TPLF days are numbered. It is time, they say, for TPLF leaders to lean down and for the Tigray people to stand up, breaking the shackles of fear and terror of the TPLF regime once and for all.

TPLF could even lose its last chance for negotiating ways to secure its political future. The agenda of the negotiation, if happen, would also change with the changing situation on the battlefield

8th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8)

The Government of Japan pledged to increase support to \$30 Billion in the next 3 years for Africa. This figure also includes private investments

Japan engages in common challenges with Africa through the success of TICAD 8

By Ambassador HORIUCHI Toshihiko, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the African Union

TICAD, a multilateral forum led by Japan on the issues of Africa, has various fascinating features, which include the fact that it is best characterized as a free market where people and organizations with an interest in Africa can freely and openly exchange ideas, know-how and products, or as a public platform where you happen to meet what you want by serendipity. While TICAD 8 was held last month in Tunisia in the midst of physical restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was a great success.

TICAD 8 stressed the fundamental values of a more open, transparent and inclusive multilateralism towards the achievement of the AU's Agenda 2063 and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The initiative of the Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) was positively noted by African Heads of State and Government.

TICAD 8 closed with the adoption of the Tunis Declaration, which includes the following points, as measures to address various issues common to Africa in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the situation in Ukraine:

1) emphasizing "investment in people", 2) addressing Africa's climate security, 3) stressing the importance of development finance with an emphasis on macroeconomic stability of African countries, 4) promoting free trade, including the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), 5) commitment to achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC); 6) recognizing importance of good governance, democracy and the rule of law for African development; 7) expressing serious concern about the situation in Ukraine and its impact, calling for assistance for Africa to overcome rising food and energy prices caused by that situation, 8) accelerating the reform of the United Nations Security Council, including the support of full African



representation in the Council, and 9) maintaining and strengthening the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as the cornerstone of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime.

Japan aspires to continue as "a partner growing together with Africa". In order to realize that, Japan will continue to work hand in hand with Africa, aiming to jointly achieve the resilient Continent that Africa itself longs for.

How TICAD 8 can benefit Ethiopia's Economy, Society and Peace and Stability

By Ambassador ITO Takako, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

At TICAD 8, Japan and African countries discussed priority issues for development in Africa, focusing on three pillars: Economy, Society and Peace and Stability.

The realization of structural transformation for sustainable economic growth and social development form the first pillar. It is in line with the "Ten Years Development Plan of Ethiopia", and Japan will continue its efforts to promote private investment, technology transfer and industrial human resource development in Ethiopia, through our joint endeavour to further improving the investment environment in this country.

Around 300 participants in the Business Forum, which was one of the main events of TICAD 8, discussed how to strengthen business relations between Japan and Africa and a total of 92 MOUs were signed. Some of them were exclusively for Ethiopia, such as the MOU between Marubeni Corp. and Hadeed Trading to jointly study and develop Green Businesses. Others are effectively continental-wide, as in the case of the African Trade Insurance Agency (ATI) and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp. to collaborate in trade finance and ECA finance in Africa.

Focusing on "investing in people" and "the quality of growth", Japan wishes to expand the Kaizen movement from Ethiopia to across Africa through the TICAD Human Resource Development Center

for Business and Industry, the construction of which is expected to be completed in March 2023 in Addis Ababa.

Enhancing food security is also an important priority issue. While Japan has provided emergency humanitarian assistance through the WFP, we have also worked in Ethiopia to increase rice production through technical assistance, such as our support for the National Rice Research Institute in Ethiopia. We plan to double rice production in Africa by 2030 through the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD), while providing USD 300 million in support to strengthen food production in coordination with the AfDB's African Emergency Food Production Facility.

Building a resilient and sustainable society was the second pillar of TICAD 8. Education is an investment for the future, and Japan has long been providing technical assistance to improve mathematics and science education in Ethiopia, in addition to its support for school construction projects. Japan plans to improve access to quality education for four million girls in Africa, as well as to invite approximately 500 young Africans to Japan every year. To realize Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Ethiopia, Japan has been collaborating with other stakeholders in the Last One Mile Support for vaccine delivery, as well as providing mobile clinics to improve maternal care in remote areas. At TICAD 8, Japan pledged a further contribution of up to US\$ 1.08 billion to the Global Fund to support measures to counter infectious diseases.



