



Freeman pins gov't central role in CoHA implementation

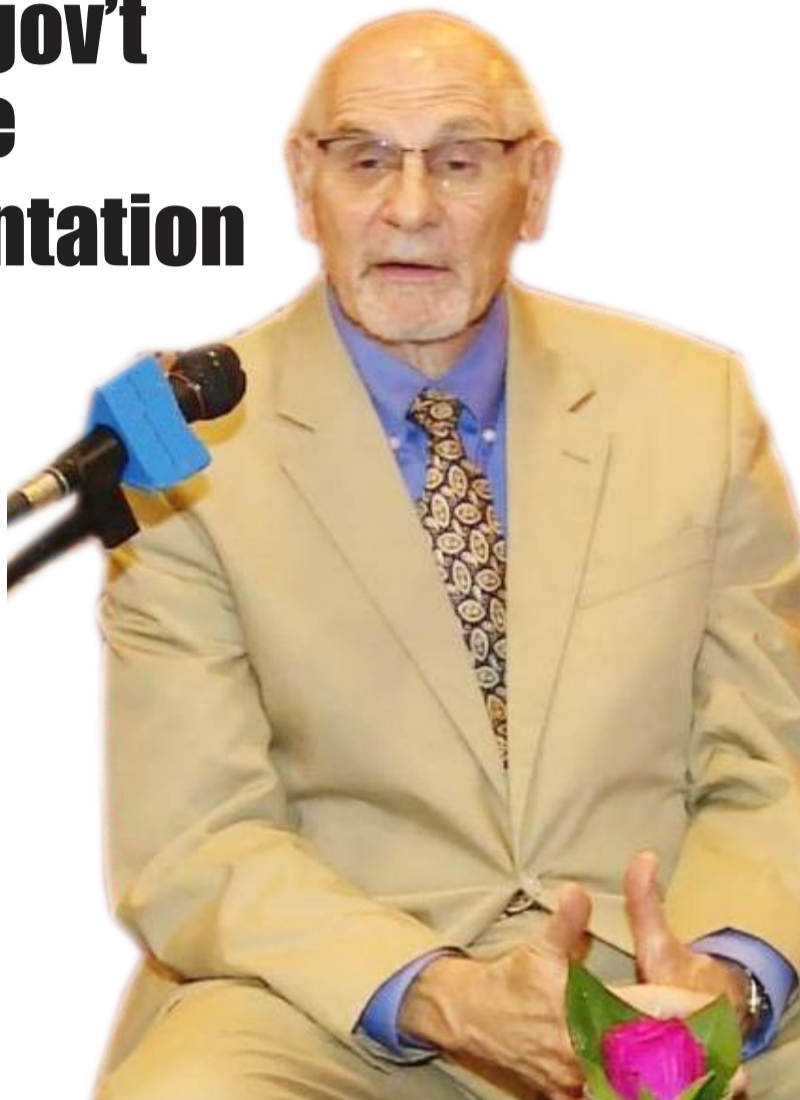
BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA – As international experience has shown governments have the responsibility of leading peace accords, it is the responsibility of the Ethiopian government to translate the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA), a noted political analyst said.

Approached by local media, Political and Economic Analyst for Africa Lawrence Freeman stressed the federal government's speedy engagement to implement the CoHA that would in turn guarantee lasting peace and stability. The Ethiopian government should launch massive public works and employ the youth and other unemployed for the reconstruction process. It is important to rebuild food distribution centers, hospitals, homes, electricity, transportation and other services.

Mentioning President Franklin Roosevelt's policy of 1933 the Civil Conservation Corps deal program that helped lift the U.S. out of the Great Depression, Freeman pointed that the involvement of the youth in infrastructure restoration is crucial to keep Ethiopia going forward.

See Freeman ... Page 3



OCHA testifies over 17,000 MT relief food delivery to Tigray

BY TSEGAYE TILAHUN

ADDIS ABABA – Ethiopian government and humanitarian partners delivered over 17, 000 MT of relief food to Tigray during the last nine days, so disclosed the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Ethiopia.

OCHA Ethiopia further noted that various humanitarian assistance deliveries were conducted from 15 to 24 November 2022. Some 11 partners have moved supplies during the stated period.

Efforts are ongoing to reach more conflict affected people across the northern parts of the country, a report said. As to report, 435 trucks carrying humanitarian assistance reached Tigray. 170,080 tons of food



arrived, 19 trucks transported 699 MT of non-food items and 81MT is medical supply, agricultural supply (seed/fertilizer) reached to Tigray.

Some 21,314,144 Birr as well as 100,159 liters of fuel transported to the region. It

further stated that 629 trucks requested a support letter as of the reporting date. 438 of them received the support letter. 454 of them reached Tigray during the reporting period.

See OCHA ... Page 3

DERBA MIDROC CEMENT

OUR PRODUCTS

- > PPC 32.5N
- > OPC 42.5N
- > Premium OPC 52.5N
- > PPC PLUS 42.5N

We give Door To Door Service

Call Us at 8688 or

0111 26 26 27 0922 11 53 24/26
 0111 26 26 28 0922 72 74 48/49
 0111 26 26 29 0922 72 38 70
 0111 26 26 30 0922 72 38 72

Fax: 0111 26 23 45 & 0111 26 23 18
Ready for Tomorrow!

AGI CONSTRUCTING THE FUTURE AFRICA

Abyssinia Group of Industries

Manufacturer of Rebars, Angles, Channels, Flat Bars & Round Bars. Introducing cut & bend service for rebars.

Contact & Address

Tel: +251 116 63 97 55/ 251 116 63 51 22/25
 Mob. : +251 962 009 072/ +251 949 440 868
 +251 911 45 9790
 E-mail:sales@agiethiopia.com
 4th Floor, Dabi Building, Bole road Addis Ababa Ethiopia

MoI mulls policy intervention to enhance industry's economic role

BY DANIEL ALEMAYEHU

ADDIS ABABA- A meticulous policy intervention will be put in place to address the manufacturing industry's pressing challenges and lead the sector to become the engine of Ethiopia's economic progress, the Ministry of Industry (MoI) said.

See MoI mulls ... Page 3

Ethiopia's diplomacy garners African support in countering external pressures

BY MESERET BEHAILU

ADDIS ABABA- Ethiopia's diplomatic activities have played a major role in garnering and galvanizing African support for countering external pressures, an expert in the area said.

See Ethiopia's ... Page 3

Pretoria peace deal: Hallmark of Pan-Africanism

Page 7

The political leaders have understood what the people say and are committed to peace
Ambassador Eshete Tilahun

Page 8

Resuming basic services

Page 10

News



Asegid Tilahun



Wendimagegn Taddese (PhD)



Demelash Kasaye (PhD)

Judiciary system reform reduces executive organs intervention—Scholars

BY EPHREM ANDARGCHEW

ADDIS ABABA-The national reform took place in mid-2018 in Ethiopia has brought about significant improvements in the judicial system noticeably reducing the intervention of executive organs, so stated scholars.

The scholars told The Ethiopian Press Agency that the national reform has improved the judicial system by avoiding the interference of the executive organs in political and sensitive court cases that attract the public's attention.

Consultant and attorney at law as well as an independent researcher Asegid Tilahun said that before the national reform, internal and external interference in the judicial system was widely noticed. The intervention is not only from the executive organs but also from the court administrations.

Particularly, the executive organs had an inappropriate influence on civil cases in which criminal and government bodies with political content are presented as litigants, and said that the reformation of the judicial system has reduced such an undue intervention.

Assurances the judges to work without any fear or threat, the amendment of the law and increasing the number of judges'

representation is higher than before have played important roles in the improvement of the judicial system.

The direct allocation of the budget from the House of People's Representatives, the provision to manage the hiring, salaries, and administrative staff as well as the imposition of fines on anybody that violates or attempts to influence the freedom of the judiciary system were highly attributable to the improvement of the judicial system, he explained.

Besides, the revised Federal Judicial Administration Proclamation sets out more detailed requirements than the repealed Proclamation on judges appointed at each level, he added.

Although the intervention of the executive branch reduces, there are gaps in executing the orders and decisions given by the court in the process of litigation, he underlined.

To further strengthen the judicial system, it is necessary to enforce court orders and decisions, follow clear judges appointment methods, establish a strong procedure for the promotion and transfer of judges, and provide continuous capacity-building training, he added.

Addis Ababa University School of Law Lecturer Wendimagegn Taddese (PhD) elucidated that it is necessary to focus

on implementing the reform for further improvements in the judicial system which is key for the prevalence of peace, development, building democracy, equality, innovation, science and technology.

It is also imperative to understand that the issue of justice is not only the issue of politicians, lawyers, prosecutors or judges but also of all sections of society. Hence, the concerned body and partners should work to bring a cultural revolution in the justice system, he recalled.

He stated that it is appropriate to use modern technologies to fight against corruption and deliver a summons to avoid delays in justice, increase diligence, and address issues of incapacity.

Addis Ababa University Social Work Department Lecturer Demelash Kasaye (PhD) said that there is a need to further strengthen the results of reforms in the justice system. As a result, it is appropriate to provide continuous capacity-building training to make the judicial system fast, reliable, and accessible to all citizens.

Providing capacity-building training to police officers will also help prevent sophisticated and complex crimes which can be committed using modern technology and scientific methods, he underlined.

Advocacy groups urge some quarters to restrain from spoiling peace

BY ESSEYE MENGISTE

ADDIS ABABA- A total of 21 members of the Ethiopian Diaspora Organization Consortium across the globe have urged some foreign parliamentarians, congressmen, media houses, individuals in think-tanks and academic institutions to restrain from spoiling peace in Ethiopia.

These anti peace elements have been engaging in anti-peace rhetoric, making false and inflammatory comments to prolong the two-year-long suffering of the people in Ethiopia, particularly those in Afar, Amhara and Tigray, the consortium said.

In its recent press release, the consortium reaffirmed support for the peace agreement and the issues being carried out by the Ethiopian government following the agreement.

