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## Ethiopia, U.S. leaders meeting shines light on deepening ties

BY TSEGAYE TILAHUN & ASHENAFI ANIMUT

ADDIS ABABA – The meeting between Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and the U.S. President Joe Biden is a significant diplomatic move for two countries' deepening and longstanding ties, Journalist

Alistair Thomson said.

Speaking to a local media ,Scoop.co.nz an Internet Publication Founder and Editor Alistair Thomson said that the meeting between the two leaders has sent a clear message to all that Ethiopia and the U.S. are on the right track of history.

The recent meeting has also shined light on

deepening ties between two countries and one could say from now that both have the willingness to go marvelous forward, he said.

He noted that [ some powers used to back anti- peace elements' narrative knowingly or unknowingly] But, Now, these powers

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## Expert reminds int'l community to enhance support towards CoHA implementation

BY MENGESHA AMARE

ADDIS ABABA - The international community is expected to constructively support government efforts in a way that does not dictate what to do, but foster the implementation of all the elements of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA).

The Atlantic Council Africa Center Senior Fellow Gabriel Nigatu told *The Ethiopia Herald* that the peace accord

concluded between the government and TPLF is significant milestone to soothe the sufferings of citizens ravaged in war, drought, COVID 19, and other factors.

He said: "What is really expected of the international community has to be standing on the side of the government to foster the proper implementation of peace accord and the smooth flow of humanitarian activities not dictating what to do and unduly

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Gabriel Nigatu

Photo - Samuel Tesfaye

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## WBG commits to provide 2.9 bln. USD in grants to Ethiopia

BY ESSEYE MENGISTE

ADDIS ABABA-The World Bank Group (WBG) announced that it will provide 2.9 billion USD in grants to Ethiopia over 2022-2023 fiscal years .

See WBG commits .... Page 3



## OCHA Ethiopia seeks additional funding for humanitarian aid

BY GIRMACHEW GASHAW

ADDIS ABABA - The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)Ethiopia announced that it needs additional funding for humanitarian aid.

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*African nations should be treated as sovereign nations controlling their own policy*

Laurence Freeman

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# News

## Time for Africa to tell its own narrative : EADC

BY BETELHEM BEDLU

**ADDIS ABABA-** It is time for Africans to tell their own stories by challenging and countering the norms in every possible ways, so said Ethiopian American Development Council (EADC) chairman .

In his recent interview , EADC Chairman Nebiyu Asefaw noted that Africans need to counter the norm in academics, curriculum and in the history that is being taught in school in order to narrate their own stories.

He said the mainstream media is a dying entity in which its best days are behind it. In contrary, Africans have now the technology that is enabling them to start their own independent media.

“There is the social media and different ways of connecting. Thus, it is time that we

continue to push that to support independent media to tell our stories, to write and also to blog.”

More importantly, the chairman emphasized the need to do events and actions that the one held the past weekend where Africans gather together to unequivocally tell their own stories loud and clear.

Besides showing up and taking part in every important event, it is essential to speak up whenever Africans hear something wrong about their fellow nations and need to let the world know that it affects them too, he stressed.

The 1.3 billion African needs to speak up and say No, in times where an African country falls under false narratives, he added. Likewise, he highlighted that taking advantage of the size of its population; Africans need to exercise their voices.



Nebiyu Asefaw

“Africans are empowered. There is no point in sitting around and waiting for the savior to come. Those who come as savior are here to exploit us. We are what we have got and

what we have been waiting for to come.”

Therefore, he stressed that it is a call to action for every single one of African to be ready and get to work.



Photo gebabo gebre

## Bureau calls on investors to invest in Woreilu

BY MISGANAW ASNAKE

**ADDIS ABABA—**Amhara State Investment Bureau called on the local and foreign investors to invest in the state with a peculiar focus on Woreilu and its environs.

Speaking at a one -day discussion held with local investors regarding Woreilu town investment potential, opportunities and peace condition, Amhara Investment Bureau Coordination Office in Addis Ababa Deputy Head Mitiku Beyene said both domestic and foreign investors are expected to engage in investment activities as the state has returned to normalcy .

He said mobilization work will be held in the state’s main selected cities to attract more investors.

“Investors who are keen to invest in the state would be provided with special support and

the required facilities will be fulfilled so as to boost investment activities in the state. Mobilizing both local and foreign investors has been focused on,” he noted.

