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Ethiopia's flag symbolizes patriotism, sacrifice, independence: President

BY ABDUREZAK MOHAMMED

ADDIS ABABA – Ethiopia's national flag symbolizes patriotism in which

citizens sacrificed precious lives to save the country repelling various foreign forces' invasion, so said President Sahlework Zewde.

President Sahlework Zewde made the remark while addressing the celebration of the 15th National Flag Day that was marked

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DISARM T-TPLF FREE

PEOPLE of TIGRAY



Pushing for T-TPLF to disarm pathway to peace : Expert

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA –The International Community (IC) is expected to exert due pressure to disarm the Terrorist TPLF to ensure durable peace in Ethiopia and help the warring parties to conduct a successful dialogue, a political science expert said.

Political Science and International Relations Researcher and Lecturer at Dire Dawa University Surafel Getahun told *The Ethiopian Herald* that a paradigm shift is required from some members of the IC that have been working to save the radical faction from demise. Accordingly, disarming the T-TPLF paves the way to conduct a candid and lasting peaceful dialogue in Ethiopia.

As to him, some members of the IC should refrain from playing double standard in overlooking the T-TPLF's repeated breaching of ceasefire, triggering another round of war, looting and destroying public and privative properties. "In order to ensure durable peace in Ethiopia and across the Horn of African Region, the IC needs to react and enforce the radical element to desist further provocations."

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Gov't constitutional duty protecting citizens in Tigray : GCS

- Reaffirms readiness for AU-led peace talks

BY ABDUREZAK MOHAMMED

ADDIS ABABA – The government of Ethiopia has reiterated its inherent constitutional duty and commitment to protecting citizens in Tigray State, according to Government Communication Service (GCS).

Meanwhile, the GCS stated that, the Government of Ethiopia is committed to the

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Ethnic Tigray metropolitans express readiness to fight T-TPLF

News



GERD showcases Ethiopia's vision for mutual growth: Aregawi Berhe

BY YESUF ENDRIS

ADDISABABA- The construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) has manifested the country's desire to connect the region through electricity and its belief in mutual growth, Aregawi Berhe (PhD) said.

Approached by local media, Aregawi, the Director-General of the Office of the National Council for the Coordination of Public Participation on the Construction of GERD, stated that the mega dam was designed in the way to embrace Ethiopia's neighbors. The dam is also expected to contribute a great share for Ethiopia's regional economic integration vision by generating electricity without disrupting the water share of the Nile low riparian countries.

Noting the GERD is nearing completion, the director-general highlighted that the electricity that has been generated from the two turbines has not significantly harmed downstream countries' water share. "Once the dam is fully operational, neighboring countries will access electricity at fair price and the situation will transform the region to cooperation and address suspicion."

"The GERD is a game changer project and the people of Ethiopia have built the dam without any foreign support."

The operation of the two turbines of the GERD has also created a great expectation in changing the livelihoods of the rural community and the project is a source of pride and hope for all Ethiopians and Africans at large, he emphasized.

Gedeo cultural landscape to join UNESCO heritage list

BY KFLEEEYESUS ABEBE

ADDIS ABABA-The Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's (SNNPs) state disclosed that the Gedeo Cultural Landscape that has been in the tentative list since 2020 expected to join the world heritage list during the upcoming conference of UNESCO in Paris.

State of Culture and Tourism Bureau Deputy Head Frehiwot Dubale said that, the state has begun promoting new tourist attractions through preparing continuous tours to journalists and sector actors.

The state has various natural and man-made tourist destinations and it is important to be promoted well, she said.

"Ethiopia's Gedeo is famous for producing the global favorite Yirga Cheffe coffee. The Gedeo people are reputed for indigenous knowledge and unique practice of forestry and conservation culture" she noted.

Moreover, as deforestation is a global challenge the Gedeo people deserves recognition in countering deforestation



Photo: Tevodros Sahite

that will be taken as a model for others.

As to her, the Gedeo forefathers/mothers teach that cutting trees is a curse and established sacred forests to preserve various plant species and animals for the current generation.

On his part the Gedeo community elder Gedeo Debnioya said that, Gedeo's forefathers' preaching has helped the preserve area become green throughout the year and help ensure food security.

Accordingly, it is against the Gedeo culture to kill animals and cut a tree.

Ethiopia, UAE desirous of capacitating women in STEM

BY BETELHEM BEDLU

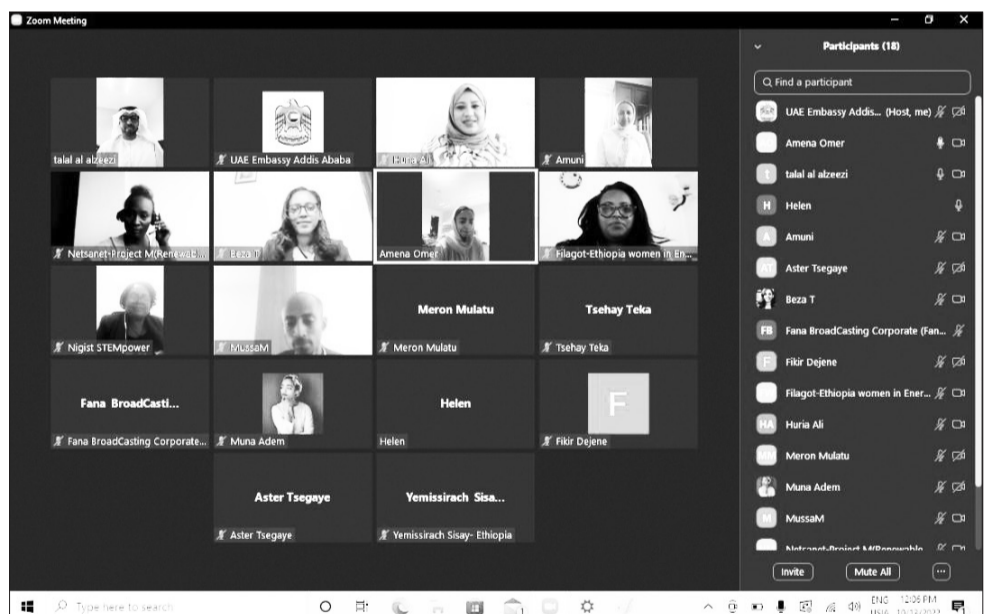
ADDIS ABABA- Ethiopia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) expressed desire to enhance cooperation at governmental and nongovernmental levels to further develop women potentials in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

The above was disclosed in a webinar session the UAE Embassy in Addis Ababa hosted in collaboration with the Ministry of Innovation and Technology and other stakeholders under the theme "UAE-Ethiopia Dialogue on Women in STEM".

The event particularly focused on exploring the two countries' experiences regarding women empowerment in STEM, discussing the efforts exerted by governments and civil societies in this domain and supporting women's meaningful contribution to the field. The two countries were also exploring opportunities for bilateral cooperation in the session.

Speaking at the webinar, Innovation and Technology State Minister Huria Ali highlighted government's attention to advance the participation of women and girls in STEM and galvanize the education and professional sector. Addressing challenges that hinder women from fully engaged in the field is the priority is the current administration.

The state minister further shared a series of projects and programs being implemented in Ethiopia to ensure the realization of the aspiration and ensure diversity in research. "Despite such progress, collective action by all stakeholders including government and the NGOs is crucial to further develop



women's potential in science."

The UAE Embassy Political, Economic and Media Affairs Head Talal Al Azezi highlighted the priority placed by his country in ensuring the full-fledged participation of women and girls in STEM. As the UAE is transforming itself into a knowledge-based economy and towards sustainability, the country consistently underscores the importance of diversity in STEM, as well as the need for girls' and women's inputs for inclusive and sustainable growth.

Talal further noted that, the UAE's commitment resulted in a growing presence of women in the STEM education and professional sector. "Today, more than 56 percent of all UAE university graduates in STEM are women, and there are many pioneer women leaders in the area, notably in government including: UAE Space Program that launched the Emirates Mars Mission, artificial intelligence, national

nuclear energy program, renewable energy, and medicine."

Congratulating Ethiopia on inaugurating the Science Museum, the head stressed that the UAE has strong, historical ties with the former and is actively engaging in supporting women in different fields. "We are also looking forward to supporting women in science and technology, in alignment with the priority agenda of empowering women, as provided in the two countries' bilateral cooperation."

For the Society of Ethiopian Women in Science and Technology President Aster Tsegaye, the contribution of civil societies in enhancing women and girls' participation in the STEM is quite critical.

The webinar was attended by female scientists, as well as representatives from Addis Ababa University, Ethiopian Women in Energy Network, STEMpower, media, and other invited guests.

News

Ethnic Tigray metropolitans express readiness to fight T-TPLF

BY YESUF ENDRIS

ADDIS ABABA- Members of the Tigray community in Addis Ababa have expressed readiness to fight the Terrorist TPLF till the end; they also pointed out that helping the criminal faction prolongs the suffering of the people of Tigray.

Representatives of the Tigray community in Addis Ababa made the above remark while conferring with leaders of the city administration on current national issues.

Noting the people of Tigray will never compromise on their Ethiopian identity, the representatives highlighted that supporting the T-TPLF makes the Tigray youth pay unnecessary sacrifices.

Speaking on the discussion, one participant called the people of Tigray to disassociate themselves from the criminal faction. "I am



proud of being Tigrayan. Being Ethiopian is also a source of pride for me. But, I will never be a partner to a group of narrow-minded individuals."

"The T-TPLF has opened war against all neighboring states and we have to inform the International Community about the faction's callous behavior and trademark belligerence."

At the Rank of Deputy Mayor, Democracy System Building Coordination Head Melese



Alemu told the participants that it is the responsibility of every ethnic Tigrayan to free themselves from the terrorist group's rod of destruction and to save the youth of Tigray from war.

"We would like to affirm the people of Tigray that the government is always ready to resolve the conflict in negotiation and in a peaceful manner and we value and require your unwavering support," Melese appealed.

Commissioner urges institutions to give weight to cyber security

BY BETELHEM BEDLU

ADDIS ABABA- Institutions should give equal emphasis to cyber security as they strive to modernize their service in technology, Civil Service Commissioner stressed.

During the discussion held on the prospects of minimizing institution's vulnerability to cyber security, Civil Service Commission Commissioner Mekuria Haile (PhD) stressed that institutions should equally prioritize the issue of cyber security besides modernizing their service.

As to him, cyber security has become more influential than any armament in the globe. Apart from its significance, however, it

puts the safety and sovereignty of citizens as well as nation at risk. In this regard, he stressed that due emphasis should be given.

For her take on the issue, Deputy Director of Information Network Security Administration (INSA), Tigist Hamid indicated that the ever increasing technology has influenced people to become more dependent on technologies.

Though the situation is inevitable, she underlined that it is important to consider that lack of knowledge and negligence is putting a threat against the government.

"Cyber-attacks that are thwarted on institutions not only defame institution and expose it to bankruptcy but it would also

cost the institution", she underscored.

While celebrating the third round cyber security month, institutions should look within and examine as to whether the activity they are carrying out is vulnerable to cyber-attacks, she noted.

Moreover, she said that creating and equipping professional in the area should not also be overlooked adding that a collaborative work is needed to ensure nation's digital sovereignty.

