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Ethiopia outlines Nat'l reforms' successes, challenges

BY TEWODROS KASSA

ADDIS ABABA - Finance Minister Ahmed Shide has outlined Ethiopia's success stories together with the challenges having conducted national reforms during the G7 meeting of ministers of finance and the World Bank and IMF annual meetings.

The meetings were organized to discuss opportunities for advancing an effective implementation of the common framework for the debt treatment and enhanced economic cooperation of important global partners with Africa.

The minister spoke about Ethiopia's economic achievements as well as

challenges faced over the last few years, while highlighting the country's notable advancements on the national reform agenda which has contributed to the resilience of Ethiopia amid multiple shocks and the difficult global outlook.

Ahmed Shide highlighted that through difficult reforms the government successfully implemented stringent budget constraints on non concessional borrowing that have not been breached since 2019 and SOE debt which has been a key source of Ethiopia vulnerabilities has nearly halved as a share of GDP in just four years as a result of these reforms.

He further indicated that the government has begun to gradually open the economy,

develop financial markets and roll back wasteful fuel subsidies and that moving toward market determined exchange rate by unifying the official and parallel rates remains a key objective.

The minister expressed concern about the slow progress and uncertainty around the G20 common framework process whereas risks continue to rise and urged the partners to help bring swift resolutions to this issue and to be mindful of the tremendous economic hardships that the people of Ethiopia are facing.

The minister asked development partners continued support to the country's ambitious reform agenda to address its economic

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EU ready to support AU-led peace talks

BY YESUF ENDRIS

ADDIS ABABA- European Union (EU) stands ready to support the AU-led peace talks to end the conflict in the northern Ethiopia, EU Ambassador to Ethiopia said.

In his interview with local media, Ambassador

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Health minister wins Harvard Next Generation Award

BY MENGESHA AMARE

ADDIS ABABA- It is through strong leadership and solidarity that countries have been able to minimize the impact of COVID-19 and other health disorders on their communities and economies, Health Minister Lia Tadesse (MD) said.

Speaking to local media after receiving the

See Health minister ... Page 3

Nation in position to attract West European businesses

BY BETLHEM BEDLU

ADDIS ABABA- Ethiopia's committed leadership coupled with a growing economic dynamism and conducive investment atmosphere makes the country a preferred destination of West European businesses, actors in the sector said.

The above was stated in a discussion session held to improve the-Ethiopian-Belgian business ties in Brussels.

Speaking at the occasion, General Manager of the manufacturer and supplier of bakery ingredients Puratos Horn Africa, Zeco Ebro Kassim stated that the current administration has demonstrated a notable commitment to attract global investors. Improved physical and social infrastructure as well as massive labor force are amongst the major favorable conditions for doing business in Ethiopia.

Sharing the above rationale, Global



Chairman of Fairfax Africa Fund Zemedeneh Nigatu stated that considering the lingering effects of COVID-19, Ethiopia has regained its groove following the reform. "Following the reform including the opening of financial services and depending on the sectors that investors want to engage

in, Ethiopia is the most attractive place to invest in."

As to him, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) adds to the business attractiveness to Ethiopia. "The largest free

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News

Ethiopia asks Irish gov't to refrain from undiplomatic actions

BY ABDUREZAK MOHAMMED

ADDIS ABABA – Ethiopia has sent an official ultimatum for Irish government to refrain from emboldening the terrorist TPLF and calling for coercive actions against Ethiopia using its membership in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

It was stated in an official letter undersigned by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Demeke Mekonnen and sent to the Irish Government that Ireland could have support Ethiopia's forward-looking political and economic reforms and the commitment of the government to solve disagreements through peace talks.

Instead, he added, Ireland has continued attacking Ethiopia using its membership in the UNSC, the European Union (EU), and elsewhere. Ethiopia enjoyed historic and cordial relations with Ireland. Ethiopia has, thus, never expected acrimonious encounters



with the Republic of Ireland.

According to Demeke, Ethiopia's plea to Ireland to reduce hostility and attacks against its sovereignty and territorial integrity has not been heeded. "To our utter surprise, EU groups visiting Ethiopia privately advise us that we need to mend fences with Ireland if

we desired to normalize relations with the EU."

The Deputy Premier further highlighted that Ethiopia needs to restore its historical ties with Ireland. And, it is a worthy goal on its own. "We did not know Ireland could also stand in the way of Ethiopia's

efforts to normalize relations with the EU." Ireland just needed to stop its hostile acts against Ethiopia as the two countries can constructively engage in state-to-state relations per international law.

Prime Minister's Security Advisor Redwan Hussien on his part noted that Ireland has been barbing and undermining Ethiopia incessantly in its real earnest for the last two years.

He added that the government of Ethiopia's plea made for the umpteenth time has been rebuffed and unheeded. "Hence, Ethiopia obliged to send an official ultimatum this week for Irish government. Sadly, our relationship is at its nadir."

It is to be recalled that Ireland has been backstabbing Ethiopia in the international diplomatic arena, working to sanction the latter. As a result of this, Ethiopia expelled four Irish diplomats who had been engaged in espionage.



ILO, Japan partner to water project in Somali

BY STAFF REPORTER

ADDIS ABABA – The International Labor Organization (ILO) in collaboration with the Embassy of Japan organized an official event for the completion of a project that is expected to enhance disaster resilience water works in Jijiga town of the Somali State.

The event was officially held jointly by ILO Director for Ethiopia Alexio Musindo and Japanese Ambassador to Ethiopia Ito Takako and attended by a wide range of participants from various key partners including Somali State Agriculture and Natural Resources Development Bureau Head Abdulkadir Iman.

In his opening remark, the ILO Country Director reiterated that the occasion is not to close a project but officially sign-off the administrative phase of the work as the system already in place is going to continue to operate. "Much appreciation to the Japan Embassy, RRS and the Somali Regional Government for working with us in this disaster resilience initiative that helps refugees and host communities fight back the effects of droughts in Kebribeyah and Jijiga."

Japanese Ambassador to Ethiopia Ito Takako expressed her wish that the technology used in the construction of the detention ponds and the rehabilitation techniques transferred through the project will be disseminated to other areas

in the Somali State, especially to the areas most affected by drought.

"Jijiga is known to suffer from floods and land degradation. So, the disaster resilience works conducted by the ILO with financial support from the Government of Japan are crucial in alleviating these problems in Kebribeyah and Jijiga", said Abdulkadir Iman.

It was stated in the event that the project had an economic empowerment arm that boosted the economic livelihoods of the affected and high-risk communities. The project is also the instrument for the creation of jobs for the local community. They were hired for the construction of water retaining structures to control floods, water and sanitation facilities and other essential public works.

The employment of women has ensured observance of basic women's rights. This included providing pregnant and nursing mothers with flexible working hours for antenatal care and breastfeeding respectively. Women were also allowed to swap roles with colleagues whenever they were unable to report to work.

Participants to the event also paid a site visit to one of the detention ponds sites, Diba, and met with the community members to hear about the project benefits and impacts, according to a press release the ILO sent to *The Ethiopian Herald*.

Forum deliberates on effective land governance

BY ESSEYE MENGISTE

ADDIS ABABA– Land for Life Ethiopia held a national dialogue on the 10th anniversary of the Voluntary Guidelines on the responsible Governance of Tenure of land (VGGT) and raising awareness and commitment for further implementation.

Addressing the event, the Land for Life Ethiopia Executive Director Fikru Takele said inclusive approach is crucial to addressing the fundamental challenges related to land scarcity satisfying competing interests of various stakeholders. Inclusive discussion and the consideration of all pros and cons are crucial to making land available to peasant farmers and pastoralists to enable investment.

Land Administration and Geospatial Case Team Head at the Ministry of Agriculture Yalemzewid Demissie told *The Ethiopian Herald* that such a discussion is important to establish a modern land management mechanism in the country. "Farmers can be evicted from their land for the benefit of the community, but they have been given proper compensation. If there are land owners who do not get proper compensation, the government should put appropriate direction and take

action"

Firku added that Land for Life brings together civil society, government, academia and the private sector in various dialogues on land issues. There is major governance of tenure challenges related to wider challenges in Ethiopia such as conflict and the need for more off-farm economic opportunities to reduce the pressure on land.

Lack of sufficient budget and human capacity for land administration and completing land parcel registration, risk of land registrations not being updates, such as with new transfers and poor management of scale agricultural investments leading to lack of accountability, development benefits and environment damage, so if the government applies the VGGT, these challenges will be solved.

Effective governance of tenure of land and other natural resources is also essential to sustainably resolving some of the wider societal challenges, the director explained.



News

Ministry underscores business incubators role in tackling unemployment

• BIC Ethiopia launches four year project at cost of 5.5mln. Euros

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA— Improving market access, generating higher income and creating various jobs are tools in addressing market demands and minifying the alarming rate of unemployment, so stated BIC Ethiopia.

Speaking at the launching ceremony of a four year project aiming at strengthening business incubators with an outlay of 5.5 million Euros, BIC Ethiopia Project Director, Dr. Christiane Beck said that the project aims at strengthening business incubators via providing them with agri-tech and agri-business start-ups, micro, small and medium scale enterprises to improve their market access and generate higher income.

She said: “BIC Ethiopia in collaboration with development partners has launched a four year project amounting to 5.5 million Euros out of which 90 percent is funded



by the European Union (EU) aiming at capacitating the business sector. The overall objective of the project is to improve market access, generate higher income, and create jobs. We want to help new and existing incubators have start-up potential, SMEs with innovative business ideas, models and addressing market needs.”