It was learnt that Defend Ethiopia Task Force (DETF) the members of the Consortium issued the statement on behalf of the organizations of Ethiopians and Ethiopians in America, Europe and Canada, and expressed their support for the peace agreement reached between the Ethiopian government and the TPLF in South Africa and Kenya.

The consortium expressed appreciation for the AU's contribution and commitment to the implementation of the agreement promoting the principle that African problems can be solved in Africa.

The consortium encouraged the Government of Ethiopia's structures at all levels to focus on the dividends of peace, expedite efforts of rehabilitation and reconstruction, deliver on the commitment to restoring services and coordinating with humanitarian agencies the provision of humanitarian supplies

to the areas in Tigray under its control, whilst remaining vigilant, verifying the commitment of the TPLF to disarm, it was learnt from Ethiopia Defend Taskforce.

The international community, especially the United States and the European Union should support the peace process and pay attention to the long-term relationship and mutual benefit with Ethiopia.

The coalition has also requested the TPLF leaders to show their commitment to implement the peace agreement.

The Consortium in its statement recalled members of Ethiopian Diaspora to strengthen, engage in promoting the attainment of peace through the implementation of the peace deal. And to intensively engage in rebuilding efforts of communities and infrastructure that have been devastated by the war, as well as helping in the rehabilitation of combatants on both sides.



Actors in internet governance to convene in Addis

BY BETELEHEM BEDLU

ADDIS ABABA - The Ministry of Innovation and Technology (MoIT) said preparation has been finalized to the 17th Internet Governance Forum (IGF) that is expected to confer on internet delivery, data administration, internet security and safety issues among others.

Speaking with local media, MoIT's Digital Transformation Program Director and IGF's Preparation Committee member Abiyot Bayu (PhD) noted that preparation has been finalized to the successful conduct of the forum which is set to take place from November 28-December 2, 2022. This year's IGF will be held under the theme 'Resilience Internet for Mutual Development.'

The director further highlighted that side talks will also be held on new ideas and theoretical concepts regarding the internet in the five-day event at the Economic Commission of Africa (ECA). Policy makers, domestic and multinational companies, professionals, influential personalities as well as academicians are expected to be participants of the session.

"National, string committees as well as secretariat were formed for the successful conduct of the forum and each body upholds partnership with the UN's committee to this end."

Regarding preparation, Abiyot indicated Addis Ababa City Administration, ministries of tourism, sport and culture as well as finance, and the Federal Police and Information Network Security Agency, among others, have partook to make the forum a success. Along with the major event at the ECA, music festivals and other image building events will take place at Friendship Park.

Stakeholders including the public need to contribute share to make the forum eventful and demonstrate Ethiopia's long-cherished culture of hospitality to participants of the international program, he made a call.

News

Financial institutions underscore peace deal economic value

BY TAMERU REGASA

ADDIS ABABA - Financial institutions urged the Federal government and TPLF to live up to promise as the Pretorian Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA) is of great importance in helping everyone operate business in Ethiopia effectively.

Speaking to local media, representatives of the institutions said that the peace agreement is very helpful for the development of economic sector since it is instrumental in running stabled business and helping financial institutions achieve their respective goals.

Banking Supervision with National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE) Director, Solomon Desta said that the agreement can change the total business environment and positively contribute to attract investment.

He urged all Ethiopian agents including individuals to discharge their respective responsibilities to fully implement the agreement to bring lasting peace as



Solomon Desta

agreement.

Ethiopian Industrial Input Development Enterprise Deputy CEO Solomon Girsha on his part explained that as the agreement would help come up with multilateral benefits and attracts economic development, financial institutions are expected to provide



Solomon Girsha

the nation with support to rehabilitate areas that have affected by the conflict.

He also called on all stakeholders to work together to well implement the national economic reform launched under reform administration to change the total state of the economy of the country.



Melaku Alebel

MoI mulls policy...

In an exclusive interview with the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA), MoI Minister Melaku Alebel noted that a viable policy alternative will also be introduced to drive the manufacturing industry to the vision of economic diversification. The role and contribution of the manufacturing sector in Ethiopia's overall economy is expanding and consolidated efforts are carried out to maintain the trend."

"Our homegrown economic policy envisions to ease Ethiopia's reliance on a single economic sector and mobilize all the potential to bring sustainable economic development. To achieve our vision of making Ethiopia a beacon of prosperity, we need to use every opportunity we have."

Noting the cascading benefit of the progress in other sectors in the performance of the manufacturing industry, Melaku stressed that Ethiopia has indeed allotted significant investment to enhance infrastructure and nurture a skilled labor force to attain the desired goals.

In its endeavor to address the sector's challenges, the government of Ethiopia has also been hugely investing to improve the country's infrastructural networks and set policies that create a skilled and able labor force in the manufacturing industry. Also, tangible activities have been made to address the power shortage, logistical setbacks as well as access to finance.

The policy intervention will bring positive opportunities for the manufacturing sector and it will also provide additional incentives for potential stakeholders that want to take part in the sector. Those actions will also take the manufacturing industry to the next level in its contribution to the national economy, the minister emphasized.

It was learned that the homegrown economic policy greatly encourages investment in the manufacturing industry taking into account the sector is a key-driver of Ethiopia's prosperity.

Freeman pins gov't...

"The people of Tigray have to see that they are not excluded, but they are part of a new process of development of the nation and they have to see that the government is delivering necessary services. I think if the disarmament process continues for the 30 day allotted time, it would be a major accomplishment."

The analyst further mentioned the existence of some media outlets which are playing a criminal role and pretending to be concerned about Ethiopians but in fact hurting them. The outlets are taking actions that could be responsible for igniting more conflicts

shamelessly.

"I think there will be attempts to disrupt that disarmament process. We are already seeing dissonance extremists in parts of the world, diaspora and some Western actors make very disgusting statements against the government of Ethiopia. We are not out of the woods. We have a good first step but we must implement and must have a reconstruction process shovels in the ground is my dogma."

Some Western actors have not played a good role in the conflict over the last two

years and not supported the government of Ethiopia. Even prior to the war, they have been antagonistic towards the government because they have interest in the strategic Horn of Africa.

The peace agreement signed between the parties is the first step towards durable peace and the international community should provide necessary support for the reconstruction process. It is the interest of the U.S. to have a peaceful, stable, developing, economically prosperous Ethiopia, he emphasized.

OCHA testifies...

Over 17,000MT of relief food delivered to Tigray over the last nine days by the government and humanitarian partners, it underscored.

Moreover, 3.3 billion USD required responding to humanitarian needs or to reach 20 million people requiring assistance in 2022. As of the beginning of November, 46.9 percent of it funded including government of Ethiopia. Needs continue to outpace available funding, it indicated.

Meanwhile, the World Food Program

(WFP) urged the donors, government and all other partners to engage the communities in discussing their own long-term solutions.

WFP Country Director Claude Jibidar said that WFP is supporting the most vulnerable communities targeting 650,000 people through relief, 110, 000 people through nutrition, 96, 000 children through school feeding programs in Afar State. He explained the need for long-term solutions.

In Bidu Woreda of Afara State, a food distribution is taking place or ongoing for

people who have become severely food insecure. There is a huge problem facing people. It is hot, hotter than ever and everything that everybody talks about is the problem, he said.

"People are conscious about the problem of water and I just had a discussion with the community, I understand that one of the very important things, the donors, government and all the partners have to do is to engage the communities in discussing their own long-term solutions."

Ethiopia's diplomacy...

Muktar Mohammed, Senior Adviser to the Director of International Law Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that apart from being complicated, the diplomatic work is often carried out by powerful countries. This made the process for developing countries, including Ethiopia very challenging.

The advisor further told the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) that the country was in struggle with the powerful nations to stop the pressure and intervention that was put on it due to Abay Dam and the recent

conflict. When some countries collapse under the pressure of global forces, it is not an easy matter for Ethiopia to withstand the pressure and achieve great success.

Ethiopia's filling of the dam and the fact that the northern conflict is under the umbrella of the African Union (AU) peace initiative is a big victory. "In view of this it is considered a great diplomatic success to be able to solve the problem through the people of Africa, who were with us in our time of trouble and we were with them in their time of trouble."

Muktar noted that Ethiopia is situated in one of the most strategic areas in world, the Red Sea region whereby the interests of regional powers are as complex and dynamic as international diplomacy. "Therefore, it is necessary to understand the issue widely and deeply from the perspective of Ethiopia's national interest."

In view of this, the government is developing new procedures in terms of diplomacy through training. In general, as

some say, the success of diplomacy is not a matter measured only by the knowledge and skills of diplomats, but it is a work that is judged by the power and complex existing conditions.

Some powerful countries support Ethiopia's cause, the Diaspora's international campaign, as well as the country's firm stance on national interests and its good neighborliness with neighboring states have contributed significantly to the success of diplomacy, he remarked.

Opinion

Peace talks raise hope: 'But people are exhausted and need help'

BY STAFF REPORTER

"Despite the enormous difficulties caused by the crisis, the effects of the conflicts, climate change and the severe drought that are afflicting our country, the population at least finds relief in the fact that a 'climate of peace' is beginning. We have followed with confidence the development of the peace agreements (see Fides, 24/11/2022) and now we wait with hope that they will produce effects. People are exhausted by the war, which has destroyed lives, property, relationships between communities", said Father Teshome Fikre Woldetensae, General Secretary of the Ethiopian Episcopal Conference to Fides on the sidelines of the Caritas Internationalis Conference.

"The Church in Ethiopia has long been committed to resolving the conflicts in Tigray and in the Oromia region in the west of the country", said the General Secretary, recalling the many emergencies that characterize the current dramatic situation: "Due to the war the number of displaced persons increased. Some of them are still in refugee camps, others are returning to their homeland. We are also currently dealing with climate change, with a drought that has become very bad. The southern and eastern parts of the country are hardest hit. The crisis of the war between Russia and

Ukraine, which has led to an increase in the cost of living around the world, has also hit us hard, with the poorest suffering the most".