Woreilu Town Mayor Eshetu Tarekegn on his part said that Woreilu is endowed with huge investment potential in Amhara state such as fuel, water, mine, and animals (for the purpose of husbandry). The convenient atmosphere Woreilu possesses, peace, favorable weather condition, location vicinity to Kembolcha industrial corridor and the availability of sufficient ground water (for bottling purpose) are attributable to town’s being investment preference. The physical infrastructure in the town is in a very good manner, too.

He added Woreilu is the historical place for its being a viable avenue towards Adwa as Emperor Menelik II started deploying military troops to Adwa battle.

## Corporation highlights construction technology exhibition importance

BY MESERET BEHAILU

**ADDIS ABABA -** Ethiopian Construction Works Corporation has revealed that the participation in the Big Five Exhibition would be significantly useful in making Ethiopian construction technology competitive at the international level.

Speaking at the Big Five international building and Construction exhibition held from 03 December to 06 December 2022 at Dubai, UAE, Corporation’s CEO, Eng. Yonas Ayalew said that the corporation has shared its experience of using construction technology at “The world’s construction leaders’ platform” and learnt from the experiences of others, which will allow it to modernize of the construction sector in the future nationwide.

According to Yonas, the exhibition will help maintain competitive construction company via understanding the level of construction sector at the international level, enabling corporations to realize their visions and enables it to be one of the ten best excellence construction companies from East and Middle African countries.

Particularly, the exhibition is an open door to work together with well experienced countries and meet the country’s interest about construction. In this regard, Ethiopia has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the American Concrete Institute (ACI) during the exhibition aiming at



gaining technical skills training and related issues.

In the meantime, Urban and Construction Minister, Chaltu Sani has expressed the role of the sector towards construction industry in Ethiopia. Similarly, on the side of UAE, Eng. Suaad Al Shamsi (the UAE’s first aircraft engineer) has stated the secret behind the success.

Similar exhibition will be hosted and organized by DMG Events and being the Corporation as strategic partner in the near on May 17 up to May 19, 2023. In this international exhibition, over 15 countries are expected to promote and introduce their services and products.

UAE officials along with some 2,000 companies and leaders drawn from 150 countries have actively engaged in the exhibition at Dubai, it was learnt.



# News

## Sweden to continue providing humanitarian, dev't assistance for Ethiopia

**ADDIS ABABA-** Sweden will continue to support the humanitarian needs of conflict and drought-affected areas in Ethiopia and its development activities, Ambassador Hans Henric Lundquist said.

Sweden's Ambassador to Ethiopia, Hans Henric Lundquist, told ENA that his country will continue providing humanitarian assistance for the conflict-affected Tigray, Amhara, and Afar regions as well as drought-affected areas in the country.

According to him, Sweden will also extend support to development works throughout the nation.

"We will do what we can as Sweden, but also as part of the European Union to see how we can support development in the country. That is very much needed. A peaceful and sustainable Ethiopia will benefit the whole country."

Stating that Sweden has increased humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia, Ambassador Lundquist said it will continue supporting the development program in the new five-year strategy.

The ambassador further pointed out the need for more durable and sustainable solutions to conflict and drought-affected areas in the country.

"We have a new development strategy for Ethiopia, and we have also increased our humanitarian assistance quite substantially. (Although) humanitarian assistance is



*Hans Henric Lundquist*

important, we also need to find more sustainable and durable solutions in those conflict-affected areas and drought-affected areas. So, there are many crises at the same time. But this is something that we will continue to provide support for based on the needs and what role Sweden can play in this."

Sweden has provided substantial support through the EU and other needs should be presented by the Ethiopian government for Sweden to play its role as a country, he said.

Ambassador Lundquist recalled that Ethiopia has been through a difficult time of conflict, especially before the very important peace agreement under implementation, and Sweden has continued humanitarian support in the country.

"It has been a very difficult time for Ethiopia, but I am also very hopeful about what we have seen recently with the permanent cessation of hostilities agreement in Pretoria and the follow-up in Nairobi."

The agreement is a very big and important step that has to be implemented and supported by all parties to increase humanitarian access in the affected regions, he stressed.