She further stated that there are four outputs to be delivered through the project, enhance capacity of incubator, M&E programme, and establishment of agri-tech and agri-business incubators, financing facility

offers, and holistic communication strategy with all key stakeholders. In addition, the project will play significant role in creating job opportunities in the country, she stated.

Labour and Skills State Minister, NigussuTilahun said that the rate of unemployment pattern in Ethiopia is high for various reasons. In order to substantially change this high rate of unemployment pattern, we, as a country, are striving to bridge job gaps and working to create two million jobs for new entrants. This will not be achieved with limited government

capacity rather it requires the combined effort of all as well as active participation of development partners, private sectors and others, he said.

Project Director Sabine Schacknat said that cooperation among the government and development partner is crucial for the successfulness of the project since the project benefits citizens across the nation.

Delegation of European Union to Ethiopia, Mercedes Marin Nortesalso said that the lion's share of the budget pumped to run the project is funded by the EU. The objective of the project is to foster entrepreneurship and descent job creation particularly addressing problems of women and youth, she added.

The project has been implemented by BIC Ethiopiain partnership with Sequa, which is the lead partner, Addis Ababa Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Associations, adelphi, Menschen für Menschen, Growth Africa, and tchawassa since January 2022.

Health minister...

prestigious Harvard Next Generation Award from Harvard School of Public Health, the minister stated that COVID-19 has reminded health professionals to invest more in strengthening the sector. “To this end, empowering public health professionals and leaders is so critical.”

“I feel proud to be selected as a recipient of an award from such a prestigious institution dedicated to educating the compassionate and passionate global health leaders committed to improve the health and lives of people worldwide.”

As to her, Ethiopia's healthcare system has shown an impressive progress though there are a number of impediments including COVID-19 which need to be done away with in the years to come.

Ethiopia's strength lies in being part of the global community through sharing wisdom and resources. Strategic interventions and strong global solidarity has helped the country and compassion and passion have been the main ingredient to fulfill public health service. “We have to consolidate a caring culture to make a difference in all aspects as compassionate leadership is an indispensable moral imperative towards change.”

“As public health professionals, it is quite better for us to focus on longer term vision and strategy to improve the national health system. I want to take this opportunity to honor all my healthcare professionals and leaders as they have been playing a vital role in serving their people selflessly and in making this day a reality. Therefore, the honor is theirs as well,” the minister emphasized.

The awarding school representative highlighted Lia's noble contribution in strengthening the cooperation between various stakeholders including the government, business community, NGOs, local healthcare workers and others to make a difference in the sector.

Nation in position...

trade is in Africa. A large economy and population with an industrial base, who can export from here, have now a billion plus market for investors.”

Ethiopia's Ambassador to the Benelux and EU institutions Hirut Zemene said for her part that the country aspires to enhance the ease of doing business through revisiting the investment code and other laws and regulations. The fiscal incentives that are provided in mutually beneficiary ways have also been under scrutiny. “Our economic development goals are always set within a framework of five years but we are venturing in to ten years.”

Building of light manufacturing, increasing productivity in agriculture, reaping low hanging fruits, expanding ICT sectors are among Ethiopia's priority sectors.

Noting Ethiopia is one of the largest ship owners in Africa that do lots of cargo with it, Ambassador Hirut indicated the country has been hugely engaged to efficient utilization of energy. “Having about hundred and plus millions of population whose ages ranges from 14-29, investors could find well-trained youth that are graduated from 50 universities and various TVET schools. Investors would find a well-trained and disciplined youth which is prerequisite for business.”

For Belgian Ambassador Designate to Ethiopia StefaanThijs, Ethiopia is a fantastic country with huge market potential and manpower. “Ethiopia is enriched with favorable climate and the availability of many flower farms in the country is in particular the interest of West European markets.”

EU ready to...

Roland Kobia said that: “I'm very happy to hear these days that it seems that the AU is trying to launch possible efforts of dialogues. So, we will be ready to support the AU if there will be request for political, diplomatic, financial and technical supports.”

War is always a failure of politics and it is good for any country to go back to politics and to try to move the country forward. So, EU is very active in trying to be helpful and it has been very clear publicly that it support the AU-led peace talks, he indicated.

While describing the historical diplomacy, he also noted that the political relationship between the EU and its member countries with Ethiopia is made of a willingness to have a very strong cooperation.

“EU has a project of Peace so it would like to share peace with its partners. And, it has been working with countries like Ethiopia, he said.

Ethiopia...

challenges which would help Ethiopia and the Horn region at large, avert and economic crisis and underscoring Ethiopia's role in anchoring stability in the Horn of Africa which could be imperilled should economic and social stability in Ethiopia be threatened.

The minister reassured the partners of Ethiopia's continued commitment to undertake difficult reforms in an extremely challenging environment that will help the country build a shared future and greater economic prosperity for its citizens and generate positive spillovers to the Horn of Africa.

Governor of the National Bank of Ethiopia Yinager Dessie (PhD) participated in the G7 meeting of ministers of finance and during the World Bank and IMF annual meetings, it was learnt.

Opinion



In Remembrance, Celebration and Pan-African Solidarity: Marking October Black History Month in England

Dr. MAULANA KARENGA (Guest Writer)

In 1987, Tiamoyo and I traveled to London where on October 1st, I gave the inaugural lecture at County Hall for the establishment of Black History Month in England. My inaugural lecture and others I gave at the West Indian Center, Haringey; the Hackney Black Peoples Organization; and the London Strategic Policy Unit were published in the book, *Our Story: A Handbook of African History and Contemporary Issues*. Below, I share these edited excerpts from this inaugural lecture in remembrance, celebration and Pan-African solidarity with the African people of England in this their month of celebration of Black History.

I would like to say thanks very much for the opportunity to speak here with you. I'd like to say I'm honored to be in the company of such distinguished persons on the dais. And I'd like to start off by saying thanks especially to Mr. Ansel Wong and Mr. Akyaba Addai-Sebo, one of the founders of this Black History Month celebration, as well as, the London Strategic Policy Committee, the Association of London Authorities and the Inner London Education Authority for the invitation to come and give the key note inaugural address for the official establishment of Black History Month in London, England.

Certainly, I'm honored and humbled by the invitation and opportunity to give this address, and I share the honor with the late Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the African American historian and scholar, who initiated the systematic and critical study of Black history and began Black History Month in the United States in the early 1900's. He felt like, of course, we feel, that the study of African history, of Black history, is a contribution not only to Africans' understanding of themselves, but of humanity understanding itself, and also a contribution to the racial modesty of colonizers of Africa, i.e., European peoples. We are, of course, still fighting that battle, but nevertheless it's good to honor Dr. Woodson because he had such faith in the transformative power of knowledge.

As we celebrate Black or African history this month and this year, it is important to ask what is the meaning and challenge of our history as African people, where is it headed and what should be our self-conscious role in it? For to celebrate African history is above all to grasp its meaning and challenges, its relevance and rootedness in all we do, and to define and answer effectively the challenge and task it poses for us. This is especially important for us as an African people, for it is among African people that human history has its origin and

original meaning, and it is among African people that Frantz Fanon, a great theorist of Africa, suggests a new history of humanity must be launched and pursued. Europe, Fanon says, can offer the world no direction here in building a new history of humanity, for when it had the power to inform and unite the world, it decided instead to enslave it, and to develop all kinds of ways to deny, deform and destroy both the history and humanity of Third World peoples, the majority of humankind. Among the chief ways it achieved this is through, of course, capitalism, imperialism and racism.

History is a very human thing. We bring it into being with our own hands and minds, with what we do and do not do. The meaning of history is multidimensional, rich and diverse in its relevance. In fact, there is no understanding of Africans or humanity without history. Min. Malcolm X, one of our major leaders in the liberation struggle, who knew the importance of history said, "Of all our studies, history is best qualified to reward our research". He knew that history was more than dead dates, more than disasters and coronations and casualties of kings. Malcolm knew that history is above all a struggle and a record, not just a record, for history is a *struggle* and a *record*, a struggle of a people in the process of shaping their world in their own image and interests.

In other words, history is the struggle and record of humans in the process of shaping the world in their own image and interest, i.e., taking nature and making it an ally rather than an enemy and developing self, society and the world in the process. Therefore, African history is the struggle and record of African people, the fathers and mothers of human civilization, in the process of standing up, making a rupture with the animal world, and shaping the world in a more human image and interest. So, when we talk about African history, let us be reminded we're talking about the fathers and mothers of human civilization, and the fathers and mothers of humanity itself.

Now, if history is the struggle and record of a people in the process of shaping the world in its own image and interest, then it surely establishes its significance first by being a contribution to our own self-understanding as African people, that is to say, our identity, in terms of our *origin* and *achievement*, but also identity in terms of our possibilities based on that achievement.

We're all African people whether we're in the United States, or in the Caribbean, or in Canada, or whether we're on the Continent. Thus, we form a world African community. And it is important not to reduce Africa to its continental dimension. We must talk of Africa as a world historical project and world community. Africa is both a project that seeks to pose a new paradigm for

The future is ours and the struggle for African and human liberation is our means of making it. But we need historical and cultural anchor. We must, in order to really accomplish our mission, now that we understand the functions of history, do two things: one, develop a new historiography and two, engage in a struggle that makes history possible and conscious



humanity, and a world community that seeks to step back on the stage of human history as a free, proud and productive people, and speak our own special truth to the world. To rescue and reconstruct African history, then, is, in fact, to rescue and reconstruct our humanity and human history also. It is to set the record straight and reconcile the truth of Africa with the truth of human history.