Regarding the situation of schools and education, Father Teshome Fikre Woldetensae recalled the problem of schools, which have been closed for years in many areas of the country due to the Covid 19 pandemic and the conflicts. "In recent years, we have tried to help children and internally displaced people in refugee camps who lack everything, even basic necessities. In addition, many families have lost their resources and livestock due to the drought, leading to an increase in malnutrition rates of children and the elderly. The Church, together with Caritas in the parishes, tries to feed as many children as possible, in families, schools and refugee camps".

With regard to the peace agreement, the priest expressed confidence. "For the past two years we have heard nothing but war, destruction and betrayal, and now it is hopeful to learn that the two warring factions are meeting to negotiate peace. We hope and continue to pray that this will happen. We hope that systems will be put in place to check that the promises and commitments made by the parties are actually being kept. The first positive results are being seen, the humanitarian corridors are open and many organizations are sending their support in

convoys. The Catholic Church also makes a contribution in close cooperation with international partners in the country. If there is political commitment and the parties to the conflict are willing not to focus on their own interests but on the concerns of the people, of the poor and the afflicted, everything can be solved more easily, people are happy, they are the ones who have paid the bitter price. It is the poor who have lost everything they own, who have died in wars and conflicts".

"As with all negotiations, there may be delays", the cleric added, "but I see there is interest and political commitment on both sides, and the international community has been encouraging the parties to the conflict to engage in dialogue and intervene in a timely manner to deal with humanitarian emergencies". The Tigray region is experiencing a moment of great hope, not least because of the aid that is arriving".

"The Church", adds the Secretary General of the Ethiopian Bishops' Conference, "has always been with the people, the Bishop of the Eparchy of Adigrat is there, the missionaries are there! We keep in touch as much as possible. We are in contact with the staff of the diocese and the parishes when they have the opportunity. We used all possible channels to get humanitarian aid. When we sent missionaries and our workers to the Tigray region, we met with Bishop

Tesfaselassie Medhin. Last July, the director of Caritas Ethiopia was in Adigrat, along with leaders of other Caritas organizations, and they too spoke to him, who certainly has many problems, because everything is really lacking, and he, as a pastor who lives among the suffering people, has little opportunity to do anything now and it hurts him.

All Ethiopian bishops and the bishops' conference have tried, through Caritas, to help as best they can and to share the suffering of the people".

Fr. Fikre adds that pain and desperation are not unique to the Tigray region: "There is another conflict in the western part of the country that the media does not report on and no international organization is interested in. There are also many displaced people there, and every day many people are dying in the guerrilla fighting in that area. Now that the conflict in Tigray has attracted international attention, we also need to look at the other flashpoints that involve so many other parts of the country. In general, little attention has been paid to this emergency, there is still little humanitarian aid for the displaced people. Again, this is a very serious situation in which the victims are, once again, poor farmers".

Source: (AP) (Agenzia Fides, 25/11/2022)

Developing Countries need modern energy, not climate reparations

BY STAFF REPORTER

The new COP27 climate deal, in which the West proposes to transfer billions of dollars to developing countries as "reparations" for conventional fuel use, uses climate as an excuse for redistribution from rich countries to poor countries.

It is difficult to draw a causal correlation between damages from specific weather-related disasters in developing countries and Western emissions. However, it is easy to see that developing countries have gained immensely from Western largesse and technology. On net, they are not victims, but beneficiaries.

Sometimes the damage from extreme weather events relates to a lack of building standards or unwise location of development, when governments build poorly-constructed roads or houses in areas that are vulnerable to flooding, for instance. The cause of such a disaster is poor governance, not climate change.

Rather than trying to persuade developing countries to abstain from conventional fuels, the West should be encouraging all countries to plan for avoiding weather damage and use the most efficient form of fuel available for energy production, including natural gas, coal, and nuclear. This will raise standards of living and

disproportionately help the poor.

The call for reparations comes from the perception that "extreme weather events" such as hurricanes, cyclones, and wildfires, as well as rising sea levels in developing countries, are linked to greenhouse gas emissions from Western countries.

But some research shows little change. Writing in the Journal of Climate, Jessica Weinkle and other scientists report that the number of hurricanes making landfalls is no greater than in the past. Increases in global damages from tropical cyclones are due to greater wealth in those locations where cyclones exist, Weinkle concludes.

Other research shows change over centuries. Sea levels have been rising about an inch per decade since the 1807, according to UK National Oceanography Centre researcher Svetlana Jevrajeva and others.

The climate reparations deal attempts to reduce fossil fuel use in emerging economies, but these nations want and need greater industrial development and more conventional fuels, not less. Despite the billions of dollars spent on emerging economies, many people lack modern energy, electricity, and running water. One third of the Earth's population needs dense energy to bring people up to Western standards. This includes over three-quarters

of Africans and half of Indians.

Indoor cooking using waste, wood, and dung may not cause greenhouse gases, but these fuels cause environmental degradation, as well as indoor and outdoor air pollution, which kills several million a year, according to the World Health Organization. Replacing ancient cooking systems with natural gas, propane, or electric stoves would be life-enhancing.

Many developing countries experience regular power cuts—known as loadshedding—because not enough baseload power is generated for factories and homes. Africa and Asia will never reach Western income levels using only wind and solar, sources of energy dictated by special presidential envoy for climate John Kerry and other Western politicians.

Industrialization delivers jobs and products that raise living standards, but it requires baseload power that renewables cannot provide. Mining supplies the raw material for modern products, from mobile phones to electric cars. Mines and factories are vital for modern life but require base load power.

Upward income mobility over the past two centuries has been achieved through use of more energy, not less. The misguided policies of Western countries to discourage energy use condemn billions of people

in developing countries to impoverished lives. This poverty is collateral damage for the consciences of Western elites.

Climate change is going on, as it has for millennia. But using less energy will make people around the globe worse off.

Americans take energy for granted and cannot imagine living without hot showers, reliable and inexpensive gasoline supplies, clothes dryers, and large refrigerators—as well as air conditioning and heating.

Resilient and affordable energy creates economic growth and additional employment. In the long run, associated increases in income contribute to a smaller population and lower greenhouse gas emissions, goals of many proponents of climate reparations.

The concept of climate reparations is fundamentally flawed. The West should not prevent developing countries from using modern sources of energy in order to attain the benefits of industrialization and economic growth for their desired 21st Century lifestyles.

Source: Forbes.com

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

The Ethiopian Herald

Established in 1943

Published daily except Mondays
By The Ethiopian Press Agency



Office of the CEO

Tel. 011-126-42-22

Fax. 251-011-156-98-62

**Advertisement and Dist.
Department**

email: etpresspromotion@gmail.com
Tel. 011-156-98-73/011-811-13-15

Editor-in-Chief: Worku Belachew
email- workubelachew@press.et
Address- Nifas Silk Lafto Sub-city
Woreda - 05, House No----
Tel- +251 111 26 41 98

Managing Editor: Wakuman Kudama
Email: wakuma220@gmail.com

Deputy Editors-in-Chief:

Alem Hailu

Elizabeth Mengistu

Zekarias Woldemariam

Desta Geberhiwot

Daniel Beyene

Website: www.press.et

email: ethiopianherald@press.et

**Fb//Ethiopian Press Agency/
The Ethiopian Herald**

Editorial

Ethiopia will uphold its role in global peace

The two years of conflict in northern Ethiopia has devoured thousands of lives, displaced tens of thousands and destroyed huge sum of property. This smears the country's reputation which is otherwise known for its active role in peace keeping, solving conflict through peaceful means.

Working on the current cessation of hostilities, the government and all partners should exert effort to renew the country's image in being a good partner of the international community in peace keeping and conflict resolution.

Unlike the recent incident in the northern part of the country, Ethiopia's name is more associated with its benevolence and commitment to ensuring peace in conflict ridden parts of the world. Since the early 1960s Ethiopia has been actively participating in international peacekeeping missions. Among the countries that the country has deployed its peace keeping contingents are Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Rwanda, Burundi, Liberia, Darfur and Abiyei of Sudan. Its peacekeeping contingents have built a good reputation for their effective accomplishment in their areas of mission.

As an asset to the country's meaningful participation in international peace keeping activities the government has institutionalized its peace keeping contingency. The Ministry of Defense has established a Peace Keeping Center where there is an International Peace Support training institute.

In his recent visit to the institute, Director of Japanese International Institute for Peace Cooperation, Tano

Takehiro said other countries can learn a lot from Ethiopia's contribution to global peace.

Indeed the experience it accumulated in successful peace keeping missions is of great significance. On top of that Ethiopia has also passed through series of protracted civil war and conflict. This makes it well aware of the devastation that civil war causes and the agony of people in conflict areas.

This experience of the country is also one of the major reasons for leaders of the Federal government and TPLF to instantly reach a Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA) in Pretoria, South Africa. It is also a good news that the two sides are streamlining efforts to further implement the terms of the agreement both in Pretoria and Nairobi so as to ensure peace as soon as possible and shorter the suffering of the victims.

The peaceful settlement of the deadly conflict in the northern part of the country is a vital step. Ethiopia will also further bolster its longstanding participation in international peace keeping and peace support efforts.

This valuable experience of Ethiopia is worthwhile in peacekeeping and seeking peaceful solutions to conflicts throughout the world. Therefore, governments and international institutions like Japans International Institute of peace cooperation should assist countries like Ethiopia to build up their capacity and active participation in peacekeeping.

Opinion

No bad peace, no good war

BY GIRMACHEW GASHAW

Each movement that brings us peace has a great contribution to our overall peace. As peace and security experts always say, there is no bad peace. In his response and explanation to the house of people representatives, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said, "there is no evil peace and good war." It is a valid statement because as he said; There is no good war. We lose a lot in war instead of gaining much more benefits.

It can be said that the peace agreement is a great symbolic success when we Africans work together to achieve African unity, peace and security and African development when we stand up for African problems. The peace that has come is not just peace; it is an indication that Africans can think first. It has shown that Africans are not just doing what they are told to do, but they are capable of solving their problems. It can be said that Africa's action in this way is a big goal. The second thing is that every peace movement is imperative.