Peace and stability in Africa was another focus of our discussions at TICAD 8. Japan wishes to continue our cooperation in the field of Peace Keeping Operations (PKOs) through the International Peace Support Training Institute (IPSTI), Peace Keeping Center (PKC) in Ethiopia, as a good example of the New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa (NAPSA) that was noted in TICAD 8. In addition, Japan has been considering to support the inclusive National Dialogue throughout Ethiopia. Japan will also assist Ethiopia's efforts to further consolidate democracy and promote the rule of law, and in this connection, the Japanese government announced in TICAD 8 the appointment of a Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa. I look forward to furthering our cooperation in the field of peace and stability in this country.

These initiatives mentioned above are only a part of the many commitments Japan made during TICAD 8. It is my heartfelt wish that the relationship between Japan and Ethiopia will be further strengthened through implementing the various initiatives and proposals presented at TICAD 8.

TICAD 8: Deepening Partnership between Japan and Africa



The eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8) was hosted in Tunisia on August 27th and 28th 2022 at the City of Culture Tunis. This was for the second time for TICAD to take place in Africa since Kenya hosted TICAD 6 in Nairobi in August 2016.

TICAD is a multilateral international conference launched in 1993 by the Government of Japan, to provide a platform to discuss and deal with issues relating to the development of the African

continent.

Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio addressed at the opening of the conference his deep commitment to the Japan-Africa partnership, focusing on "people" for sustainable and high quality growth that Africa itself aims to achieve.

The conference was headlined by Japan's deep-rooted TICAD narratives – partnership, ownership, and human security – with a heavy emphasis on Japan's initiatives of a Free and Open

Indo-Pacific region. These tenets underlined Prime Minister KISHIDA's TICAD 8 announcement that Japan will provide \$30 billion in public and private investment (which exceeds the \$20 billion commitment made at TICAD 7), and train 300,000 African youth and professionals in various areas including industry, agriculture and education over the next three years.

In the conference, Japanese private companies and African countries signed over 90 cooperation

agreements aiming at fostering mutual benefit though ensuring human security and sustainable development for all the African people, who are still facing various social and economic challenges.

To this end, TICAD remains as one of the major instruments for implementing the U.N. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the African Agenda 2063 with an emphasis on people and quality growth.

JICA's Role: Bringing TICAD commitments into action - Message from JICA Ethiopia Office

Japan is the first non-Western country that had achieved modernization and has a unique experience of developing while maintaining its own culture and values. This experience can serve as a reference for Africa, including Ethiopia, which has deep traditions, cultural and historical roots. Against this background, Japan has developed a positive and unique role in Africa's development over decades. The Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) is the most important and most visible feature of Japan's relationship with Africa.

In this regard, for nearly the past 30 years, the series of TICAD conferences has brought an extraordinary opportunity to further deepen mutual collaboration and development to higher levels. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), as the development arm of the Japanese government, has been one of the major players to implement the various commitments made in the TICAD process. This time again, JICA is responsible for implementing the majority of the 70 actions announced by the Japanese government at TICAD 8, and we remain firmly committed to contributing toward the further development of Africa.

The TICAD process has been bringing about many tangible outcomes and benefits in Ethiopia, and Africa as a whole. JICA's cooperation for

industrial development through the introduction of "Kaizen" (continuous improvement to enhance productivity adopted in Japanese manufacturing companies) is one of the most successful initiatives born from the TICAD process. In the area of food security, JICA has been implementing projects in Ethiopia as well as in other African countries under the 3 continent-wide initiatives launched in the past TICAD, namely: 1) CARD (the Coalition for African Rice Development) for boosting rice production in the continent by 4 times by 2030 (TICAD 4-); 2) SHEP (the Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion) approach aimed at increasing the income of small-scale farmers through facilitating a shift from subsistence to market-oriented agriculture (TICAD 5-); and 3) IFNA (Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa) to improve dietary nutrition of the local population (TICAD 6-). Connectivity enhancement through road construction, and human resources development through math and science education, are other examples of JICA's cooperation originated from the TICAD process. In Ethiopia, JICA has also been working in the areas that have received renewed attention during TICAD 8 such as green growth, FDI attraction and employment, through our projects for enhancing climate resilience, geothermal development, improving investment climate, and MSMEs and start-ups/entrepreneurs support.