It is to be recalled that the third round cyber security month under the theme 'Integrated cyber security for national sovereignty', has been celebrated in various programs during this month.

Ethiopia's flag...

yesterday across the country.

During the occasion, President Sahlework restated that patriot Ethiopians have fallen in different battles while fighting for the independence and sovereignty of their motherland.

The flag is the symbol of the country's freedom, sovereignty, and dignity, and it is the national emblem in which citizens express their love and respect for their country. So each citizen has a responsibility and obligation to give and honor the dignity of the national flag.

She added that the Ethiopian green, yellow, and red color flag is a symbol of independence. "We also have to make

our national flag a symbol of diversity, harmony, tolerance, care, and love."

According to her, the national flag holds the people of one country together. And, it inspires and gathers a people of a given country for a common purpose. As it is a symbol, the national flag does not change following the change of governments.

President Sahlework said: "Ethiopia has faced many challenges. We can solve these problems when we gather only under the umbrella of our national flag which is a symbol of sovereignty."

Speaker of the House of Peoples' Representatives Tadesse Chaffo on his part noted that, Ethiopians have maintained their country's existence by sacrificing their lives and are still fighting for the sovereignty of their motherland.

"What makes this year's National Flag Day special is that it has been celebrated at the time when we are fighting against the local and foreign anti-Ethiopia forces that are threatening the sovereignty of our country by making enormous sacrifices," he also indicated.

It was learnt that the Day has been celebrated at the national level in the compound of the House of Peoples' Representatives with the presence of President Sahlework Zewde, Speaker of House of Peoples' Representatives Tadesse Chaffo, Speaker of House of Federation Agegnehu Teshager, President of Federal Supreme Court Meaza Ashenafi, officials of the Ethiopian National Defense Force (ENDF), members and officials of the two houses, patriots, religious fathers, among others.

Pushing for ...

Those groups and some international "humanitarian agencies" which were indifferent for the T-TPLF's atrocious crimes on civilians, now outcry for government's military response in a clear indication of their aspiration of saving the criminal clique from total destruction. Those groups pretend

as they were caring for civilians and calling for unhindered humanitarian access to the needy. Their real desire; however, is employing the T-TPLF as tool to punish the government and as a means of arms twisting to force the latter to preserve their interest in the region.

The whole world knows that telling white lies are the distinctive trademark of the

TPLF. The terrorist group frequently uses negotiations as a cover to buy time for arming itself and is ready to prolong the conflict under the cover of negotiation. The government in collaboration with the international community must disarm the terrorist group unless it is difficult to conduct negotiation. It is impossible to have two armed group in single country, he said.

Gov't constitutional...

peaceful resolution of the conflict through the African Union-led peace talks. "We believe that there is a need for a comprehensive and negotiated settlement that would bring about durable peace."

In its statement regarding the conflict in the northern part of the country, the GCS stated the government would like to make it clear that the Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF) strictly abides by all pertinent norms and principles of international humanitarian law.

It was also noted that the ENDF endeavors to avoid combat operations within urban areas to prevent civilian casualties. And, strict instructions have been given to all combat units to reinforce this commitment.

According to the statement, the terrorist TPLF's massive attack was preceded by repeated and grave violations of Ethiopia's airspace by hostile foreign actors supporting the TPLF. So, the government is thus forced to take defensive measures to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country.

It is worth noting that this is the third time that the T-TPLF dragged the country into conflict in a span of two years. It launched this third round of attack soon after the Federal Government announced its readiness for AU-led peace talks without preconditions to be convened anytime and anywhere, it was also stated.

"The TPLF is thus solely responsible for the current situation. If given the time and space, it will do this again as exhibited in its latest communication."

The government further indicated that these measures are necessitated not only by the repeated attacks of the TPLF but also by its active collusion with these hostile foreign powers.

It was also disclosed that it is thus imperative that the government of Ethiopia assumes immediate control of all airports, other federal facilities, and installations in the region. This is necessary to protect Ethiopia's sovereignty and territorial integrity, in particular as it relates to its airspace. "This will enable the government to expedite humanitarian aid to people in need."

Furthermore, the government shall work closely with humanitarian operators to ensure humanitarian access in areas under its control and to ensure the safety of humanitarian workers, according to the government.

Opinion

Treating the innocent and the culprit equally does take to nowhere

BY ABEBE WOLDEGIORGIS

Recently western countries including USA, Britain, Germany, Netherland and Australia released the joint statement with regard to the ongoing war in northern Ethiopia. In their statement they announced their anxiety that, the war aggravates the humanitarian crises in Tigray region. They also allegedly charge Eritrean army intervening in the war and demand the immediate cease fire.

The peace proposal offered by the African Union to resume talks in South Africa between the two warring parties was accepted by the government while TPLF hesitantly showed nod to be part of the peace process.

But after weeks the AU announced that the peace talk was postponed for other time due to shortage of logistical facilities. Meanwhile supporters of TPLF expressed their opposition and asked the junta to reject the peace proposal and to boycott going to South Africa. Later Getachew Reda, the spokesperson of the Junta announced that his party will not be part of the peace process and blame the AU as not impartial.

These countries did not say any word when TPLF made unprovoked assault on the Ethiopian army for the third successive occasions. Even a year ago when the junta army reached in northern Shewa, 120 kilo meter away from the capital their reaction was deaf ear. Before the out brake of the war for the third time when TPLF forces forcefully looted 350 thousand liter of benzene from the World Food Program depot by harassing its staffs did not put pressure on the junta to replace the looted fuel. Westerners when they assume that TPLF is in good military position they shut their mouth and ignore the situation. But when they think that the government forces get the upper hand in the Battle field they express their concern.

It is understood that TPLF has no history of give and take political culture. Long ago it utilized a zero sum game rather than a win-win game politics when it confronts its opponents. When it explains its will to conduct peace talks with its opponents, it calculates in how it diverts the negotiation plat form to its own advantage. Before it ignited war for the third time, it pledged to sit on the negotiating table with the government but abruptly it fired the first bullet by violating the truce.

In the last three years only it recruited thousands of youth and provided military

training and deployed in various fronts forcefully. It imposed decree on the region that, each family to send its youth to training camps.

Clandestine activities supported by Ethiopia's historical enemies also continued. Recruiting refugees in the neighboring countries to prop up its military venture also resumed and cross border skirmish also observed but it was rebuked by the defense force.

It is reported that recently the World Health Organization Head Tewodross Adhanom who used his office to rescue TPLF from its natural death appeared in Cairo and made secret meetings with that countries officials. Some sources confirmed that the Junta obtained financial support from historical enemies of the nation. Even some further claim that monthly up to 500 thousand Dollars is allocated to the Junta to destabilize the nation. They gave assignment to TPLF to fuel conflict in various parts of the country through backing rebel groups active in Gambella and Benishangul Gumuz region. The major objective of this covert activity was to disrupt third round of filling of the Hidasi dam water.

Some western media out late still blatantly support the Junta military activities and claimed that it wage war against the government to brake military besiege. But the reality on the ground shows the other way round. The junta ultimate war ambition is to resume power here in the capital and perpetuate its power grip but it is rather a day dreaming.

Months ago the United Nation Human Right Experts on Ethiopia reported their findings in which totally false and rejected by the government. The report was biased and in contravened with the last year report prepared by the Ethiopian Human Right Commission with the collaboration of The United Nations Human Rights Council. The report preparation was methodologically wrong and intended to blame the government as if it made violation of human rights by ignoring atrocities committed by TPLF in Amhara and Afar regions. Some also disclosed that the so called experts were close ally of the Junta diaspora supporters. Not only these, recently the United Nations Security Council made informal and closed meeting on Ethiopia which violates the nation sovereignty. Behind the meeting there were interest groups to defame the reputation of the government and to condemn Ethiopia but fortunately thanks to the strong resistance by some

members the of security council which sympathize Ethiopia, the conspiracy was nullified.

There are also unacceptable move by the European Union Commission particularly the High Representative of Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Joseph boreal. He reflected biased attitude towards Ethiopia by sympathizing the junta and tries to pressure Ethiopia through using his office as corridor. "Tigray is shattered by systematic violation of Human right, war crimes and crimes against humanity used as weapon. In view of the upcoming UN report on human right we agree to prepare the ground with an adequate response and start to work on sanction." He twitted. This statement is groundless.

In its act of war against the army and the civilians for three times, it is TPLF which committed crime against humanity. Human carnage was carried out by the Junta in Mykadra and Chenna in northern Gonder, Wollo and parts of Afar region but Joseph Boreal intentionally ignored these facts. The study conducted by The United Nations Human Right Council with the collaboration of the Ethiopian Human Right Council proved the above mentioned atrocities committed by the Junta. Before the third round of war ignited by the Junta and when there was cease fire which lasted for five months, humanitarian aid was supplied to Tigray in land route and by air transport with no restriction. In this regard the government cooperation was testified by the World Food Program. Not only these, agricultural inputs also were sent to Tigray farmers before the coming of the rainy season. The effort was to reduce vulnerability of shortage of crops.

But TPLF instead of distributing the food aid to the needy, it recruited soldiers to prop up its war efforts. The food aid obtained from US Aid was exhibited in the defense trench of the Junta in the war front. It was used by its troops and the world clearly observed it. But westerners said nothing.

The war with TPLF has not only a military dimension it has also a diplomatic one. In this regard the role of the Ethiopian Diaspora residing in the US, Europe, Australia and Canada are much appreciable. In addition to staging demonstration in front of state department and White House, they forwarded their complaint against the US biased policy towards the horn through e-mailing campaign to the influential senators. In this regard the unrestrained role of the

Ethiopian activist Hermela Gebrekidan must be acknowledged.

Their campaign also extended by punishing pro TPLF candidates competing in the midterm election in the US.

Ethiopia is a sovereign country and was a member of the League of Nations. It as well is a founding member of the United Nations and the OAU/AU. Long ago Ethiopian army engaged in peace keeping mission in various part of the world including in the Korean Peninsula in 1950s, in Democratic Republic of Congo in 60s, in Rwanda and Liberia in 1990s. It paid sacrificed for ensuring peace and security in the world. Even currently the Ethiopian army engaged in peace keeping mission in Somalia, Darfour in Sudan and in Abiye on the border between South and North Sudan. The current generation of the world must understand and recognize our country effort for creating of better world. But against this backdrop, some countries both in developed and developing world blindly slander Ethiopia and defame its reputation. They also try to interfere in the internal affairs of Ethiopia through using multilateral institutions.

The outrageous activities of Ireland by supporting the Junta can be the case in point. In fact, the government unequivocally explained its opposition by sending letter by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to his Counterpart. It repeatedly floured agenda for discussion both in the European Union and the United Nation by violating Ethiopia's sovereignty to put pressure. . Tigray is an integral part of Ethiopia and TPLF is not a legitimate entity and it was leveled as terrorist organization by the House of Peoples Representatives. Hence, calling TPLF as governor of Tigray is not legal and is interfering in the internal affairs of Ethiopia which has its own counterproductive. No western country dared to say Boko haram, Alshabab or Hezbola as proponent of peace because they are leveled as terrorist organization by the international community. But in the case of TPLF they showed ambiguity. The government expressed its will to conduct peace talks with TPLF because it aspires to end the war by peace full means rather than by war. But by ignoring the government enduring efforts some historical enemy elements continued supporting the Junta nevertheless, their action is fruitless.