"The most important thing is now that there should be no violence happening and that humanitarian access will continue. There is a great humanitarian need not only in Tigray but also in Amhara and Afar regions. So that must be a priority."

The quick impact projects that the people in need could see following the peace agreement is crucial for the people to observe the progress, the ambassador noted.

Sweden and Ethiopia have a long relationship not only in development assistance but also partnership in investments in the private sector.

The ambassador further stated that Sweden has a substantial development program that will continue.

## OCHA Ethiopia...

In an exclusive interview with *The Ethiopian Herald*, OCHA Ethiopia office Head Michel Saad said that the humanitarian response plan of OCHA, which was reviewed recently has shown that the office has received 3.1 billion USD to provide the affected people with the required aid.

"As we have however gained less than 50% fund, we could hardly reach the remaining more than 50% plus people in need of emergency response."

As to him, they have forced to make very difficult decisions due to the shortage of resources. So, OCHA is in a position to either provide the 50% of the people who are in need with the available support by overlooking the remaining people or fulfill the need of less than half of the population.

"We keep on reminding the international community to provide increased humanitarian assistance so as to address the people in dare need considering that Ethiopia is a big country with a large population and complex situations be it manmade and natural disaster," he said.

Indicating that the office has been working in collaboration with the Ethiopian government from federal to district level and discussing the way to scale up humanitarian assistance to the people in need, the office head said that the peace accord made between the government of Ethiopia and TPLF will enable it to intensify the assistance for those who never had the access so far.

Asked about the recent security status of the country especially in war torn areas right after the peace deal, Michel Saad said, "If I take the northern part of the country, we have seen access routes, be it by land or by air are increasing, and this by itself is a testimony to the fact that the former severe situation has largely gone down and stabilized in northern parts," he opined.

## WBG commits to provide 2.9 bln. USD...

WBG President David Malpass made the announcement following his recent meeting with Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD).

The president said he exchanged views with the premier about Ethiopia's efforts to expand access to early childhood education and support development of human capital given the large young population.

"During the course of our meeting, I stressed the importance of decisive policy reforms to remove distortions in the exchange rate market, and foster a business enabling environment for private sector-led growth."

President Malpass, moreover, stressed



the importance of ending internal conflict and achieving lasting peace aside from implementing fully the recent peace agreement.

It is to be recalled that recently the WBG

has adopted 745 million USD grants for a more people-centered approach (MPCA) to its program in Ethiopia with a strong focus on basic needs and providing basic services to the vulnerable.

## Expert reminds int'l community to enhance...

interfering in the internal affairs as the government has a well-defined framework for what is going on."

As to him, the international community was very actively pushing Ethiopia into peace, and peace has come at the end of the day. The peace deal has to be translated into practical actions as peace is the pillar for every activity.

Following the peace deal, a number of mothers have been breathing a sigh of relief, not being threatened that their children are taken to be recruited as soldiers and it is the time for the international community to well consolidate this bold move and back

the Ethiopian government to come up with a concrete reality regarding peace.

He said: "We have to acknowledge government's effort to reach at this level as the initiative towards peace deal has put the conflict to an end."

The government is working all its best to bring about lasting peace and the international community has to back such a sacred deed to declare eternal peace in Ethiopia, not dictate the government to do this and not to do that instead of simply facilitating conditions for the effective implementation of the deal framed under the auspicious of 'African solutions to

African problems,' principle.

The international community has to actively support the peace deal to bear fruits and they have to work on the side of the government in supporting, not imposing to do things, but merely backing the activities technically and in a constructive manner that the government can accept and entertain well.

All activities have to be African led exercises as the peace deal is an African led initiative with a succinct roadmap. No one can come and act accordingly to devise possible solutions for African problems, he underlined.

## Ethiopia, ...

are coming to their sense and have begun to support the peace building efforts of the Ethiopian government having tired of recycled propaganda and smear campaigns.

He further highlighted that in the U.S.-African Leaders Summit 2022, there are emerging new developments and dynamics.

It is to be recalled that recently the U.S. hailed the Ethiopian government's unwavering commitment to ensuring peace and security through improving humanitarian access and restoring basic services in the conflict-affected areas of northern Ethiopia.

The U.S. Secretary of State Antony John Blinken commended steps taken by the government to improve humanitarian access and begin restoration of essential services in conflict-affected areas specifically in Tigray State.