But there are problems to overcome because of several things. First of all, there is the problem of historical amnesia caused and cultivated in the Holocaust of enslavement. Second, there is the problem of racism which also contributed to that historical amnesia. And there is the problem of building self-conscious and sustained struggle for liberation which will solve both problems.

When we start off with the question of historical amnesia, we begin first of all, with

the enslavement of African peoples, which is one of the greatest holocausts of human history. The enslavement of African people represents a great human loss on three fundamental levels: (1) the loss of human life, (2) the loss of human civilization, of knowledge, skill, memory and achievements of Africa to world history and civilization, and (3) the loss of human possibility in Africa and the Diaspora as a result of the massive human and cultural destruction.

And then, of course, there was and remains the question of racism. A lot of time we don't want to talk about enslavement and racism. We want to forget, to deny, and to escape the penalty demanded and imposed for Blackness in a white dominated world. But, if we forget, we violate historical memory. We dishonor those who fought and died and built for us, those who dared to struggle for liberation and a higher level of human life. A milcar Cabral was so precise and correct when he argued that one of the greatest disservices the colonialist, the imperialist, the racist, and the capitalist did to us was that they interrupted and appropriated our history. For history is a way we know our humanity. And thus, key to our liberation is the return to our history in and through struggle.

The future is ours and the struggle for African and human liberation is our means of making it. But we need historical and cultural anchor. We must, in order to really accomplish our mission, now that we understand the functions of history, do two things: one, develop a new historiography and two, engage in a struggle that makes history possible and conscious.

Fanon said we must struggle to start a new history, bring the new world into being and a new man and woman to inhabit it. The ancient Egyptians left us a model of struggle in and for history. They said, "Every day is a donation to eternity. And even one hour is a contribution to the future." And they also said, "to do that which is of value is forever. A people called forth by their work do not die, for their name is raised and remembered because of it." May our name as African people be forever raised and remembered because of our work and struggle for our own liberation and the liberation of all humanity.

Dr. Maulana Karenga, Professor and Chair of Africana Studies, California State University-Long Beach; Executive Director, African American Cultural Center (Us); Creator of Kwanzaa; and author of Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture and Essays on Struggle: Position and Analysis, www.MaulanaKarenga.org; www.AfricanAmericanCulturalCenter-LA.org; www.Us-Organization.org.

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Editorial

No longer, foreign prescriptions for Africa!

This year's Forum, the 10th Edition of Tana Forum, has begun taking place today at Bahir Dar in attendance of more than 300 participants from several countries of Africa. The Forum is being held under the theme "Managing Security Threats: Building Resilience for Africa We Want". As usual, it is believed that this Forum will serve as an open and frank dialogue that helps resolve African socio-economic and political challenges.

The Institute for Peace and Security Studies of Addis Ababa University has taken the responsibility to organize the Forum. This High-level Forum on Security in Africa is an initiative that is a response to the August 2009 African Union Tripoli Declarations. In the Declaration on the Elimination of Conflicts and the Promotion of Sustainable Peace in Africa, Continent's heads of state and governments designated peace and security as a collective "intellectual challenge" and called for the elaboration of "African-led solutions" to take it on.

Essentially, this Forum has to set directions that would bring lasting solutions to African problems. Unfortunately, Africa's security and peace have been influenced by the subtle interests of some countries. Africans should establish means in which to resist any external pressure when it goes against their priorities. In the recent years, external intervention has been rampant and will continue to occur in the future as far as regional and global security and peace matters are concerned. For instance, Ireland has recently appeared as an intruder in the internal affairs of Ethiopia. Though Ethiopia enjoyed historic and cordial relations with Ireland, Ethiopia considers Ireland's latest interference as a violation of its sovereignty. Indeed, it's unfortunate to see when Ireland has continued attacking Ethiopia using its membership in the UN Security Council and the European Union. Following this, the government has requested Ireland to stop its hostile acts against Ethiopia.

Importantly, the inappropriate move of Ireland is an indication for the African leaders attending the Forum to be well aware of the continuity of external pressures. They have to establish ways to fight such unnecessary foreign pressures. Nevertheless, "African solutions to African problems" seems to be unrealistic in the present realities of Africa since African leaders are not properly mobilizing their own resources to face the continental problems. We believe the leaders of the continent possess leadership skills but they lack proper partnership. Hence, nations need to strengthen their partnership so that they cultivate skills to meet the rising continental challenges.

These days, despite several challenges, Africa is witnessing a historic change to the development paradigm. Challenges related to climate change and rapid population growth and new financing demands are asking more of African leaders and the leaders ought to look beyond traditional development strategies to accelerate the ongoing development.

It's so crucial for leaders in all sectors, including government, business, and civil society, to do more to strengthen partnerships and consider new forms and areas of collaboration. Through working together, they can bring their transformative impact. Ethiopia's recent effort in taking the green legacy to the continental level and Kenya's Safaricom launching its service in Ethiopia in the presence of Kenyan President William Ruto and Prime Minister Abiy can serve as showcases.

In sum, the objectives of the 10th edition of the High-level Tana Forum seem to have far-reaching significance that can address Africa's multifaceted problems provided that they are effectively implemented. In connection to this, they ought to set direction in which the foreign prescriptions will no longer violate African nations' sovereignties.

Opinion

A timeline of global conspiracy to weaken Ethiopia and save the terrorist clique in Tigray

BY SOLOMON DIBABA

Both in its internal structure and external manifestation, Terrorist TPLF was founded on relief aid food which it has snatched from the people of Tigray and some gifts of armaments from EPLF back in February 1975. The ideological foundation of the group is based on petti-bourgeoisie ethnic nationalism blended with Marxist Leninist Mao Zedong and Enver Hoxha Though and irredentist Nazi type Greater Tigray dream which denies and rejects Ethiopia and Ethiopianism and therefore Pan Africanism.

Although the TPLF was founded as a liberation front, it has never depended on its own resources as an organization and always existed as a parasitic war mongering clique. It bragged and boasted of "culture of war making" It kept the people of Tigray in bondage for more than 4 decades through false propoganda of a pie in the sky or a nirvana of a region of honey and milk.

Today, what the world observes is a grim reality of the reign of terror and massacre of thousands in Amhara and Afar and the extermination of close to a million youth in the name of liberation. This terrorist group claims to follow the ideology of revolutionary democracy but in content the practical ideology of this terrorist group is another brand of Pol Potism or Khmer Rougeism which is a totalitarian ideology of the far left, ethno-ultranationalist, anti-intellectualism, anti-education, highly genocidal ideology that lives by shedding blood.

Recently the terrorist group declared that

it would accept the negotiation with the Federal Government of Ethiopia with no preconditions and started attacks on the ENDF the next day trying to cheat the western countries who were calling for ceasefire and negotiation in a bid to save it from the wrath of the people of Ethiopia including citizens in Tigray.

Terrorist TPLF now is not a legal representative of the people of Tigray because it usurped power through an illegal election. Even then, despite the call for negotiations by the AU and in spite of the fact that both the Federal Government and the terrorist group have given their consent for negotiations, the group has called upon the entire population of Tigray to march to the battle front to defend them in the name of defending the region.

The terrorist group is doing this to try to accuse the ENDF and the government on genocide. The fourth round of war was staged as part of the global conspiracy on Ethiopia in which the neighboring countries of Sudan and Egypt are busy arming and training the Samri group in collaboration with another country in East Africa.

The author of this article would like to show the reader the trends of events in the conspiracy against the people and The Federal Government of Ethiopia. On Tuesday, 2nd August 2022, the respective EU and US Special Envoys for the Horn of Africa, H.E. Annette Weber and H.E. Mike Hammer and US Embassy Charge travelled on their first joint mission to Mekelle, Tigray, to encourage the launch of talks between the

Federal Government of Ethiopia (FGoE) and the terrorist group in Tigray under the auspices of African Union. Contrary to their main mission of attempting to facilitate the negotiation between them.

To the contrary, The Envoys agreed that a swift restoration of electricity, telecom, banking, and other basic services in Tigray is essential for the people of Tigray. This indeed was not in their jurisdiction as this is what the Federal Government is tasked to do. Regarding this, Redwan Hussein, national security advisor to the PM, complained that the special envoys are entertaining terrorist TPLF's interests. "They [the special envoys] failed to press for unequivocal commitment for peace talks, rather indulging in appeasement and fulfilling preconditions placed by the other party [TPLF]," tweeted the ambassador on the 5th of August 2022.

It is to be noted that right after the visit accompanied with a selfie with the members of the terrorist group. On August 3, 2022, US Special Representative told the media that he has observed preparations were underway by Terrorist TPLF to wage a third round of war on the people and Government of Ethiopia.

On October 4, 2022, the European Parliament passed a resolution entitled "European Parliament resolution on the recent humanitarian and human rights situation in Tigray, Ethiopia, notably that of children." As usual, EU has ignored the crimes that Terrorist TPLF has committed in Amhara and Afar in its Resolution with a vested interest only on Tigray.

Item 20 of the Resolution read "20. Reiterates its call on the Ethiopian government to sign and ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court; stresses the need for an independent and impartial mechanism to address ongoing violations and accountability;"

This Resolution is meant to set a legal ground to incriminate the Government of Ethiopia. It is interesting to note that even the major powers of the world are not signatory to this law.