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

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Editorial

Ethiopian National Flag: Emblem of African pride

The Ethiopian national flag is honored for not only does it all the time represent a respected, sovereign and independent motherland but it also generally symbolizes the uncompromising characteristics to subjugation.

Cognizant of the fact that a national flag is a firm symbol of national pride, Ethiopia has recently started celebrating national Flag Day. The respect and high privilege with which Ethiopians provided the green-yellow-red—tricolor flag—is a vibrant manifestation of diversity, **unity and sovereignty**.

Since Ethiopia is one of the oldest civilizations in the world with a kaleidoscopic variety, rich cultural assets, tangible and intangible heritages, among others, it has been a model for African states. It is also home to close to 115 million populations with firm commitment to safeguard the sovereignty of their country bedecked with a high flying flag. African **brothers and sisters** have drawn important lessons from Ethiopia and employed its tricolor flag reshuffling in the shape and position of **the tri-color** as they would love.

Ethiopia is marking the national Flag Day under the motto: “The manifestation of diversity, unity and pillar of our sovereignty—The National Flag.” This undertaking does have indispensable meaning as it comprises national as well as continental significance. Ethiopia’s flag is definitely a symbol of freedom of Africa and a pride of the entire continent since all Africa states did away with the yoke of **all the forms of colonialism** following Ethiopia’s footsteps.

This symbol of national pride is annually commemorated as the flag does have a prestigious place in the minds and hearts of **all Ethiopians and Africans alike**. In clear terms, celebrating national Flag Day is highly intertwined with patriotism and entrenched love of the country.

Without a shadow of doubt, flying a national flag high is a sign

of pride and devotion. It is also a positive affirmation of loyalty and commitment for the sovereignty and wellbeing of the nation. Hence, students at schools have to be provided with the meaning, respect and greatness of a flag.

Yes, the Ethiopian National Flag represents the hopes and aspirations of its people. Over a century plus, a lot of citizens including members of defense force have purposely laid down their lives to keep the tricolor flying in its full glory and making this great nation respected forever.

That is why it is repeatedly heralded that the celebration of the day can absolutely be regarded as commemorating those who have paid sacrifice for the independence, regional integrity and sovereignty of Ethiopia and the full dignity of its people.

True, respecting for the flag is one of the best indications of patriotism, and public honoring of the flag is regarded as an extreme form of national adore. Besides, as making the public affirmation of loyalty to the flag and the country is a civic duty, all concerned have to capitalize on promoting the national as well as continental significance of the flag. For the tri-color has clear meaning to all Ethiopians and Africans as well as to the entire black people.

The celebration helps Ethiopia and other African countries develop confidence in them, helps be comfortable with their place in the world, promote their history and pave their future. Unequivocally, positive emotions and uncensored concepts have been associated with a national flag in Ethiopia and those of African countries and beyond.

Indeed, all forms of wars waged against Ethiopia and its people are to disintegrate the country; and undo its history. In doing so, neo-colonial powers wish to subdue the entire continent and impose their will. The peoples of Africa never allow this.

Opinion

“Leave no one behind”

Prioritize the right of all people to food, and nutrition security

BY FARAYI ZIMUDZI

On 16 October 2022, Ethiopia will join the rest of the world to commemorate International World Food Day under the theme– “Leave no one behind. Better production, better nutrition, a better environment, and a better life”.

The theme calls for global solidarity and collective action to make sure that no one is left behind through the transformation to more efficient, inclusive, sustainable, and resilient agrifood systems for better production, better nutrition, a better environment, and a better life.

Our globalized world is one where our economies, cultures, and populations are becoming increasingly interconnected. Some of us are vulnerable because of who we are or where we live, but the reality is that we are all fragile. When someone is left behind, a chain is broken. This impacts not only the life of that person but also ours.

Just like in the past three years, we are marking World Food Day when Ethiopia is responding to myriad challenges in the food and agriculture sectors. Some parts of the country are facing up to five consecutive failed rainfall seasons, while others are facing disruption of agricultural production due to conflict and insecurity. Moreover, economic challenges, including high commodity prices and the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and external pressures, still prevail. The people most affected by these shocks are often the rural population that rely on agriculture for food and livelihood, constituting 80 percent of Ethiopia’s population.

Therefore, as we respond to the prevailing



Ms. Farayi Zimudzi is Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Representative in Ethiopia

shocks and devise strategies for long-term agricultural development, it is important to provide timely and well-targeted support to protect the most vulnerable. This may mean providing cash, and agricultural inputs, as well as improving agricultural infrastructure. Only in doing so will we achieve equitable and sustainable development where everyone counts.

I am pleased to note that “Leaving no one behind” is a central theme in the FAO and Government of Ethiopia Country Programming Framework for 2022 – 2025. Among others, the Framework prioritizes tackling food insecurity by advancing inclusive and gender responsive economic growth, livelihoods enhancement, and extreme poverty eradication. It also focuses on enhancing natural resource management and agricultural production system to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of ecosystems.

FAO continues to scale up our emergency and resilience-building programs targeting over 1.5

million households affected by climate-related disasters, pests and diseases, and conflict this year. Our support includes the provision of agricultural inputs, water infrastructure, cash transfers, training, equipment, livestock health services, and animal feed and support to extension services. We also continue to support the strengthening of Ethiopia’s social protection programme, especially in making it more responsive to shocks. FAO is also implementing projects aimed at improving nutrition, natural resources management, and animal and crop production. In the agri-business sector, FAO supports integrating small farmers and small and medium agribusinesses into value chains.

Within the spirit of leaving no one behind, FAO works with the most vulnerable countries, including Ethiopia, through the Hand-in-Hand Initiative, which supports the implementation of nationally led, ambitious programs to accelerate agrifood systems transformation by eradicating poverty, ending hunger and malnutrition, and reducing inequalities. In Ethiopia, the Initiative focuses on accelerating production and productivity for an increased supply of raw materials to the Integrated Agro-Industrial Parks while maximizing the benefits to the poorer segments of the rural population. FAO’s targeting strategy in all programs ensures that these interventions reach the most vulnerable and deserving individuals and communities, including women, youth, refugees, displaced people, and the aged.

For FAO, leaving no one behind means working on many fronts simultaneously and requires collective actions. All stakeholders, including

Governments, the private sector, academia, civil society, and individuals, need to work together in solidarity to prioritize the right of all people to food, nutrition, peace, and equality.

At the individual level, you can support smallholder farmers by purchasing locally produced food at farmers’ markets and looking out for labels indicating support for smallholders. Although they produce more than 33 percent of the world’s food, many smallholder farmers suffer poverty and food insecurity. They are often excluded from decision-making processes and have limited access to finance and innovative technologies, especially in developing countries. We can also help mitigate climate change, which affects the most vulnerable population, by being more climate-smart in our actions. Choose local foods that travel short distances from farm to table, limit consumption of resource-intensive foods and eat seasonal fruits and vegetables, which often require fewer chemical inputs. Reduce energy consumption by opting for renewable energy sources to reduce the impact of human activity on our environment and keep it healthier for food production.

As we commemorate World Food Day, let’s reflect on what we can do differently to prioritize the right of all people, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, to food, nutrition, peace, and equality.

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

Business & Economy

Merging banks a timely venture

BY ABEBE WOLDEGIORGIS

The African Business Magazine which rates the banks status announced its 2022 report and explained the names of 100 banks which have good performance. In the announcement only two Ethiopian banks names is mentioned. Among the Ethiopian banks the names of Commercial Bank of Ethiopia and Awash International Bank are mentioned. The two banks are mentioned by their performance and capital amount.

By the magazine's 2022 report ranked the Commercial bank of Ethiopia 31 and Awash International Bank as 91. However, the two banks rank as compared to the previous year, it is declined. The major criteria for the banks competition is the amount of capital and their small capital amount made the Ethiopian banks to be out shined by other African banks.

In fact, the two banks increased their paid capita but as compared to the Dollar value, it is not huge as such.

The renowned economist zemedneh Nigatu said that, the two banks rank indicates that Ethiopian Banks are far less competent as compared to other countries banks. Though the mentioning of the banks name is taken as good but their ranks indicates that they lag behind other countries banks in terms of performance. He further said that both in the year 2021 and 2022 only the two banks names where mentioned. As to the report, the rank of the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia reduced from 26th to 3rd and the rank of Awash International Bank reduced from 53th to 91th.

According to the Magazine, the commercial bank of Ethiopia which scored 26th last year and slowed down to 31th this year has 929 million Dollar paid capital. Among the best selected African banks the top ranked bank is the South African Standard Bank with 13.6 billion paid capitals. The second is the National Bank of Egypt which has 7.27 billion Dollar of capital amount. Third bank is an Egyptian bank by its name bank of Misri and its capital is 7.23 billion Dollars. Among the East African countries the Kenyan Equity Bank is leveled as vanguard by registering 1.5 billion Dollars.

According to Zemedneh, if the Ethiopian Banks continue their performance as business as usual, they might lose their current status because their capital which is deposited in Birr value compared to Dollar it is small. In fact both the public and private banks enhanced their capital but when it is exchanged in to Dollar it is insignificant.

Zafu Eyesus work zafu is a renowned financial professional. As to him, it is understood that Ethiopian banks have increased their capital but as compared to Dollar it is value is very small. As to Zemedineh, Ethiopia has the third large economy in Africa next to South Africa and Nigeria but the banks are not developed as such. Therefore, they have to upgrade

If the Ethiopian Banks continue their performance as business as usual, they might lose their current status because their capital which is deposited in Birr value compared to Dollar it is small. In fact both the public and private banks enhanced their capital but when it is exchanged in to Dollar it is insignificant

themselves and prepare for competition with other countries banks. In fact the nation is the second populous country which is 100+ million in the continent but due to limited productivity, the population not yet reached to be economically active which engage in more vibrant industrial sector.

He also said that, he is optimistic that the government endeavor to change the economic landscape to the better will be fruit full. In this regard, the direction put by the government to merge banks will support the effort. In addition to this, giving green light to foreign banks to operate here is a positive signal.

Based on the current government policy he thinks that, with in the coming five years most banks will be merged and their number will be reduced up to six from the current 17. Other than this, specialized banks on agriculture, industry, construction will be emerged and the idea is supported by the government. In addition to the merging of banks, the incoming of foreign banks strengthen local banks. It is understood that recently the government announced that foreign banks are allowed to operate here and can purchase up to 40 percent of share from local banks.

As to Zemedineh, the entrance of foreign banks is good but it has to be understood that they do not invest their money in a fragmented small banks rather they invest in banks with huge capital. Therefore, the merging of various banks enables them to attract foreign banks. In addition, working with foreign banks by joint venture makes them more competent at the international level and enhance their capital amount. But if they fail to tap such opportunities they may face crises which crippled them not to provide loan to their customers.

According to Zemedineh, currently in Ethiopia there is no a single bank which can provide one billion birr in the form of loan to the customers. Hence, the consolidation of banks enables them to upgrade their loan provision capacity.

According to the information obtained from the National Bank of Ethiopia, all banks in the last four years could enhance their capital by 27 percent.