# Opinion

## Wake up Africa, emancipate from modern slavery

BY DANIEL ALEMAYEHU

From the beginning of life, human beings are meant to rule the universe. Our creation is far more important and unique compared with other species. It is true that our skin color, hair texture and the like differ from people living in other parts of the world. No doubt, we share a number of common traits as human beings and can live together in harmony.

We, human beings, from different backgrounds for the one race we have as human beings and rulers of the world. Whites, blacks, east, and west, we put too many identifying markers among ourselves. People might think that such varieties are used only for making things easy to identify one from the other, but the reality is far more than forming identification. Due to the emergence of the idea of scrambling the continent of Africa, numerous daunting actions have been taken by those who called themselves gospel preachers, the whites against the black people, Africans, who owned the land and the resources.

From the onset of the act of navigating the world and “discovering” new places, Africa was the focal point for the untapped resources that the continent owns. In this regard, the ones who wanted to stretch their hands to the extremes were obsessed with bringing every ounce of resource, if they could, to their place. For African people, the daunting impact of invasion of the whites was clear and of course it goes in the name of preaching the gospel, bringing civilization and expanding commerce. By that time, it was very hard to defend their land from those colonialists who worked behind these fig-leaves. Africans at different times fight neck and neck with the colonizers. But until the triumph of black people in Africa’s east, Ethiopia—Adwa— there were almost no victories that had been torch bearers for Africans. The power struggle was more like a battle between David and Goliath. It was the power that was imbalanced and difficult to resist colonizers with ancient and traditional weapons. All they had to do was submit themselves to be slaves for their white masters.

A question might be raised on why did Africa become the focus for the western colonizers? The answer is very easy, it is because of the untapped resources that the whites wanted to exploit. Africa has plenty to offer to the whole world. In addition, the geopolitical advantage of Africa has also lingered in the minds of those colonizers.

According to report on Gravitas Plus, Africa has 17 percent of the world’s population with 9.6 percent of the global oil output. Africa contributes 90 percent of the world’s platinum supply; again, 90 percent of the world’s cobalt supply. The continent shares half of the world’s gold resource; more than 65 percent of the world’s Manganese supply, 35 percent of the world’s Uranium, and 75 percent of the world’s Coltan supply, 54 votes in the United Nations General Assembly.



The aforementioned resources are some of the supplies that make the continent more attractive than any other place in the world. So, many countries, especially those in the other parts of the world, want to get involved and snatch at least some of the benefits.

In the present climate, the action of scrambling Africa is still practical, but it changes its form. Nowadays, they have a very unique way of making African countries submit themselves to the aid and support that the western world offers. The reality, in this regard, is the opposite. In one of the Presentations on TED X Berlin Salon, the presenter, Marence Williams from Sierra Leone, asks why 5,000 units of African currency is similar to one unit of the western currency when Africa is the one with the actual gold reserve. That is the question of why African states are poor and begging for aid. The presenter also mentioned that the aid is not from the west to Africa; rather it is from Africa to the west. That is the reality behind all the false and skewed information they provide to the world through their media.

Likewise, in the modern world, Africa is still trying to emancipate itself from social, economic, political, and even mental slavery. In the past, Great Britain, France, Belgium, and Portugal are some of the nations that exploited the African continent. This time, Africa has become the battlefield for the superpower countries of the world.

Currently, the world’s most powerful nations including the United States of America, Russia, China, the European Union, India, and the like have been taking various steps to secure their benefits in Africa. In this process, Africa agrees with most of the

nations to work together. Those countries have allocated billions of dollars to support Africa. We need to stop and think that the world is playing by the rule called ‘give small and take much’.

Though those countries allocate billions of their printed money, they have been working to take the raw materials worth double the money they provide. The two things, the printed money, and raw materials are incomparable because those countries have taken the raw materials and sell them back to Africa by adding some values, and the price is untouchable. That is why Africa is still the one with less benefited and live under so many challenges. The ones who contributed their paper money get better advantages.

With all the promises and agreements that the west and other superpower countries deal, African leaders should ask what the continent gets in return. As the continent is the provider of the world, the people of Africa are still suffering from various situations. War, famine, corruption, and terrorism are some of the many challenges that the people of Africa are encountering.