Item 25 of the Resolution also states that it "Supports the Commission's postponement of budget support disbursements to the Ethiopian government since December 2020; calls on the Commission to continue its life-saving support for the region aimed at civil society and independent humanitarian organizations, and to step up its efforts to ensure the safety of children; calls on the Commission to reconsider its limitation of budget support to implementing measures in order to allow the continued implementation of development projects outside the conflict zone". The continuation of sanctions on Ethiopia is therefore another vivid attempt to pressurize and economically weaken Ethiopia so that the country will depend on western aid program.

See A timeline of... Page 15

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

Art & Culture

Why African writers are underrepresented in Nobel Prize for Literature

BY MULUGETA GUDETA

When last year the Nobel Prize for literature went to the African writer Gurnah, Nigerian Nobel winner Wole Soyinka, considered by many as the colossus African literature, said that the Prize had come back to the continent. This was both a scathing remark and an understated criticism that the Prize was taken away in favor of non-African writers. This was a true statement reflecting the biases, racial and cultural prejudices of the Nobel establishment often criticized for being too European.

This year too, the prejudice against black writers by the Nobel committee has returned to the surface with the granting of the prestigious ward to a French writer of little reputation and global impact. Writing in a blog page under the title “The Chase for the Literature Nobel Prize Crown”, the blogger Florian Zandt said that, “This year’s, i.e. 2021, laureate Abdulrazak Gurnah is only the fifth African being awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

According to the jury, the Tanzanian novelist received the prize “for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents”. While Gurnah’s win might be a start in addressing criticism of the laureate selection being too lopsided in favor of European men, African countries still fall far behind the places with the most winners as our chart indicates.”

The blog page Africa is a Country carried another biting criticism of the Nobel selecting committee in its October 10, 2022 blog page by saying that, “The award of the Nobel prize in literature to French author Annie Ernaux is both an occasion to reflect on the politics of prestigious literary prizes (even though Abdulrazak Gurnah won the prize last year, the inclusion of Africans remains wanting), and, to think more generally about the world of arts and letters itself.”

When will Nigerian Ngozi Adichie and Kenyan Ngugi wa Tiongo win the Prize?

Who is Annie Ernaux? According to one information, Annie Thérèse Blanche Ernaux (née Duchesne; born 1 September 1940) is a French writer, professor of literature and Nobel laureate. Her literary work, mostly autobiographical, maintains close links with sociology. Ernaux was awarded the 2022 Nobel Prize in Literature “for the courage and clinical acuity with which she uncovers the roots, estrangements and collective restraints of personal memory”. According to available data, “The French author Annie Ernaux has won the 2022 Nobel prize in literature at the age of 82. Of the 119 awarded, Ernaux is only the 18th woman Nobel laureate in literature and the first French woman to have won the prize.” Eighteen women writers have so far been granted the prize while no African woman has so far received one.

Personally, I know only one black woman who has won the prize for literature and that is African-American author Toni Morrison. While Eurocentric writers lament that only 18 women have so far won the prize no one seems



Annie Ernaux-Winner of this year's Nobel Prize for literature



to be concerned that only one black woman has so far grabbed the prestigious prize. This was not because there are no African women writers who deserve the honor but because of the prevailing race and gender bias that have subconsciously or deliberately dictated the choice of the Nobel committee.

Coming back to the question of racial prejudice in the selection of candidates for the prize, one is tempted to look at the case of Kenyan writer Ngugi wa Tiongo whose literary career span many decades and his reputation as the champion of the African poor and marginalized both in the pre and post-colonial periods, and has eluded the Nobel committee’s selection process. Ngugi has been on the list of possible candidates to

in the prize although he is so far invisible to the Nobel selection committee.

Ngugi is a global champion of the anti-neocolonial politics of both Europe and the United States where he is now residing. The Nobel committee has never granted the award to an African writer whose politics contradicts the ideology of the Nobel establishment. Ngugi’s themes deal with the black human condition under neocolonialism and the destiny of the African tyrants who are continuing to oppress and steal their people. This is theme of Ngugi’s huge masterpiece, i.e. *Wizard of the Crow*, an end of century drama that engages neocolonialists, local tyrants and their victims. As such, Ngugi takes a global view of politics at the end of the 20th and the beginning of the 21st centuries. Thus no one can blame him for taking an “Afrocentric” position when it comes to life under neocolonial oppression in Africa.

The same can be said about Chinua Achebe who died without receiving the prize although he is considered the best African writer on the anti-colonial ideological spectrum and

a fiery critic of the Nigerian elites who connived with Western political elites to steal from their own country and stash their loots in foreign banks while tens of millions of the African underclass suffer in untold misery, poverty and lack of freedom. As corruption has become an international or universal phenomenon, Achebe’s themes are as relevant as now as they were back in the 1950s and 1960s.

When we look into the comments on the blog page of Africa is a Country, we find comments like, Ernaux’s accolade follows a season of voluminous writing on her latest texts, treatments of her oeuvre as a whole, and

assessments of her place in the broader canon. This is an output we rarely see for an African writer. Not just appraisals and commendations, but engagement that challenges too. Thirty years ago already, the Marxist critic Terry Eagleton proclaimed that “criticism today lacks all substantive social function. It is

either part of the public relations branch of the literary industry, or a matter wholly internal to the academies.”

In other words, the whole cultural establishment in France had been waging a public relations campaign in the form of literary criticism or appraisals in its bid to get Annie Ernaux win this year’s Nobel Prize for literature. The blog page was rather blunt on this point. It said that, “Much as this is a widespread phenomenon, nowhere is the tradition of writing social critique aimed at a broader public more in jeopardy than in Africa. Most critical discourse is either the output of academics looking for forums to host scholarly work that otherwise would have collected dust behind journal paywalls,

or, is opinion hastily composed from on high by public intellectuals who have grown accustomed to their cultural authority. Both tendencies fail to take the public seriously.”

The truth is that the European intellectual elites were praising their “own candidate” while African writers never enjoyed such a public relation backing in the form of literary criticism. Their works are largely unknown even within the continent because African intellectuals are fond of European or American writers rather than their own authors. Their education is entirely Western, thus tinged with neocolonial critical biases and prejudices. This may be why outstanding African writers like Ngugi have so far fail to appear on the list of potential Nobel candidates for literature.

Ernaux’s emergence from relative global darkness limited recognition to win the Nobel Prize might also be interpreted as a shift in French literary criticism from its tradition of relative honesty to growing bias in this age and time when the global struggle is between ideas of freedom and global oppression. This may also be seen as a thinly veiled betrayal of the French ideal encapsulated in the well-known motto of Liberty, Equality and Brotherhood. The struggle is not however stopping at this stage as more and more young African writers are taking up the theme of neocolonialism and globalized oppression in their works.

Nigerian young writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie works like *Americanah* make her an ideal candidate for future Nobel literary award. According to Encyclopedia According to Wikipedia, “*Americanah* is a 2013 novel by the Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, for which Adichie won the 2013 U.S. National Book Critics Circle Award for fiction. *Americanah* tells the story of a young Nigerian woman, Ifemelu, who immigrates to the United States to attend university. The novel traces Ifemelu’s life in both countries, threaded by her love story with high school classmate Obinze. It was Adichie’s third novel, published on May 14, 2013 by Alfred A. Knopf. A television miniseries, starring and produced by Lupita Nyong’o, was in development for HBO Max, but then was later dropped.”

With time and maturity, Adichie may one day become the first African woman to win the Nobel Prize for literature. Other African writer may also come forward to claim the mantle while the racial and political bias of the Nobel Prize committee is bound to lose the battle or be forced to drop its black versus white mentality as the world continues to recognize and honor talent more than color.

It is however a long established African tradition to celebrate victors and congratulate this year’s winner of the Nobel Prize for getting recognition at the mature old age of 84 and the labor she put in to reach the summit of literary achievement. Will Ngugi win next year’s Nobel award? This is a question that must be on the hearts and minds of all Africans and his fans that are eager to see him prove that Africa too has its share of talented thinkers and writers who deserve the most prestigious award offered by a Western establishment.

Law & Politics

Countering coordinated terrorism in the Horn of Africa

BY ADDISALEM MULAT

As things stand at the moment, the region of the Horn of Africa is turning out to be a hotbed of terrorist groups, extremism, militarization, and other wicked deeds that can in the shortest possible time move the entire region into uncharted waters.

Apart from posing an imminent threat in the territory, the ill-minded terrorist groups have been making a supreme effort to dismantle the Horn of Africa and accomplish their hidden motives.

Notwithstanding the fact that the groups know the fact that they cannot make their hidden agenda become a reality by any means whatsoever as a consequence of the concerted efforts of the member states, they have been pulling out all the stops to pull to pieces this strategic region.

As the criminal syndicates have been housing themselves under the Horn of Africa skies, they spare no effort to turn the region into pandemonium. As the criminal organizations have been working with a broad range of criminal groups for their nefarious mission, they sustained coming up with layers of plots more than ever before.

In the present climate, on the heels of actions against the law of the terrorist groups in the Horn of Africa, member countries have been confronting pressure in the face of their own internal difficulties that need a quick fix and a Band-Aid solution. The aforementioned circumstance on the ground in black and white demonstrates the need to foster regional security cooperation.

For the sake of truth, unless the entire Horn region members' states work in close collaboration to thwart the increasing imminent threat posed by the terrorist groups, leading a peaceful life would not be a walk in the park or low-hanging fruit. Above and beyond, as the groups feel like a chicken with its head cut off in the absence of conflict, they have been leaving no stone unturned to break apart strategic place and accomplish the vested interests of their paymasters.

Ethiopia for instance is fighting the unholy alliances of the criminal syndicates among a wide spectrum of terrorist groups like terrorist TPLF group, OLF-Shene, Al-Shabab, and other criminal groups.