Furthermore, upholding the spirit of TICAD to support Africa's own efforts for development, JICA has been providing support for AU regional initiatives for the realization of Agenda 2063. Notably, Action Plan for Accelerated Industrial Development for Africa (AIDA), Pan African University (PAU), Africa CDC, Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Program (CAADP), Program for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), and African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) are among the continental initiatives JICA has been supporting through collaboration with African Union Development Agency (AUDA)-NEPAD as well as bilateral projects in respective countries under these initiatives.

In addition, JICA recently launched a new knowledge sharing program called "JICA Chair." The program aims at sharing Japan's unique experiences of modernization in many fields including political governance, diplomacy, industrialization, and education. So far, universities in 11 African countries introduced the program, and in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa University has co-organized 2 seminars with us. We also organized 1 seminar with the African Union Commission (AUC) on educational development, targeting AUC education staff as well as PAUs. Since the philosophy underlying Japan's development cooperation – respecting ownership and partnership – is deeply rooted in



MORIHARA Katsuki, Ph.D. Chief Representative
JICA Ethiopia Office

Japan's own development experiences, sharing Japan's modernization history with African countries through the JICA Chair program will be another important element of JICA's contribution to Africa's development under the TICAD process.

By combining together all the efforts mentioned above, JICA will work even harder to bring the commitments made at the TICAD8 under the 3 pillars (Society, Economy, and Peace) into real actions on the ground, so that we can effectively support Ethiopia's as well as Africa's own efforts to "build forward better" towards a more resilient, inclusive, and prosperous continent.

Highlights of JICA's Projects in Ethiopia

1. Industrial Development



Figure 1 Transfer of Knowledge for Quality Improvement

*KAIZEN (Enhancing productivity in the manufacturing sector)

- Since 2009, more than 1,000 companies introduced kaizen
- 40% productivity increase in surveyed companies
- 3 billion ETB saved to date
- USD 27.5 Million grant to construct the new Kaizen Excellence Center (KEC, former Ethiopian KAIZEN Institute)

*Export Promotion

- Help establish 'Ethiopian Highland Leather (EHL)' brand to promote export of sheep leather products (the EHL brand trademarked in Japan, Europe and US)
- Support for establishing a duty free shop for Ethiopian leather products at Bole Airport in 2022, which is expected to generate USD 400 Million in sales every year

*Job Creation/ SME Support through business development consulting services

- 250 master trainers, consultants and counselors certified or trained
- 30% increase in sales seen from direct beneficiaries
- 3,000 firms benefited indirectly from trainers

2. Agriculture



Figure 2 Farmers showing off their produce.

*SHEP

- Over 6,000 beneficiary small-holder horticulture farmers
- Mindset shift from "Grow and Sell" to "Grow to Sell" brought revenue increase of 125%

* CARD (Rice Cultivation)

- Contribute to import substitution
- Sharing Japanese rice cultivation techniques including introduction of 35 new rice varieties, mechanization and human resources development (50 researchers and 30 training modules developed at NRRTC)

3. Infrastructure



Figure 3 Group photo at successful Geothermal well drilling at Aluto langano

*Energy (Geothermal)

- Supported formulation of the first national-level geothermal development master plan in 2015
- USD 20 Million grant to install pilot geothermal wellheads (5MW) at Aluto Lagano geothermal site, Oromia region