In the past, colonialists have been

dividing us through the slave trade, colonial rule and war, but now they understand that they cannot be divided in this way. I think it indicates that there is a situation that allows them to benefit from the peace of the Africans. For example, our low economic status leads us to search for a better place, so I think it is beneficial to support our peace so that we don't migrate due to a lack of peace.

The next task that should be thought of is, how to make the people benefit from peace. First of all, clapping with one hand is not possible. All must stand guard for peace. More than anyone else, the people must stand against those who use war as a means of regaining power. We should not allow them to stand against our peace. Peace-loving people must say that we do not want to lose the peace that we have achieved through so much effort. The conflict that took place in the past will not be repeated.

What we have gained from the conflict are human slaughter and even more economic collapse. Even in social connections, it is appropriate to marginalize those who want to profit

from war so that this peace agreement can come down to the ground and be sustainable.

The people of Tigray, Amhara, Afar and the rest of Ethiopia have a high stake in making the peace last. This shows the people's commitment to peace alongside the government. As I said, this is one of the most important issues for the sustainability of the existing peace. The second is that the National Consultative Commission which was supposed to begin its tasks as of this month should go to Tigray and make consultation with the people on how to prevent this war from happening again.

Some people said how the government makes a deal with a group that is labeled as a terrorist group. However, it is not only in Ethiopia to sit around the same table to discuss peace with an entity classified as a terrorist by the Parliament. Other countries have done the same thing. For some, it was an informal way where the war was going on, the discussion taking place on the other side. Many such demonstrations can be mentioned and it shows that Ethiopia is not the first to do so at the

international level.

Therefore, as Prime Minister Dr Abiy said, this is a price to be paid for peace. Also, the commitment of the negotiators, especially the part that sets the agenda and says let's talk about the issue, shows how much it is thirsty for peace and a strong seeker of peace. According to the philosophy of peace, there is no way to peace. Therefore, peace itself is the way to go. Peace is the way to the destination.

Therefore, it is necessary to believe that it is possible to bring peace not only through war or punishment but also through love and dialogue since peace is both a destination and a path. Therefore, since their approach is based on this, if some criticize without understanding and without knowing, it is good if they can understand from this point of view. The peace negotiations must continue. Now, after the negotiations, when it comes to the peace agreement, challenges no less than war await us.

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

Art & Culture

More than Immorality-The bad culture of bribing one's way to "Success"

BY MULUGETA GUDETA

The recent decision by the Ethiopian government to deal with the evil of corruption more effectively and with greater commitment could only be welcomed because the level of fraudulent activities have reached such an alarming degree, requiring urgent action to stem their nefarious manifestations and devastating consequences. As corruption in Ethiopia has spread in almost all sectors of activities, the fight against it also requires a collective and concerted approach by the major victims whose future is compromised by the evil acts it generates. In this sense, it can be said that corruption is no more a "normal" phenomenon but an abnormal national malaise that is eating away at the very core of society, almost becoming what we may call a social cancer and an economic security threat.

The culture of corruption is defined as, "attitudes, beliefs, and practices so pervasive as to make much of the population tolerant of corruption in public and private life and indifferent to anti-corruption reform through lack of confidence in the possibility of positive change."

If we try to look at the situation in contemporary Ethiopia against the above definition, we realize that corruption has long become a culture embedded within societies both rural and urban as well as within the circles of both educated and uneducated members of society who consider it as normal day to day practice. In the past, there were several attempts to eradicate corruption from society although the methods and approaches were mostly dysfunctional and lacked enough determination to bring the job to its conclusion.

Corruption is not something that grows overnight and that can be eradicated overnight. As corruption developed through many decades if not centuries, it can only be effectively addressed by using various instruments like the legal system and education establishment to rid people of the mentality of looking at corruption as a normal feature of life. Corruption is not a normal exercise but a reflection of the depth of crisis a society has sunk without knowing or caring about its lethal consequences.

According to various studies conducted on corruption and its various manifestations, "Corruption can be defined and categorized in various ways. The most common types of categories of corruption are supply versus demand corruption, grand versus petty corruption, conventional versus unconventional corruption and public versus private corruption."

According to the above definition, all the forms of manifestation of corruption are present in present day Ethiopia. A typical example of supply versus demand corruption is the category that is actually, although partially responsible for the ongoing inflation in the prices of goods and commodities. This is the type of corruption generated by a culture of scarcity or poverty, when people pay the price they are asked for goods and

services that are scarce or cannot be found easily in the market. We have now both petty and grand corruption.

Petty corruption was prevalent in the past when the country was poorer and grand corruption largely emerged during the so-called accelerated economic development of the last decade or so. While petty corruption can affect the common people, grand corruption is undermining government-sponsored economic projects and performances. Corruption is sometimes related to poverty but the reality is different. At least in Ethiopia, corruption was less threatening when the country was poorer because there was not much resource to be shared or claimed by its citizens at all a level.

Corruption can also take different forms according to other studies, that concluded that, "forms of corruption may vary but can include bribery, lobbying, extortion, cronyism, nepotism, parochialism, patronage, influence peddling graft and embezzlement." All these forms of corruption are prevalent in Ethiopia although their degrees of manifestation may be different from those in developed countries.

Corruption is considered a universal phenomenon. Countries may have different levels of corruption but there is no country in the world that is totally free from corruption which is apparently inherent in human behavior. People everywhere seem to be trying to take advantage of scarce resources by any means available including corruption. Yet, corruption becomes problematic when it involves powerful political and economic interest groups that are bent to take undue advantage of their positions in society to claim benefits that should not accrue to them by using various visible and invisible or subtle methods of bribing their way to success.

A bird's eye view of the history of corruption would suggest that the above definitions fit very well into the structural manifestations and nature of corruption in Ethiopia. Corruption can be manifested in person to person transactions or within various groups in different communities.

Corruption is believed to have been present in Ethiopian society ever since the relations between the more powerful members of the communities and those who lived from hand to mouth was established back in the centuries-old times of feudalism. The impoverished peasants were often forced to pay regular dues to the feudal lords in addition to presenting them with diverse consumer items like goats and sheep in their bid to get things done in their communities or legal cases handled in their favor. During those times, it was neither a crime nor a



shame to give judges and officials what was then called *ejmensha* (gifts) to the village officials as rewards for this or that favor.

These same acts came to be known as bribes later on when they were presented to the officials in the form of money donations as money barely started to penetrate into traditional communities. As the money offers grew in size and importance they were handled in secret and outside public view while the rest of society was looking the other way as the old *ejmensha* turned into *gubbo* (bribe) and the act came to be slowly recognized as illegal, criminal if not immoral.

Bribe giving and bribe taking, to inseparable faces of the same phenomenon, grew by leaps and bounds during the imperial rules of Haile Sellassie as the economic stakes were high and the bribe takers were eager to make additional incomes from their immoral and criminal activities. Modernity brought with it all the evils of developed societies where social advancement, jobs and officials positions as well as social recognitions came on the heels of a well-oiled system of bribery or corruption as an established practices. Nowadays, winning top government posts, including the presidency in Western countries are unthinkable without passive financial expenditures that amount to sort of buying the offices. And this is considered a normal practice for winning top posts in government.

In Ethiopia taking and giving bribes became social anomalies when the gap between the haves and have-nots widened too much and the have-nots failed to honor their promises and instead started to rebel and refuse to pay their dues to the feudal lords and their hangers on during the long decades of feudal administration. This may be the basic reason that led to the February 1974 revolution in Ethiopia that considered paying bribes to state officials a crime that needed to be dealt with by "revolutionary actions", an euphemism for long imprisonment or the death sentence.

Socialism in Ethiopia was expected to do away with such criminal activities as taking bribes in return for some form of official favor that should be met without monetary gratification. Past experiences have amply demonstrated that punishment is no remedy for corruption as top officials are likely to bribe their way out of prison or pay the legally authorities handsomely in order to incentive

them to overturn their rulings.

Neither could we overcome corruption by building an "egalitarian society" whereby everybody is poor enough to live within their financial or material means. Such a society was not only the ideal social organization but also impossible to realize simply because competition for scarce resources legally or illegally was inherent in human nature as well as in human organizations.

In the last three or four decades, the growth and spread of corruption was recognized as the most toxic influence in society against the development aspiration of the people as a whole. Consequently governments started to address the menace in a clear and politically committed way although the levels of commitment carried from one government to another.

In the meantime, corruption assumed new forms starting as small bribes given to petty officials to grand corruption that involved high government officials. The culture of corruption spread like wildfire because of the number of people claiming underserved gains grew as the general level of competency declined and a merit system would not be established against the resistance of entrenched interest groups. Corrupt practices continued to grow, involving institutions that were otherwise considered incorruptible such as higher educational institutions where grades and degrees were exchanged against money or any other form of corrupt practice.

Meanwhile, corruption continued to grow to such an extent that it hampered or sabotaged development projects, forced resources to flow into the most wasteful channels and officials allegedly continued to claim money donations and favoritism for works that they were hired to do in exchange for salaries they collect every month. Meanwhile the definition of corruption came to include, gains illegally made for activities officials should perform freely as employees of the government.

The Amharic name for corruption also underwent new changes. It is sometimes called *lebenet* (theft). For some people this terminological change is unacceptable because corruption which is called *mussena* in Amharic is more serious, more devastating and more threatening than theft. Whether you call it by any other name, the rose is a rose and cannot change its good smell. By the same token and despite the terminological twists and turns, corruption remains an evil culture that is festering in society and whose foul smell reaches deep into the highest levels of business and politics.

Suffice it to turn to Wikipedia's description of corruption in Ethiopia to support our contentions. "There are various sectors in Ethiopia where businesses are particularly vulnerable to corruption. Land distribution and administration is a sector where corruption is institutionalized and facilitation payments as well as bribes are often demanded from businesses when they deal with land-related issues."

This is a fair and short description of the malaise and this is of course the tip of the iceberg.