Western and Asian countries call themselves the provider for African people and they seem to think that African people are living because of them. On the contrary, some of these powers preprimary responsible for every single problem that the 54 African countries are experiencing. Let alone the slavery that took over 10 million of African productive people in the past, these powers still put their puppets or harbor and finance rebel group if the side agrees to implement their agenda. They will leave no stone unturned to help that entity to take power of

the nation. The situation will be worse if the country has the resources that the west needs to build its beautiful cities. What about the people? The answer is THEY DON’T CARE. All they focus on is the advantage they get when their side takes power.

After sacrificing their bones and flesh, Africans secured their “political” freedom. However, it is real that the continent is still under the shackle of dependency, especially in economy, academic knowledge and technology. Most African nations are still waiting for aid and support from outside. Likewise, the west is supporting the people of Africa on cameras and flashlights, and they take double the price in the dark. The west is playing the most heinous acts on the people of Africa by giving them aid with a spoon and taking much with a shovel. In those processes, Africa has been left with empty hands.

So we, the people of Africa should ask ourselves about the value we have and the resources we can get from our land. Those European and Asian countries and the west have been working tirelessly to convince us that we are the ones who are responsible for our failure by showing false pictures about us and they are trying to avoid their heinous actions applied to the people of Africa.

Therefore, our time is more democratic than the past, so the people of the world mainly the so-called the superpowers should consider mutual interdependence among countries coupled with fair distributions of resources and benefits by making Africa, the provider continent, and a shareholder in all aspects. The powerhouse countries of the world must refrain from their evil action of fishing in a troubled water to maintain their advantages.

Like the rest of the world, Africa dreams to live the happiest life like other sister continents. The people of Africa seek to liberate themselves from modern slavery and declare their freedom. However, this dream needs the dedication of every nation and every citizen of the world to stand for a common objective which determines equal right for every nation without any discrimination or unbalanced justice.

We Africans must wake up from our long and deep sleep and fight for our economic, social, and political freedom. We should stop blaming others for our defects. Rather, we need to stand up in solidarity to defend our advantages and get what is ours. The world knows that there is power in unity. Due to this, those parties want Africans to be separated and stand on different sides because they know that if Africans are united there is no earthly power that could stop them. So wake up Africa! Wake up, black people!

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



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# Editorial

## Reconstruction has called for adequate int'l supports

Ethiopia's ongoing marvelous jobs for unfettered humanitarian access and its rehabilitation endeavors in the war-affected regions should receive adequate support from the international actors. Of course, the government is the primary player for the reconstruction process. In this regard, a lot of work is ongoing with own financial capacity. As the scale of the destruction of all sorts is huge, the government cannot finance all the restoration activities. Hence, donors and other international partners should practically stand by the side of the government.

Despite the fact that it is at the developing stage, the nation's economy is painfully hit by the universal shutdown following the outbreak of COVID-19; invasion of vast locust swarms and lately the war erupted in the northern part of the country. The war, in particular, apart from the trauma it brought against human being, caused severe damages on infrastructural facilities and various institutions.

As per the agreement reached between the federal government and the TPLF in Pretoria, South Africa, the federal government is carrying out its responsibilities in translating elements of the agreement on the ground. Making humanitarian access a primary issue, the Ethiopian government has exerted a maximum effort to reach the needy in the war affected regions of Tigray, Amhara and Afar with basic needs like food items and medicine.

According to the Disaster Risk Management Commission of FDRE, the federal government and partner organizations have managed to supply 95 percent of the total demand for humanitarian access in the three conflict-affected regions during the past 30 days. Close to 140,000 metric tons of cereals and nutritious food has been distributed to 7.9 million people in the three war-affected regional states.

It is clear that the provision of humanitarian access alone is not enough. The people need more to get rid of dependency and help themselves with the sweat of their eye brow. For this to happen, basic life services must be restored. But would it end there? The answer is an emphatic No.

The people in all the three states also need psychological assistance since remarkable amount of the people are shocked mentally with what happened to them because of the war. Psychological treatment is essential candidly to the physical rehabilitation. The daunting impacts of the war on the people are just despicable, and could leave prolonging scar if left untreated. This by itself incurs huge finance.

By the same token, the teaching learning process disrupted in the regions as a result of the war that must be restarted and to this end, schools must come to shape.