Serving as the Trojan horse of the historic adversary of the Horn of Africa, the groups in a number of situations have been claiming the lives of noncombatants in the region.

In addition to playing a part in barbarism, massacres, destructions, and other criminal acts, the groups have been reducing social infrastructure of noncombatants into ashes.

It should be borne in mind that lately, Al-Shabab has continued making incursions in Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Somalia as well. Ethiopia which is known for combating against terrorism at all hours of the day and



night in the Horn of Africa has been carrying out a wide spectrum of fruitful activities to ensure peace and tranquility.

It must not be forgotten that Ethiopia has been many a time and of fighting against the Al-Shabab criminal enterprise and accomplishing the desired goal by deploying in Somalia its highly skilled troops that know the nitty-gritty of military skills.

It is a well-known fact that very recently, Ethiopia has successfully repealed and killed 800 Al-Shabab fighters including their top commander that had been moving heaven and earth to turn upside down the horn of Africa. On the subject of the issue, quite a lot of print and electronic media outlets worldwide had reported the evil deeds of terrorist groups.

Ethiopia's military says security forces killed more than 800 fighters from the Somali militant group al-Shabab after Shabab fighters launched a rare cross-border attack.

General Tesfaye Ayalew, the Head of the Deployment for Ethiopia's National Defense Forces, said more than 800 al-Shabab fighters, including 24 top leaders, were killed in recent operations against the group.

He said al-Shabab tried to infiltrate Ethiopia through the country's eastern border but they have been "successfully thwarted by the joint efforts of the security forces."

The president of Ethiopia's Somali State announced that Ethiopian forces will establish a buffer zone inside Somalia to stop further al-Shabab attacks across the border. Authorities in Somalia's Bakool region welcomed the announcement and said it would help stabilize the region.

Al-Shabab has also been fighting the Somali government and African Union troops in Somalia for more than 15 years, carrying out attacks in Somalia and neighboring Kenya. Experts believe that the group's

attack in Ethiopia was meant to show the group still poses a danger to Horn of African countries.

In a statement issued recently, the National Security Council mentioned that the Somali Regional States demonstrated encouraging combat against the terrorist group by awakening and mobilizing the people to annihilate the enemy.

The federal government effectively responded by organizing a command post that incorporated members of the National Defense Forces. In this operation, 813 and 79 members of the terrorist group have been killed and detained respectively.

Lately, Security Expert Abebe Muluneh, told local media that the recent Al-Shabab attack on Ethiopia was primarily intended to serve as propaganda against Ethiopia. The fighters were sent to Ethiopia by Al-Shabab with the knowledge that they would never succeed or survive. The leaders of the group, however, spread this falsehood about attacking Ethiopia to recruit new youths.

The fight against Al-Shabab can be resolved if the Horn countries conduct a quick operation at the same time. Abebe believes Al-Shabab might be destroyed with a well-planned military operation. The military forces of Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, and Djibouti must be combined in order to carry out a massive operation at once, he suggested.

Al-Shabab will keep trying to take over Somalia unless the Horn states unite in a powerful military alliance and utterly crush it. As a show of might, the strikes on neighboring nations continue as well. But the new Somalia administration needs to be powerful in order to organize the coalition.

Since the beginning of time, Ethiopia has actively played a part in the peacekeeping mission in a wide spectrum of nations worldwide aimed at bringing about the

peace of the population of the world with flying colors. As a matter of fact, it is common knowledge that a considerable amount of the global community knows the peacekeeping force of Ethiopia and its accomplishments under the world skies.

Whenever something happens in any part of the world, no matter what it costs Ethiopia under the United Nations Peacekeeping leaves from time to time no stone unturned to get to the bottom of the problem and pacify glitches at the earliest possible juncture. Ethiopia managed to sign a wide spectrum of security cooperation with most nations situated in the East African Region such as South Sudan, Sudan, Somalia, Kenya, Burundi, Djibouti, and other nations.

Be that as it may, in the present climate, widening its attack, the extremist group killed seven Djibouti soldiers aimed at moving the country into uncharted waters.

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia condemns the barbaric and cowardly attack on October 7, 2022, on the Tadjourah Regiment of the Djiboutian Army. It conveys its deepest sympathies and condolences to the families of the bereaved, injured, and missing, as well as to the people and Government of the Republic of Djibouti, as learnt from a press release issued by MoFA.

The Government of Ethiopia stands in solidarity with the Government and people of the Republic of Djibouti at this difficult moment and expresses its full readiness to closely work together with the Government of the Republic of Djibouti in tackling the scourge of terrorism in the region.

By the same token, National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister Ambassador Redwan Hussien has condemned in the strongest terms the attack by an armed group on the Tadjourah Regiment of the Djibouti army at Garabistan.

During the course of his meeting with the Djiboutian delegation comprised of the Chief of intelligence, police, and deputy chief of Staff, Amb. Redwan has expressed dismay at the recent attack. At the event, both agreed to assess the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on security and border control and vowed to enhance joint cooperation and operation.

It is to be recalled that Ethiopia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) has also recently conveyed its deepest sympathies and condolences to the families of the bereaved, injured, and missing, as well as to the people and Government of the Republic of Djibouti.

In its statement, MoFA stated that the Government of Ethiopia stands in solidarity with the Government and people of the Republic of Djibouti at this difficult moment and expresses its full readiness to closely work together with the Government of the Republic of Djibouti in tackling the scourge of terrorism in the region.

“PM Abiy’s various projects make me happy; no one denies the reality on the ground,”

Getachew T. Million

BY GIRMACHEW GASHAW

Today’s Guest Getachew T. Million is a Board Secretary General for Council for Ethiopian Diaspora Action (CEDA). He was born and raised in Tepi Town of the then Illubabor province. He then went to Jimma and Wollega towns to attend primary and secondary school education.

After completing high school education, Getachew joined Hurso Military Academy which trained cadets. He had been engaging in the 46 war fronts including JigJiga, Togo Chale, Wardare, Kebrdehar. While he was in the Ethiopia Defense Force, he had been operating heavy weapons such as Cannon, 122 mm howitzer 2A18 (D-30), 130 mm towed field gun and BM21. He attended surveillance training that was offered by high level Russia and Cuba experts. He then had been preparing maps and scales for mechanized regiment operated in Eastern Ethiopia during the Derge regime.

He was injured four times and paid a lot of sacrifices for his country. After he survived, he also discharged national duty in Awash Arba Combat Technique School. He trained the Sudan Liberation Front (SPLA) army in Gambella, Assosa, Gizen, Debazine according to the instruction given to him by the then government.

Getachew also assisted Somali National Movement (SNM) members to ensure freedom in their country. As per the instruction given to him, he had discharged high level reconnaissance tasks in various parts of Sudan and Ethiopian border areas in a bid to protect the national sovereignty of his country.

The Ethiopian Herald made a short stay with Getachew to know more about Diaspora participation in the overall political and social economic affairs of the country. Have a nice read.

Would you tell us the reason that strained you to migrate from Ethiopia?

I was good at my schooling. Later on, I had thorough knowledge in operating a Cannon that required applying various mathematical calculations in order to make it fall down going far beyond its limited capacity. Together with other soldiers, we had a bitter struggle with terrorist TPLF fighters in the Chilga front. At the end of the day, many of our friends sacrificed their lives. Seven of us migrated to Sudan in order not to yield hands to our enemies. I then joined the Ethiopian People Democracy Alliance. I went to Khartoum as the situation had not been giving me comfort. Considering the reconnaissance experience that I did couple with my educational background, the Canadian government facilitated conditions for me to go there as urgently as possible.

Following the Gulf war, all the embassies in Sudan left the country as Sudan mainly had been supporting the Iraqi government. I took the last flight together with many of the ambassadors.

I have attended technical education from various universities. I spent my time studying on the issue which made my country more beneficial. I studied the method of transporting and operating nuclear and ballistic missiles.

What is your responsibility in the Ethiopian People’s Patriotic Front (EPPF)? Would you briefly explain your role please?

I was not interested in going out of Sudan; instead, I had the desire to fight against the TPLF. Before I left for Canada, I had been giving medical assistance for Ethiopian Democratic Union (EDU) soldiers. Some people who knew that I adore my country advised me to go to Canada. However, I had worked in an international organization found in Sudan. This experience and the document I submitted to the embassy made my journey to Canada painless.

I started the struggle being a member of the Ethiopia Medhin Democratic Party which led by Colonel Goshu Wolde and General Taye Tilahun. I also have participated in Toronto Charter. I repeatedly came to the Ethiopia border and made a military map for some strategic places. Then, I began to Support General Haile Melese participating in various military operations.



I was military and intelligence advisor for Engineer Kitaw Ejigu’s Ethiopia National United Front. I had played a critical role for the release of Ethiopian soldiers from Eretria. Following the downfall of the Derg regime, the Addis Ababa University students who had gone to war were scattered. By then I was the first to appear in person loading various funds and clothes to the student together with Melaku Seyome who represented the party in Canada. We also provided satellite phones and other military equipment for freedom fighters in front in order to sustain the struggle.

As my task was a reconnaissance one, no one could see it vividly. Finally, considering that TPLF has not been able to fall down, we established a party called-Core Ethiopia.

Would you mention some of the sacrifices you paid during the struggle against TPLF?