Law & Politics

Pretoria peace deal: Hallmark of Pan-Africanism

BY ADDISALEM MULAT

It is important to emphasize that since the signing of the monumental Pretoria peace deal, the whole lot throughout the country has been making progress in the right direction. On the heels of the government's firm stance to patch things up and settle differences in a peaceful setting, the entire situation in the northern part of the country has already taken a turn for the better and drawing acclamation from the global community.

Following the signing of the peace accord, a considerable amount of tangible changes that can help realize the full effectuation of the agreement have been witnessed. It goes without saying the peace agreement would play a paramount role in maintaining peace, security, and development not only in the country but also in the Horn of Africa and beyond.

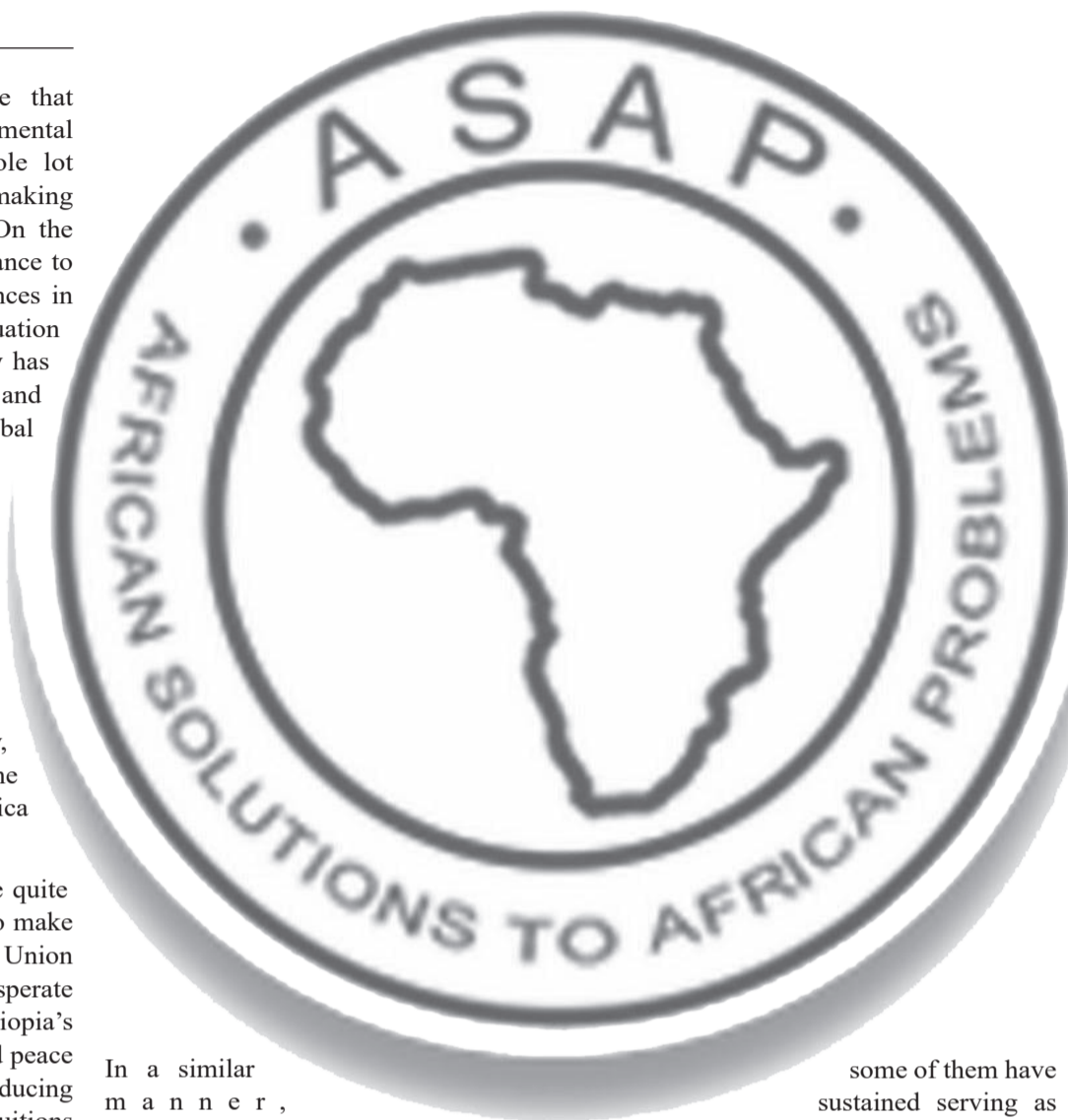
It is worth mentioning that despite quite a lot of entities sparing no effort to make light of the role of the African Union putting a series of plots in a desperate attempt to distract the deal, Ethiopia's unwavering stance towards AU-led peace talks metamorphosed into producing effective results and reaching fruitions at the earliest possible juncture. In consideration of the foregoing, Ethiopians in several instances all over the world have been enunciating their innermost appreciation and relief in many ways.

It is obvious that the AU-led peace agreement in black and white demonstrates the capability of the continental bloc to get to the bottom of African problems turning AU's values and principles into good accounts devoid of the dictation of third-party and backseat drivers.

Added to that the cessation-of-hostilities agreement is the manifestation of the practicability of the all-encompassing phrase "African solutions to African problems" aimed at resolving disputes, reducing disparities, bridging and accommodating differences, and other things pressing issues unfolding in the continent.

Since the dawn of history, Africa has passed through several ups and downs as well as twists and turns that emanate from some superpowers' unwarranted pressure and interference in the internal affairs of the continent.

It is abundantly clear that since the start of the war, Ethiopia has been persistently forestalling external pressure coming from some world powers that have been working round the clock to twist the former's arm under the pretense of human rights violations, and humanitarian aid. In fact, intending to put the kibosh on the sinister plan of some special group interests and their enablers, Ethiopians residing in various parts of the world have protested across the globe.



In a similar manner, Ethiopians at various points in time have been appealing to external entities not to interfere in their internal affairs and to halt putting unwarranted pressure on Ethiopia using human rights issues as a fig leaf. In the present circumstances, understating the truth about some superpowers' intrigues going behind the scenes geared towards weakening the sovereignty of the nation, all African nations have been standing by the side of Ethiopia.

It has commonly been assumed that the capability of Africa to get to the bottom of the African problem in its own way plays a paramount role in diminishing foreign interference designed to meet the needs of invading the sovereignty and integral integrity of Ethiopia.

More often than not Ethiopians and the oppressed people of most African countries have battled against the domineering strategies of some superpowers that have been engaged in looting the resources of the continent of Africa and lining up their pockets.

Apart from that the #NoMore movement that has been organized by Ethiopians grew into stealing the attention of the world on the grounds that it brought the continent of Africa together to fend off external pressure and some entities' interference.

It should be remembered that for the love of meeting the political agenda and dismantling the country, some internal actors of the country have been working in close association with some foreign entities under the veil of a number of lame reasons. To everyone's dismay,

some of them have sustained serving as Trojan horses of Ethiopia's arch-rivals even after the Pretoria peace deal was signed.

In the wake of the peace agreement signed between the Federal government and TPLF under the auspicious of the African Union, people from all walks of life have been appreciating the positive move as it means a lot to the continent of Africa and plays a huge role in reigniting the concept of Pan-Africanism.

In fact, Ethiopia has been setting a mark for other African countries in its effort to defend against external interference and commit itself to Africa's wisdom.

In times past, Moscow-based American political Analyst, Andrew Korybko stated that what Ethiopia is doing right now can be regarded as an exemplary move to curb anti-imperialist pressure and Pan-African causes across the continent and others need to follow in its footsteps.

"The government of Ethiopia is forced to weigh its options and consider its relations with some states and entities that are making unsubstantiated and politically motivated accusations of such gravity against the country."

The Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA) between the government and TPLF would have a significant contribution to the nourishment of Pan-Africanism values, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) said.

Speaking to the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA), European and American Affairs Director-General at MoFA Ambassador Eshete Tilahun noted that the peace

accord brokered by the African Union (AU) in Pretoria is a sign that Africans can solve their problems on their own. The truce is also an example of strengthening Pan-Africanism.

As to him, the peace agreement has a significant role in inspiring other Africans to share Ethiopia's experience. It as well has demonstrated African's ability to maintain their dignity and make them have a common stand on issues of mutual significance.

"The peace accord has delivered a message for the whole globe about Africa's capacity and readiness to lead, manage and administer our own affairs by our own. Indeed, the Ethiopian government has played a key role in this regard."

The diplomat further highlighted that Ethiopia's acceptance of the AU as the only mediator for the northern conflict showcases its confidence in the African institutions' capability to resolve differences in negotiation and in a peaceful manner. It is also testified to the country's commitment to avert some interest groups' unwarranted intervention.

In the past, while some internal and external groups expressed complaints and distrust of the AU Chief Negotiator and Former President of Nigeria Olusegun Obasanjo, the government of Ethiopia respected its promise of holding the peace talks without any preconditions. "Our faith in African institutions preserves the spirit of Pan-Africanism among fellow brothers and sisters."

Moreover, the peace accord has a great benefit to curtail the ill-conceived meddling of some interest groups which have aimed to capitalize on the conflict. The accord attested that Africans could stand by themselves without the backing of third parties, Ambassador Eshete emphasized.

The Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA) that the government and TPLF concluded in South Africa is a living testimony to Africa's ability to solve its own problems without third parties' dictation, an international relations expert said speaking to local media lately.

, International Relations Expert Eyob Belachew described the CoHA as exemplary for other African countries to solve their problems under the auspices of the African Union (AU) and curtailing third parties' ill-conceived involvement.

The expert further noted that the peace accord is the manifestation of the viability of a continental-led approach to resolving conflicts in negotiation and in a peaceful manner.

Following in the footsteps of Ethiopia, other African nations should go to the ends of the earth to settle their differences in a peaceful manner without the dictation of disinterested bystanders bringing into effect their underlying motives going behind closed curtains.



The political leaders have understood what the people say and are committed to peace

Ambassador Eshete Tilahun

BY STAFF REPORTER

Today's guest, Ambassador Eshete Tilahun is Director of Europe and American Affairs Directorate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ethiopian Press Agency has interviewed him about the recent Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA) between the Government of Ethiopia and Tigray Peoples Liberation Front (TPLF). Have a nice read!

How do you see the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (COHA) between the Federal Government and TPLF?

There were doubts because there were many comments from different sides towards the beginning of the negotiations. Of course, on the part of the federal government, everything was clear. In other words, it announced readiness to negotiate at any time and place without any conditions. On the part of the TPLF, several conditions and stances changed now and then, so it is not surprising if people had doubts.

What matters is the willingness of the negotiating parties to meet when such negotiations take place. It is their willingness to cooperate to solve the problem through negotiations. When processes are seen, it can be understood that it is moving in a positive direction.

In my opinion, if the federal government and the TPLF had not been prepared to bring about change, it would not have been possible to achieve the results we witness now. In fact, contrary to what I mentioned, it appears that they want to understand each other's situation. Since negotiation is based on give and take, it is not possible to agree on certain things by taking a rigid position. And by carrying this spirit and going prepared, there is a positive spirit so far.

If we raise the question "What did the deal come up with?" we can pick up many things. For example, we should consider it a diplomatic success for our country. No problems are solved by force. For the time being, it is possible to stop the conflict by force. But it is not possible to reverse the deterioration of peace and social relations. Again, it can only be resolved by conflict or force, and it is harmful. First of all, any conflict, especially such a severe and widespread war, consumes human life. It destroys the wealth of the country. It destroys infrastructure. It undermines social relationships. These problems can be avoided if they are resolved through diplomacy and dialogue. Therefore, even after Ethiopia suffered a lot of damage, the negotiation is a great diplomatic victory.

On the other hand, Ethiopia is not an island; since we live as part of the international community, I have to make sure that the international community agrees with this issue. They used different ways of influencing different messages saying that they are concerned about the situation in Ethiopia. This spirit is known to exist especially in the

countries of the western world that I follow. It greatly simplifies that. If we do more work, it will help Ethiopia to return to the level of diplomacy it used to have. So we can see that it has diplomatic success.

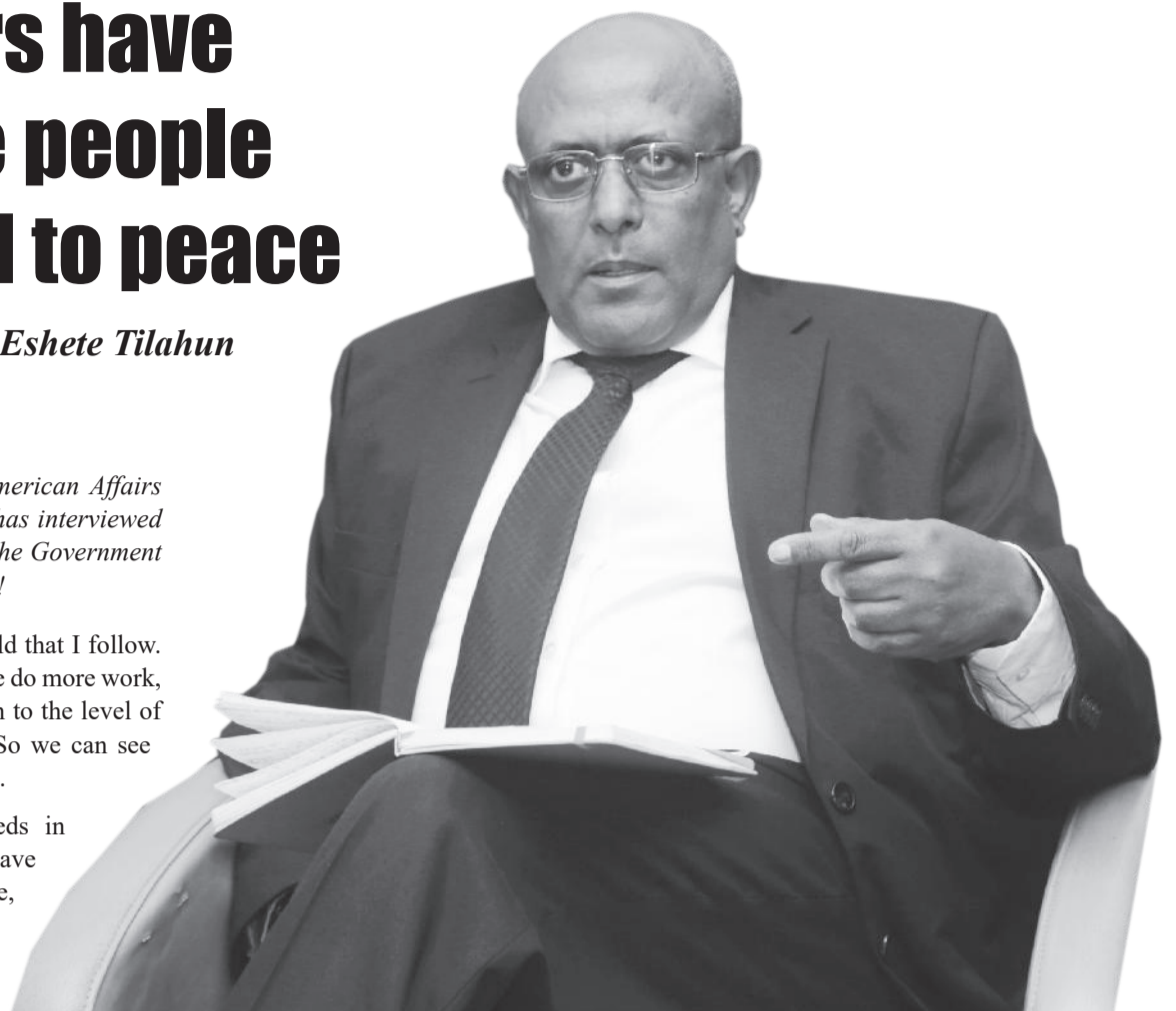
The main issue is the needs in Ethiopia. In particular, we have been seeing that it is ineffective, and inefficient to implement a force with weapons. I think this situation is very educational. In negotiation politics; I believe that civilized political thinking is a factor in our transition. This, the whole society; I think will create an opportunity for all Ethiopians living abroad and Ethiopians to come together and tell our story of war and conflict. We all have to work for that. Because the benefit is for ourselves.

This is how all Ethiopians could win. There will be a situation where they can discuss and decide to sit around the table without destroying property. And it should be emphasized that the negotiation has brought good things in this regard as it is possible to solve the problems that are the cause of the conflict.

How successfully do you think Ethiopia has been in terms of its position that African problems should be solved by Africans?

I believe that the agreement is a good indication that Africans can solve their problems on their own. We have completed the first chapter. It was possible to attend with a political commitment to solve the issue by sitting down and talking. This is not visible, especially in East Africa and is affecting us. It can be a model of how to change the history of conflicts that have so far invited foreign intervention. I think it will follow this direction from now on. As I said, this negotiation started with a political commitment. Then there was a discussion between the military leaders. What remains is a matter of execution.

Regarding the political commitment first there are several structures that Africa has set up to solve its problems on its own. This is one pillar of that; solving problems through dialogue, discussion and negotiation. For this, the leaders have agreed that we can solve our problems by using the services provided by the continent's great people, brokers and institutions, and they have organized the institutions to put them to work. But there are not many successful conflicts. Nor are they contemptible. It is important to realize that



many conflicts have been resolved through negotiations. From this point of view, I believe that we all have to work hard for it to achieve results and be a demonstration in terms of institutions and our responsibility to Pan-Africanism.

Perhaps, due to previous experience, there is a lack of trust in the union. From this point of view, could you tell me the benefits of this negotiation in terms of changing this mindset and reaching the edge?

As you mentioned, Africans will solve their problems by themselves. Does the union have the capacity to solve it? Many member countries doubted this. There is also the question of how many of us know the structures organized by the African Union, the existing operating systems and the issues we want the citizens of the Union's member countries to implement.

That means governments promoting; scholars; Civil society has its share of weaknesses that we all bear. That is what creates the spirit of doubt.

The second is related to competence, in connection with what you have initiated, Africa's peace and security issues with the support of partners; It's something I finance. Especially in peace and security issues, if you are supported by another power, there is always the interest of the supporters who are being dragged along. A peace fund is being established to get rid of it. But the continent still needs a lot of work to reach a level of self-sufficiency.

It cannot cover more than 25 per cent of the cost in the first phase. Because Africa is the leader, it can cover only the cost of sending peace envoys, as we have seen, and the costs are not too high. Six to eight billion dollars are budgeted for this purpose every year. In general, Africa has never been able to support the peacekeeping institutions it created on its own.

For this reason, it is not surprising that

African conflict resolution is viewed with scepticism because it has foreign involvement. However, as Ethiopians, we should always appreciate and value the continent's peace and Security Council, the commission, various organized structures, the political department, the council of ministers, and then there is the council of leaders. Within this framework, Africa is still capable of solving its problems. We should believe that it is a matter of process and put all our efforts into it.

What do you think the implications of the stability and peace of the northern part of the country will be for East Africa?

First, it is necessary to understand the importance of Ethiopia in East Africa. It is possible to list many other things from our population, the hope for the economy to grow, the people's desire to protect their independence and dignity, our history and many others. In terms of these main parameters, it is a country that has a significant role in the region.

Therefore, the instability in Ethiopia is a long-standing conflict zone that we have known for a long time. There are reasons for this. It is a strategic transit that dates back to colonial times. It's a region where the world's powers want the competition. The conflict always has an impact in the region.

There are other problems of terrorism, and religious extremism. The main thing is that the capacity of the governments of the countries of the Horn of Africa, the location of public and government institutions, and the fact that our trade and economic ties with neighbouring countries are weak have made us vulnerable to conflicts.

Here, the interests that bind us the most are strong and the spirit of mutual support and cooperation to prevent conflict is strengthened. It will also eliminate immigration. The countries of the region should focus their full attention



Herald Guest



on development, and fighting hunger, including their people. Avoiding a problem creates an opportunity for them to do so. And the implications of this agreement for the Horn of Africa are huge. This is not a controversial issue.

What role will Africans have in strengthening the pan-Africanist movement and the union with the members of the union if they can solve their problems?

This is a valid question. The basic premise of Pan-Africanism is that the framework of thought is that Africans can govern their affairs. It means that another party should not come and impose its needs on us. This is the thinking that came after the Adwa victory.

Creating the ability to do and maintain dignity; To be seen as an equal negotiator and equal in the international arena; There are elements of sharing the country's agenda and making it emerge as a common position. The main thing is that we have the ability and readiness to manage our affairs.

Our government has worked hard for this. It was a very strong position that we would not accept a side or alternative line of negotiations other than the African Union's chief negotiator. In the past, there was a dangerous situation when the TPLF started making some complaints against the former president of Nigeria, Olusegun Obasanjo. But when it came to the idea of adding others to it, what we said was unconditionally accepted. At all times and in all circumstances, the existing government has kept its word. And this is putting faith in African institutions and Africans. This one is related to the African brotherhood and preserves the spirit of Pan-Africanism.

In this sense, the strengthening of Pan-Africanism is of great benefit. It will make him believe in the institutions of the African Union. Another thing is that Africans can solve our problems. Negotiating also has a message that we know. In Africa, without the influence and preconditions of other parties, its citizens can talk and solve their problems. On the contrary, it is significant that the agreement was made possible in a country which is the headquarters of the union and which is a fan of pan-Africanism and has inspired others and played a leading role in this thought.

What is the feeling of the countries of the world after the agreement? Especially in this country's case, how do the powerful countries that have been extending their hands accept this agreement?

One thing we should always know is that any country in the world is always receptive in its diplomatic relations with other countries and the framework of partnership. For example, Ethiopia has something it needs from Africa and Europe. There is something they want as well.

What the rich countries want is democracy, human rights support, and good governance, which they claim to be their values, but we also want this. They passed through it for 150 years and said, "Accept it and implement it", because we don't have enabling conditions like institutions and community readiness, so it is difficult to move forward according to the standards they set. This problem is seen not only in

Ethiopia but in all African countries. Even the countries that are said to have a better structure and foundation are not able to manage their political economy according to the standards set by the West.

Second, they want Ethiopia to follow them due to their international pressure and position. And Ethiopia, as we know from our history, if issues are against our national interests, our independence, or our spirit of equality, we have a hard time agreeing. It cannot be expected that this position will please them. This contradicts what I said earlier. So there was a sense of wanting our affairs to go in the direction they wanted. The reaction that came after the agreement almost reflects this. But from what I've observed, it's mostly positive.

Especially the big and influential countries have looked at it positively. They promised to support its effectiveness. Of course, the issue of keeping promises is seen in the process.

Secondly, there is a desire to align in terms of the impact they want to have both internationally and in our country. So it is always relative. There is mostly support. It is especially necessary to take the one from the big countries. And the second ones were doubtful; "This matter is so difficult until the military leaders sit down and talk about it. Disarmament is impossible. So let's wait and see," there are those who are sceptical. This is not surprising. The good thing is that most of them are not.

Others are upset. "Those who claim to be thinkers and writers; know the local geo-political situation very well, only our analysis should be taken as truth. These are what many of us know as conflict traders. It is appropriate to see Ethiopians who have another wrong position. If they don't accept the message they convey, society will take it and say, "These people did not agree; the trend is not to agree. Again there is something else to be seen."

Even so, what we are looking for and seeing in ourselves is what the citizens in the areas affected by the conflict feel. In what condition are they leading their lives? I believe that the political leaders have understood what the people say and are committed to peace. What follows after that is the support factor. Doubting, questioning that there is something else when we get one result, will continue for a certain period due to the basic needs of influence that I mentioned earlier.

Humanitarian aid is still not being delivered in the required amount. Basic services are not provided; some claim that human rights violations have not been dealt with, and they raise questions as if they happen daily. However, just as democracy is not built overnight, nothing happens overnight. Even so, Ethiopia has to move forward by tolerating everyone.

Can't it be seen as a diplomatic success that the countries that were previously putting pressure on the Ethiopian government and the United Nations are now showing their support?

It is good to see that we have had the most subtle and harmful effects ever caused by this organization. Did those who made this impact think for Ethiopia? Did they want the problem to be resolved without their significant influence and hand in the

situation it is currently being resolved? What he says is something we should all ponder. On the one hand, they argue that the war has brought humanitarian aid and human rights. On the other hand, many women and mothers were working in the development negotiations of American and Ethiopian descent in a manufacturing company that was established within the framework of AGOA. The ban left those people without economic support.

One of the human rights issues is the right to economic and people's development. Unfortunately, in developed countries, there is always something of a double standard. When the right to development is put to a vote at the United Nations General Assembly, they oppose it. There is a need to argue about this. This is what the leaders of our institutions, our diplomats and the diaspora are always arguing about.

The second is about development aid and direct budget support. Loans and grants available through the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have been affected. So the conflict that they used as a criterion for all this influence is to stop. There is an issue of individual accountability of countries for disbursing resources in conflict situations. "Our taxpayers ask us; at the international level, the resources should not be wasted.

Although this seems to be true, it has a political motive behind it. As it is being resolved, it is being eased and resolved through the negotiations of the institutions that are stakeholders and responsible for it. It will undoubtedly pave the way. I think it's good to have a positive response.

But in general, there is a spirit of change. A positive voice is being heard. But its implementation is a matter of process.

What our people should know is that it will not change overnight. It should be understood that it is something that is changing in the process and that is passed in the procedures of their institutions when making the decision. So there will be a certain time gap. This requires effort. It requires diplomacy. And this does not stop for 24 hours; we monitor everything with our diplomatic presence in every corner of the world.

Is it possible to raise the threat that the position of the countries that supported the agreement will be eroded by the protests of the Tigray diaspora members who did not support the agreement?

First of all, not all members of the Tigray diaspora have such a desire and spirit. They are specific. I think we should understand this from the beginning. There can be different types of thinking in times of conflict and peace. For example, if we take the issue of peace, firstly, there is a situation of not focusing on the purpose of the negotiations. Some wish that it should be all I ever wanted. Second, there will be something paid to meet a need that existed during the conflict. There is an expectation for that. Therefore, we should not be surprised if the first phase of the agreement, especially the first chapter, is controversial because there is a multi-category interest.

Therefore, it is better to leave the ends and edges and focus on the context that most of us want in the middle. I don't believe that the disturbance of these limited bodies

will attract the attention of the world governments. As I said, we do not ignore the existence of conflict traders. Second, due to various hidden interests, some take this as a starting point and say, "It does not involve everyone." In my opinion, governments and big institutions take this kind of thing and put it into their policies; I am not afraid that they will translate it. It's not something that happens now and then.

The main thing that all Ethiopians must understand is that the aggressors should not win. They will continue to have their corner. There will always be an edge. There will be people who do something shameful that will go down in history. The issue of reversing such types requires effort. Their thinking needs to be checked so that it does not prevail. If the noise disrupts the deal, it can cause a little demoralization. But the negotiating power has a higher agenda than this. It is to save human life. What can replace human life? Saving life and the country cannot be replaced by anything. The big agendas called sovereignty, peace, stability and unity are gradually overturning our spirit of living together. There are big issues of how to carry forward the spirit of democracy and change.

Therefore, we must not lose sight of our main agenda while protecting the rights of others to speak and make noise. So many noises can be disturbing, But I also don't think they will have that much impact.

It is necessary to endure the situations of venting frustration. Another thing that these parties should understand is that if they accept the concept of a country, that of maintaining peace in a country it is the government that fulfills the needs of justice and basic development. If he says that he will impose the opinion given by everyone without interest, the understanding of the country will not come. Discipline leads to the loss of human life. Let Ethiopia's borders be respected; For its internal peace to be stable, citizens should live and work freely according to their abilities and capabilities. Above all, it is important to know that the peace agreement will sooth our social relations.

What do you think needs to be done in diplomacy so that this peace agreement can finally be reached?

The message we are sending to the international community in terms of diplomacy is that the resolution of the conflict creates an opportunity for humanitarian aid to be provided without problems, for human rights violations to be rectified and for accountability to exist. We also go to our national agreement and ask you to help us in its implementation so that Ethiopia can confirm its peace and progress. We will have a lot of rebuilding to do. We will work on it.

The international community is not critical to our internal affairs. But it has a responsibility to provide positive support and encouragement. Diplomatic work is not only the work of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or certain diplomats, it is a matter that everyone should participate in and be vigilant about. Ethiopians living abroad and Ethiopians of birth must continue their efforts for the lasting peace of the country as they have been doing until now.

**Thank you very much!
You are most welcome!**

Resuming basic services

BY LEULSEGED WORKU

Following the peace agreement signed between the Federal Government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), the government has been executing several encouraging activities to restore basic services and access humanitarian assistance to the people in the affected areas.

Consecutively, basic services, including electric supply and telecom have been fully and partially resumed in some parts and humanitarian assistances are being delivered to communities in need.

As the Ethiopian Electric Power (EEP) announced at different times, electric supply in towns such as Alamata, Korum, Waja, Timuga, Kobo, Lalibela, Maychew and Sekota, which were cut off from electric supply for months due to the destruction of infrastructure facilities, has been resumed. Likewise, schools and health facilities in Alamata Town are providing services. And residents of the towns are expressing their happiness.

In an exclusive interview with The Ethiopian Press Agency, Alamata Town Administration Mayor Hailu Aberasaid that the provision of basic services is restored in the town. According

to him, water supply and 2G and 3G internet services are also reinstated.

Regarding the damaged fibers, he said that once they are restored, internet service will fully be available in the town. According to him, following the peace agreement, life is returning to normal and several marketplaces are offering services to the community and the residents of Alamata Town have started leading normal life.

As part of its effort to provide all the necessary service, the Administration has already finalized preparation and all public service institutions will start serving the community very soon. The transport services and health institutions in Raya districts are also serving the community. Three wheeled-taxis are now busy in serving the community.

According to him, except three schools, the rest have already become operational; and those three schools will be opened next week. In his message, the Mayor also urged all pertinent bodies and partners for immediate support to replace damaged schools' desks and chairs and medical supplies within health centers.

Similarly, an activity is underway to return displaced peoples of Tigray who were sheltering in Afar to their villages. So far, 738 displaced people who had been



shielding in Semera, Logiya and Dubti towns have returned to their villages. Furthermore, Afar State's Communication Office indicated that activities are ongoing to return displaced Afar people from Zone two Kilbeti Resu, Berahle, Koneba and Dalaol to their respective villages.

In similar development, following the signed peace agreement, The Ethiopian Airlines is undertaking preparations to resume regular flight to Tigray State.

According to, Airlines Group CEO Mesfin Tassew, the resumption of flight to Tigray State is important in terms of expediting

the already commenced humanitarian aid delivery.

While talking with local media with regard to the attained achievements and vision 2035, to become the most competitive and leading aviation group in Africa by providing safe, market driven and customer focused passenger and cargo transport, the CEO indicated that following the peace agreement signed between the government of Ethiopia and TPLF, the Airlines is making preparations to resume flight to Tigray State. According to him, the resumption of flight to the State is important in terms of expediting humanitarian aid delivery to the State.

All commercial flight services to and from Tigray, the erupted in November 2020. The plan to resume flight comes a few weeks after a peace accord was reached to end a two-year long bloody conflict.

According to him, Mekele and Shire airports are in condition to resume flight while the Axum airport that was damaged during the conflict requires maintenance.

"We will send our people to the area and repair the airport. Hence, we have been preparing to commence flight to the region. In addition to the three airports, we are also working to resume service to other airports like Lalibela," he remarked.



Published on every Saturday in cooperation with
the Ministry of Agriculture

Rural job creation achievements

BY KASSAHUN MALETO

Currently in the world, large numbers of youths are jobless. Due to this, many of them are traveling by Sea and Desert to the developed countries to get better life. So that, many of them were losing their life in sea and desert. To solve this problem, nations are supposed to do more.

Understanding the width and the depth of the problem, Ethiopia and some African countries have used various mechanisms to create jobs for their youths and females in both urban and rural parts.

For Ethiopia, job creation is a constitutional responsibility. The FDRE Constitution article 41 says that the state shall pursue policies which aim to expand job opportunities for the unemployed and the poor and shall accordingly undertake programs and public work projects. The state shall undertake all measures necessary to increase opportunities for citizens to find gainful employment. Creating a job for job seekers is the government's mandate.

Beyond this, the constitution says, the government is supposed to create job what the citizens benefited from. So, to solve this problem in the past five years, the Ministry of Agriculture's Rural Job



Creation Directorate has worked a lot to create job for job seekers. As a result, millions of the rural youths have been getting the job and many of them are building their capacity to manage their businesses.

The Ministry's Urban Agriculture and Job Creation Executive Head, Seleshi Bekele, said that the agriculture sector job creation has been benefiting the youths. In the ten-year strategic plan, there is a goal to create 10.5 million jobs to the rural job seekers in

the sector.

Consequently, in 2014 EC more than one million youths and females have got job opportunity in the agricultural sector. From these, many of them have managed their businesses.

In the same way, in 2015 EC 938,522 job seekers were registered. From these, more than 135,000 youths and females have got job opportunity in the 1st quarter.

In some areas, the youths have complained

about the precise of animal forage which is difficult to manage as it is incomparable to their incomes and expenditures. In response to this, Sileshi told that the directorate has trained many youth to create job in animal forage distribution hoping that it will be solved.

Similarly, some States' agriculture sector has created job opportunities that benefited youths and females. Oromiya State, North Shoa Zone, Weccale Woreda, Muke Ture Kebele's Haile, Sifan and Their Fiend's Association member told that they have started this job by 110 thousand Birr in 2011 EC.

Currently, they are working on animal fattening and cattle breeding. Accordingly, their capital reached more than 3.2 million Birr and they have got capacity to finance beyond their consumptions.

At last, equally, Amhara State, North Shoa Zone, Angolela Tara Woreda youths, have elucidated that they have been benefiting from job opportunity creation. The group members started cattle breeding in 2010 EC, by 180 thousand Birr startup capital. And at this time, they have started getting income, and their capital has reached more than 600 thousand Birr.

Verbatim and Caption



Resumption of services, humanitarian flow to the war-torn areas after the peace accord Ethiopian Airlines to resume flights to Tigray

Ethiopian Airlines is due to resume regular flights to Tigray State in a bid to fast track the humanitarian response to the area. Preparations are underway to restart flights to and from all destinations in Tigray. Following the peace agreement reached in Pretoria, South Africa, government institutions are undergoing preparations to resume all services, and Ethiopian has carried out various preparations to resume regular flights to Tigray as per the peace accord. There were several daily flights to the area, but after the incident, the service was suspended.

Tigray is one of the many destinations where the airliner conducts domestic flights; the resumption of flight to the state is of great importance. The truce between the government and TPLF will be of great significance in speeding up the delivery of humanitarian aid in addition to providing regular services to the airline. Among the airports in Tigray, Mekelle and Shire airports are in good shape and are convenient for flights. The Axum Airport; however, was damaged in the conflict and needs to be restored to make it conducive for flights.

Ethiopian Airlines Group CEO, Mesfin Tasew

Efforts continued to restore electricity in Northern Ethiopia

Government has been vigorously working to restore the war-affected electric lines. The 230 KV electric power transmission line extending from Gashena to Alamata towns – has seen completion and as such it is ready to go operational. Maintenance in other areas has also continued.

In the course of repairing fiber optics lines, due attention has been paid to saving cities from blackout. From Gashena on the way to Alamata, conductors had been found knocked down by vehicles at some 63 places. Many are found in bad shape and some remain intact on poles at some 120 places.

The maintenance work has helped entirely change some 484 insulators loaded on 20 pillars, and the part where power transmission props intersect was seriously damaged by artillery.

Ethiopian Electric Utility North-East Region
Department Maintenance Head, Tsehayneh Abebe



Flow of life-saving humanitarian aid to Northern Ethiopia has proceeded apace

Last week

The International Committee of the Red Cross has delivered lifesaving vital medical supplies in Mekelle, Tigray, for the first time since fighting resumed last August.

The healthcare system in the region is under extreme pressure and these deliveries are a lifeline for people who badly need medical help. We hope to continue these deliveries on a regular basis and significantly scale-up the humanitarian response.

This week

Trucks and flights with food and more medical supplies are arriving in Mekelle and Shire, as humanitarian needs remain immense.

With Ethiopian Red Cross Society teams, we are distributing urgently-needed medical supplies to health facilities in different parts of Tigray, Ethiopia.

International Committee of the Red Cross



Published every Saturday in Cooperation with Armauer Hansen Research Institute

AHRI's Ethiopian scientist wins 2022 Alan J. Magill Fellowship award

BY MENGISTEAB TESHOME

The American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) announced the Alan J. Magill Fellowship and Forums, created in partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through a 2.5 million USD grant, during its 2016 Annual Meeting in Atlanta.

Over the next 20 years, the fellowship will annually select a Magill Fellow and hold two annual forums focusing on the latest research and science policy or funding for malaria eradication efforts. The announcement was made during the ASTMH 2016 Annual Meeting at the Alan J. Magill Malaria Eradication Symposium, the first of the forums.

As per its core effort of the fellowship to eradicate malaria offered for fellow stakeholders to submit proposals with well-established and new scientific findings, which could help in eradicating malaria.

After thorough evaluation this year award goes to Fitsum Girma Tadesse (PhD) who has been named the 2022 Alan J. Magill Fellowship recipient by the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene



Congratulations Alan J. Magill 2022 Fellow



(ASTMH) – an international scientific organization of experts dedicated to reducing the worldwide burden of tropical infectious diseases and improving global health.

Dr. Fitsum, during his presentation at the 2022 ASTMH Annual Meeting, in Seattle Washington, elaborated that there have been recent discoveries of expansion of an invasive mosquito vector known as the Anopheles stephensi in Ethiopia and the

Horn of Africa.

This mosquito vector, which is native to India and the Persian Gulf, is now linked to the recent malaria outbreaks in the country, Dire Dawa city, to which Dr. Fitsum's team demonstrated this for the first time.

In Africa, where the majority of global deaths from malaria occur, the disease is mostly spread by a mosquito specific to rural areas. However, the Anopheles stephensi now possess an even greater threat particularly to city-dwellers as it breeds in water storage container that are typically common in rapidly expanding urban settings – and is resistant to most insecticides in common use.

Africa being vast, and owing to patchy surveillance where scientists don't know how common the invasive mosquitoes are or how much malaria they are causing, Dr. Fitsum intends to leverage the fellowship to develop leadership skills in the coming two years with an attachment at international institutions.

The Magill Fellowship will provide funding of \$50,000 USD for a period of up to two years to one recipient to support mentorship, career and/or

leadership development projects for ASTMH members in the early-to-middle stage of mid-career in low/low-middle income countries focusing on leadership development in tropical medicine.

Magill fellows will work closely with a mentor (ideally an ASTMH member) who will play a prominent role in the development and execution of the Fellow's two-year plan of activities.

Through a competitive process, the Fellowship will recognize outstanding work in tropical medicine research, clinical care or advocacy—all prominent roles in Alan Magill's life—conducted by a Society member who lives in and is a citizen of a low/low-middle income country.

While the award will recognize achievement in tropical medicine, it is not intended to extend current research or clinical activities; instead, it is designed to support career-broadening experiences to enhance professional development and leadership opportunities beyond those traditionally available from within the applicant's home organization—and in so doing, equip awardees to later assume leadership and mentoring roles in various aspects of tropical medicine.