*Access to Safe Water

- Since 2005, 8 Grant aid projects worth USD 40 Million
- Benefitted 80 towns in 6 regions, reaching 600,000 people.
- Capacity development of EWTI since 1998 (more than 10,000 water engineers trained)

*Road construction

- USD100 Million concessional loan to improve Jimma-Chida road to increase connectivity, reduce travel time, double volume of freight and goods transported (coffee and agri products)

4. Education



Figure 4. Mathematics curriculum review in Afar Region

* Education

- Since 2007, 76 primary and secondary schools constructed in Amhara, Oromia and Southern regions.
- 840 classrooms have been constructed. They have benefited over 500,000 school children since completion

* Mathematics Education

- Ensure quality of secondary math education from Grades 9 to 12 by revising textbooks
- 18 textbook developers trained from various universities
- 3 million students expected to benefit from the new textbooks



Conflict in Ethiopia's north: Amb David H. Shinn speaks

- Circumstances for a return of [terrorist] TPLF to Nat'l power no longer exist

BY STAFF REPORTER

Ambassador David H. Shinn served as the US Ambassador to Ethiopia from 1996 to 1999. He is Adjunct Professor, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University. The Ethiopian Herald held interview with him on email and he responded to the email on September 17, 2022.

The US is on record that it puts the TPLF as the aggressor back in 2020. Why is the US soft on the aggressor and engaging in “bothsidesism”?

First, thank you for asking me to address these important issues. Second, let me make clear that I speak only for myself; my responses do not necessarily represent the views of the US government.

The US did acknowledge that the conflict began with the attack by [terrorist] TPLF on Ethiopia's Northern Command in Mekele on 3 November 2020. Since then, however, there have been numerous terrible abuses by all sides involved in this civil war. Since 2020, the US has been critical of whatever side it believed was responsible for the abuse or atrocity. For the most part, it has tried not to take sides, but to weigh each situation on its own merit. It may not always have come up with the most appropriate response, but the goal was to evaluate the evidence and then respond, not to take sides.

The government's truce after getting the upper hand in the war and even ultimatums during the war seem to have been widely known. But the group is accused of taking advantage of these to invade neighboring regions, Amhara and Afar. Still the US administration is not seen and heard condemning the acts. What's your take on this?

The United States clearly condemned the advance of [terrorist] TPLF into Amhara and Afar Regions in 2021. The US State Department issued a press statement on 30 October 2021 that expressed grave concern about the expansion of combat in northern Ethiopia. It reiterated the US “call for the [terrorist] TPLF to withdraw from the Amhara and Afar regions, including halting its advances in and around the cities of Dessie and Kombolcha.” In remarks on 1 November 2021, then Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, Jeffrey Feltman, said: “We watched the

...the circumstances for a return of the TPLF to national power no longer exist. The TPLF seems destined to be a regional party, which is not in a position to protect the geopolitical interests of the United States or any other country



fighting around Dessie and Kombolcha in horror, as thousands more civilians were forced to flee their homes. Some critics of U.S. policy claim the United States has an inherent bias toward the TPLF. We have consistently condemned the TPLF's expansion of the war outside Tigray and continue to call on the TPLF to withdraw from Afar and Amhara.”

It is not clear to me, and perhaps not to the U.S. government, who started the resumption of conflict in late August 2022 in the Kobo area of Amhara Region [...]. Until the facts are well established, it would be inappropriate to condemn one side or the other.

Some say the US wants the TPLF as an instrument to advance its geopolitical interest in the Horn. What do you comment?

This strikes me as a specious argument. While it is true that the [terrorist] TPLF was the principal party in the ruling EPRDF from 1991 until the creation of the Prosperity Party, the circumstances for a return of the TPLF to national power no longer exist. The TPLF seems destined to be a regional party, which is not in a position to protect the geopolitical interests of the United States or any other country. The United States will most effectively protect its geopolitical interests in the Horn by encouraging peace and stability of all parties in all countries.

The TPLF is widely accused of using child soldiers. But the Biden administration never issued a statement denouncing the acts. Why an influencing power like the US is tight lipped on this?