Prison and attempt of assassination were common during TPLF regime. While I was in the struggle against T-TPLF, they poisoned me. As I was hospitalized in serious condition, I immediately went out of Ethiopia to Canada through Kenya. I had been paralyzed due to the stroke I faced. Even though I was in a position to accuse the government of Ethiopia, I refused it. Thanks to the government of Canada, I survived. I then returned home and had been getting holy water treatment until regained my health. I am now fully recovered from the disease. From the

time I was poisoned, I am very careful in every activity that I do.

Together with Eng. Kitaw Ejigu, you planned to destroy the TPLF once and for all. What was that?

Eng. Kitaw who had an excellent vision to ensure prosperity in Ethiopia. The party led by him was a pioneer in developing its own political programs. He, for instance, had also devised a military strategy which would enable the country to be powerful in the Horn of Africa. What Engineer Kitaw and I were asked by donors was to merge with other parties that were struggling against TPLF.

In Ethiopia, many political party leaders had been struggling to hold power instead of fighting for the respect of people’s interest. If they had been fought for the public interest, many results would be gained. During the time, we had fruitful discussions with various governments and some of them provided various assistances. However, Eng. Kitaw, renowned in his excellent scientific knowledge, lost appetite in unifying parties that had been struggling against the ruling TPLF.

Would you say something about the Ethiopian Science Museum which was inaugurated recently? What would be its significance for a nation’s development?

We visited the Science Museum as soon as we arrived here in Addis. After I saw the space given to national intelligence which is very astonishing, I concluded that Engineer Kitaw is not dead. Terrorist TPLF had opened a psychological war



Herald Guest



disseminating baseless allegations as if Eng. Kitaw was not a scientist.

The task that has been done so far elevates the level of science and technology. (Who knows?), in the next five to ten years, Ethiopian youths will be reaching to the highest level in science and technology.

What makes things arduous in this country was, we (Ethiopians) do not know the nation's resource potential. The Science Museum, which runs under the Science and Technology Institute, has significant importance in terms of minimizing high cost of living, accelerating the working system and advancing the technology. It encourages the youth to come up with innovative ideas that can develop the country. I am very happy after visiting the museum. This, by itself, is a stepping stone for the advancement of the country.

About four elapsed since the reformist leaders came to power. What was your feeling when you heard a regime change in Ethiopia?

Here, it is imperative to note one important thing. Both the Derg and EPRDF regimes were known in cultural genocide apart from creating chaos in social, economic and political arenas. Specifically, the terrorist TPLF led government had been deliberately bulldozing the nation instead of advancing it. The party overshadowed one culture on the others and opened doors for some western governments who needed to see the disintegration of Ethiopians.

Assuming that war had been ignited between the reform government and T-TPLF forces, Core Ethiopia had a vision of bringing deep-rooted change in the country. T-TPLF group has never slept unless it sees the disintegration of this country. As we clearly recognizing this fact, we did not support the reform which is taking place in this country since its inception. I would rather prefer to support 80 percent of the job done by PM Abiy and even if the remaining tasks are not convenient for me. However, the PM has been doing various socioeconomic rehabilitation tasks which satisfied me. I believe the remaining issue would be addressed through time if the people at large support PM Abiy so as to realize his dreams.

What is your take when you think of the intended negotiation between the Ethiopian government and T-TPLF?

I want to respond your question-in-question. Why do you think some western governments raised the issue of negotiation at times when the defense force was on the verge of destroying the TPLF? Why did they remain silent at times when TPLF controlled some towns near the Capital and the PM decided to go to the war front? I think the time is over for some western countries which had played on Ethiopia's sovereignty.

Negotiation is promising but I cannot support it if it is with terrorist TPLF. The willingness of the government alone will not make the negotiation effective. Inherently, terrorist TPLF will not able to apply give-and-take principles. We have to consider how much of the country's economy was destroyed due to the attack ignited by the T-TPLF group. Primarily,



the government had allowed them to leave in peace, they instead attack the defense force, destroyed infrastructures, looted properties of civilians and social institutions and made gang rape and other war crime in Amhara and Afar states. How could we negotiate with this terrorist group? Who is responsible for the death of civilians both in Amhara and Tigray States? We know that some western countries, who do not want Ethiopia's progress, are behind T-TPLF. All in all, I will not support the negotiation with TPLF.

How do you evaluate the contribution of the Ethiopian Diaspora especially in terms of reversing the influence of some western countries?

We have been making various activities so as to defend Ethiopia discussing with American congress members and Canadian higher officials. We made various demonstrations against the T-TPLF. The council also raises awareness of the media practitioners telling the reality on the ground.

The Diaspora engagement has reached to the highest level. In this difficult time where Ethiopia has been struggling to stand on its feet, the Ethiopian diaspora together with Ethiopian defense forces have played a critical role in defending the sovereignty of their country. Apart from making various demonstrations, the Diaspora knocked the door of western politicians and officials to enlighten about the current situation in the country. We are not cruel-hearted to blank over our country. We have wealth, knowledge but we are always missing our country bearing in mind equivalent to our mother.

Some fans of the terrorist TPLF who reside abroad are now defaming the reputation of the true diaspora who work day and night to assist his country. The Ethiopian government has not prepared enough policy and strategy with regard to the Diaspora. If it was fulfilled, we can do even more. Israel, England, France are countries built by the due participation of the diaspora community. If this is so, we (Ethiopians) can develop our economy

through involving the diaspora community in the overall economy. If the diaspora, were established an international bank, the foreign currency could not be manipulated by terrorist TPLF as money laundering will not have a space. The banks which will establish in the near future may not be dependent on foreign financial institutions. For how long we have been relaying on the aid of western countries knowing the fact they want to remain dependent on a penny throw from them.

The diaspora can have the capacity to change the country. If a network is established between the sons of diaspora and local youths, we can adopt many technologies. With this, the country will be developed and have a unified state that no one can stand against its sovereignty.

We have to change our culture of work. Now some of the diaspora has appeared in person and strived to participate in various development activities. However, a great number of diaspora communities with knowledge and financial capacity are still not showing interest to come home. The absence of lucid diaspora strategy discouraged them to come and invest at home.

We should not give little attention for the diaspora. Some of them are still serving foreign institutions such as universities, pentagon, and health institutions. Even if they have a desire to come home, they could not have clear understanding about political strategy of the government which needs to be working on it.

If all preconditions are fulfilled, do you think that it will arouse the interest of the diaspora to come home?

The Ethiopian Diaspora Council has planned to do three important things. We facilitate conditions for the diaspora and foreigners to invest in Ethiopia. Diaspora residing in Canada, France and Italy are able to create a network. Thus, this practice has to be replicated in other parts where many Ethiopians are residing.

The other important thing is building the country's image through promoting tourism as Ethiopia is a country conducive

for tourism. In this regard, PM Abiy's various projects make me happy and no one denies the fact on the ground.

The message I want to convey for the Ethiopian diaspora is, instead of cursing the country, come and see what is going on in the country and give comments. The PM has been doing various tasks for the development of his country in order to transfer a civilized country for posterity.

The third thing is investing in posterity. This means protecting the coming generation from being addicted to Khat and drugs. These days, many of our cultures have been destroyed. Now, the culture of respecting elders has vanished. What we see in our night clubs is a cultural genocide. In order to save the coming generation, lawmakers have to devise laws in order to tackle cultural destruction.

If we change our culture of work and avoid unwanted practices, there is no pulling factor which prevents us from reaching the stage where some developed countries reach. The country has now going on the right truck and the remaining thing is ensuring peace. For this to happen, our defense force has been discharging various duties.

How did you see the international human right organization report which contradicted with the joint Ethiopian and UN humanitarian organizations report?

The diaspora council has not accepted the EU's report. Many international organizations have released biased information about the situation in Ethiopia. They tarnish the reputation of the Ethiopian defense force. In my opinion, there is no army better than that of the Ethiopian Defense Force in terms of discipline. I had an opportunity to visit the defense force in Canada, Israel and the US and I have never seen an army disciplined like that of Ethiopian soldiers.

If the army is not disciplined, why does it treat soldiers who yield hands for it? The army is a disciplined one, known for discharging peacekeeping missions in different African countries. I have full confidence in our army. The report is a biased one. Why do they hide the crimes of T-TPLF instead of reporting to the UN? The Ethiopian army has never done the crime listed in the report.

There is a Go-fund-me platform which is carried out here and there in the name of Ethiopians. How can this be managed properly? What should be done to participate in the diaspora in development endeavors?

I, together with Core Dawit, have developed a system to solve issues related to Go-Fund-Me platform. Previously, there is a Go-Fund-Me platform which is carried out at personal level and abused by some coordinators of it. The person who collects the fund allocates half of the fund for its purpose and uses the remaining for his own. We can address the problem through opening a local account and anyone can support transferring money directly to the account. We need to establish a bank to transfer money in that way. This is a good system that accelerates the development of the country.

Thank you for your time.

You're welcome.

Cultivating young learners through AI

BY MENGISTEAB TESHOME

Over the past several years, Artificial Intelligence technologies (AI) have started changing our daily lives. Innovations are rolled out at an accelerated pace, not only in professional working environments but also at home and in schools.

The competition in using AI among nations is getting fierce because the return is rewarding. The sectors, transaction, health, agriculture, trade, commodity exchange and the whole industry are consumed by Artificial Intelligence to attract business, make life easier and add value as well as increasing satisfaction to customers.

According to Global Information Society Watch, despite the lack of an enabling environment, the Artificial Intelligence sector has been a growing phenomenon in Ethiopia over the last five years, with various reports indicating the country is becoming a thriving center for AI research and development including robotics.

Ethiopia, as part of its commitment to advance science and technology sector; and digital transformation endeavors, recently the country inaugurated the first state-of-the-art Science Museum in Addis Ababa.