However, their capital amount in terms of foreign currency, it is declining. In the year 2011 EC budget year the amount of capital registered by all banks reached to 98.95 billion birr and the amount by that time exchange rate it was 2.38 billion Dollars. In the 2012 EC budget year when the birr- Dollar exchange rate was one Dollar to 34.95 birr, the banks registered capital amount was 114.59 billion birr but when it is exchanged in to Dollar the amount was 4.13 billion Dollars. In the 2013 EC budget year the banks total capital rose to 153 billion birr but when it is compared to the dollar exchange rate it was reduced from the 2012 budget year and down sized to 3.45 billion Dollar. In the year 2014 EC the banks total capital rose to 200 billion birr but when it is looked in terms Dollar it was 3.76 billion. The declining of the exchange rate of birr to that of Dollar made the banks less competent comparing to foreign banks and the trend seems to be worse.

One can understand from the mentioned Magazine report that foreign banks invest their money in Dollar hence, if a local bank wants to compete with them at least it has to have registered a 500 million Dollars paid capital.

Among the banks operate in east Africa the number of Ethiopian banks is growing from time to time and banks such as the commercial bank of Ethiopia, Awash bank, Abyssinia, Dashin and Development Bank of Ethiopia could build better reputation in the horn. Therefore, it should be understood that

Whenever, the exchange rate of birr against hard currency is declined the banks capacity to compete with foreign banks is reduced therefore, they have to increase their capital.

According to Zemedineh, private banks established in Ethiopia for the last 27 years are still youth and in the past they have been given protection that means they were not competing but now that protection will not be continue. The current government policy let the banks to pass through competition therefore; banks should prepare themselves for the inevitable competition. Shareholders also should know that similar to the past taking their 20 to 30 percent of their share profit is not feasible; instead they must enhance their capital. They don't look the profit they take today with fierce competition their profit and dividend might be declined hence, looking in to their future is better.

In the Sphere of Diplomacy

Tana Forum: A platform to consolidate African brotherhood, solve continental problems

BY YOHANES JEMANEH

Each year, Addis Ababa University, Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS) organizes the Tana Forum to create a platform in which African leaders and scholars meet and discuss various African issues mainly to avail solutions for problems linked to peace and security and other economic crises.

Accordingly, Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa is an initiative that is a response to the August 2009 African Union Tripoli Declarations on the Elimination of Conflicts and the Promotion of Sustainable Peace in Africa, African 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.

The Tana Forum was established to play a crucial role in bringing about sustainable peace and contribute to the implementation of the African Union's Tripoli Declaration of August 2009.

This weekend, the 10th Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa was kicked off in the presence of Heads of State and Government, Ministers, and high-level delegations from various countries.

Among them were Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (Ph.D.), Abdelrahman Al-Burhan, Sudan Transitional Government President, the Prime Minister of Somalia, Hamza Abdi Barre, and Amhara Regional President Yilkal Kefale.

In his opening remark, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed emphasized the importance of building continental security resilience and home-grown African solutions to emerging African problems. Besides other aspects that could potentially be reflected by counterparts who are attending the Forum, Prime Minister Abiy points out three security spheres such as water, energy, and data governance that indeed need attention during the deliberations of the Forum.

The participants of the Forum on Security in Africa presided over a State of Peace and Security 2021 report on the continent and held pertinent panel discussions. John Dramani Mahama, former President of Ghana and Chairperson of the Tana Forum Board, presented the State of Peace and Security in Africa Report for 2021.

He stated that marginalization and economic mismanagement brought Africans into the narratives of radicalization. On the Forum, a panel discussion was carried out deliberating on various proposals and policy feedback on security sector challenges at the continental level.

It was stressed that all stakeholders must pay attention to both the internal and external dynamics of conflicts in Africa and seek ways to regenerate the optimism of the early 2000s that saw the establishment of numerous normative frameworks.



Among others, the resurgence of unconstitutional change of government in Africa reflects a number of underlying governance issues that necessitate rethinking the structure of the political system and the responsibilities of organizations in the continent, it was learnt.

On the occasion, Sudan Transitional Government President Abdelrahman Al-Burhan noted that his country has faced many challenges and complications, but the indicators are now more positive. He called for optimism and heralds the imminent success of reaching an agreement with the participation of most of the political and societal power and the parties to peace.

Measures necessary to hold free and transparent elections at the end of the transitional period are in place in Sudan. "For our part, we affirm our firm positions that we announced, which require the withdrawal and exit of the military force from the political debate to disperse, to perform its basic tasks in protecting and maintaining the security and sovereignty of the country" President Al-Burhan said.

He further stated that the causes of instability in Africa are to come up with conclusions that lead to practical results in the achievement of sustainable peace and food security and to address the ways to achieve security and stability in a way that contributes to realizing the slogan of finding African solutions to African problems.

According to Al-Burhan, Sudan has been keen to participate constructively in the activities of the Tana Forum since its inception. "We look forward to this session reaching positive outcomes that contribute to achieving security and stability in the region and enhance the growth and prosperity of people," he said.

The significance of the forum has been clearly seen in the past nine editions as it helped African nations find solutions to their political and economic problems.

"Tana Forum has proved itself worthy of being taken seriously as a veritable platform for energetic and purposeful conversation on pressing, actionable, and relevant peace and security challenges facing Africa. Only through sustainable,

long-term funding can the AU follow an independent agenda that speaks to the common practices and needs of its member states," stated a press release issued on the Tana Forum website on 5 October 2022.

The objectives of the 10th edition of the High-level Tana Forum were to provide pre-eminence to African citizens in the discourse on security and resilience across multiple political, economic and social spaces. Secondly, it aimed at mobilizing and synthesizing knowledge and insights that would assist a wide range of national, regional, and continental actors in contributing better to shaping the future of 'Africa We Want in a more promising and assuring direction.

It also evaluated Africa's contribution to the management of the COVID-19 pandemic, including investment in research and knowledge products that reflect Africa's solution to a global problem.

The Forum's discussions highlighted how diversity, equity, and inclusion are reflected in Africa's international partnership and engagement. Unpack Africa's acute climate change and climate resilience challenges that have significant security implications for citizens in the context of food insecurity, migration, agrarian conflict, and access to water to mention but a few.

Assess how a resilient health system and the rollout of equitable vaccines constitute an important source of security to other sectors at this critical period. Emphasize mobilizing and building the type of home-grown and local resilience that allows the voice and agency of African citizens to blossom.

The Forum interrogated the health impacts and explored other multifaceted aspects in the context of peace and security, including how health systems create security challenges and vice versa.

The information obtained from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) indicated that this year's Tana High-level Security forum played a significant role in exploring and exchanging ideas on African-led solutions to continental security challenges.

According to MoFA Spokesperson Meles Alem, the forum was the venue to explore ways of tackling Africa's pressing

peace and stability challenges and the mushrooming illegal seizure of power.

The spokesperson further highlighted that heads of state and governments, representatives from continental organizations, peace, and security experts as well as public figures and others have attended the forum.

Meles stated that delegations of Ethiopian youth organizations have been dispatched to various African countries and received full recognition from the destination states. South Sudan, Sudan, Somalia, Rwanda, Kenya, and Djibouti are countries in that Ethiopia sent youth delegations to promote its Green Legacy success and nurture fraternity through green diplomacy.

"The Ethiopian youth delegation will take part in a tree-planting campaign in African countries to raise awareness of the Green Legacy Initiative and it will have a significant impact on promoting African unity and strengthening relationships."

Noting the Ethiopians set to discuss with their age mates in the respective country in the sideline of the tree planting sessions. Meles indicated such a program aims to enable the youth to contribute and share for the realization of the larger regional integration vision.

Elaborating on the significance of Ethiopia's green legacy to the continent, Abiy reiterated that Africa is vulnerable to climate change despite contributing the least towards it. Putting the challenges of the citizens in that regard to the attention of the participants, Prime Minister Abiy noted most of Africa's people live in rural areas with rain-fed agriculture and that 1/3 of Africans experience water scarcity.

Putting Ethiopia's efforts in that regard, he said, Ethiopia has embarked on realizing a wide range of renewable energy alternatives. He further briefed Ethiopia's efforts on hydro-power, gas, and commercial agriculture areas and plans towards energy export to neighboring countries.

Speaking of the green legacy achievements of the country, Ethiopia has surpassed the target of planting 20 billion trees by planting 25 billion, with a survival rate of over 70% of the seedlings. He underscored that Ethiopia was putting into effect innovative solutions for timely challenges and indicated emission-free policies that are being developed.

He finally, among others, noted the need for data management and stressed that it should be in line with the African Agenda 2063. The Premier also stated that the youth should be integrated with the efforts the country is putting in place.

The 10th Tana Forum was held from 14 – 16 October 2022, under the theme of "Managing Security Threats: Building Resilience for Africa We Want," in a hybrid format.

Law & Politics

Criminal TPLF's contempt towards African values

BY ADDISALEM MULAT

The African Union has been expressing its readiness to broker a peace deal between the democratically elected federal government and the terrorist TPLF group. And, the incumbent has been heeding the peace calls persistently taking strings of measures in a show of good gesture. On the contrary, the terrorist TPLF failed to reciprocate and rather engaged in belittling the AU throwing blistering attacks and false allegations against the bloc's envoy.

Against the backdrop of the criminal TPLF's renewed attacks against Ethiopia, the continental bloc has once again invited the federal government and the rebellious TPLF clique to peace talks in South Africa.

Yet again, TPLF has continued downplaying the proposed peace under the pretense of a wide spectrum of lame reasons. In what could be said an affront to African institutions, the unlawful group has been however clamoring for the involvement of foreign forces in the AU-led peace initiative. This contradiction clearly signals TPLF's colonial mentality and attests to its contempt towards African institutions and values.

It is to be recalled that the group expressed a lack of confidence in the AU-led peace talks and Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria as High Representative for the Horn of Africa.

It is to be noted that Ethiopia has been showing its readiness for peace talks under the auspices of the African Union without any preconditions and to talk anytime, anywhere, and also to resolve all problems throughout the country peacefully as conflicts lead to failure and destruction. In this regard, the government of Ethiopia formed a committee that has seven members, led by the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister Demeke Mekonnen.

As the federal government knows the fact that the desired destination can be attained under the AU-led peace talks, the criminal enterprise has been mystifying the wider international community by coming up with preconditions and lame reasons.

It appears clear that regardless of the fact that the deceitfully calling for the cessation of hostilities and peace talks has been disrupting the entire peace process under the guise of a number of requirements.

It is no secret that in the face of the Ethiopian government's unflinching stance to beat swords into plowshares, the criminal enterprise has been now and then pouring cold water on the highly expected peace process by belittling the role of the African Union.

As a matter of fact, to this point, a lot of efforts have been made by the Ethiopian government to cease hostilities. By way of illustration, the incumbent so far has set up a high-level committee aimed at preparing the way for the peace talks and attaining the objective in the shortest possible time.



Despite that, the criminal group has been again and again hampering the positive efforts of the peace process continuing its provocative acts. It is an indisputable fact that Ethiopia has been going to the ends of the earth in many instances intending to bury the hatchet by bringing a wide spectrum of effective strategies into play.

In point of fact, as the illegal group does not believe in living in peace and harmony under Ethiopian skies with the various Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples of Ethiopia, it has been giving the cold shoulder to the AU-led peace talks under the veil of a diverse range of poor reasons.