Before denouncing the use of child soldiers in any situation, the United States



requires hard evidence. Accusations alone are not hard evidence.

Many criticize the US for intervening in the affairs of Ethiopia in various ways including using the UNSC as an instrument. What's your take on this?

Someone, somewhere blames the United States for just about every negative development in the world. This seems to be the price a great power must pay. In the case of Ethiopia, all parties have over the past two years criticized some policy or decision of the United States. It goes with the territory. When I served in Ethiopia during the Ethiopia-Eritrea war, the Meles government routinely criticized Washington for taking the side of Eritrea. In turn, the Isaias government routinely criticized Washington for taking the side of Ethiopia.

The *Ethiopian Herald* will, of course, come to its own conclusion about the role of the United States in the affairs of Ethiopia. But as Secretary of State Antony Blinken recently stated: "The United States supports Ethiopia's unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and wants to return to a strong partnership."

As for the AU-led peace talks materializing, I am encouraged that the TPLF recently made clear it will accept a mediation effort led by the African Union. It is not clear, however, if the four preconditions for the resumption of talks specified earlier by the TPLF are still in effect. More importantly, both sides seem to lack trust in the other side; this does not bode well for the resumption of peace talks.

There are also accusations that the TPLF pretends to accept peace options to buy time. What's your comment on this?

I have no way of knowing what the TPLF is thinking or what is behind its strategy. It would not be unusual for contending parties on all sides of the conflict to buy time. Then the question becomes: what does the TPLF or any other side gain by buying time? It seems to me that



every side loses by not moving forward expeditiously with peace talks.

WHO Chief Dr. Tedros usually tweets on issues related to "Tigray," but he ignores clear humanitarian violations in Amhara and Afar. Doesn't this abuse power and doesn't it demonstrate a double standard, voicing for one side only?

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General of the World Health Organization, finds himself in a difficult situation. A Tigrayan himself, he obviously is concerned about the atrocities that have

occurred in Tigray Region over the past two years. On several occasions, he has spoken critically of actions by the Ethiopian government, even on matters that are not directly related to the WHO. As an international civil servant, he would be well advised to avoid making statements on matters that are not within the purview of the WHO. On those issues, including atrocities, in Ethiopia that are within the jurisdiction of the WHO, it is important that he pursue a balanced approach.

Ed's note: Amb. Shinn responded to questions The Ethiopian Herald emailed to him on 17 September 2022.

In remarks on 1 November 2021, then Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, Jeffrey Feltman, said: "We watched the fighting around Dessie and Kombolcha in horror, as thousands more civilians were forced to flee their homes. Some critics of U.S. policy claim the United States has an inherent bias toward the TPLF. We have consistently condemned the TPLF's expansion of the war outside Tigray and continue to call on the TPLF to withdraw from Afar and Amhara."

Walled with love, tolerance- Harar

BY LEULSEGED WORKU

A lot has been said about the stone walled city of Harar. Several writers have inked their impression and perception about the love and the hospitality of the people of Harar.

The distinctive culture of the people, the unique and incomparable architecture, the typical handicrafts that can easily catch the eyes of any visitors as well as the 'Hyena Man', a man who feeds meat to hyenas, among others make Harar a famous city and differentiate Hararis from others.

Further, the house of Arthur Rambuid, who was a French Poet and believed to arrive at Harar in 1880, the maze like streets and others have truly made Harar- a market town- to win the heart of visitors.

The historic City of Harar, which is also the fourth holiest City of Islam, still has kept its unique identity. Several mosques and open market places which are found within the city testify how powerful the city was in its high days. As indicated by historical sources, between 1520 and 1568, Harar had served as the capital of the Harari Kingdom in what is known as Harar's 'Golden Age'. At that time, the city was known for the flourishing of local culture, for its coffee, weaving, basketry and bookbinding, aside from being home to many poets. From the late 16th to the 19th century, Harar Jugol was an important trade center between the coast and the interior highlands and; a location for Islamic learning.