The Ethiopian Herald, to learn about the impact of the newly inaugurated Science Museum on the education system, improving the outcomes of learning and how it assists students to adapt to AI at their early childhood education, approached Abebe Chernet, Addis Ababa City Government Education Bureau Public and Communication Directorate Director.

As to him, the AI Science Museum has lasting impact in nurturing the posterity - to build their understanding about AI, develop their learning activity and aptitude, and make them critical thinkers aside from enhancing the quality of education that the nation is striving for.

What is more, AI science museums let the students get first hand practical experiences for the reason they are equipped with state of the art in puts. Furthermore, this year's academic curriculum incorporates Information Technology and computers to be offered to students starting from primary level of education, the AI science museum will serve as center for resources.

Some of the advantages AI brings is, it provides easy access to information, impacts the teaching and learning environment of schools, provides global connection and learning aid, respectively and beyond. Students who pass through these all exposures will be creative and the facilities like the science museum brings practical exposure to the new blood.

"Families and schools should bring students to the AI Science Museum center. In the museum, they could touch and operate which in turn inspires and lets children and young students attach themselves to master it."



Addis Ababa City Government Education Bureau is working with all private and public schools to motivate them to bring the students to the AI museum.

Not only this; but AI innovation also brings about economic benefits by the creation of new job streams. Higher education as well as the primary and secondary schools are duty bound to familiarize their students through practical engagements; and the newly science museum could give the opportunity in this regard.

"It is the right time to cultivate the human capital in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and make Ethiopia hub of AI in Africa; and role model to the rest of Africa," he remarked.

Prof. Tommy Meyer, Computer Science Teacher and Researcher at the Center for Artificial Intelligence at the University of Cape Town, South Africa was one of the invited academicians and deliberated a paper in relation to AI at the Science Museum. As to him, the priority given by Ethiopia to expedite technological infrastructures in the country will help to find ways in addressing African problems through African digital solutions.

Technological and digital transformation is not something to be left for the next generation, but needs to be started today, developed through time, he said.

He further noted that children and youth should be trained in the field so that they can grow with being able to understand what Artificial Intelligence is.

In this regard, science and technology museums like the one Ethiopia has built could play a great role in cultivating youth who are well informed about AI, Prof. Meyer said.

He also explained that it is not possible to solve Africa's problems in a sustainable way with directly applied technologies imported from other countries. Therefore, "We need African Artificial Intelligence and other digital options for Africa's problems," he stressed.

As to him, making this a reality is the next

big homework of African countries.

He mentioned that Ethiopia is carrying out exemplary technological infrastructure constructions in a short period of time.

The Ethiopian Artificial Intelligence Institute, which was established two years ago, is doing its part to bring together African scholars and researchers in the field, Prof. Meyer remarked.

Director General of Ethiopian Artificial Intelligence, Engineer Warku Gachna on his part said that Ethiopia's focus on technology development, including telecom infrastructure, will create opportunities for digital transformation.

The country will work to expand service delivery assisted with digital technology by creating favorable conditions, he said.

He also affirmed that Ethiopia is committed working closely with African countries, especially in the field of artificial intelligence.

The journalists drawn from different African countries, including from Ghana, Cameroon, South Africa and Niger also visited the recently inaugurated Ethiopian Science Museum.

As to the journalists, the Museum will change the erroneous narratives against Africa.

Rwandan Journalist Johnson Canmujere told to local media that the museum shows Africa's current position and its future aspiration in science sector.

"In my view, this is a step in the right direction as we want to see in the future and going forward; we want to see Africans thinking of the western while going out of the continent to outsource solutions."

"That is basically what I see; and as an African writer and journalist this tells me that I need to amplify this story and give space for African scientists, innovators and anyone in the science field as such we talk of the continent as not miserable, it is all about conflict and we can't help ourselves," he elaborated.

He added that Ethiopia has self-reliantly started its journey of development and prosperity through scientific innovations.

The museum is instrumental to avert the false narrative of portraying Africa with conflict and poverty and maintain the reality that it is a beacon of hope.

South African Journalist, Simi Aref expressed that Ethiopia's experience in this regard should be expanded across the continent. "Africa is a hub of technology. I think there is a lot of technology and tech minds in Africa and this should be reported more throughout Africa. I think museums like this and exhibitions help showcase all our talents," he noted.

African Union Communication Head, Wynne Musabayana said that the museum is an eye opener for Africans. "In the African Union we have a communications function and the aim is to reframe the narrative about Africa and what the world knows about Africa.

So being here at this fair has really shown us the progress that Africa is making, especially in terms of the youth of technology and artificial intelligence (AI) in particular.

"We have seen some displays from the Ethiopian Artificial Intelligence Institute about health, monitoring security and things like that. So it is really wonderful to see that Africa is making so much progress on its own because we always say that as Africans we need to find solutions to our problems and we can see that the institute is doing exactly that."

We are here with a group of media people as well as content creators and it is under what we call African media fellowship.

"So this is part of that exercise to let them be aware of the different developments in science and technology and many other areas of our existence," she elaborated.

The journalists also visited Unity Park and noted that there are immense contents that are original and items of heritage that could attract tourists.

A timeline of global...

On October 5, the Ethiopian Federal Government and the rebel group in Tigray accepted negotiations under the auspices of AU led negotiation. October 5, EU parliament passed a resolution on the situation in Tigray

Furthermore, on August 6, 2022, The African Union Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS) has reached an agreement to accommodate the UN, EU and the US to be part of the AU's team designated to broker peace between the federal government of Ethiopia and the terrorist TPLF. The announcement came after the AU Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) decided to "build on the momentum for a negotiated peace in Ethiopia."

Rejecting the AU-led peace negotiations, the TPLF called for Western intervention in Ethiopia before resuming the war on August 24 by invading Kobo and rejecting the credibility of AU to conduct negotiations. This ended the five-month long truce with Ethiopia's federal government, weeks after envoys from the US and EU visited Mekele.

Consequently, on October 7, 2022, in a resolution on the situation of human rights in Ethiopia, the UNHRC decided

to renew the mandate of the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia for a further period of one year. It is to be recalled that almost all African countries and several European countries including Denmark rejected the extension and the report from the Team of Experts which came up with the worst investigative report which was not only inadequate but also professionally void.

On October 1, 2022 Kenya's former President, Uhuru Kenyatta said he has accepted the invitation from AU to preside over the negotiation between the FGoE but changed his mind on October 7, 2022 that he will skip the scheduled peace talks between the Ethiopian Government and rebel group Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), citing "conflicts in my schedule."

In another development, Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa (SEHOA) Mike Hammer will travel to Kenya, South Africa, and Ethiopia October 3-18, 2022. Special Envoy Hammer is returning to the region as part of ongoing U.S. diplomatic efforts to achieve an immediate cessation of hostilities in northern Ethiopia and support the launch of African Union-led

peace talks.

While all this network of conspiracy was being hatched, On the 10th of October in total rejection of the AU coordination, the terrorist group declared an all out war against the people and Government of Ethiopia by calling upon all Tigrayan citizens to go to the battle front.

On October 7, 2022, reporting from Kyiv Reuters stated that, A fifth vessel chartered by the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) has left Ukraine's Black Sea port of Chornomorsk and will deliver 30,000 tones of Ukrainian wheat to Ethiopia, Ukraine's infrastructure ministry said on Friday.

Earlier over the year, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has said that Ethiopia did not demand any relief aid support of wheat and indicated that the shipments were meant to discredit Ethiopia's efforts to be self sufficient in food and that the nation is still full of hungry people. Ethiopia is expecting a bumper harvest of wheat which she would export to neighboring Kenya.

According to world wheat market source Ethiopia is ranked first in wheat production

in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) followed by South Africa [3]. However, its average productivity of 2.4 t ha⁻¹ is lower than 6.7, 3.5, and 3.0 t ha⁻¹ reported in Egypt, South Africa, and Kenya, respectively. The reader can see how the western media works on discrediting Ethiopia's efforts by focusing on productivity of wheat while the main issue is the volume of production of wheat at the national level.

It certainly appears that the EU is the now the leading the global conspiracy on Ethiopia on behalf of the western powers. All the meetings, resolutions and diplomatic maneuvers here and there are targeting the nascent democracy in Ethiopia that is already entangled with unprecedented internal and external multi-faceted challenges.

Sudan and Egypt are already busy providing logistics, training and financial support for terrorist TPLF on its 4th round of war on Ethiopia as part of the global conspiracy to weaken, dwarf and humiliate Ethiopia on every area they find at their disposal including economic, political propaganda campaign on the country to save a terrorist organization that has continued to enslave 6 million citizens in Tigray.