The war as well turned to debris no a few of the regions' roads, bridges, electric and telecom lines and potable water supply among others. Besides, facilities like schools, hospitals, clinics and health centers should be reconstructed at the level they can resume necessary public services. Particularly, the demand for health facilities including medical drugs, equipment and even personnel is tripled and quadrupled for obvious reasons.

Those who used to urge repeatedly for the cessation of hostilities and those who expressed their gratitude to both parties for reaching an agreement, it is now high time to stand by the peace agreement via supporting the fruitfulness of the components of the agreement by taking pragmatic action.

# Opinion

## Transform challenges into opportunities

BY STAFF REPORTER

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, (ECA) Acting Executive Secretary, Antonio Pedro, has called for the forging of strong partnerships and innovative strategies to tap new opportunities in the wake of economic and environmental crises affecting African countries.

Opening the three-day ECA Expo at the United Nations Conference Center in Addis Ababa today, Mr. Pedro said with technological advancement and digitalization of the economy, it was clear during the pandemic that the crisis 'was a low hanging fruit for regional integration and for harnessing the demographic dividend on the continent'.

This year's ECA Expo, the first one of its kind, is showcasing the work of the ECA with a view to forging new partnerships and strengthening existing ones to enable the Commission to serve its member countries effectively in a rapidly changing and complex environment.

In addition, the Expo is celebrating ECA's achievements in the past 3 years while identifying potential areas of synergy where the ECA can leverage to improve efficiency and effectiveness in its strategic areas of focus.

Mr. Pedro invited stakeholders to provide feedback on the ECA areas of work and

those that require improvement for the Commission to deliver on 'client-focused services that respond to the complexity and dynamism of the environment'.

The ECA Expo showcases diverse products—tangible and intangible—from divisions and Sub-Regional Offices. On display among others will be innovative financing mechanisms to bridge the climate finance gap and fiscal and monetary policy reforms to respond to the tightening fiscal space and address debt vulnerability.

"I am confident that the exhibitors will provide participants with the necessary details on their achievements, best practices, and challenges to enable them to identify areas requiring strengthened collaboration and further improvement so that no one on the continent is left behind," Mr. Pedro said, reiterating that "This is a must attend event for both internal and external partners, because the benefits of participating in the event are enumerable."

Conceding that Africa was that the world, in general and the African continent in particular, was facing new and complex challenges and opportunities as reflected in the impacts of climate change geopolitical tensions with ramifications in food and energy crises, Mr. Pedro said innovation was needed to manage the challenges.

He said COP27 presented new investment opportunities on the continent to create

carbon credit markets, deploy renewable energy and find solutions to the energy transition for the rest of the world. At the same time Covid 19 demonstrated opportunities in Africa to participate in the development of the pharmaceutical value chain, for instance.

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement which he described as Africa's Marshall Plan, will ensure seamless operation of new vehicles to make trade and investments within the continent and the global market.

"This calls for us to redefine what is our value proposition, what is ECA's strategic role on the continent?" asked Mr. Pedro, noting that the role of the ECA needs to evolve as challenges multiply and that it can offer solutions to help Africa and member states achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063.

He noted that the complexity and dynamism of the opportunities and challenges facing the continent present a further challenge for decision makers tasked with formulating strategies and policies that effectively address interconnected and interdependent problems.

"We need to acknowledge that the continents demands are increasingly becoming complex in nature and will require new sets of skills and forms of partnership," said Mr. Pedro, calling for the creation of a fit for

purpose ECA.

The UN 2.0 Quintet for Change underscores the need for a paradigm shift in the ways of doing things to be able to meet our clients' needs in the 21st Century, he said noting that the value of future thinking and foresight programmes as long-term planning tools in strategic policy making, have become critical, particularly in the development context of ECA member States.

"We need to be cognizant of the dynamism in the financial landscape brought about by financial liberalization, technological changes, and market innovation, which require a new set of skills beyond the traditional macroeconomic modeling," the Executive Secretary observed, adding that:

"We must embrace innovative and disruptive thinking to provide practical solutions to real life challenges affecting our member States now and, in the future."

Mr. Pedro pointed out that the ECA was aware of cross-cutting issues that require interdependency and collective responsibility having discussed them in the on-going Accountability and Programme Performance Review Meetings (APPRM).