Century old culture of tolerance among the people of Harar is still strong and intact; and the actual tolerance among the people of Harar city is visible in hard as well as peaceful events. This can be witnessed within days. Anyone who gets the chance to spend a day or a night in the houses of Harar people would experiences it- he would not feel stranger; rather, he feels very comfortable and relaxed, like he is at his own home. Every single minute he may spend in the house of Harar people, leaves unforgettable memory. The genuine love and respect the people of Harar give to their guests, their traditional coffee ceremony and the aroma from the burning incense will tempt the stranger to stay there for the rest of his/her lifetime.

Recently, this writer had the chance to few days in the walled City of Harar. Throughout his stay, the writer has literally experienced and witnessed what is said about the people of Ethiopia in general and that of Harar in particular. Despite all the differences that exist among every individual, the people of Harar are seen enjoying every second with love and tolerance with their neighbors or any other stranger. They know the art of sharing and respecting others. This is especially true on holidays or some other special events. As witnessed by this writer, the recent Ethiopian New Year - 2015- was celebrated colorfully among Harar people. Holidays are among these moments where the people of Harar display their love to others by sharing what they got with neighbors and



relatives. As a town where both Christians and Muslims live in harmony, it is not something new to see the followers of the two religions celebrating holidays in a single roof with love and respect. The love they share with each other is unreserved and goes beyond the modern give and take principle. The deep-seated culture of sharing, which is common among most Ethiopians, is still fresh in the heart of the walled City of Harar. As it was indicated by Elias Gulie Ahmed, a Curator at a private Museum in Harar, the people of Harar are more known for their tolerance. This is emanated from the fact that they are people who fear Allah. "We are born to love and respect people. The central teaching of our religion is to love and respect others. What is more, sharing what we have with the needy is the other central teaching of every religion. In this regard, the people of Harar are exemplary. They are generous and always happy and willing to share whatever they have."

As to Elias, Harar truly is a melting pot where people with different culture, ethnic and religious backgrounds are coexisting peacefully and harmoniously with the feelings of love and fraternity. People of the Amhara, Oromo, Harari, Gurage and several clans of the Somali tribe call Harar their home. The moral integrity of the people has a key role in fermenting peaceful coexistence.

There were times where anti-peace elements had tried to disrupt and jeopardize this age old culture of tolerance. However, it

has failed. "As long as one lives in Harar, there is no reason to fight or quarrel with neighbors. "We share what we have' and respect the values of others. For instance, I am Muslim with Christian neighbors. Our religious differences have never been source of contention and conflict for us. It even binds us more together. We may go to our respective religious institutions; but we enjoy our meal together. This is what I call love that goes beyond boundaries."

Sharing is the other way of showing deep love, says Elias. This age-old culture of enjoying life with neighbors or anyone who is a stranger to the town is still intact in Harar. Ethiopians are accustomed to sharing their meals or their shelters to travelers or visitors. This is an age-old tradition among the rural parts of the country. Whenever a traveler knocks the door of any person and asks for help or wants to spend the night in that particular house, the owners would receive that person warmly and happily. The owners of that house not only allow the person to spend the night in their house, they even wash his/her feet and share their meals. This culture is still strong in most parts of the country. The people of Harar are among them. As people of love and tolerance, Hararis know how to treat their guests; irrespective of his/her religious or language backgrounds. No matter what their economic background, ethnic or religious background is, they are happy to welcome visitors; share not only their meal but also their house.

The central teaching of our religion is to love and respect others. What is more, sharing what we have with the needy is the other central teaching of every religion