On top of that, as the terrorist group works around the clock with some internal and external actors, it has sustained brushing aside the good initiatives surfacing in every nook and cranny of the country. Albeit the government has avowed its unflinching stance to allow the past unpleasant things to be forgotten under the auspices of the AU-led Peace talks, the desired destination has not been achieved yet as a consequence of the reluctance of the group.

In a similar vein, even though the incumbent has been moving heaven and earth to restore peace and stability in the northern part of the country, the ragtag group has sustained getting off the subject and playing a part in beating the drums of war. Above and beyond, as nothing makes the criminal organization happier than sticking the blame on the government and other nefarious deeds, it has been mystifying the wider international community with fake stories concerning the AU-led peace talks.

Although the illegal group has perpetrated a wide spectrum of criminal deeds with no ill consequences in the northern part of the country, the government has been sparing no effort to end hostilities intending to get to the bottom of the problem in an atmosphere of calm. It is crystal clear that since the onset of the terrorist group, the government has been endeavoring to turn the tide making use of a broad range of solutions that can end the conflict.

It should be borne in mind that giving peace a chance, the federal government had declared a unilateral truce and withdraw its troops from the Tigray state. Apart from declaring a humanitarian truce, lifting the state of emergency, and other concrete steps, the incumbent has released the criminal group's ill-famed leaders from prisons and allowed unfettered access to humanitarian aid.

Dejectedly, rather than coming to the negotiating table, the group in the present climate is intensifying its fresh attacks. To everyone's dismay, for the love of not accepting the proposed peace talks, the group has been many a time and oft coming up with cock-and-bull stories and confounding the international community. The incumbent has made quite a lot of endeavors to resolve differences in an atmosphere of calm.

It is clear that a peaceful resolution of the conflict has been the number one priority of the Ethiopian government. And, it has reaffirmed its commitment time and time again to take part in the AU-led negotiation.

The African Union (AU) - brokered negotiation to mediate the Federal government of Ethiopia and Terrorist TPLF is the only solution as it helps pave the way for future peace talks, so remarked a sociologist.

In his interview with International media, Iona University Sociology Associate Professor Derese Kassa (Ph.D.) said that he is hoping that the new architecture would work out and both sides would find some sort of a modus operandi to resolve the issues and come out from the talks with at least a framework of what the next round of talks should look like.

Besides, the government of Ethiopia stuck with the notion that "We should be able to find an African solution for African problems". So what happened right now is both parties seem to be exhausted and fatigued by the conflict. So, they should give the AU a chance, he opined.

To him, the first round of these talks

would be about future talks. There would be preliminary talks and it needs to agree on the protocol. Most importantly, agenda items should be carved out for a comprehensive peace dialogue. Though, T- TPLF has renewed the war and ordered all people in Tigray state to join its military recently.

With regard to AU's official invitation to peace talks, the Ethiopian government said that the proposed talk is consistent with its prior positions.

According to Government Communication Service (GCS), the government of Ethiopia remains committed to adopting all possible measures to resolve the conflict in a manner that ensures lasting peace and territorial integrity of the country and would continue upholding this commitment.

In his Twitter message, Redwan Hussien, Security Advisor to the Prime Minister, on his part noted that the invitation is in line with our principled position regarding the peaceful resolution of the conflict and the need to have talks without preconditions.

AU's peace proposal has been accepted by other countries and expressed their commitment to support the initiative.

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) held an Informal Interactive Dialogue (IID) in Ethiopia recently and underlined the importance of the AU-led process in resolving the north Ethiopia conflict.

Ethiopia's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Amb. TayeAtske Selassie said further that the IID stressed respecting the sovereignty of Ethiopia. He told local media that during the course of IID, most member states have shown unwavering support for AU-led peace talks and stood against any parallel peace initiatives.

By the same token, they have also appreciated the Ethiopian government's commitment to ensuring peace, Amb. Taye Atskeselassie added. African countries, on the one hand, stressed that the AU has to do its job freely and urged some forces to restrain from putting pressure.

According to the Ambassador, more or less, the member states have also come to an agreement that TPLF is the one that provoked the third round of conflict against the government of Ethiopia.

Furthermore, he reminded that though few European countries called for a formal meeting on the situation in Ethiopia however, other member states firmly opposed the format and instead chose to hold IID.

Moreover, though the meeting was held under IID format, he underlined that it has undeniable significance in understanding whether the member states have a change of stance, as well as if they have an information gap regarding the issue of Ethiopia. Similarly, it helps to deepen their understanding of the Horn of Africa and Ethiopia, as to him.

Society

Ethiopian flag:

Manifestation of diversity, pillar of sovereignty

BY LEULSEGED WORKU

There is always a strong force behind some symbols. This force though is invisible, it has some type of visible effect- to unite people from different walks of life as one under a single umbrella, take it as their emblem of identity; and compel them to sacrifice their dearest life with the sense of patriotism and pride. For this reason, national flag has special places within the heart of every citizen.

National flag is a source of unity, sovereignty, greatness and pride. In this regard, it is worth mentioning the strong attachments Ethiopians have to their national flag. If there are people who give more value to their national flags than their lives it is Ethiopians. The green, yellow and red flag with a five star in the middle of these colors have a special place in the heart and mind of every Ethiopian. No matter where they live, Ethiopians have special honor, strong love and deep attachment to their national flag.

Throughout history, there was no a single incident that Ethiopians refrained from standing for the sovereignty of their land and to the glory of the flag. This has been attested several times- from historic war till these days.



Yesterday, Ethiopians marked the 15th national Flag Day colorfully nationwide with the theme "Our flag is the manifestation of our diversity; and pillar of sovereignty."

While speaking in relation to the Day, President Sahle-Work Zewde said that national flag is a symbol that a country shows its independence and sovereignty.

In a statement the Government Communication Service issued regarding to the Day, celebration of the national flag day shows that Ethiopians are defending the country that they maintained with their blood and sweat.

According to the statement, a flag is a national symbol. Heroes sacrificed for this emblem. They won on the world stage. This flag has left an indelible seal in the heart of children and adults.

The statement underlined that the flag of Ethiopia is the common history of its citizens in the past, the seal of their honor and identity that binds efforts of the present and hopes for tomorrow as well as common national unity.

"Our country, Ethiopia, is the home of gallant citizens who have fought for its sovereignty and unity through ages. This generation is flying its flag high and bringing shame to its eternal enemies who are trying to dismantle it," the statement continues.

"A flag is a national symbol. Heroes sacrificed for this emblem. They won on the world stage. This flag has left an indelible seal in the heart of children and adults."

As to the statement, a flag is not a colorful piece of cloth. It is the national emblem. Ethiopian patriots have paid their life for the sake of this flag. The flag has a special place in the heart of every Ethiopian- from the toddler to senior citizens. "The flag is our identity that bears our history; the

living witness for our current achievements and an emblem that shows the unity and harmony of Ethiopian Nation, Nationalities and peoples."

Ethiopia is a mother to those patriots who bear the flag and fought for her glory and unity. This patriotic sentiment is still strong and fresh within the heart of every new generation. Whenever Ethiopia's sovereignty is threatened by anti-peace elements the new generation will not compromise with anything. The flag he/she inherits will always remind him/her of the great sacrifice of forefathers.

Using internal traitors, our historic enemies have tried their best to stir Ethiopia's peace and destroy the nation. Using their age old treacheries, they endeavored to create a mess in Ethiopia. However, all the attempts have aborted by the combined hands of Ethiopia's daughters and sons and their ill intents were successfully overcome by a unifying force of Ethiopians. Due to the strong attachment every Ethiopian has for its land and the flag, the strategy of anti-Ethiopian elements have failed.

National Flag Day is usually celebrated on the first Monday of October in the Ethiopian calendar.



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Flag Day, grade twelve examinations

BY DIRRIBA TESHOME

The education sector leaders, employees and students across the nation have celebrated the fifteenth National Flag Day yesterday under the maxim: "Our flag is the symbol of our majority, the pillar of our sovereignty." Besides it has made the necessary preparation for the second round grade twelve national examinations based the first round social science examinations evaluation.

On the Flag Day celebration held at the Ministry of Education, State Minister for Higher Education Samuel Kifle (PhD) said: "The day is a day to think about the sovereignty and flag that we have saved by paying a great price."

The education sector which is responsible for enhancing the all-inclusive development of the generations has also realized that when bringing up generations, it is necessary to know the meaning of a flag and what it represents, he elucidated.

He also pointed out that the flag is a trust that can be passed from generation to generation noting that the generation should understand this and build a strong sovereign nation. State Minister for General Education Fanta Mandefro (PhD) and other office leaders and staffs took part on the ceremony.

On the other hand the ministry has been preparing for the second round national



examinations to grade twelve. On this round it is only the natural science students who are to begin the examinations tomorrow.

This round is based on the experiences gained from the first round of 12th grade social science students' examinations regarding the security whose performance was reviewed.

Education Minister Professor Birhanu Nega has recently disclosed the security investigation in collaboration with the federal police.

The Minister, the Ethiopian Federal Police and other security forces, they noted that the work has been in cooperation. "Our

country's police leadership and members have fulfilled their duties as well as their citizenship responsibility," Prof. Berhanu said in thanking the security forces.

The preparation of the review stage has been stated that it is important to correct the limitations that were in the first round of the exam and to strengthen the strong sides and also raise points that need to be focused in the future.

Ethiopian Federal Police Commissioner General Demelash G/Michael, on his part, has planned to record the 12th grade leaving exam generation and solve the problems that have happened in the first round along with

the other security bodies. "We have made special preparations with the Ministry of Education and conducted strict inspection. The work has been completed successfully by strengthening environmental protections under the leadership of the higher authorities."

In addition, the Commissioner General said: "The exam system in which we will create a better generation in the coming years strengthened the security through technology and create better capacity. The Ethiopian Federal Police and other security bodies have made enough preparations to solve the problems we faced in the first round of exams without any security problem."

Finally, the honorable commissioner general thanked the police administration and other security forces who participated in the first exam. "We all need to learn from the first round and create an exam system that can be recorded for the next generation and build a better country. The Ethiopian Federal Police with all the regions and the two city administration police commissions have taken the first round as a lesson to complete the second round exam peacefully without any security problems."

And as to the information obtained from the Ministry, all the students have arrived at their respective examination centers and sit for their examinations today morning.

Invitation to Bidders

Tender No. ESLSE/PT/NCB/46/2014

Ethiopian Shipping and Logistics Services Enterprise would like to invite interested and eligible bidders for Supply and installation of audience setting and light breaker of Auditorium hall at Multi-purpose Building upon fulfilling of the following terms and conditions.

1. Bidders who engaged in the sector shall present renewed trade license, VAT registration, Current tax clearance certificates. Tin number, supplier list registration certificate with Technical proposal.
2. The Bidders must obtain registration for category Electro-mechanical grade 5 and above with valid and renewed license from Ethiopian energy Authority.
3. The bid document shall be obtained from Ethiopian Shipping and Logistics Services Enterprise which is located new building at 3rd floor against payment of non-refundable fee of Birr 250.00 (Two Hundred fifty Birr) during office hours and obtain the bid document from 10th floor.
4. Bid document shall be accompanied with bid bond amount not less than 2% of the total contract price in the name of Ethiopian Shipping and Logistics Services Enterprise with technical Proposal in the form of unconditional bank guarantee or CPO that can be valid at least 73 days after bid opening.
5. Bidders shall submit financial and technical offer in separate envelopes
6. Bid document shall be submitted in the tender box of the New multipurpose building at 10th floor on or before Nov 08, 2022 at 2:00 pm and it shall be opened in the same date at 2:30 pm (after noon) in the presence of bidders or their representatives.
7. Late bid shall not be accepted and return unopened.
8. Ethiopian Shipping & Logistics Services Enterprise reserves the right to accept or reject the bids partially or totally.

Website: www.ethiopeanshippinglines.com.et

Ethiopian Shipping & Logistics Services Enterprise

Invitation to Bids

1. Bishoftu Town Water Supply and sewerage Enterprise Secured a budget for the Procurement of Civil Work Construction Kindergarten School and Supply of Fittings would like to procure the under mentioned civil work construction.
2. Therefore, interested eligible bidders are invited to participate on this bid for the construction of the following lots,

Lot	Description of works	Reference No.	Categories of Required in Grade
1	Construction of Kindergarten School	NCB/BTWSSE/CW/02/2015	GC-5 & Above
2	Supply of Fittings	NCB/BTWSSE/GD/01/2015	Supplier of Goods

3. Bids accompanied by bid bond of not less than 1% of the bid price in Ethiopian birr in the form CPO or Bank Guaranty and must be submitted to the above mentioned office.
4. Bid shall be delivered bid documents to Bishoftu Town water supply and Sewerage Enterprise, 1st floor Room No 5 and Tel.+251-011-437-1683 on or before 12:00 AM November 7, 2022 GC. Bids shall be open at 2:30 PM November 7, 2022 GC. On the same date in the presence of the bidder's representatives at the office of the Enterprise's hall 1st floor.
5. A complete bid documents in English can be purchased from the above mentioned office up on payment of non-refundable fee birr 500 by submission of a written application to the address indicated below.
6. Bidders should present valid and renewed license, Registration certificate issued from OCA/MoWIE, renewed commercial and Business License, Registration Card for VAT & TIN together with written application & copy of ID Card.
7. Bishoftu Water Supply and Sewerage Enterprise reserves the right to reject partial or fully the Bids.

Bishoftu Town Water Supply and Sewerage Enterprise

On Zukala to Adulala Road

Tel. 011-437-1683/0114335798

Bishoftu

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)

OROMIA BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE

TENDER No. OBoA/NCB/10/2015

Oromia Bureau of Agriculture invites National Competitive Bidding (NCB) from eligible and qualified bidders to bid for the supply of Lime Powder Bag.

1. Interested bidder who have relevant renewed license for the current budget year, VAT registration evidence and registration certificate from Ministry of Finance & Economic Development (MoFED).
2. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English can be purchased by interested bidders from Oromia Agriculture & Natural Resource Bureau, "Sarbet" area in front of School of Nations The regional government of oromia bureaus Middle Block 3rd floor Procurement & Finance Process during office hours upon payment of non-refundable fee 200.00 (two hundred) birr starting from Oct.19/2022.
3. All bids must be accomplished by bid bond of 34,000.00 in the form of bank guarantee or certified payment order (C.P.O).
4. Bids must be delivered to Oromia Bureau of Agriculture, "Sarbet" area in front of school of nations The regional government of oromia bureaus Middle Block 3rd floor Procurement & Finance Process at Nov.03/2022. up to 10:00am.
5. Bidders should submit their technical and financial offers separately in wax-sealed envelopes one original and two copies.
6. Bid will be closed on the date Nov.03/2022. at 10:00 am & opened in the presence of bidder or their legal representatives on the same date at 10:30 am.
7. Late bids will be rejected.
8. Bidders may obtain further information from Oromia Bureau of Agriculture Tel no. +251-118829173/Fax-0113717488, P.O.box 8770 Middle Block 3rd

floor Oromia Bureau of Agriculture

TEL. +251-118829173

P.O.BOX 8770

FINFINNEE

Oromia Bureau of Agriculture

Vacancy Announcement

Job Title: MIS/ GIS Specialist

Key Duties and Responsibilities

- * Develop systems to ensure the quality of data and ensure its entry into the new M&E, mapping, and reporting systems.
- *Coordinate regional staff and evaluation teams to collect all field data (survey and GIS data, etc.) and ensure its entry intoMIS;
- *Provide technical assistance, including the design and integration of the spatial database.
- *Identify existing databases and determine how best the information can be displayed using GIS.
- *Liaise with implementing partners to collect their GIS data in a usable format.
- *Meet with technical staffs as needed to define data needs and project requirements and perform spatial analysis using data from the project and data obtained from regions' demographic and socio-economic survey.
- *Support communication, and monitoring/evaluation initiatives with GIS information.
- *Integrate GIS, performance management, field monitors reporting and projects operational databases to generate tabular and cartographic output for analysis
- *Prepare and produce the MIS/GIS training materials, and design training programs to support program functions.
- *Build the capacity of PASIDP II M&E system in designing, managing, maintaining and upgrading the program database as well as develop Web based data management system
- *Assist to ensure that the MIS/GIS program is in line with both the Minister of Agriculture (MoA) MIS system and the program' subjectives.
- *Support the program M&E system in developing a checklist and guideline for MIS/GIS implementation follow-up.
- *Provide technical support to ensure system security and control services of the program at all levels;
- *Providing other MIS/GIS related technical supports based on the need of the program.

Qualification Required & Experience
Master's degree in MIS/GIS, Information and Communication Technology; 8 years working experience in the field; proven experience and understanding of MIS/GIS; Strong computer and communications skills (oral, written, presentation).

Note:- Basic skills on Kobo tool and power BI for data analysis and visualization are an add advantage.

Address: Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Ministry of Agriculture Block C Ground floor.

Competency and Human Resource Management Executive

Po.Box.62347/3735

Tel:01-16-46-23-55

Place: Ministry of Agriculture Around Gurd Shola

Ministry of Agriculture

**Section 1
Invitation to Bid**

To: All interested and qualified potential candidates or consulting firms with license valid for the year 2012 E.C and can present registration certificate for consulting service from concerned organization.

1. Road and Building Design & construction supervision Works Enterprise has invited wax sealed bids comprising of a Technical and Financial proposal from eligible bidders for providing on job training on Automated Analysis, Design, Detail Quantity computation & Design Drawings Preparation of Bridges at its head office located at Bahir Dar city of Amhara National Regional State.

2. Both the Technical and Financial bid documents may be obtained by any interested eligible bidders on the submission of a written application to Road & Building Design & Construction Supervision Works Enterprise

P.O. Box 1871

Tel. 058-220 9643/058-220 9768

Fax 251-058-2209931

E-mail: road&buildingdesign@yahoo.com

Bahir Dar and upon payment of non-refundable birr 300 (Three Hundred Birr) To whom all inquiries and correspondences should be addressed

3. Each bid must be accompanied by an acceptable bid bond in the sum equal to 2% of the bid amount including VAT, which shall remain in forces for 90 calendar days from the bid opening date and shall be in separate envelope. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond in the sum of 10% of the gross bid sum within 15 days from signature.

4. The duration of the service is 2 Weeks from the commencement of works.

5. Both the Technical and Financial bid documents shall be in separate envelopes & wax - sealed (one original & one copy).

6. Applicants who do not score a minimum of 70% of technical qualification criteria allocated 100% points will be considered as not pre-qualified and their price (financial) bid document will be returned to the applicant without opening it.

7. Sealed Technical and Financial bid documents shall be submitted to the Road and Building Design & construction supervision Works Enterprise office kebele 16, ground floor starting from this announcement for 20 working days at office hours until 2:00 P.M and shall be publicly opened the same day and place at 3:00 P.M hours when the names of the bidders and the amount of their bids will be declared. Bidders are advised to attend the opening of bids.

8. Bidders must present certificate of VAT registration

9. Road & Building Design & Construction Supervision Works Enterprise reserves the right to reject any or all bids without giving reasons therefore and to waive informalities and irregularities, which do not constitute a material modification in the bids received.

**Road & Building Design & Construction Supervision
Works Enterprise**



Invitation For National Tender

Reference Number:	ORO-BPF-6945
Organization	GOAL Ethiopia
Closing date and time for receipt of Tenders	28-October- 2022 2:00 PM GMT +3 East African Time
Tender Opening Date and time	28-October- 2022 3:00 PM GMT +3 East African Time

GOAL Ethiopia, an International Humanitarian Organization, invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the **supply of forage feed concentrate** according to the stated specification in Annex III of Invitation to Tender (ITT) for procurement of *Forage feed concentrate*.

All suppliers who have valid licenses and similar service experience can obtain a complete set of bidding documents from Goal Ethiopia Head Office (Addis Ababa) starting from the first day of this invitation between 8:00AM - 4:30 PM office hours from Monday to Friday, or you can access all documents online at <https://www.goalglobal.org/tenders>.

Question and any clarification relating to this tender, should be sent to the following email address: clarifications@goal.ie until 24-October-2022 4:00 PM GMT +3 East African Time. Communication will be held through e-mail. Questions could be answered only until 25-October-2022 4:00 PM. GOAL does not guarantee for the clarification sent after the deadline.

Tender offers to be submitted to GOAL Ethiopia Head Office or sent by registered post to reach the GOAL office before closing date and time: 28-October- 2022 2:00 PM GMT +3 East African Time to following address: at GOAL Ethiopia, Yeka Sub City, Woreda 9, H. No. 508, Next compound to Kotebe Health Centre, P. O. Box 5504, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Or Electronically with your financial and technical offers in separate emails to tenders@goal.ie. Bids received after the closing date & time will not be considered.

Envelope opening session will be held on 28-October 2022 3:00 PM GMT +3 East African Time at the address stated below. The tenderers or their authorized representatives are invited to be present at the envelope opening.

GOAL Ethiopia reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Address: GOAL Ethiopia,

Yeka Sub City, Woreda 9, H. No. 508

Next compound to Kotebe Health Center

P.O. Box 5504, Tel. 11-6-47-81-16/17, FAX 011-6-478118,

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

GOAL Ethiopia



Invitation to Bidders

Tender No. Re-ESLSE/KOPT/IT/NCB/43/2014

Ethiopian Shipping and Logistics Services Enterprise would like to invite interested and eligible bidders for Supply Different Types of IT Equipment upon fulfilling of the following terms and conditions.

1. Bidders who engaged in the sector shall present renewed trade license, VAT registration, current tax clearance certificates, Tin number, supplier list registration certificate and manufacturer authorization letter with technical proposal.

2. The bid document shall be obtained from Ethiopian Shipping and Logistics Services Enterprise which is located new building at 3rd floor against payment of nonrefundable fee of birr 250.00 (two hundred birr) during office and obtain the bid document from 10th floor.

3. Bid document shall be accompanied with bid bond amount not less than 2% of the total price on the name of Ethiopian Shipping and Logistics Services Enterprise with technical Proposal in the form of un conditional bank guarantee or CPO that can be valid at least 73 days after bid opening.

4. Bidders shall submit financial and technical offer in separate envelopes.

5. Bid document shall be submitted in the tender box of the New multipurpose building at 10th floor on or before Nov. 09, 2022 at 2:00 pm and it shall be opened in the same date at 2:30 pm (after noon) in the presence of bidders their representatives.

6. Late bid shall not be accepted and return unopened.

7. Ethiopian Shipping & Logistics Services Enterprise reserves the right to accept or reject the bids partially or totally.

Tel. 011-554-9781/86

Website: www.ethiopeanshippinglines.com.et

Ethiopian Shipping & Logistics Services Enterprise

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

SNNPR GAMO ZONE WIM DEPARTMENT-ETHIOPIA

Water Supply and Sanitation Project National Competitive Bidding (NCB)

1. The **SNNPR Gamo Zone Finance department**, in collaboration with Gamo Zone WIM department hereby invites wax sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the

construction of the following **Small Works Contract-Civil works and Pipes (27 Fittings Supply and Installation projects in Garda Marta ,Dita and Kucha Woredas of Gamo Zone**

S/No	Name Of Project	Locations		Bid No. Amount ETB	Bid security	Required Grade
		Zone	Woreda			
1	Layisha Kebele W/S/P	Gamo	Garda Marta	SNNPRGZWIMD/ZCP/01/2015/NCB	100,000 ETB	GC-5 with WWC-5 or WW C-5 and above
2	Dokma Kebele W/S/P	Gamo	Dita	SNNPRGZWIMD/ZCP/02/2015/NCB	100,000 ETB	GC-5 with WWC-5 or WWC-5 and above
3	Selamber Town Hospital W/S/P	Gamo	Kucha	SNNPRGZWIMD/ZCP/03/2015/NCB	50,000 ETB	GC-5 with WWC-5 or WWC-5 and above

2. **Bidders must present a business license valid for the current year, tax clearance certificates, certificate of registration/Competency, VAT & TIN registration certificates.**

3. Bidding will be conducted through a **national competitive bidding (NCB) procedure**.

4. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a **written application and copies of necessary renewed licenses from Gamo Zone Finance Department, Arbaminch town, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Birr 300.00(Three hundred)** for each document.

5. Bidders can purchase more than one bidding document but submit only one bidding Document. If not done accordingly, leads for rejection.

6. Bids shall be valid for a period of **Ninety (90) days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by for each Project in the form of Bank Guarantee or CPO and shall remain valid for 120 days. Insurance bond is not acceptable.**

7. **Bids must be delivered to Gamo Zone Finance Department, Arbaminch, at or before 2:00 p.m. on 21st calendar day of this announcement; if the 21st calendar day lies on Ethiopian holiday, the last date of bid submission will be the next working day at the same time and venue. Late bids will be rejected.**

8. **Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' or their representatives who choose to attend in person at 2:30 p.m. on 21st calendar day of this announcement; if the 21st calendar day lies on Ethiopian holiday, the last date of bid submission will be the next working day at the same time and venue., at the tender Committee office of Gamo Zone Finance Department, Arbaminch town.**

9. The departments (GZWIMD & GZF) reserve the right to reject all or parts of the bid.

Full Address (For further information):

Gamo Zone Water Irrigation & Mines Department/ Tel. 0468814130/0188

SNNPR GAMO ZONE WIM DEPARTMENT-ETHIOPIA

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (ICB) INVITATION TO BIDDERS TENDER No. MCF/Re-46/2021

Chemical industry corporation Mughher Cement Factory invites eligible bidders to participate in the bid for the Supply of Refractory Castable Materials and Anchors.

1. Eligible Suppliers / Agents could obtain tender documents by presenting a copy of their renewed licenses (Foreign Trade Auxiliary) VAT Registration Certificate, Registration Certificate Issued from Ministry of Finance & Economic against payment of a non-refundable Birr 115.00 from Procurement Department, Addis Ababa Beklo Bet Garad Building,3rd Floor during working days from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

2. Bids should be accompanied by a bid security of 2% of the bidder offer in the form of Bank Guarantee hold by Supplier Name (not by local agent) which will be payable on first demand by Chemical Industry Corporation Mughher Cement Factory.

3. Wax-sealed Bids shall be delivered to Chemical Industry Corporation Mughher Cement Factory Procurement Department, Addis Ababa office on or before December 03, 2022 at 9:30 A.M Bidders should provide one Original and one copy of "Technical" and "Financial" documents separately.

4. Information you enter the hard currency you are competing for(Euro or Dollar or other) It must be kept clear.

5. Bids (Technical offer) will be opened at the same date on December 03, 2022 at 10:00 A.M in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.

6. Bidder shall submit detail specification of each item under quote with their bidding documents.

7. Failure to comply with the conditions from 2 up to 7 above may result in an automatically rejection.

8. MCF reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

**Chemical Industry Corporation
Mughher Cement Factory
Tel:251-011-4420216
Fax: 251-011-4420688
ADDIS ABABA ETHIOPIA**

Notice

CARING FOR THE CARERY CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION has applied to the FDRE Authority for Civil Society Organization to register as Board Led. Any individual or organization opposing the name is hereby requested to report to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Authority for Civil Society Organization, United Insurance Building, 4th floor office no. 407, until **October 23, 2022** at 9:00A.M.

AUTHORITY FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION

Notice

"LET'S TREAT ETHIOPIA" HUMANITARIAN AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION has applied to the FDRE Authority for Civil Society Organization to register as a **Board-led Organization**. Any individual or organization opposing the name is hereby requested to report to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Authority for Civil Society Organization, United Insurance Building, 4th floor office n°. 407, until **October 24, 2022** at 9:00A.M.

AUTHORITY FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION

NOTICE OF INVITATION FOR BID

Guji Zone Finance Office wants to procure For Guji Zone Administration Office Invite eligible bidders to all national qualified Contractors of Building Works GC/BC -3 and above , with 40% sub contract for those small scale Micro enterprise organized in Guji zone Based on proclamation no 226/2014 The National Regional State of Oromia has allocated budget towards the cost of **ASSEMBEL HALL**

G+2 Construction Projects With approach building and intends to apply part of this budget to payments for the under listed project. Project is indicated in the below table:-

No	Buliding works Name	Zone	Woreda	Bid Bond/C PO Amount	Duration of work days	Mobilization Period days
1	Assemble Hall G+2	Guji	Nagele Town	1.5%	365(one year) only	30

The Guji zone Finance office now invites eligible bidders to submit sealed bids for providing the necessary labor, material and equipment for construction works of the above G+2 Assemble Hall Interested bidders shall submit the following evidence:-

1. Submit with Trading license valid for current year (2015) and registration from ministry of trade/ Bureau of regional trade for Building Works.

2. Bidders must submit VAT and TIN registration certificates issued by revenue Office.

3. Bidders must submit Tax clearance from Federal or Oromia revenue office valid for this bid validity period that permits the bidder to participate in any public tender.

4. The bidders shall have a certificate of competency from Oromia Construction Authority or Ministry of Federal Construction with Category **Building Works GC/BC -3 and Above** renewed for the bidding period and other appropriate documentary evidences demonstrating the bidder's compliance shall include.

5. Evidence of/Being/ Registered at Ethiopian Public Procurement and Property Administration Agency (PPPAA) Supplier list.

6. Bidding will be conducted through the national competitive bidding (NCB) Procedure contained in public procurement and property administration proclamation of the government of the federal Republic of Ethiopia and is open to all eligible bidders. the bidders are advised to read instructions to the bidders before filling and submitting of their bid.

7. Interested eligible bidders can purchase a complete set of bidding document for non-refundable payment of **ETB 500 (Five Hundred Birr) effective** from the first date of announcement up to deadline. The method of payment shall be in cash to the Cashier. Bidding Documents From Guji Zone Finance Office, procurement and Property administration department G+1 No 9 only 21 (Twenty one working days bid floating) from 08 /02/2015 to 6/03/2015 E.C

8. Bid will be closed on the 07/03/2015 E.C working day of this announcement at 8:00 local time and will be open on theme day at 8:30 local time in the presence of bidders or their legal ,representative at Guji Zone Finance office in Meeting hall G+2 No 18 and Late bidders will be rejected.

9. All bidders must be accompanied by a bid security of 1.5 % of the total bid price (value) acceptable CPO or Unconditional Bank Guarantee (in separate envelope prepared **in the name of Guji Zone Finance office**. A complete set of bidding documents prepared in English language.

10. Bidders shall submit One Original and two photocopies for both Technical proposal and financial offer. Technical proposal will be sealed in such a way that one original and one photo copy to be sealed in one envelope while the second photocopy will be sealed in another envelope separately and labeled as "One ORIGINAL & One PHOTOCOPY" and "Second PHOTOCOPY" respectively, then placed in another outer envelope along with bid security as indicated in the above table, in an acceptable form as indicated in bidding document. Financial proposal will be sealed in such a way that one original and one photocopy to be sealed in one envelope while the second photocopy will be sealed in another envelope separately and labeled as "One ORIGINAL & One PHOTOCOPY" and "Second PHOTOCOPY" respectively, then placed in another outer envelope. Finally the whole documents shall be placed in a single sealed envelope whose outer cover containing all necessary information about the firm & Employer including project information.

11. Any attempt of submission of forged (false) document and/or indication of financial offers and also misplacement of documents shall result in rejection of the bid.

12. Missing of any above requirements would be cause for rejection of the bid document.

13. Evaluation is to be carried out in two stages, Qualification Information First and Financial Bids of Qualified bidders next. Financial Proposal of qualified bidders will be opened at the same address given below on the date that is to be declared by the Bid Endorsing Committee after completion of the evaluation of Technical Proposals. Unqualified Bidders' Financial Proposal will be returned unopened to the Bidder.

14. The duration of works shall be completed within a maximum 365 days (One year) starting from the signing of the contract.

15. Bid security Valid for 118 days starting from bid Opining day.

16. Bidders may obtain further information from Guji Zone Finance office 0464450917 or 0464450472

17. Guji Zone Administration office reserves full right to accept or reject any or all bids without any bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at any time, without thereby incurring any liability to Bidders.

**Address Oromia Region, Guji Zone, Nagelle Town,
Guji Zone Finance Office. Nagelle town, Oromia, Ethiopia**

International News

Average London rent hits record £553 a week amid property shortage

Estate agents Foxtons says an average of 29 renters competed for each property in September

The average rental in London hit a record £553 a week last month with almost 30 applicants vying for each property, as landlords cashed in on soaring demand and a lack of new properties coming on to the market in the capital.

The average rental price in September eclipsed the previous record of £549 set in June, according to the latest data from the estate agents Foxtons, with the fight for property sparking bidding wars, “auditions” and landlords demanding six months to a year rent in advance.

On average, 29 renters compete for each property – slightly down on the 33 applicants per new listing in August – the highest levels seen for at least three years.

“The lettings market in September continued to grow as we hit a new record high for the average rental price,” said Gareth Atkins, the managing director of lettings at Foxtons. “This demand was triggered by huge numbers of new renters looking for property. Students physically returned to London post-Covid, corporate relocations resumed at full pace and rising interest rates persuaded some



buyers to continue renting in the immediate future.”

There were 38% fewer new listings year on year in September, and with more than three-quarters of tenants choosing to renew rather than move, the pressure on prices in the rental market is unlikely to abate anytime soon.

Central London remains the most expensive area of the capital with rent up 30% year on year to a record £636 a week last month.

In September, renters spent 101% of their registered budget to secure a property, an increase of 3% compared with August.

The south and east of London experienced

the most competition, with 37 applicants per property, while the largest monthly increase was in the north, with 20% more applicants per instruction.

Renters’ average weekly budget was £494 last month, slightly down on the £500 a week recorded in August. However, budgets were 6% higher compared with the same month last year. Central and east London continued to have the highest year-on-year increase, at 12% and 11% respectively.

“The normal seasonal trends you’d see in the third quarter were taken to their extremes this year,” said Sarah Tonkinson, the managing director for the institutional private rental sector and build to rent at Foxtons.

“August and September are always peak lettings season. Now that we are past the peak, renter demand should relax as it does in the fourth quarter, but I suspect it’ll remain significantly higher than we’d typically see for October. The lack of supply is still making headlines – September’s 23,000 was the lowest level yet in 2022.”

Source: The Guardian

Calls for UK response after protester attacked at Chinese consulate

Foreign secretary urged to take action after Hong Kong demonstrator punched and kicked in Manchester

A screen grab of a protester being dragged into the Chinese consulate in Manchester

The UK foreign secretary, James Cleverly, is facing demands to take action against the Chinese government after police began inquiries into claims that a pro-democracy protester was attacked inside the grounds of the Chinese consulate in Manchester.

The man, who was reportedly beaten up, named only as Bob, said he was punched and kicked after being dragged inside the consulate grounds before being rescued by British police and other protesters. A photograph published by VOA Cantonese showed some of his injuries, just below his eyes, which left him bleeding and bruised.

“They shouldn’t have done that. We are supposed to have freedom to say whatever we want here [in the UK],” Bob, originally from Hong Kong, told the BBC.

Images from the attack circulating on social media show a grey-haired man in a blue scarf holding Bob by his hair just inside the consulate gates, as other men attack him and a British police officer tries to pull him away.

The grey-haired man had previously come out of the consulate, demanded the removal of satirical posters of the Chinese president, Xi Jinping, and torn down a protest banner. Police are not allowed to enter consular grounds without permission.

A spokesperson for Greater Manchester police said the force was “aware of an incident” that took place at about 3pm on Sunday.

“Officers were present and responded immediately to defuse the situation. Inquiries are ongoing at this time to understand the full



circumstances,” the spokesperson said.

The Labour MP David Lammy, the shadow foreign secretary, demanded the Chinese ambassador be summonsed by Cleverly to give a full account, describing the allegations as “deeply concerning and, if accurate, totally unacceptable”.

He said: “The UK stands for freedom, the rule of law and democracy. The quashing of peaceful protest will never be tolerated on our streets.”

The alleged victim was part of a small group demonstrating on Sunday at the start of the 20th Communist party congress in Beijing, which is expected to extend Xi’s leadership for a further five years.

Several protest banners had earlier been placed outside the consulate, one with the words “Heaven will destroy the Chinese Communist party”, and a caricature of Xi wearing a crown.

A spokesperson for the consulate told the BBC the protesters had “hung an insulting portrait of the Chinese president at the main entrance”. The spokesperson added: “This

would be intolerable and unacceptable for any diplomatic and consular missions of any country. Therefore, we condemn this deplorable act with strong indignation and firm opposition.”

There was widespread condemnation of the attack in Britain and calls for a strong response from activists and politicians across the political divide.

The former Conservative party leader Iain Duncan Smith called for the home secretary, Suella Braverman, to “look into this urgently”.

“The UK government must demand a full apology from the Chinese ambassador to the UK and demand those responsible are sent home to China,” he tweeted.

Sarah Owen, the Labour MP for Luton North who is of Chinese descent, shared video of the attack, saying it threatened the security of refugees. She said: “This is deeply worrying. An investigation needs to happen immediately, with answers given, to ensure people fleeing persecution feel safe our country.”

The exiled Hong Kong politician Nathan Law

said the attack had terrifying implications for Hong Kong citizens who had fled China’s crackdown to the UK, and called for a strong British government response.

“If the consulate staffs responsible are not held accountable, Hongkongers would live in fear of being kidnapped and persecuted,” he tweeted. “Foreign and home secretaries must investigate and protect our community and people in the UK.”

Benedict Rogers, the chief executive of the campaign group Hong Kong Watch, said: “This appalling act of thuggery by CCP (Chinese Communist party) in Manchester cannot go unpunished.

“[The Foreign Office] must summon [Chinese ambassador] ZhengZeguang first thing tomorrow morning, prosecute those responsible, and if they can’t be prosecuted, expel CCP officials responsible – without delay.”

In his speech opening the party congress in Beijing, Xi celebrated China’s crushing of Hong Kong’s autonomy, and warned Taiwan that the “wheels of history” were turning towards Beijing taking control of the island democracy.

Britain opened a path to citizenship for Hong Kong residents after Beijing’s crackdown on a pro-democracy movement swept away the city’s autonomy and rights including freedom of expression and protest.

There have already been more than 140,000 applications for visas under the scheme and the British government expects hundreds of thousands of people to move to the UK within five years.

Source: The Guardian

Planet Earth

Efforts to rescue Ethiopian wolf from risk of extinction

BY DARGIE KAHSAY

Ethiopia is home to various endemic wild animals. The Ethiopian wolf is among the endemic wild animal species in Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Wolf, a wolf endemic to Ethiopia, is the most researched wild animal in the country since it joined the red list, a list of critically endangered wild animals until 2011.

Now the population of this species is increasing, though still unsatisfactory, due to continuous researches and conservation efforts for the wolf and its habitat. This improvement is outcome of the continuous researches and conservation efforts by the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme (EWCP) that invested in the field for almost three decades.

Girma Eshete (PhD) is a Conservation Biologist who currently is a Senior Researcher and Wolf Monitor at EWCP. He is also Lecturer of Wildlife Conservation at Bahir Dar University both for under graduate and post-graduate programmes. The Ethiopian Herald approached Dr. Girma to discuss the achievements of the EWCP in conserving the Ethiopian wolf and the Ethiopian wolves current situations.

EWCP was established in 1995 under the umbrella of Oxford University Wildlife Conservation Research Unit jointly with the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA). In Ethiopia, the programme is working with Ethiopian Wild Life Conservation Authority (EWCA), Amhara State Environment and Forest Conservation Programme and Oromia State Forest and Wildlife Enterprise.

The focus of the programme is researching and conserving the critically endangered Ethiopian Wolf, and its habitat, the afro-alpine ecosystem. The programme focuses on researching and conserving the biodiversity of the ecosystem by taking the Ethiopian Wolf as a flagship and iconic species.

The need to conserve Afro Alpine ecosystem

“The Afro-alpine ecosystem is an ecosystem found in the mountainous epics above 3,200 meters above sea level. The species, both plant and wildlife, found within this ecosystem are mostly endemic to Ethiopia” Girma stated. “Since the Ethiopian wolf habits within this ecosystem, EWCP takes the Ethiopian wolf as flagship species to conserve the habitat and the biodiversity within this ecosystem as it is the home of many endemic plant and wildlife species,” he added.

Among the endemic wild animals inhabiting in the afro-alpine ecosystem, according to Girma, are the Ethiopian wolf, Walia Ibex, Chilada baboon, Menelik’s Bushbuck, Mountain Nyala, birds, rodents and several types of plant species. Hence for Girma conserving the Ethiopian wolf requires conserving this afro-alpine ecosystem which in turn means conserving these entire



endemic wild and plant species.

Over 88 percent of the Ethiopian population resides in the surroundings of the afro-alpine ecosystem. This ecosystem also accommodates 60 percent of domestic animals, according to Girma. In addition, the afro-alpine ecosystem is a major origin of water source for the main basins of Ethiopia. The major Ethiopian basins, the Blue Nile (Aby) basin, Tekeze Basin, Awash Basin and Wabishebele basins are originating from this ecosystem, which makes the ecosystem a very crucial protector of nature. More importantly, this ecosystem is an origin of goods and services extracted from natural resources.

This area is densely populated by communities that depend on agriculture and extraction of natural resources. As a result, the ecosystem faces continuous degradation. This ecosystem is an architect ecosystem and conserving this ecosystem is not only conserving the unique plant and wildlife species but helps the sustainability of the benefits extracting from this ecosystem. This indirectly means conserving the highland and lowland habitats that are dependent on the resources originating from this ecosystem, including the surface water.

Dr. Girma says Ethiopia accounts for 80 percent of Africa’s afro-alpine ecosystem. In Ethiopia, this ecosystem is found within eight zones of Amhara and Oromia regional states. This ecosystem makes Ethiopia the water tower of Africa.

After EWCP started its programme in 1995 in Bale to conserve the then critically endangered Ethiopian Wolf, the programme expands its existence throughout the afro-alpine ecosystem since 2000. The Programme, started after the Wildlife Conservation and Research Unit (WCRU) crew from the Oxford University led by Claudio Sillero visited the Bale Mountains

in 1986 and realized the necessity of conserving this rare and threatened species with special programme to secure their persistence.

Since then, the programme is active in Ethiopia across the afro-alpine ecosystems and achieved a lot in researching and conserving the Ethiopian wolf and its habitat. The Ethiopian Wolf currently habits in around six afro-alpine sites, Bale Mountains National Park, Arsi, Simien Mountains National Park, Abune Yoseph-Abuhay Garya in North Wollo, Borena Saynt National Park and Menz Guasa Community protected site. Half of the Ethiopian wolves are found at Bale Mountains National Park, where a significant portion of the country’s afro-alpine ecosystem rests in. Even though these wolves once habited in Chocke and Guna community protected areas, they are now no more there.

Ecosystem degradation, disease transmission from domestic dogs, like rabies and canine distemper, conflict between human and wolves are the major challenges for the wolf species. Over the years EWCP has been working to halt these challenges. The rapid encroachment of people and domestic animals and the dense population of the ecosystem is causing high rate of degradation on it. This affects the habitat of the wolf and other endemic animals.

Hence, according to Girma, the EWCP invests in research based capacity building, restoration of degrading habitats, vaccination for both domestic dogs and the wolves as well as community environmental education for attitudinal change to conserve both the wolf and the ecosystem. In addition, it focuses on raising awareness and introducing alternative livelihood opportunities like bee farming to create smooth coexistence between the people and the habitat.

Following the three decades of research and conservation works now this species has been delisted from the category of critically endangered wild animals to that of the endangered ones.

“Currently, the Ethiopian wolves’ viable population ranges between 450 to 500 in all sites half of which habits in Bale Mountains National Park while the remaining is distributed in five sites” Girma stated.

Based on the researches on the species and its habitat, important conservation programmes are designed and introduced to conserve the wolf and the ecosystem which is home to different endemic wildlife. EWCP remains at the front in researching, leading and introducing practical programmes collaborating with Ethiopian conservationists mainly with EWCA.

EWCP has programme offices in every site that the wolves habit in addition to its head office at Bale Mountains National Park. In every site, EWCP has wolf monitor biologists with the focus of monitoring the wolves in the field. The experts spent over 20 days a month in fields to follow up and monitor the wolves.

Hence, wolf monitoring and follow-up, habitat conservation and rehabilitation, disease control, community environmental education, investment in supporting the livelihood of the community in the area and capacity building are among the regular activities of the programme. Due to the continuous activities and efforts done to conserve the species, the sites that the Ethiopian wolf is found are now well conserved and protected sites. The inputs to take actions in conserving the Ethiopian wolf and the afro-alpine habitat are the outcomes of the researches by EWCP and its stakeholders.