International News

Nigerian court drops charges against separatist leader Kanu

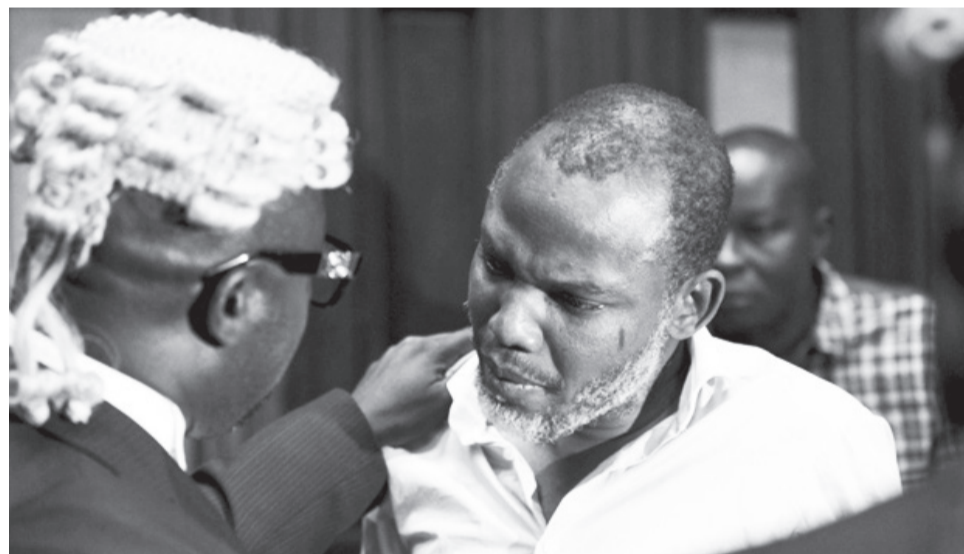
The decision to drop the charges was a unanimous one by the three judges at the Nigerian appellate court.

Nigeria's Court of Appeal has dropped terrorism charges brought by the government against separatist leader Nnamdi Kanu in a unanimous decision by all three judges hearing the case.

On Thursday, the lead judge dismissed a seven-count charge of terrorism against Kanu and discharged him, saying a lower court had no jurisdiction to try the case and that Kanu was abducted and extraordinarily extradited to Nigeria.

"In view of the fact that the trial court lacks jurisdiction to hear this case because the process of extradition of the appellant from Kenya to Nigeria was unlawful since due process was not followed, this appeal succeeds," the lead judge, Justice Oludotun Adefope Okojie, said.

"Consequently, the appellant is therefore



discharged," she said.

In April, Nigeria's High Court ruled that Kanu should stand trial.

He leads the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB), which campaigns for the secession of southeastern Nigeria where the majority

are of Igbo ethnicity.

Nigerian authorities have labelled IPOB a 'terrorist' organisation.

A spokesperson for Nigeria's attorney general said the government was considering its legal options following Thursday's ruling but said

the charges Kanu faced before he disappeared while on bail in April 2017 "remain valid issues for judicial determination".

Kanu had denied the charges of terrorism and knowingly broadcasting falsehoods, which are linked to social media posts he issued between 2018 and last year.

His lawyers argued that he could not receive a fair trial because he was forcefully extradited from Kenya to Nigeria. Kenya has declined to say if it played a role in Kanu's return.

An attempt by Igbo separatists to secede as the Republic of Biafra in 1967 — the year that Kanu was born — triggered a three-year civil war that killed more than one million people.

Since Kanu's trials began in Abuja, IPOB has ordered residents of the southeast to "sit-at-home", a form of civil disobedience to show solidarity with Kanu.

Source: Aljazeera

Uganda's president promotes son after he threatens to invade Kenya

Uganda's president Yoweri Museveni has promoted his son to the rank of general despite his tweets threatening to capture the capital of neighboring Kenya in an unprovoked attack.

Muhoozi Kainerugaba, 48, a senior military officer, issued a series of tweets, saying his military could capture Nairobi within two weeks and appeared to goad enraged Kenyans as he went on to joke about his previous remarks.

The Ugandan president subsequently sacked him as commander of the army's land forces and sought "forgiveness" for his son's remarks.

But any thoughts that Mr Kainerugaba's career was about to end in disgrace were scotched when he was then promptly promoted by his father.

The move is seen by some as confirmation that Mr Museveni is grooming his son to take

over when he steps down. The 78-year-old has ruled Uganda since 1986.

"I ask our Kenyan brothers and sisters to forgive us for tweets sent by General Muhoozi, former commander of land forces here, regarding the election matters in that great country," Mr Museveni said in a statement.

"It is not correct for public officers, be they civilian or military, to comment or interfere in any way, in the internal affairs of brother

countries."

Mr Kainerugaba, who has been called "the tweeting general" by critics, is an outspoken military official who has a history of trading barbs with opposition figures and weighing into politics.

"It wouldn't take us, my army and me, two weeks to capture Nairobi," he tweeted on Monday.

Source: The independent

Verbatim and Caption

Diplomatic, development accomplishments over the week



“The Prosperity Party (the ruling party in Ethiopia) will work to strengthen the Ethio-China friendship. In particular, China will continue to be a key partner in alleviating poverty, strengthening the green development strategy, and expanding trade sectors. Even though Ethiopia is going through many challenges, it is achieving success in various fields as well. The strong leadership under the President of the Party, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has been playing a key role in achieving this success. In addition to the relations between the two countries at the governmental level, Prosperity Party has a great interest in strengthening the relationship between the Prosperity Party and the Chinese Communist Party at the party level,” **Adam Farah Vice President of Prosperity Party.**

Development partners (donors, lenders and financial institutions) are urged to increase to strengthen their development support for Ethiopia in its efforts to transform its economy. Ethiopia has faced many problems in the past years and has registered achievements on the other side during the implementation of the national reform agenda. The Ethiopian government is implementing targeted fuel subsidies in order to make the economic sector more competitive. The development partners are urged to help Ethiopia achieve its goals and solve the economic challenges that it is facing. It should be realized that any support given to Ethiopia will contribute to solving the economic crisis in the Horn of Africa, **Finance Minister Ahmed Shide.**



“Ethiopia and Sudan share the same culture, language, religion and a wide border; the relationship between the people of the two countries has been built on a strong foundation. The fruits from the Great Ethiopian Renaissance Dam will also be used to strengthen the bond. Furthermore, the National Intelligence and Security Service and the Sudan General Intelligence Service will work together to reduce the effects of cross-border crimes and illicit money transfer, vehicle and human trafficking by strengthening cooperation in the areas of capacity building and information exchange. An agreement has been reached to expand the horizons of cooperation to ensure the safety of the people of the two countries,” **Director General of the National Intelligence and Security Service Temesgen Tiruneh.**



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AHRI role in Ethiopia's health research

BY MENGISTEAB TESHOME

Health research across the globe is unequivocally known to have high value to society since it provides important information about disease trends and risk factors, outcomes of treatment or public health interventions and patterns of care.

In Ethiopia lies a bio medical research establishment that dates back to the 70s (GC). On March 20, 1970, the then state leader, Emperor Haile Selassie cut the ribbons for the official inauguration of the Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI).

AHRI got its name from the Norwegian physician, Gerhard Henrik Armauer Hansen who first described the leprosy bacteria (*Mycobacterium Laprae*) and as a result its initial research was catapulted by extensive studies on leprosy. AHRI, from the onset of its foundation was funded by the Norwegian and Swedish save the children and still to this day, it receives core funding from the Norway and Sweden development agencies, Norad and Sida respectively.

Throughout its 52 years of existence remarkable achievements and changes have transpired at AHRI. Being situated

within the Alert Comprehensive Specialized Hospital, it joined the Ethiopian Ministry of Health in 2004. Its research areas kept expanding and encompassed wider activities around immunology and molecular biology, epidemiology and translational research.

Recently, it was fully absorbed as one of the government health agencies under the Council of Ministers regulation No.376/2016. As a result its staff has grown exponentially to almost 500 employees, and more researchers from across the country have joined the Institute at various levels of capacity.

The capable nature of the Institute has seen the Ministry of Health adding some new mandates to AHRI.

“Currently, the government of Ethiopia is undergoing huge reforms to enhance the efficiency of various Institutions; hence as a result some Institutions have been merged with others, while others have received added mandates. For the case of AHRI, more mandates have been added which include, Traditional and Modern Medicine Research and Development and Vaccine Research and Development and Pharmaceuticals Industry Development,” explained Prof. Afework Kassu, AHRI’s Director General.

The Institute which works round the clock

to better the health of Ethiopians and beyond through its research focuses on a number of diseases. Some of its notable research focus areas include; Tuberculosis, leprosy, malaria, leishmaniasis, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis B and C, cancer, podoconiosis and cardiovascular diseases amongst other many research areas.

“Our mission is to improve medical care; health and wellbeing of the public by generating and delivering scientific evidence, developing new/improved tools and methods through medical and clinical research, and to serve as a hub for technology transfer and capacity building in medical research and research training,” stated Mrs. Dejytnu Mulaw, AHRI’s PR Director, whilst explaining the major priorities of the Institute.

The institute quite recently was very active in health interventions. Its researchers that focus on Malaria discovered the spread of *Anopheles Stephens* mosquitoes in 13 towns and cities of Ethiopia which prompted the health ministry to take necessary combative measures to the same. Its clinical trial research team in partnership with other pertinent stakeholders has also been pivotal in delivering mass vaccination of Oral Cholera Vaccines (OCV) to one hundred thousand residents of Shashamane who are troubled by

the waterborne disease.

The institute is actively forward looking, in terms of propelling the next generation of future researchers and as a result offers capacity building activities and training to MSc and PhD students. Similarly, AHRI is active in harnessing the innovative ideas of young Ethiopian scientists. Through, the Grand Challenges initiative which is funded by the health ministry, innovative ideas and concepts that are responsive to health sector grand challenges have received core funding to bring lasting solutions to local health challenges.

AHRI’s top notch researchers have published more than 1100 papers in peer reviewed journals so far. The institute has also produced several theses and dissertations from Ethiopian and international scholars in biomedical research. AHRI has also knitted strong partnerships and collaborations with universities, research institutes, and hospitals not only in the country but also across the globe.

Despite a range of challenges across its five decades of existence, the Institute’s doors have remained opened to providing services to the general public garnering international recognition for its reputable research works making it to become a national pride.