Verbatim and Caption

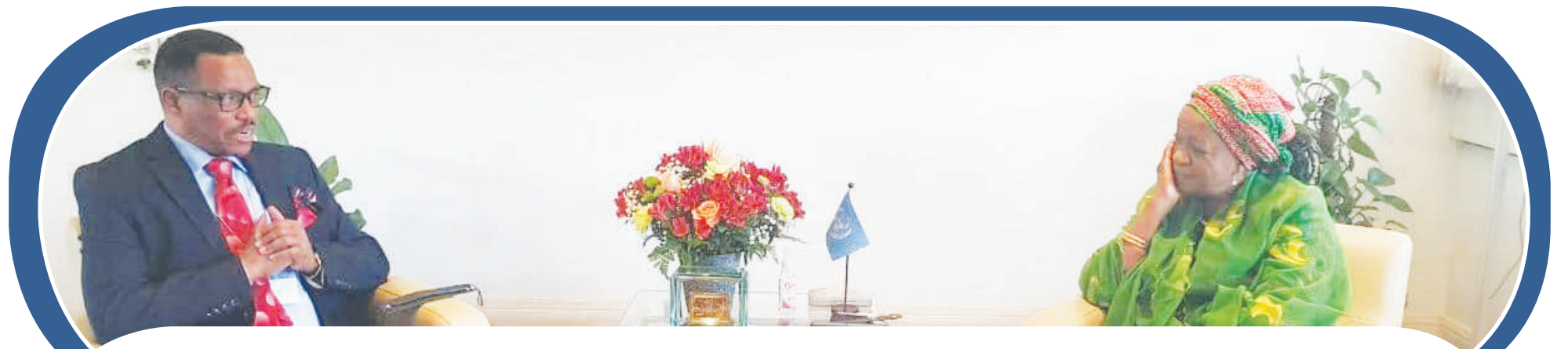
Int'l community can only add to peace efforts nurtured by all Ethiopians

"The Commission (ICHREE) has submitted a report of substandard quality. Its allegations are unsubstantiated. It has not met the standard of proof for such investigations. It has fallen prey to those well-accustomed to deceiving bodies of this nature. The Report fails to meet a modicum of objectivity, professionalism and impartiality. It makes grave accusations against the Government and its armed forces without adducing proof, just based on telephone conversations and web-based submissions. This is irresponsible. Ethiopia has been the subject of an unfair and biased scrutiny at this august body for more than a year now. The activities around this Council seem to be driven by a politically motivated and slanted narrative. Such misguided campaigns against Ethiopia must stop at a time the Government of Ethiopia is implementing the recommendations of the Joint Investigation Team (JIT) of the OHCHR and the EHRC," Ambassador Zenebe Kebede, Permanent Representative of Ethiopia at the UN in Geneva.



The international community can only add to peace efforts nurtured by all Ethiopians. The TPLF has to choose dialogue over destructive cycles of conflict. The international community has to also realize that in the face of such a bellicose act, the Government has a constitutional mandate to maintain peace and security. It would be incumbent on those voices of reason to condemn acts of belligerence blatantly committed as in the case of the 24th of August that ended the indefinite humanitarian truce. The hallmark of it all is that the Ethiopian government has chosen the path of truce through the AU process. It is time for the TPLF leadership to once again come to its senses and embrace the olive branch extended and show serious commitment to the latest position it announced in accepting the AU led process, Hirut Zemene, Ambassador of Ethiopia to Benelux and EU Institutions.

"The TPLF is to blame for the recent resumption of hostilities in Tigray as well as the international community's lack of support. Since 24 August, fighting has resumed in northern Ethiopia. After a five-month truce, the delivery of humanitarian aid has been interrupted once more," Henok Teferra Shawl, Ethiopia's Ambassador to France.



The Government of Ethiopia is committed to further strengthening Ethiopia's multifaceted cooperation with the UN, which among others includes environmental issues, climate change, urbanization, and global peace and security as the champion of multilateralism and one of the top five troop contributing countries to several UN peacekeeping missions. Furthermore, the Government of Ethiopia, under the leadership of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali, is steadfast in supporting the concerted efforts to tackle climate change and to enhance climate resilience through initiatives such as the Green Legacy Initiative. Regarding the ongoing war in northern Ethiopia, the international community at large needs to support the peace efforts of the Ethiopian Government and to put pressure on the terrorist TPLF to renounce hostilities and come to the negotiation table. Ethiopia's destabilization is detrimental to the peace and security and development of the Horn of Africa region," Bacha Debele Buta, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ethiopia to Kenya and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON).