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T-TPLF's departure from politics forges durable peace: Ephrem Madebo

BY ABDUREZAK MOHAMMED

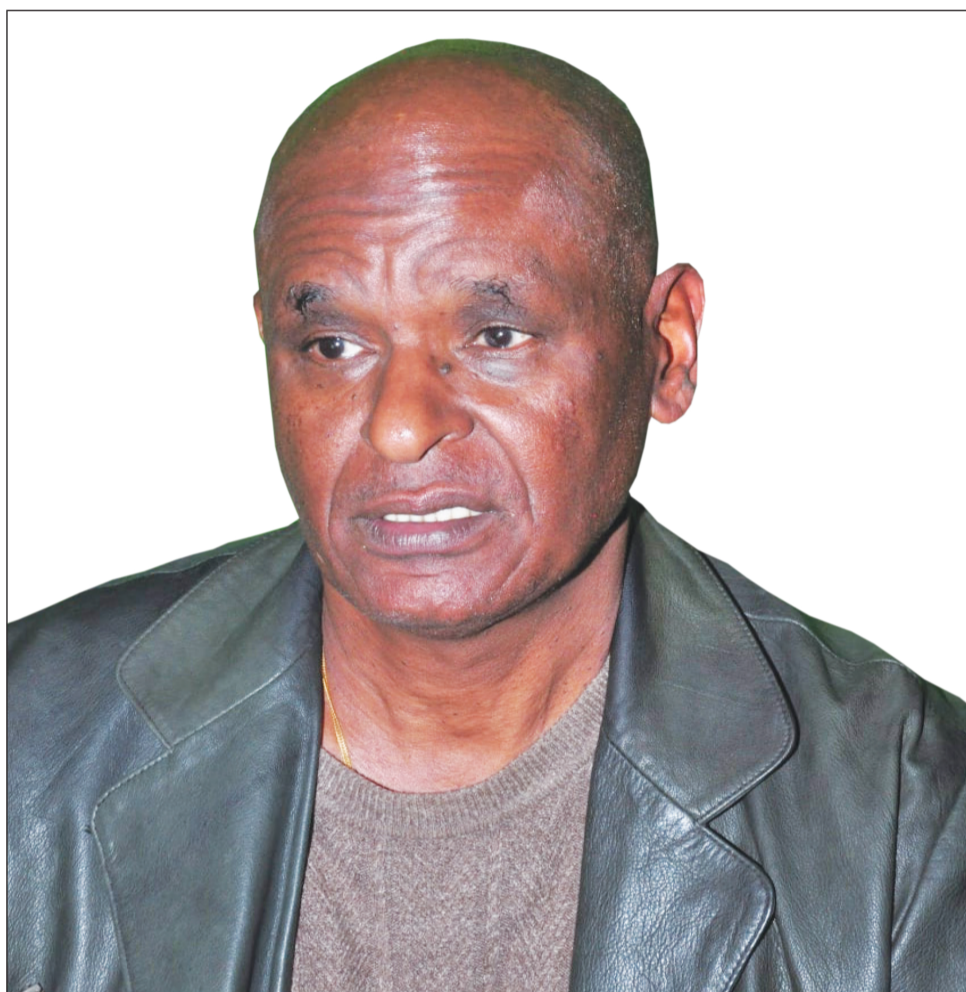
ADDIS ABABA – The Terrorist TPLF should be disarmed and departed from Ethiopia's politics for ensuring sustainable peace in the country and the Horn of Africa (HoA), according to a senior political analyst.

Speaking to *The Ethiopian Herald*, the political analyst Ephrem Madebo stated that the T-TPLF group is a Trojan horse of some foreign interest groups to weaken Ethiopia and a peace and security threat to the country and the entire HoA.

He added that the terrorist group does not have the habit and interest to resolve disagreements through peace talks. And, the group has used all peace alternatives offered by the government to rearm itself and launch other rounds of conflicts.

“So, the T-TPLF should be disarmed and dissolved before any peace talks. If the group is ready to get to the negotiation table, it must lay down its arms and stop belligerence. Unless it shows a willingness to do that, punitive measures have to be taken against the group,” he also said.

According to the analyst, since its foundation



Ephrem Madebo

in the 1970s, the terrorist group has been trying to achieve its ill-advised interests by force and it has never had the desire and experience to participate in peace talks

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Diasporas in U.S. to denounce unwarranted pressure

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA - Ethiopian Diasporas in the United States will hold a public rally in Washington, D.C. tomorrow in front of the White House to oppose the unfair pressure of some global powers on their home country, it was stated.

A Washington, D.C. resident Negasi Beyene told the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) that Ethiopians and friends of Ethiopia living in different parts of the world have also been participating in public demonstrations mainly to protest unfair stances and inappropriate intervention of some global powers and organizations. The rally also

calls on some interest groups to refrain from their unfair and biased pressure on Ethiopia and attempt to undermine the sovereignty of the country.

“Our family, children, sisters and brothers are dying due to the conflict inflicted by the

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Gov't measures free Tigray from T-TPLF's yoke: Hermela Aregawi

BY TAMERU REGASA

ADDIS ABABA- The action that the Government of Ethiopia is taking will relieve the people of Tigray from the Terrorist TPLF's decades of tyrannical rule, a renowned ethnic Tigray journalist said.

Speaking to *Break Through News* concerning

See Gov't measures ... Page 3

Thug's renewed belligerence showcases innate dishonesty: Expert

BY TSEGAYE TILAHUN

ADDIS ABABA–The Terrorist TPLF's invasion and encroachment into Amhara and Afar states at the midst of the AU-led peace efforts has revealed the faction's innate characteristic of untrustworthiness, a foreign policy expert said.

Throughout its history, the T-TPLF has been unable to resolve conflicts with opposed groups of the national government in

See Thug's renewed ... Page 3

News

Board refers WHO head's misconducts to further scrutiny

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA - Executive Board of World Health Organization (WHO) has confirmed that the issue of WHO Director General, Tedros Adhanom (PhD) has been forwarded to the Independent Expert Oversight Advisory Committee (IEOAC) for further scrutiny.

A response received from the Executive Board of WHO confirms that the issue of WHO Director General and his conduct has been forwarded to the IEOAC because of abusing the organizations position for other outlawed purpose.

It is to be recalled that the government of Ethiopia has sent a letter to the WHO as the director general has abused his power. Tedros has not also lived up to the integrity and professional expectations required from his office.

Ethiopia filed on numerous occasions and complaints revolving around the WHO Director General's violations of WHO

code of ethics and professional conduct, and he has used organization's platform to disseminate propaganda against his country to do terrorist group, to which he has been belonged, a favor.

In light of the continuous unprofessional behavior, delinquency as well as information readily available on the social media, no doubt that the IEOAC will expeditiously reach at conclusive decision, it was stated.

WHO code of ethics and professional conduct states that "WHO staff members must exercise caution and refrain from expressing their opinions and beliefs publically or engaging in political actions that might interfere with governmental policies or affairs. Incitement of hates against specific groups of society such as ethnic, national, or religious minorities or any segments of society is not accepted."

Tedros' daily comment and speech is overwhelming evidence that he continues abusing WHO platform to double as T-TPLF external spokesperson and lobbyist. Putting



the mandate given by the organization aside, professional code of conduct and credibility the director general continues violating of the organization.



Ethiopia toiling to rise horticulture export earnings

BY ESSEYE MENGISTE

ADDIS ABABA— As horticulture helped Ethiopia to secure over 541 million USD during last year, various efforts are being exerted to rise the foreign earnings to this end, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) stated.

MoA Horticultural Development Director Abdella Negash told local media that the result achieved in the horticulture exports was the highest in the history of such business in Ethiopia.

The main reason for the result is the increment of foreign trade, and the contribution of the agriculture, manufacturing and mining sectors has taken the lead.

In addition, investors are working to increase their foreign exchange earnings by increasing their productivity, expanding market access and implementing new agricultural technologies.

Joytech Project Fruit and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Project Coordinator Bisrat Hailelassie, on his part said, "We are working to increase productivity by

expanding land use and making it more efficient. The new discovery of growing vegetables on water alone is practical and run by adding the nutrients to the water and helps to increase productivity."

Horticulture Producers and Exporters Association President Tedros Zewude said that Ethiopia's natural climate, topography and land are suitable for fruit and vegetable production. However, the country has not so far used its full potential in the sector. The good step is foreign investors looking at the available resources are interested in investing in the sector.

Problems arising year after year, are still becoming bottlenecks have reduced the foreign currency earned from the sector. Many buyers are interested in buying from Ethiopia, but the land supply is not as good as needed, he noted.

Ethiopia's income from the sector should be billions, and for this, the land supply and the support system should be in a better way. The ministry has planned to attain 770 million USD in this fiscal year.

Ethiopia, France ink 5 mln Euro grant to restore Lalibela churches

BY YESUF ENDRIS

ADDIS ABABA- A five million euro aid agreement was signed between the governments of Ethiopia and France at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Finance to protect, rehabilitate and develop the UNESCO-inscribed Lalibela churches.

The agreement was signed by Finance State Minister Seme-reteta Sewasew, and Remi Marechaux, French Ambassador to Ethiopia.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, the state minister stated that the aid agreement is part of a project that Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed reached with French President Emmanuel Macron four years ago to cooperate in heritage protection. It is believed that the project will increase the flow of visiting tourists by enhancing and developing Ethiopia's national heritage, increase the foreign currency from the sector and create more job opportunities for the local community.

She further pointed out that the long-standing good relations and cooperation between the two friendly countries continued to be strengthened through their cooperation to repair and develop the damage caused to the Lalibela Churches, which were regis-



tered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. "This cooperation is also instrumental to protect and develop Lalibela Churches and ensure that the heritage has a suitable socio-economic interaction with the local community and to build the capacity of the Ethiopian Heritage Protection Authority."

Ambassador Remi Marechaux said on his part, cognizant of Lalibela' world heritage status, his government has attached special emphasis for the churches' restoration. "The diplomatic relationship between Ethiopia and France that lays on promoting heritages will be endlessly continued."

The UNESCO World Heritage Committee has requested the Ethiopian government to deliver additional studies and a comprehensive strategy to preserve and restore the site of the 11 churches of Lalibela, The Ethiopian Herald learned.

News

NEBE ready to hold Southern State referendum

- HPR allocates 401.1 mln Birr for the same cause

BY TSEGAYE TILAHUN

ADDIS ABABA – National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) disclosed that it has finalized preparations to hold referendum in six zones and five districts in Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples (SNNP) State.

Briefing Press, NEBE Chairperson Birtukan Mideksa said that preparation for holding a referendum in five zones and six special districts in SNNP State is well underway. Necessary activities are ongoing to enable to hold the referendum in these areas. Referendum plan preparation, budget allocation, process discussions and other activities are carried out as per the schedule.

Over 18,000 election facilitators are needed to implement the referendum. Out of these, 9,000 facilitators assured their readiness to run the activity, and the remaining 9,000 will be recruited soon via online vacancy announcement. NEBE has taken facilitator's impartiality into serious account as it is one of the reform measures of the Board. Drawing important lessons from the previous national elections, the board is doing its best to effectively hold the referendum.

NEBE held various discussions with representatives of political parties and others. The referendum will be held in



Photo - Eyob Teferi

Wolayita, Gamo, Gofa, South Omo, Geddo, Konso zones as well as Derashe, Amaro, Burji, Ale and Basketo special districts of the SNNP State. More than 3.1 million voters are expected to be registered for the cause.

“Arba Minch city is nominated as the coordination center of the referendum. The outcome of the election will enable zones and districts either to form new regional states or to continue with the existing SNNP state. The referendum will be held on 06 February. And the result of the referendum will be announced on 15 February,” she noted.

As to her, the House of Peoples Representative has allocated 410.1 million birr requested budget to hold the referendum from a total amount of over 541 million birr.

Pan Africanism needs be praised, enhanced: Researcher

ADDIS ABABA- Pan Africanism needs to be praised and enhanced to bring inclusive solutions for the continent, an independent Pan African researcher said.

In an exclusive interview with ENA, Mahelt Ayele, an independent researcher who resides in Netherlands, said even if there are some works to do, Pan Africanism has been contributing in bringing solutions to African nations when faced with challenges imposed by previous colonial masters or the West.

According to her, it is important to have one voice as Africa.

If we see it from the Pan African perspective, the unity of Africans during the recent meeting of the Human Right Council to adopt the resolution extending the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia (ICHREE) was successful.

“It was a victory for us. It was a resolution that was really rejected by all African members, except one country which abstained. They teamed up to say ‘no’ and the majority abstained. So, we have a victory. It really matters for Pan Africanism. This is the way to bring a solution to our problems as a country and continent.”

She further explained that our ancestors, including Emperor Haile Selassie and Kwame Nkrumah as well as other Pan African leaders established the Organization

of African Unity. Their ultimate goal was to have political and economic unity, even if their priority was to first free the continent from colonial powers.

The researcher also expressed her observation that East African leaders, including President William Ruto and others, have called for unity in the region. “So the idea is there, the will is there; even if the process is gradual process and not something that can be done overnight.”

Mahelt recommended that Africans bring about economic integration, mentioning Ethiopia's electric power selling to its neighboring countries, which is part of the gradual process that leads to the ultimate goal that Africans are looking for.

Similarly, Kenya's Safari.com has entered the Ethiopia market; and these are good examples, she noted, adding that unless we celebrate such gradual processes, gradual steps we might not see that ultimate goal.

According to the researcher, Ethiopia has been a political experiment country in the last two years, paying sacrifice to be a model for Africa in putting the precedent and the right thing as bold guidelines for African countries.

If anyone should be involved in the conflict in Ethiopia and other issues, it is the African Union, Mahelt stressed, noting that no non-African state or entity should be involved.

Govt's measures free Tigray from...

current situation of Ethiopian, the Journalist and Activist Hermela Aregawi stated that the government needs to working closely with the Tigray people who live in the state and the rest of the country. “The federal government should consider obtaining the political leadership in Tigray for the benefit of the people.”

Mentioning the federal government's withdrawal of troops from Tigray for humanitarian purposes and the Ethiopian National Defense Forces' disciplined operation in the state, Hermela stressed that the T-TPLF committed ethnic-motivated atrocities at all areas it used to control in Amhara and Afar.

“The radical clique also committed atrocities on its own people to get international attention and it is accustomed to employ humanitarian issues and genocide to achieve

its ill-conceived goals. Also, obstructing and diverting humanitarian aid the defining feature of the T-TPLF.”

About the mid-1980s famine that occurred in parts of Ethiopia, the journalist highlighted that leaders of the outlawed group utilized the famine to raise millions of dollars of funds by the name of the needy people of Tigray. Indeed, they used the majority of funds to buy war weapons.

Leaders of the criminal clique have been pulling Tigray youth into war under the motto of “War is our game.” After throwing the Tigray youth in their archaic human wave military tactic, the T-TPLF leaders accused the federal government for false genocide, she emphasized.

T-TPLF's departure from politics...

which it said it would not win 100%. The group is the worst-ever organization in the world by many measurements, he added.

Ephrem further explained that many interest groups want to drive Ethiopia in the direction they want. And, these forces use groups like T-TPLF in countries, especially third world countries, to take action against a given country that refused to implement their policies and to achieve their interests.

These forces have launched a large-scale

campaign against Ethiopia in support of the T-TPLF, realizing that if the terrorist group returns to power they can achieve their goals, he also indicated.

The Terrorist TPLF had come to power with the support of these interest groups, he said adding, that when the terrorist group was in power for 27 years, it had been preserving the interests of these bodies. “The interest groups define things with the point of view of their interests.”

Thug's renewed belligerence...

negotiation and in a peaceful manner. Rather, the clique used temporary ceasefire agreements as a tactic to buy more time, to re-arm and rebuild its forces, Afework Legesse, an expert at Foreign Policy and African Studies stated.

The expert further highlighted that some in the West have failed to condemn the terrorist enterprise's heinous crimes against innocent civilians. “What was even more regrettable is that some interest groups and international organizations intensified the orchestrated campaign and undue pressure on the government using human rights as a pretext.”

Noting some interest groups' dissemination of unsubstantiated and politically motivated information that harms Ethiopia's sovereignty and territorial integrity, Afework indicated the silence of the international community has undeniably emboldened this misinformation campaign. Despite strong commitment and goodwill from part of the government and people of Ethiopia, some global powers and UN agencies continued to accuse the former, citing concerns

around unfettered humanitarian access and violations of human rights in Tigray.

“In flagrant violation of the norms of international relations, some UN agencies were caught red-handed while smuggling military grade communications instruments and weapons to the T-TPLF fighters. This placed a needless strain on Ethiopia's relationship with the humanitarian community.”

Weaponization of economic relations for strategic ends including delisting Ethiopia from African Growth and Opportunities Act (AGOA) and tabling various bills with the intention to cripple the country were other tools used by the U.S. and its Western partners.

The T-TPLF's instigation of this third round of war was an audaciously reckless step in the wrong direction. This is a clarion call that the outlawed group has no intentions for a peaceful resolution of the conflict. Conversely, the government intends to facilitate humanitarian relief, work to restore disrupted services and infrastructure in liberated areas, the expert remarked.

Diasporas in U.S. to denounce...

Terrorist TPLF and we; the Diaspora community living in different parts of the world need to do what is expected from us and discharge our role to save Ethiopia from risk.”

Negasi further noted that the peaceful demonstration will convey messages against some global powers for their soft stance on the T-TPLF and exerting unfair and politically motivated pressure on the Ethiopian government.

Noting the mere interest of those groups

is to weaken Ethiopia and installing a puppet leadership in the Horn of Africa, he highlighted that the corporate media's campaign and conspiracy is all about protecting their interest in the guise of human rights. “Diaspora Ethiopians in the U.S. are expected to demonstrate an overwhelming participation in the grand public rally.”

It was stated that the Washington, D.C. public demonstration is part of the nationwide rally that is being held under the theme “I will stand for Ethiopia and raise my voice.”

Opinion

Saving the Last Great Hope of Humanity from the Brandon Administration on 11/8/22

BY ALMARIAM

PART ONE

“We shall nobly save, or meanly lose, the last best hope of earth. Other means may succeed; this could not fail. The way is plain, peaceful, generous, just – a way which, if followed, the world will forever applaud, and God must forever bless.” First Republican President Abraham Lincoln, Annual Message to Congress, December 1, 1862

Remember; remember the 8th of November 2022- DD Day- Drive DemocRATS and DemocraTICK Party Outta Congress Day.

It is official. I am now a registered Republican. No, I did not jump to register. I was pushed. Beyond the limits!

By Joe Biden, Susan Rice, Samantha Power, Antony Blinken, Linda Thomas Greene, Senators Robert Menendez, Chris Coons, Ed Markey and Cory Booker, Representatives Gregory Meeks, Karen Bass, Tom Malinowski and other congressional democRATs.

I’ll be damned! I found out there are boatloads of closet Ethiopian American Republicans everywhere! But they keep it on the down-low. I guess they are ashamed to admit it in public. You know, the scarlet letter “R” on their forehead.

Some of my longtime democratic friends gasp in consternation, bewilderment, and curiosity. Others freak out! “What happened? How could you?” How could I what?

“Don’t you know the Republicans Party is for white people? They pass laws to take away African Americans’ voting rights. They deny social services to families of people of color, turn a blind eye to police brutality...”

I hit back.

“Do you know Joe Biden passed the biggest crime bill in American history—the \$30 billion Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 — which has resulted in the incarceration of hundreds of thousands of young African Americans, expansion of the application of the federal death penalty which disproportionately affects African Americans, imposition of harsher sentencing laws and three-strikes mandatory life sentences for conviction of three felonies, granting billions to states to build prison industrial complexes?”

Republicans keep African Americans from voting?

Well! What did Obama and his democrats in Congress do in 2013 after the US



Supreme Court struck down the formula at the heart of the 1965 Voting Rights Act that required certain states and localities with a history of discrimination against minority voters to get changes cleared by the federal government before they went into effect?

Nothing! Did Obama democrats come up with a new formula for voting pre-clearance? Of course not;

Democrats use the voting canard as wedge issue to the present day to scare minority voters to keep voting for them blindly and mindlessly. I offer my stupefied friends a morsel from my intro to American Government course.

Southern Conservative Democrats (Dixiecrats) opposed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, while Northeastern Liberal Republicans supported it.

At the time, Republican Minority Leader Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois gave a powerful speech calling racial integration “an idea whose time has come.”

“But back then, there were moderate republicans who could work on a bipartisan basis,” they remind me.

“MAGA republicans have taken over the Republican Party today,” they lament.

“What kind of a Republican are you anyway?” they ask puzzled.

I chuckle. “I guess there are MAGA Republicans and MEGA Republicans. Guess which one I am?”

They are confused. “What is a MEGA Republican?”

I smile ear to ear. “A MEGA Republican believes in “Make Ethiopia Great Again.”

A slight befuddled pause followed by confused laughter.

“MEGA, MAGA, Same to me, two great countries in the world. Make America Great Again. Make Ethiopia Great Again. Two side of the same coin,” I proclaim

proudly, MEGA.

Ethiopia is the first country mentioned in the Old Testament. “And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia. (Genesis 2:13, King James Version).

The “River Gihon” is none other than Abay River in Ethiopia, a/k/a “The Nile.” It is on the River Ghion that Ethiopia today is building its Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam, the largest dam in Africa.

Ethiopia is mentioned at least 38 times in the Bible. In the Book of Psalms 68:31 is written, “Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God.” God always lifts those who stretch their hands to Him.

During the First Hijra, the Prophet Muhammad directed his persecuted followers “to leave Makkah and seek sanctuary in Abyssinia (Ethiopia) ruled by a Christian king, well-known for being a just and God-fearing man.”

I tell them to read the fascinating story of the Civilization of Ethiopia.

MAGA Make America Great Again. America, the Last Great Hope of Humanity!

I agree with the 19th century British Prime Minister William Gladstone who proclaimed, “The Constitution of the United States of America is the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man”.

After all, I spent my childhood and adult life studying, teaching, defending, practicing and proselyting the US Constitution.

But what is America to me?

Mother of Exiles, From her beacon-hand Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command

The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.

‘Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!’ cries she

With silent lips. ‘Give me your tired, your poor,

Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,

The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.

Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,

I lift my lamp beside the golden door!

So were the words of Emma Lazarus inscribed on the Statute of Liberty? They are mine too. So it is for the best hope of humanity, as I have oft written.

Pardon my digression. I have a million and one reasons to be pissed off at the Brandon administration and congressional democrats.

Nothing will give me greater pleasure than seeing them suffer a stinging and humiliating defeat on November 8, 2022.

Under the watch of the Brandon administration, inflation has been eating Americans out of house and home. Inflation today is at 40-year high with 9.1%. Over past two years, the crime rate has been rising to unprecedented levels.

The Brandon administration has approved \$4.8 trillion of new borrowing (ballooning the national debt) on top of the 31 trillion already on the books.

It is a total disaster in foreign policy for the Brandon administration:

Humiliating cut and run withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Scamming France on an Indo-Pacific submarine deal;

Botching response to Haitian refugees at the southern border.

Incompetence in managing the America’s Summit 2022;

Exclusion of certain African countries from attending the African Summit 2021.

Inability to get African countries to support the US position on Russia at the UN,

Suffering humiliation in first meeting with Chinese diplomats.

Lack of effective diplomatic response to Russian military action in Ukraine,

Inability to bring Iran to the negotiating table.

Inability to persuade/push for North Korea to denuclearize and on and on.

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

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Editorial

Keep rescuing people from T-TPLF's bondage

The people of Tigray have suffered enough at the brute hand of the Terrorist TPLF. Ethiopia's historic enemies and those who only want to advance their geopolitical interests have collaborated with the criminal enterprise's destructive project.

The group committed all kinds of crimes against the people. For the T-TPLF, the people are no more than cannon fodder, it uses children, and older persons including monks and nuns for its outdated human wave warfare; it starves the people for its ill-fated propaganda; it uses aids directed at the people to feed its combatants—just to mention a few.

Groups with special interest have used T-TPLF and humanitarian aid as carrot and stick to achieve their ill will of putting a puppet regime on the throne of the country that has a fascinating history of independence. But as someone turns the pages of history, it could find that humanitarian aid and democracy are wrongly utilized as a mask to dismantle sovereign states.

From the outset, the terrorist group flows in the pipeline of its paymasters. Doing so, in reality, it denied rights of the people by snatching aid food from the mouth of victims.

The federal government of Ethiopia, on the contrary, stayed intact in honoring human rights not only in words but practically by sharing the people's suffering and supplying the necessary relief. In the liberated areas of the region, for instance, the national defense force fairly distributed aid for the needy, it was reported recently. In response, the people expressed their delight and praised the government for such human deeds.

Giving a deaf ear and a blind eye to the disciplined move of the Ethiopian army, some dominant western media along with activists

of the terrorist group are working tirelessly to defame the army but in vain since the reality on the ground is totally different. Beneficiaries from the Tigray region are living witnesses for both the lie and the truth.

Receiving humanitarian aid fairly is one thing but Tigray people deserve more.

They should not earn their life being aid-dependent for long. Rather, they have to be part and beneficiary of the country's development because they deserve it.

More importantly, they need peace. They must be free from the oppressive regime that covers itself for long under "liberation" front. There is none other than T-TPLF that is an arch enemy of the people of Tigray. It did not develop the region during its 27 years' rule. T-TPLF was beating the drums of war during its heydays. Since November 2020, it opened its war of choice.

This strategic move of the Ethiopian government and the defense force, thus, should receive due praise from all. Of course, many are paying tribute to both. But there are still some elements that want to inject lifeblood to the group aiming at sustaining the people's suffering. These elements must come to their senses.

The Ethiopian people altogether have suffered more than enough because of the chaotic terrorist group and want to turn their face to development issues. Those concerned about humanity should stop biased judgment and support the government's effort to bring about peace and stability in the country. One thing that must be known is that the people of Ethiopia never allow the brute group to come back to power. For some, this is a hard pill to swallow, but they must ingest it.

Opinion

Everyone must pronounce 'country first'

BY MENGESHA AMARE

A Chinese friend of mine told me when we were recently discussing some issues that Ethiopia is equaled by none as it is well endowed with all what is found in the universe. However, he confidently uttered, there are some circumstances which have been potentially challenging the change, sustainable growth and lasting prosperity towards which the country is running.

When I tried to produce this piece what first came to my mind has been his heartiest expression about my country. Yes, I can assertively speak that I love my country as I do for my mother as they are two sides of a coin and I know that a person with no country is tantamount to a fish devoid of a water body. This reality works for all, I am sure, except for those whose mental set up had been spoiled by trivial propaganda out of Ethiopia's historical enemies and those who are relentlessly working to fall the country apart taking it as an ultimate goal of theirs.

Equally, I believe that citizens in a given country can exhibit grievances and reservations whenever they are partially treated and offended by irrelevant approaches and a range of maladministration. Especially these days there are open doors to do so with exceptions, of course.

Yes, it is natural to express opposition and get armed to fight those whom the warring parties have thought of enemies and stand

in a rivalry dimension. However, when it comes to a beloved motherland named country because it is irreplaceable, no compromise at all and no leeway is open to foes be they are internal or external ones.

Frankly speaking, I am pleased to see fellow citizens who are willing to pay sacrifice for the independence and prestige of the country and wholeheartedly believe in equality, fair treatment and just decision.

For those of who have taken the issue of a country as trivial issue, my ultimate message is 'say always country first,' because a country is an eternal home.

I hope such a sacred sentiment would help them understand the priceless significance of a country. Coming back to the idea of a friend of mine cited at the outset, he told me that those who were against their country and adding fuel to fire aiming at aggravating conflicts and turmoil in Syria, Afghanistan, Libya, among others have come to the forefront to regret at the end of the day.

We all, peculiarly those who are running to dismantle Ethiopia have to draw important lessons from the countries remain in naming. On the contrary, many African countries have embarked on a journey to define democracy and federalism in a manner that can effectively address their main concerns, and make valuable contributions to the wealth of ideas on federalism. I am confident that many gorilla fighting bodies in Ethiopia have indeed gained valuable

insights into the challenges and practices of many countries in the world which have been practicing unity in diversity.

Thanks to their patriotic gesture, many are seriously working for the unbent growth and development of Ethiopia singing the lyrics 'country first' and song of peace and love.

If great Ethiopia is well built and being competent to the developed countries of the world, what's wrong would come to, among others, your being Amhara, her being Oromo, his being Wolayta, their being Sidama, our being Tigrayans, my being Gumuz?

Whenever Ethiopia is regarded as a great nation, every citizens of its is highly respected and taken prestigious. On the contrary, a person with no country, even with a weak and ineffective one, would be belittled or mocked lifelong.

I don't think this hard fact and fundamental significance of a country is obscured from the minds of those fighting against the country, but either they are wrongly junked with hostility or excellently filled with falsehood narratives that potentially aggravate their grudge emanating from country-loathing spirit of its foes.

What T-TPLF in collaboration with its accomplices, even with Ethiopia's historical enemies, is currently doing extending its legacy of what it has been doing for close to half a century to quench its masters' interest

is a case in point in this regard.

The good thing is Ethiopia is excellently safeguarded by its gallant sons and daughters. It might be tested, even being seriously tested, of course. It will not be defeated today and tomorrow, too as its name is always intertwined with victory and courageousness.

If truth be told, all Ethiopians residing at home and abroad are fond of paying sacrifice and prefer dying to seeing its being defeated, the forerunner for this is the defense force of course. This is the rationale behind its triumphant forever.

The preamble of the constitution clearly stipulated that all nations, nationalities and peoples of have equal rights and should be equally benefited from their country's economic growth.

However, what has been observed especially over the last three to four years is contradicting with what is incorporated in the constitution.

It is high time for the nations, nationalities and peoples of Ethiopia to live in integration, friendship, harmony and collaboration as everyone is now singing 'country first,' melody.

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

Art & Culture

The “Africa Hall”, where founding fathers stood together for unity and freedom, to emerge as top tourist destination

BY KFLEEYESUS ABEBE

Africa has a long path to take to realize development, peace and democracy. But it has also a past that provides motivation, courage and wisdom along the way. Among many of its achievements so far, it is significant that the future generation to understand the long and difficult path it endured in the process of achieving its independence.

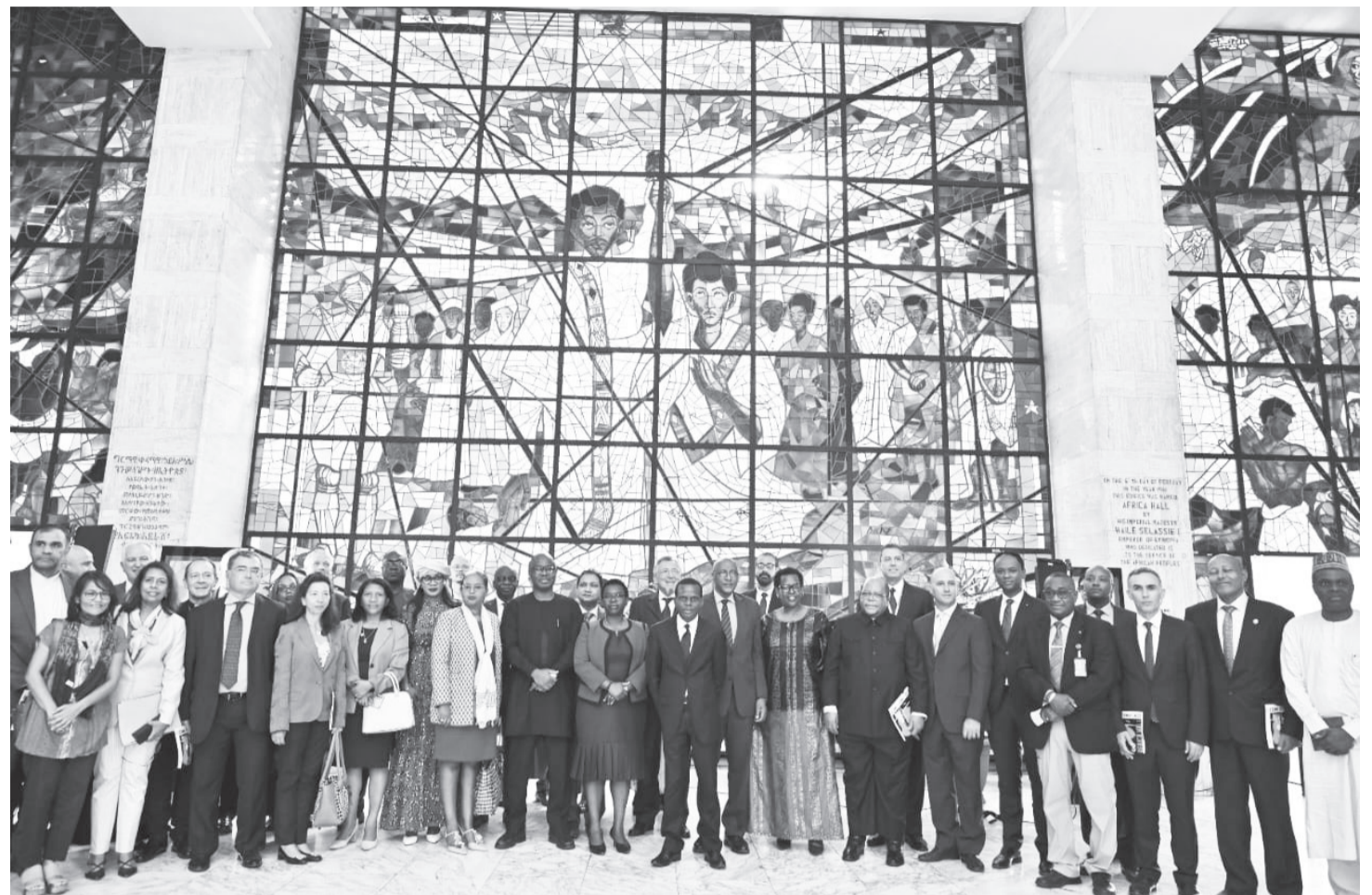
In the events filled century, the 20th century, Africa witnessed its children igniting pan Africanism movements abroad, freedom fightings inside the continent spreading like wild fire and rising up of many charismatic leaders. However, the lack of cooperation was undermining or delaying their struggle to freedom, unity and development. Through the effort of charismatic leaders like Emperor Haile Selassie I and Kwame Nkrumah, African leaders began cooperating with one another. Relentless activities of leaders encouraged more nations to exchange assistances and share experience to one other. But forming a common institution, a permanent place of meeting and a permanent body that facilitates their interaction was the most significant achievement of the time.

In 1961, the Africa Hall, a landmark building that helped many African leaders to assemble easily here in Addis Ababa is built. The Hall was conceived and donated by the Emperor of Ethiopia Haile Selassie to serve as headquarters for Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), with a vision of attracting the UN to Africa and uniting African Nations. During the inauguration ceremony Emperor Haile Selassie I emphasized the need for Africans to deliberate on their issues and impacts of the hall in African's future.

“Only a few years ago meetings revolving around African problems were held outside of Africa. And the fate of its peoples were decided by non Africans. Today, the traditional of Berlin and Algeciras has been repudiated. And it is thanks to the conference of Accra and now of Addis Ababa that the peoples of Africa can, at long last, deliberate on their own problems and future”.

Indeed, the Africa Hall is a historic monument as it is the birthplace of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which is now the African Union (AU), and whose founding Charter was signed in the Hall in 1963. Africa Hall is also known to house emblematic pieces of African art including the 150 square meter-stained glass window designed by world famous Maitre Afewerk Tekle of Ethiopia. Cognizant of these facts, its current tenant United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) set to renovate this heritage and turn it to Start of the art conference venue and great museum of Africa. The United Nations General Assembly has approved a 57 million USD budget for the upkeep of Africa Hall.

In a groundbreaking ceremony held last week, Acting Executive Secretary of UNECA Antonio Pedero highlights far reaching benefits of the renovation project. The state of the art project, he said, makes Africa Hall a significant tourism destination,



incorporating the rich history of the pan-African movement through a permanent exhibition, featuring professionally curated cultural, historical and natural heritage sites.

“ it will showcase great and notable works of pan-African artists, as well as serve as a hub for a variety of activities focused on showcasing Africa's history, the achievements of the United Nations family and Ethiopia's role in Africa's modern history and culture. To this end, I would like to invite African member States to make use of the Africa Hall. It is your house!” Pedro said it was important for Africa to assert ownership of its culture and heritage, not only as a point of pride and a symbol of perseverance, but in the context of the continent's economic growth and development, as informed by Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Present on the event, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission Monique Nsanzabaganwa (PhD) commends UNECA for its “precious initiative” and urged stakes to contribute share for realization of the project. “I call upon all of us to join and support, since it allows for preserving this marvelous symbol for our future generations, to remind them from where we come from, to show them the bravery and the wisdom of our fathers, and demonstrate the richness of our history and heritage.” She underscored the significance of the project saying; “ “The African Union reiterates its support to the African Hall Project and is ready to play its role in the Project, aimed to ensure actual engagement with its Member States, looking at enriching the Project with memories and evidence of such a glorious past and also establishing linkages and synergies with our arts, culture and heritage initiatives and programmes.”

The ceremony extolled Ethiopia for its irreplaceable role during the construction

of the Africa Hall, the establishment of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and its international diplomatic engagement since it was the only African nation in the the League of Nations. The State Minister for Political and Economic Diplomacy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Ambassador Tesfaye Yilma, said that Addis Ababa was privileged to host the ECA Headquarters which houses the Africa Hall as well as the Organization of African Unity, now the African Union. Accordingly, the ambassador also affirmed Ethiopia's commitment to multilateralism. “Ethiopia believes that to renovate the Africa Hall is a fitting tribute to the founding fathers of the OAU. It's also a noble initiative to preserve our invaluable hheritance. While recommitting to work tirelessly for Africa's integration unity and prosperity, we are grateful to the UNECA for its rrelentless effort to launch this project. The Ethiopian government as usual will work with the UNECA and all stakeholders for successful completion of this project.” Ambassador

Tesfaye noted the iconic project should inspire current generations to overcome challenges as their predecessors did.

It is also a remarkable coincidence for the renovation of the Africa Hall to come in a time Ethiopia gave attention for renovating and developing tourist sites here in Addis Ababa. The refurbishment of the national palace and Meskel square, construction of the Grand Abrehot Library, Entoto Natural Park and the just inaugurated Science and Art Museum are some of the progresses made to attract tourists. The Africa Hall, as Ambassador Tesfaye Yilma, said will be “a special addition” to these range of projects Ethiopian undertaken. Ambassador Tesfaye emphasized tourism will be one aspect of Africa's development.

More significantly, the renovation and opening of the Africa Hall will help young Africans to know their history and grow with inspiration, courage and knowledge that help the Africa progress.

Patience

BY SENAIT G/HIWOT

*I wish I was a care free person
Where I could let go of perfection
I wish my mind stopped ruminating
On every small and little thing
I wish I could laugh at life
Than being serious all the time
I wish that I could easily forget
Than holding grudges and being upset
I wish I could be patient
Than doing things I regret*

Law & Politics

Disarming TPLF sole way out of vicious belligerences

BY ADDISALEM MULAT

There can be no doubt that the terrorist TPLF group is known for beating the drums of war on the grounds that it cannot survive in the absence of conflict. More often than not the criminal enterprise leaders breathe in and breathe out layers of intrigues with the purpose of moving the country into uncharted waters and turning the lives of noncombatants into pandemonium.

As the hawkish element prolongs its existence in turmoil, it has engaged itself now and then in saber-rattling activities and mystifying the wider international community with cock-and-bull stories.

Though a lot of efforts have been made by the federal government to beat swords into plowshares utilizing a broad range of effective strategies, the criminal organization kept on downplaying and disrupting the peace talks under the veil of quite a lot of poor reasons.

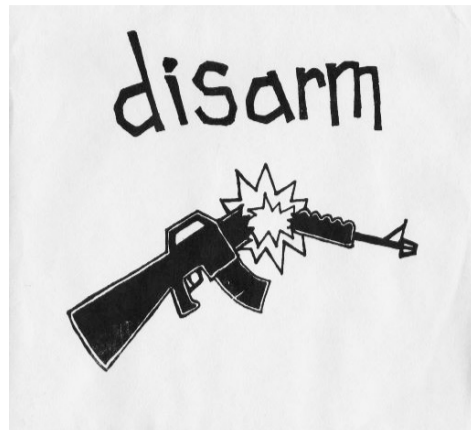
Afterward, the illegal group has been forced back by the Ethiopian National Defense Forces from the northern part of the country, the incumbent has been making use of a series of strategies to change the course of events and ensure peace and tranquility. As the disgruntled group has been working in close collaboration with some foreign entities to twist Ethiopia's arm and pursue their hidden motives going on behind closed curtains, the desired goal has not been accomplished yet.

Rather than coming up with a quick fix to the existing problem, some foreign entities have been taking sides with the terrorist group which is known for turning the lives of innocent civilians into a living hell and chaos and playing a part in a smear campaign against the positive measures surfacing on a national scale.

Regardless of the fact that the criminal faction that attacked the Northern Command of the Ethiopian National Defense Forces triggered unimaginable human suffering signifying life-threatening cruelty and unprecedented treachery, the federal government has sustained pulling out all the stops to make peace happen.

Quite the reverse, instead of moving heaven and earth to get to the bottom of the problem in an atmosphere of calm, the criminal association has been keeping its nose to the grindstone intending to escalate tensions and back the country into a corner. Furthermore, the bandit group has been working around the clock to prolong its power in the region with the sacrifice of the children of Tigray's mothers and fathers and move the entire situation in the region into chaos.

Similarly, failing to reciprocate the federal government's positive achievements to bury the hatchet, the ragtag group has been persistently getting off track intending to quench the thirst for its merciless deeds more than ever before. As old habits die hard the group has been spreading fabricated news working in close association with low-rated international media outlets by deviating from journalism ethics and standards. It should not be forgotten that the rouge group has played a part in extrajudicial executions, mass rapes, plundering, and other acts against the law in the northern part of the country. While on the subject, the unveiled burial grounds in several locations in the northern part of the country demonstrate in black and white the evil deeds of the group and the continued suffering of innocent non-



combatants.

However, some foreign entities kept on whitewashing the unvarnished truth that took place in the northern part of the country by the terrorist group, remaining tightlipped, and dragging through the mud the efforts of the government to make peace happen. It is no secret that from destroying schools, universities, healthcare facilities, and other social infrastructure to committing horrifying delinquencies, the group had turned the lives of many civilians at sixes and sevens.

Though the incumbent left no stone unturned to beat swords into plowshare to get to the bottom of the problem in a peaceful setting, the criminal enterprise continued launching fresh attacks.

Although the criminal enterprise had perpetrated unspeakable crimes in the northern part of the country with no ill consequences over and over again, some foreign affiliates have continued covering up the indisputable truth and tarnishing the good image of the country. Dejectedly, emboldened by the silence of the international community, the group has sustained working around the clock to raise the stakes.

Albeit the incumbent has made an effort at different points in time to familiarize the wider international community with the naked truth, the desired goal has not been achieved as a consequence of the negligence of some internal and external actors.

It is to be recalled that the TPLF launched an offensive on the morning of August 24, 2022, reigniting the conflict and flagrantly violating the humanitarian truce.

The TPLF falsely alleged that the Government of Ethiopia had commenced another "full-fledged war". TPLF's propaganda machinery is at the same time spreading this falsehood, betraying a well-orchestrated effort, as learnt from press statement issued previously by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia.

The TPLF forcefully conscripted and trained youth from the region, mobilized the population through coercion and propaganda, and launched the offensive as expected.

The Government of Ethiopia has demonstrated its commitment to resolving the conflict in Tigray through peaceful means over the past several months. The Government has taken a number of confidence-building measures to resolve the conflict in the Tigray region, including declaring a unilateral indefinite humanitarian truce on March 24, 2022. It has been expediting unfettered humanitarian access to the Tigray region. The Government has also been increasing transportation and distribution of fuel and cash.

In addition to facilitating the smooth delivery of humanitarian assistance to our people in need in the region, the Government of

Ethiopia signed a Third-Party Implementation Agreement with the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) to implement the World Bank-financed Recovery Project in the Tigray region on July 11, 2022. These are well-known facts.

Furthermore, on July 12, 2022, the Government appointed a High-level Peace Committee to lead peace negotiations with the TPLF. This appointment of a Peace Committee shows the Government's commitment and good faith to pursue constructive engagement and approaches to the peace talks.

The TPLF, however, true to its character, repeatedly downplayed the peace efforts and, in fact, failed to reciprocate the confidence-building measures taken by the Federal Government of Ethiopia. The TPLF's belligerent rhetoric has recently been intensified after the Peace Committee's announcement, on August 17, 2022, of additional steps towards peace, including the readiness to sign a permanent ceasefire and agree on arrangements for the restoration of services that would have paved the way for the commencement of political settlement.

However, on the very same day of the announcement of these additional steps in the peace plan by the High-Level Peace Committee, the TPLF falsely alleged that it had been attacked and that the unilateral humanitarian truce could be considered non-existent. Its propaganda machine has also been intensively engaged in undermining the peace efforts as well as denigrating and attacking the African Union.

This pattern of negative campaigning shows clearly the TPLF's longstanding tactics of victimhood and attempts to shift blame. The TPLF's entrenched violent nature and its recent behavior explain why it would not be ready for peace. The TPLF's broad daylight theft of fuel destined for humanitarian aid shows its complete disregard for the welfare of people in the region and humanitarian principles. The Government of Ethiopia will continue working with humanitarian actors to reduce the unnecessary suffering that is being caused by the TPLF's callous behavior.

"The Government of Ethiopia reiterates its commitment to resolving peacefully the conflict in the Tigray region. The TPLF violated the humanitarian truce and launched the offensive. It must bear full responsibility for this blatant action and its consequences. The International Community must unequivocally condemn the TPLF's belligerent actions, its refusal to end the conflict through peaceful means, and hold it responsible for the suffering it is causing to the people in the region. Calling on both sides to end the conflict denies the reality and will further embolden the TPLF,"

"The Government will continue with its efforts to find a lasting solution to the various social and political challenges facing the country through the inclusive National Dialogue."

Speaking to the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA), Political Science and International Relations Lecturer and Researcher at Dire Dawa University Surafel Getahun mentioned that international provisions prohibit the existence of two armed forces in one country. "If the peace talks between the T- TPLF and the government under the leadership of the African Union are to be successful, the rebellious group should be ready to disarm and talk."

The academician further noted that there cannot be two armed forces in one country

regardless of any law or regulation. Therefore, it must be known that there can be no peace if the T- TPLF does not disarm. "In similar incidents in other countries, the rebels can come forward for peaceful talks unarmed and if the T-TPLF comes with weapons for peace talks, peace cannot be prevailed in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa at large."

By the same token, the International Community (IC) should pressure the rebellious group to disarm in order for the peace negotiations to end successfully. For the peace talks to end successfully, the IC should put a lot of pressure on the T- TPLF to accept the peace process and end the war.

On the other hand, the government should gather the diplomatic community and inform them about the things it has been doing with a view to making them put pressure on the T- TPLF to disarm and prepare for the peace talks, Surafel elaborated.

Some international organizations and governments should stop treating the federal government and the terrorist TPLF as equals. There is a tendency of some corporate media and governments to see the T-TPLF and the Ethiopian government as equals and a strong diplomatic work should be done in this regard.

As to him, Ethiopian diplomats in the West have a huge responsibility to prevent the terrorist enterprise from getting support and to make its criminality known by global powers.

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 private 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."

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.

The war should end when TPLF is rendered no more a threat

Ephrem Madebo

BY GIRMACHEW GASHAW

In today's guest column, the Ethiopian Herald presented you one of the top executive officials of the former Patriotic Ginbot 7 movement, among the front line opposition political parties that waged strong struggle against the TPLF led government. Following the regime change in Ethiopia, he returned home together with other party members.

Born in Yirgalem town Ephrem Madebo grew up in Hawassa town of Sidama State. He then moved to Debre Zeit to attend secondary school education in Ethiopia Evangelical Boarding School. While he was there, he had applied for a scholarship and joined the boarding school.

He participated in a government mandated nationwide campaign called "National Literacy Campaign" (Idget-Be-Hibret). While he returned from the campaign, the school was confiscated by the Derg. He tried to search for another school there. But considering the tough situation at the time, his family did not want him to live far away from them. He returned to Hawassa and tried to complete high school education.

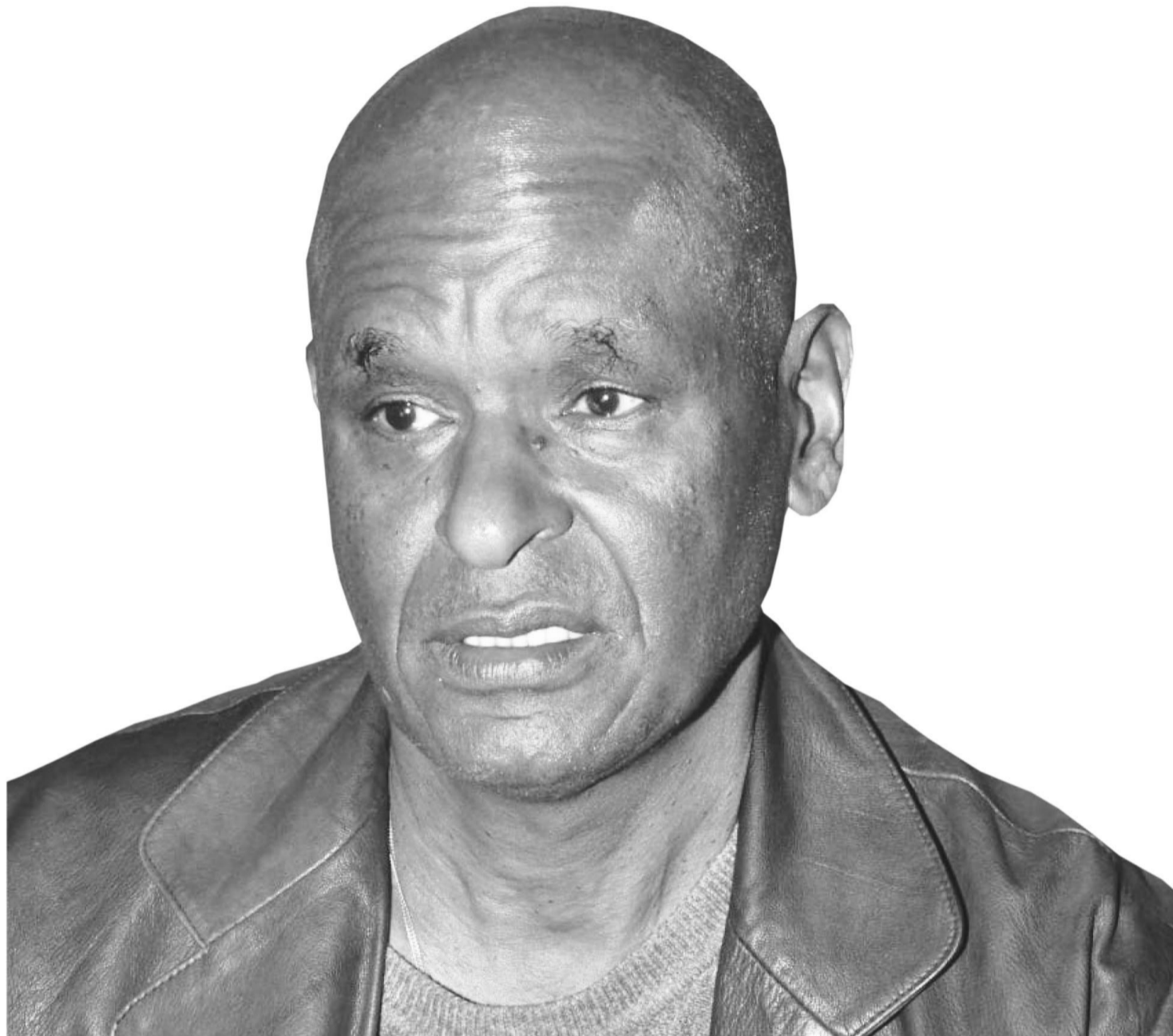
Unfortunately, the infamous red terror operation made the time so arduous that he had to study at home to sit for secondary school leaving examination. As he scored excellent results and joined Addis Ababa University where he received his BA degree in economics. In connection with the red star operation, (Derg's military operation to wipe out the Eritrean Liberation Fighters in mid 1980s) he was assigned to work in the Plan Secretary Office of the then Eritrea province.

Following the restructure of plan offices, he transferred to Arsi zone and worked for a year. Even if he had got a scholarship opportunity in Australia, for some unknown reason, the authorities divested it. Since then, he questioned the deterioration of living in Ethiopia and finally went to the US after he had been staying in Kenya for a year.

He received another degree in Decision Science and Management Information System from one of the US Universities. He had been hired in the Veraz Company. He holds a second degree in System Engineering. He then changed his profession and joined Federal Aviation and served for five years. The Federal Architecture was another office that helped him to do pentagon projects.

By the end of 2014, the movement carried out in Eritrea had been strengthening than ever before and I had gone to Eritrea subsequent to the arrest of Aandargachew Tsige.

"Following the reform carried out in 2018, I came to Ethiopia together with members of the Patriotic Ginbot 7 staying for 28 years abroad." He said.



The Ethiopian Herald has had a brief stay with Ephrem to discuss major current issues of the country. Have a nice read

Was the Patriotic Ginbot 7 (PG7) party dissolved hitting its visions or not? Let us start the interview with this question.

The party is now obsolete. We are now organizing another party which strives to hit the vision of PG7. Primarily, the party was established as a movement. When People come, join and/or support your party, they first take the purpose of the movement into consideration. PG7 was a movement established to ensure justice, democracy and unity.

There are no Ethiopians who stand against this as many of the people supported the idea. Since we came to Ethiopia, the political situation of the country has improved. As the goal was to change the new political system, the time required political parties instead of establishing movements.

PG7 did not want to be a political party alone as it had been a party staying out of Ethiopia for long. It rather merged with other eight obsolete political parties which had not been making ineffective political participation locally. Considering that this sort of arrangement is helpful for the

Ethiopia Party System, we established The Unity for Democracy and Justice Party (UDJ).

As a politician who has conducted various struggles for the improvement of the democratization process in this country, how do you understand the current political situation?

Since we returned home, the situation in this country has been changing from time to time. For this to happen, both local and foreign powers have been and are playing their own role. There are foreign powers that have a desire to misguide the country as per their wish.

On the other hand, there are local powers that push the nation in the opposite direction. The move of some local powers is directly or indirectly assisted by foreign political powers.

As a result of that, we never came across or experienced the challenge we had been facing over the past four years. It was an arduous and daunting journey. Other complications emanate from political decisions of some leaders by omission and commission. The outcome of decisions may bring positive or negative changes while politicians do something right or wrong as

the situation forced them to do. All in all, political leaders residing everywhere make mistakes.

The political decisions by itself emanate from less readiness of politicians, unable to take nations' enemies into account are some of the factors which guided us to pass through a very challenging situation. Those situations forced us to engage in war with the TPLF. The political, social and economic influence of the international community apart from the war, GERD and horn of Africa and inflation issues forced us to face this difficult situation.

The situation is still not yet fully addressed. We do not know where it takes us. I guess the capacity of the Ethiopian defense forces is now getting better when compared with the last four years and it may improve the current status of the country. Anyhow, we see what will happen in the coming days.

How do you evaluate TPLF and its enablers?

From the beginning, Herman Cohn and other Americans brought the TPLF to power right after the London agreement. TPLF group had been working for the respect of US interest for the past 27 years. Following the reform, though the US seemed to

Herald Guest

support the reform government led by PM Abiy Ahmed, the liberal west needed to manipulate the world in its own way.

For their interest, they wish to put puppet leaders who protect their interest. However, PM Abiy appears as nationalist leader with the idea of synergy which they don't like. Naturally, the nationalist leaders don't want to have ethnic mentality. So, the foreign powers created a coalition with TPLF and tried to bring it to its former position.

The people and government of Ethiopia have pardoned them for the mistake they committed over the past 30 years. Leaving the golden opportunity given for them, they began to work with some western powers to regain political power. By and large, TPLF is a unique organization in the world that believes to achieve everything through armed struggle. Accordingly, they have been fighting with the rest of Ethiopian people so as to hit the objective. However, they did not have the appetite to engage in peace talks unless it made them 100 percent beneficial.

They are not conducive both for negotiation. Many evil organizations have appeared in the world; no one matches TPLF for its cruelty. This behavior of the organization put Ethiopia in a difficult situation.

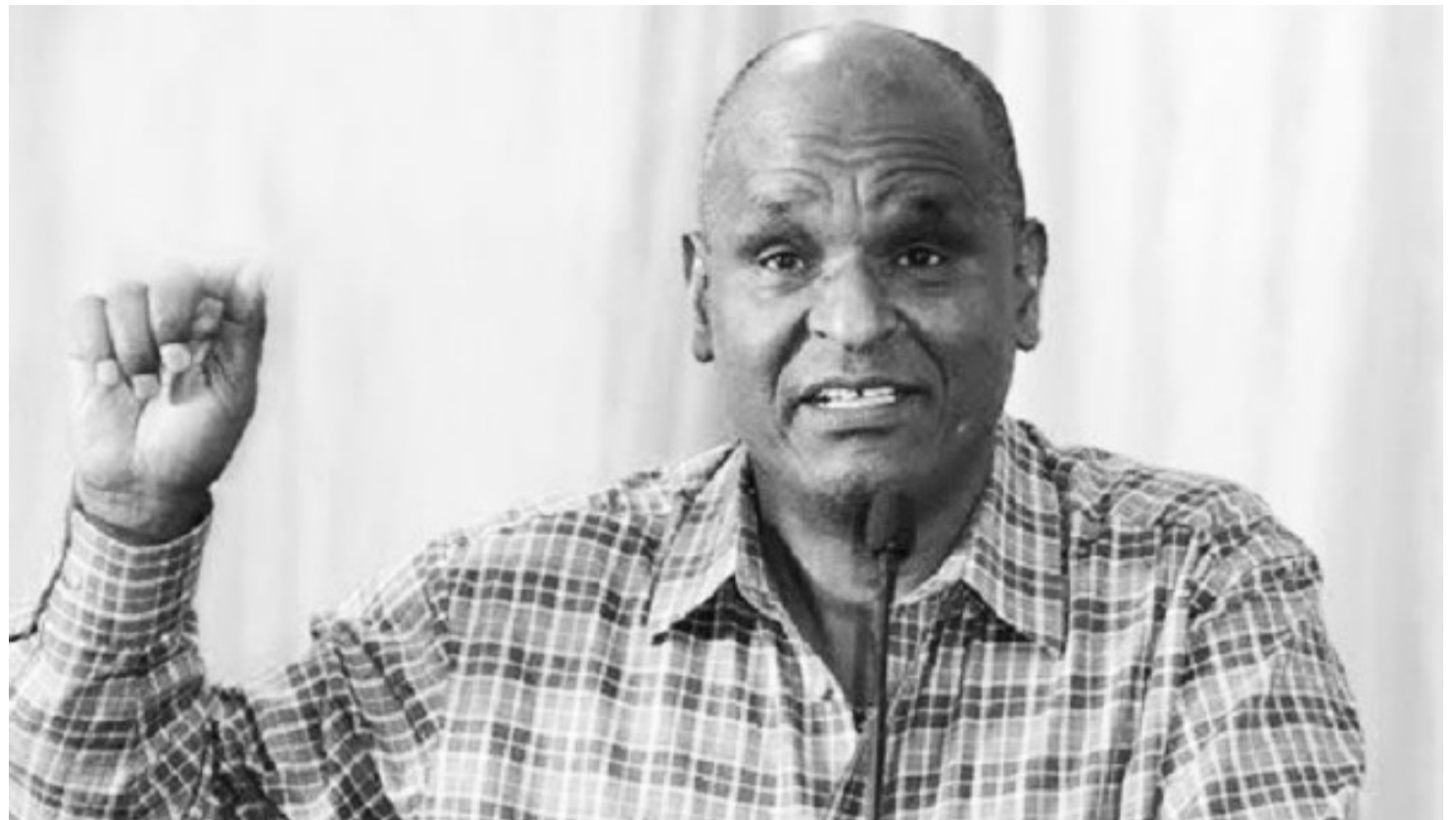
Some western powers and even the UN agencies have been releasing press statements supporting the stance of TPLF, how do you see it?

Some foreign powers are not directly involved in the affairs of third world countries; they would rather prepare a Trojan Horse like TPLF within. Even if the problem can be resolved through peace talks, the foreign powers will not accept it if it does not protect their interest.

If you watch things carefully, whatever they do is directly related to TPLF. They put pressure on the Ethiopian government to stop the war. They asked the Ethiopian government to evacuate from western parts of Tigray (Wolkait Tegede), without even using a diplomatic language. However, they do not care about the evil acts of the TPLF. Wolkait and Tegede are places found in Ethiopia's sovereignty and how could the Ethiopian defense forces be requested to leave sovereign places of their country? They don't even know why they ask such questions. They put pressure on the Ethiopian government instead of exposing the crimes of TPLF.

What we have observed in areas free from TPLF forces, it is TPLF that makes people die as a result of drought and war. It is this cruel party which makes the people of Tigray cannon fodders. The humanitarian assistance provided for the people by WFP are found in military camps. The vehicles which transported the food were not returned. They do not want to talk about TPLF's negative. If you observe the facts on the ground, these vehicles help TPLF transport its forces to the war front. The western powers do not want to speak about this reality.

Recently the Ethiopian government allowed humanitarian agencies to provide food support in Shire town. The international



community had been shouting at the Ethiopian government even if the level was not as worse as last week. If western powers are ready to provide humanitarian assistance to the Tigray people, now is the time to do so. These powers had abused the road open for humanitarian provision, misusing the opportunity to bring armaments of different kinds for TPLF. Now, the door is open for food assistance and we will see what they would do. So far, they are talking about unfettered humanitarian support and let us see them when they provide unfettered assistance. So far, it is known who obstructs the humanitarian assistance process. They give deaf ears to the government of Ethiopia at times when they want to listen to the voice of TPLF alone.

If the conflict gets its end, what is expected from the Ethiopian government?

The war should end only when TPLF is rendered unable to revive and pose a threat to Ethiopia. There is no reason for the Ethiopian poor people to die while fighting against this group. Even if I have no pertinent information about war, we can simply guess that many Ethiopian youths have paid sacrifice, got injured, died and got disabled. The people do not want this to continue. The time should come for Ethiopian people to be relieved from the TPLF. The war should get its end when T-TPLF reaches to the level it cannot engage in a war again. Until it forcefully comes to the negotiation table, the Ethiopian government has to continue in punishing TPLF.

How do you see the planned peace talks between the Ethiopian government and TPLF? Do you think it would be successful?

I believe that negotiation is preferable to resolving differences in war even if the TPLF is not trusted to do so. If TPLF wants to disarm in a visible way and if they prefer peace talk as a lonely option, if they accept the fact that some of them will be accountable by the law of the land, I am not bothered about the peace talks. The negotiation however is good but it should not serve as an opportunity for TPLF so as to reorganize themselves for another war.

Ethiopia has planned to conduct national dialogue as of the coming November? Would you comment on that?

It is a question that has been raised since I was young. The question is now getting responses as the PM Abiy has established a commission that facilitates the national dialogue. It is a process that can solve national issues. It gives us time and opportunity for all Ethiopian people including me to rectify our mistake that we made over the past 50 years.

I believe that we should not waste this golden opportunity. While we conduct the dialogue, some problems may be faced but it should not be a reason to stop us. We can solve differences in order to sustain the dialogue. The most important thing in this process is, the commission has established and started jobs.

The question that should be raised here is, will the commission discharge its mandate without the direct influence of anybody including the government and other political parties? If the commission acts free from any sort of influence, I believe that it would solve our problems. For this to happen every Ethiopian people has to contribute its own share. The only hope that we have now is – the national dialogue.

Over the past four years, the nation has been applying national reform. As a senior politician who knows the political situation in Ethiopia, what do you think?

In Ethiopia, we observe various reform activities. Here, it is mentioned as the rebuilding of various institutions. We can see the building of various institutions in and out of Addis Ababa. I think they are really positive for me even if we have to know.

However, of the institutions that are reformed, I for instance have the chance to visit Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation. In order to say media reform, the media institutions should devise their own editorial policy and work free from the influence of any party. I don't want to accept media reform as a reform.

In the process of democratization, there is a

big weakness in the media. The media still needs reform.

If you want to convey a message to foreign powers, the floor is open for you?

Ethiopia is a sovereign nation that has full authority to make a decision in its own territory. Americans had created a coalition when they went to Iraq which is very far away from their territory. When we take the case of ours, the problem has been created within Ethiopia's territory, no one prohibits us to create a coalition in order to defend the national sovereignty of our country. Where is the mistake here? Foreign powers, such as the US, UN, and some EU countries have to know that Ethiopia is a sovereign nation which has a right to resolve its internal problems on its own. TPLF is a threat to the horn of Africa. How many times does it attack Eritrea? Why do they prefer to keep silent in this case? Ethiopia and Eritrea have to be more concerned than the US and EU and the former can create a coalition and stand against TPLF.

Foreign powers have to understand this. They could not stop us while we exert effort to survive from this.

If you want to add any more points, the floor is open for you?

When I came here, I wanted to contribute to the building of democratization, especially the media. So far I did not want to comment with regard to the media as the situation in Ethiopia is more than that. Now, the national dialogue is coming to be a reality. In this regard, the media should play an irreplaceable role. However, the coverage that Ethiopian media had given for the national dialogue is minimal. The people of Ethiopia are owners of the national dialogue but have not known about the matter. If you conduct research, the public is more likely to know the peace talk than the national dialogue. This has happened because of the weakness of Ethiopian media. The media are weak as the government controls them. It is impossible to build democracy in a country where the government controls the media.

Thank you very much

It's my pleasure.



Photo: Ministry of Tourism



Africa Celebrates 2022: A showcase the Continent's best talent

BY MENGISTEAB TESHOME

“Africa Celebrates 2022”, an event that compelled hundreds of delegates from the continent to flow to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and to gather at the African Union Hall concluded yesterday by staging “Africa Fashion Reception Gala Fashion” in which number of fashion designers coming from 30 African countries took place.

At the program, which was held for three consecutive days- from the 19th to 21st of October- in conjunction with the Africa Talks Business and Investment Forum, various activities were performed; including an Art Installation and VIP viewing cocktail and cultural performances of music, dance, and cuisine from all over Africa.

As it was stated by organizers of the event, the event aimed at celebrating Africa's unity in diversity, fostering integration through its rich cultural heritage which can be explored as a catalyst for social economic growth, promote intra and inter African trade and tourism and encourage Africans and the rest of world to patronize “Made in Africa” food, clothes and music by tasting Africans' cuisine, wearing their clothes, appreciating their music, dance, arts and crafts.

What is more, it portrays Africa's uniqueness and diverse offerings in terms of fashion, culture, heritage, music, dance and showcase the Continent's best talent.

In her message to participants of the Africa Celebrates 2022 event, Minister of Tourism Ambassador Nasise Chali said that Africa has tremendous resources and potentials in the tourism sector. However, many of the African

countries have not benefited from the resources because the countries' tie in the sector is weak. Thus, countries of the region should work untiringly and in partnership so as to make the sector more effective and benefit from it noticeably.

Such type of events; because they are much helpful to bring Africans together, have greater benefits in terms of increasing their common wealth.

The Ministry of Tourism will continue working to increase the trend of preparing such exhibitions and forums in our city and country, she added.

Particularly, for the reason Addis Ababa is the capital of Africa, the activities of promoting city's attraction sites and service providing institutions; as well as endeavors to attract more events will continue in more concerted and strengthened manner, Ambassador Nasise remarked.

The Africa Celebrates 2022 event, which was opened by staging exhibitions of various products that show Africans' culture and art by 32 exhibitors from 28 countries continued by discussing varieties of matters and displaying number of events, including ‘Africa Talks Business and Investment Forum’ that was organized to discuss the agenda that will help to accelerate trade and investment activities for individuals, governments and private organizations in the continent and performing Fashion Exhibition-Expo, where fashion designers from all over Africa showcased their rich dress culture.

The Fashion Exhibition was officially opened by Minister of Tourism, Ambassador Nasise Chali.

Welcoming the exhibitors of the Fashion Expo and attendees from across Member States, Amb. Nasise said that this great event is in celebration of Africa's uniqueness and diverse offerings in terms of fashion, culture, and heritage.

She also mentioned the slow pace in the transformation of the continental drive in appreciating so many opportunities at stakeholders' disposal as a continent with a feeling of sorrow.

“There is a greater need for a joint packaging design and joint marketing strategies in positioning Africa's eco-tourism development,” she added.

Exhibitors brought much flavor in celebrating and igniting the untapped fashion industry in tourism which surpassed some of the global fashion displays, as e Turbo News reported.

While talking about the event following guests' visit to Ethiopia's tourist attraction sites in Addis Ababa, Tourism Marketing and Promotion Senior Expert at the Ministry of Tourism, Mohamed Habib Jebel told local media that the forum will promote Ethiopia's tourism potential significantly. Among the African guests who came to Ethiopia to attend the Africa Celebrates 2022 event at the African Union, the Ministry identified 50 to 60 visitors that can help promote Ethiopia's tourism sites. They have visited the National Museum, Science Museum, and Unity Park among others, he added.

Stating that Ethiopia has unique tourist destinations that attract Africans and other tourists, the Expert expressed his hope that the visit will contribute a lot in terms of promoting the tourism sector and facilitate intra-Africa tourism and

Africa's integration.

According to him, Ethiopia has many special tourist attractions. Aside from the renowned ones that were registered at the UNESCO list, there are also many unique heritages that can never be found elsewhere. “The country is bestowed with unique natural, historical, religious, cultural and artificial tourist attractions that require more investment, promotion and marketing.” Thus, as to him, such experience would yield considerable outcomes in the tourism sector.

Participants of the Africa Celebrates event has visited signature annual event bringing together continental industry designers as well as ambassadors, ministers of tourism, CEOs, and representatives from the Pan African Parliament and African Union to this important three-day event.

The Africa Celebrates 2022 tour was organized by the Legendary Gold Limited in collaboration with the African Union and Embassy of Nigeria in Ethiopia, Pristine Marketing Group.

On the occasion about 600 guests from 40 African countries attended the three-day Africa Celebrates 2022 event and visited tourist destinations in the capital city including the National Museum, Unity Park, Science Museum, Coffee gallery among others, it was learnt.

Among others, the Executive Chair of the African Tourism Board, Mr. Cuthbert Ncube; the President and CEO of Legendary Gold Limited, Mr. Lexy Mojo-Eyes; and the former Nigerian Minister of Culture & Tourism, Founder and Chairperson, Centre for Creative Industries, Prince Adetokunbo Kayode, and other delegates attended the event.

International News

African Development Bank head urges multilateral development banks to drive healthcare financing

Africa will never again be caught flat-footed at the outset of another health pandemic, African Development Bank Group President Dr. Akinwumi Adesina stressed on Monday at the World Health Summit in Berlin.

Adesina—who was a panelist in a session of the summit titled “Game Changer: a new lens on investment in health and well-being”—deplored the adverse situation that African countries found themselves in at the very end of the global queue for vaccines when Covid-19 ravaged populations over its rapid global spread.

This situation, Adesina said, had prompted the African Development Bank to take innovative steps to address both the impact of the pandemic in Africa and healthcare financing for the region more holistically. He said this included the issuance of a historic \$3 billion social bond (link is external). His key message to the summit was that innovative investment by multilateral development banks was critical to drive healthcare financing for developing countries.

The African Development Bank recently established a healthcare (link is external) defense system built on three pillars: revamping Africa’s pharmaceutical industry, building the continent’s vaccine manufacturing capacity, and building its quality healthcare infrastructure. Adesina said the bank was investing \$3 billion in the pharmaceutical industry and had set up the African Pharmaceutical Technology Foundation, which would deal with intellectual property rights and access to proprietary technology to allow Africa to manufacture its drugs and build its own ecosystem for capacity in this area.

Both former UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown—who is World Health Organization (WHO) Ambassador for Global Health Financing—and Adesina stressed the importance of innovative financing and better leveraging the global financial system to meet the challenges of funding global health.

Brown said it was important to make private capital and capital markets work for developing countries.



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“As environmental, social and governance (ESG) becomes mainstream,” he said, “I hope one of the messages from today is that clear performance indicators for health has to be that a core element of ESG is expanded into ESG-H.”

He said public sector funds and concessional finance could catalyze private investment so that private enterprise is no longer just about risk and reward but risk reward and socially progressive results.

Highlighting his vision for the private sector as part of the African Development Bank’s health strategy, Adesina called for greater capital optimization by multilateral development institutions to drive development in healthcare and other areas.

Adesina said some \$145 trillion of assets globally had not been optimized. “If we are going to tap into these globally available assets as multilateral development banks, we must make sure that the capital adequacy of the multilateral development bank is used effectively. Africa has \$2.1 trillion of assets under management that have not been optimized. We must look at how we use our traditional multilateral financial institutions to significantly leverage these assets,” he posited.

The African Development Bank chief said raising the needed money from the private sector meant raising risk capital, which was what needed to be leveraged. “Our capital structure at the African Development Bank is largely callable capital. So, the issue is

how multilateral development banks can enhance the quality of that callable capital in the rating of credit rating agencies. So, we can raise long-term money to support what we are doing.”

Adesina called for the use of such innovative mechanisms as deploying International Monetary Fund special drawing rights to investments for development, the issuance of social bonds, and securitization.

Other speakers on the panel were Sir Ronald Mourad Cohen, UK Chair of the Global Steering Group for Impact Investment; Dr. Jayasree K. Iyer, CEO of Access to Medicine Foundation in The Netherlands; Esther Passaris, a Member of Parliament of Nairobi City County in Kenya; Ong Ye Kung, Minister of Health of Singapore; and Thomas Östros, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank.

Sharing an African perspective, Esther Passaris spoke of the importance of health being accessible and affordable. “In Kenya we have prioritized universal health coverage as well as affordable housing, food security and job creation,” she said, adding, “We cannot just look at health without a holistic approach towards making sure that every citizen feels included and not left behind.”

The African Development Bank chief met with WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and WHO Regional Director for Africa Dr. Matshidiso Moeti on the sidelines of the

summit. Both organizations are to continue working closely to meet the need for Africa to bolster its health defense system.

Adesina assured Tedros that the African Development Bank would continue to shore up its investment in healthcare infrastructure and support manufacturing capacity for pharmaceuticals, including vaccines. He said tackling health was both a health issue and a multi-sectoral one, involving investments in agriculture, water and sanitation, and renewable energy infrastructure.

Standardizing primary healthcare in African countries will be a key area of cooperation.

The two organizations will also join forces to ensure that much of the knowledge of African health professionals in the diaspora is put to optimal use in developing needed health facilities and capacity building on the African continent.

Adesina also met with senior officials of tech giant Google, including the company’s Senior Director for Social Impact, Hema Budaraju, and its Government Affairs and Public Policy Director for Sub-Saharan Africa, Charles Murito. The African Development Bank and Google will explore ways to use innovative digital technology to advance healthcare systems in Africa, and to improve food and agricultural systems.

Source: African Development Bank Group

Choiseul business summit aims to redefine Africa’s economic scope

The Moroccan head of government kicked off the 2022 Choiseul Africa Business Forum in Casablanca on Friday. Hundreds of the most influential decision-makers in Africa were present at the summit a positive gesture for Morocco that seeks to broaden its economic scope.

“It is quite natural, especially since Morocco is a strategic African country and crucial since it has developed in recent years a real ambitious policy rightly and quite legitimately to French-speaking Africa, but not only sub-Saharan Africa but also in the broadest sense of the term,” said Pascal

Lorot, the President of the Choiseul Institute.

“We are delighted with the success of the forum, the quality of the exchanges, the participants and the level of the discussions we had. We are able to realize both the difficulties that others face and the solutions they propose. We were also able to exchange ideas on the difficulties and solutions we have, and evaluate the investment opportunities of the countries present,” said Mehdi Tazi, the vice president of the General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM).

Also present at this pan-African summit was Madagascar President Andry Rajoelina who participated in a special panel exposing the investment opportunities in the country.

“It is an honor for Madagascar to be present already in Casablanca and at the same time to be guest of honor. It is a chance for us to present and share all the business opportunities that we could do in Madagascar,” said Joel Randriamandranto, the Malagasy Minister of Tourism.

“It is obvious that a country like Madagascar needs investments, to be known and to acquire

investors,” said Lalaina Randrianarivelo, the director of Communication at Filatex Group.

The African delegations had the opportunity to highlight various sectors through several panels that always placed Africa at the heart of the debates.

This summit has indicated that it is time to turn to more horizontal structures and promote the emergence of Africa as a continent with a future and opportunities.

Source: African News

Verbatim and Caption

Talent development school goes operational

“The world is highly evolved in technology than it has ever been. To reap the economic and other benefits of technology, it is imperative that Ethiopia produces professionals with advanced knowledge in the field. We need more talent development centers like Burayu Talent Development School so that talented young people can help their country become technologically competent while developing their skills and pursuing their passion. Local residents who contributed in various ways from the beginning to the end of the school’s development deserve gratitude,” Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed.



Paying taxes on time demonstrates patriotism



Paying taxes on time and in the right way is an obligation expected from every citizen who works and produces. A citizen who has fulfilled this duty by paying taxes has the right to ask the government to build infrastructure such as roads, schools and the like. On the other hand, the government gives due respect and reward model tax payers because there are some who don’t pay taxes. Thus, by paying taxes, it is necessary to demonstrate being a dedicated patriot of Ethiopia. I emphasize that the government and the tax payer should work together to collect adequate income from the economy and use it for the development of the country, President ShaleWork Zewde.

Second phase Ethio-Djibouti Circuit Power Link Project construction launched

The construction of the Ethio-Djibouti 2nd Circuit Power Link Project will generate more foreign exchange for Ethiopia and will play a significant role in stimulating the country’s industry and expanding access to electricity by providing electricity at a reasonable price for Djibouti. In addition, the electricity data indicates that the regional energy connection is strengthened and the countries have started to strengthen the connection with electricity and transport. The second power transmission line construction project is of great importance to Djibouti



as well. It is of great importance to address the lack of energy supply in Djibouti by making uninterrupted power available to the society at a reasonable price, Ashebir Balcha, CEO of Ethiopian Electricity Power.



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AHRI efforts to enhance biomedical research ethics

BY MENGISTEAB TESHOME

When most people think of ethics (or morals), they think of rules for distinguishing between right and wrong, such as the Golden Rule (“Do unto others as you would have them do unto you”), a code of professional conduct like the Hippocratic Oath (“First of all, do no harm”), a religious creed like the Ten Commandments (“Thou Shalt not kill...”), or a wise aphorisms like the sayings of Confucius. This is the most common way of defining “ethics”: norms for conduct that distinguish between acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

Most people learn ethical norms at home, at school, in church, or in other social settings. Although most people acquire their sense of right and wrong during childhood, moral development occurs throughout life and human beings pass through different stages of growth as they mature.

Ethical norms are so ubiquitous that one might be tempted to regard them as simple commonsense. Conversely, if morality were nothing more than commonsense, then why there are so many ethical disputes and issues in our society is clear.

There are several reasons why it is important to adhere to ethical norms in research. First, norms promote the aims of research, such as knowledge, truth, and avoidance of error.

Second, since research often involves a great



deal of cooperation and coordination among many different people in different disciplines and institutions, ethical standards promote the values that are essential to collaborative work, such as trust, accountability, mutual respect, and fairness.

Third, many of the ethical norms help to ensure that researchers can be held accountable to the public.

Fourth, ethical norms in research also help to build public support for research. People are more likely to fund a research project if they can trust the quality and integrity of research.

Therefore, many of the norms of research promote a variety of other important moral and social values, such as social responsibility, human rights, and animal welfare, compliance with the law, and public health and safety.

Many different disciplines, institutions, and

professions have standards for behavior that suit their particular aims and goals. These standards also help members of the discipline to coordinate their actions or activities and to establish the public’s trust of the discipline.

As a result, ethical considerations in research are a set of principles that guide our research designs and practices. Scientists and researchers must always adhere to a certain code of conduct when collecting data from people.

Research ethics matter for scientific integrity, human rights and dignity, and collaboration between science and society. These principles make sure that participation in studies is voluntary, informed, and safe for research subject.

The goals of human research often include understanding real-life phenomena, studying effective treatments, investigating behaviors, and improving lives in other ways. What you

decide to research and how you conduct that research involve key ethical considerations.

In recognition of these all benefits Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI) had organized training on Research Ethics by senior experts drawn from various departments.

According to AHRI, the four-day training: September 19 to 22, at the ALERT Training Center was designed to enable trainees to apply ethical principles in the conduct and evaluation of research involving human participants and provided a learning opportunity on the basic principles of bioethics, national and international guidelines, and ethical dilemmas.

The master class training was conducted through; Interactive lectures and discussions role-play, case study, guided practice, independent study /reading and reflective activities.

AHRI has been working to develop researchers and students competencies in different areas of biomedical research. Following the direction from the Ministry of Health to standardize and institutionalize in-service training, AHRI is working to standardize short term training courses which have been delivered at AHRI in different formats, with the planning and coordination from the Research Training Directorate.