Source: UNECA

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

# Art & Culture

## Celebrating cultural diversity, promoting national unity

BY MULUGETA GUDETA

According to Wikipedia, Ethiopia's constitutional development has so far witnessed four major periods. The first was the 1931 constitution of Ethiopia which is considered the first modern constitution. It replaced the *Fitiha Negest* which served as the supreme law of the land since the Middle Ages. The second and revised constitution came into being in November 1955. This was a historic event in particular because it ended the rule of the absolute monarch whose decisions were taken by the emperor and established a system of government whereby a parliament was tasked with ending the absolute monarchy and replacing it with parliamentary oversight although it was not so in practice.

The third constitution was called the constitution of the democratic republic of Ethiopia and came into effect in February 1987. The 1995 constitution of Ethiopia all for it was the fourth constitution and was drawn by the constituent assembly in 1994. This constitution is still in force although there are calls for its revision in light of the historical changes that have taken place in the country in the last four or five years. This constitution is a very young one because it is barely 28 years old. Many countries have constitutions that date back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The American constitution was created in 1789 and later on served as the basis for the separation of powers among the three branches of government. It has become the model of governance.

What makes the present Ethiopian constitution different from previous constitutions is the fact that it addresses not only the issues of governance but was also designed to create a decentralized system of government whereby the rights and freedoms of more than 87 ethnic groups would be recognized and protected. This constitution, although remarkable for taking into consideration the rights and freedoms all the peoples of Ethiopia, has, in the course of time, proved to need improvements or amendments as far as the continuation of the federation is concerned. Specific articles, like article 39, have proved controversial in protecting the contoured unity and territorial integrity of Ethiopia because the article deals with the infamous, "right of nations and nationalities to self-determination up to secession.

The federalist system of government, as embodied in the federal constitution, is briefly defined as "a system of government that establishes a constitutionally specified division of powers between different levels of government. There are usually two main levels, (a) a national, central or federal level, (b) a state, provincial or regional level."

*The history of the last 28 years of federalism in Ethiopia has proved that the constitution is basically sound although it might need some improvements in the future*

Americans call their constitution "the miracle that saved their nation. American historian Jay Cost says the following, "In Spring 1787 the American Revolution had been won but no one seemed to know how to govern the nation... The country was teetering on the edge of anarchy. Something had clearly to be done and quickly. What happened next was nothing short of a miracle. The Ethiopian constitution too came into being at a time when the country was facing many problems and the so-called national question was put on the agenda as an issue that needed urgent solution. Despite calls for amendments of the constitution, it has so far helped maintain the unity and territorial integrity of the country with all this shortcomings.

Many federal constitutions in the world are the products of either political crises, or revolutions, or governance vacuum. Like nature, politics too abhors vacuum. In the above case, there was no government no peace in the country when the constitution was being drafted in order to avoid the impending chaos. The history of the last 28 years of federalism in Ethiopia has proved that the constitution is basically sound although it might need some improvements in the future.

In the contemporary world there are many countries that have adopted the federal system of government. According to available information, many countries have adopted the system of federal organization of their constituent parts. Among them are, Argentina, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Germany, India, Iraq, Malaysia, Mexico, Micronesia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russia, Switzerland, UAE and United States. As we can see from the above information, geographically as well as demographically big as well as smaller countries have adopted the federal system and managed to build a harmonious, peaceful; and prosperous unity of the people that was non-existent under the so-called strong centralizing states. This has proved that the system of unity in diversity, which federalism amounts to, is a relatively better alternative to administer both bigger and smaller national entities comprising many ethnic groups and people with different languages, cultures, traditions and economic and social life. This is also the framework within which the deferment ethnic groups can achieve recognition and growth of their cultures

This does not however mean all unitary states are failures. It rather depends on the specific historical, economic, cultural and political realities prevailing in each country. All said and done any system of government should not put unilateral emphasis on national unity by disregarding the rights and freedoms of the various ethnic groups. The crisis of unitary systems of government has,

in many countries led to the collapse of centralizing authorities under which a single national entity or a small groups of officials managed the affairs of people in the name of national by disregarding the rights and freedoms of the people.

There are indeed many people in this country who doubt the merits of the federal system that celebrates unity of the nation with its complex diversity and the proliferation of new and old demands for self-administration. Cultural and traditional assets of here are also many people who think that the federal system has only led to the celebration of the cultural and traditional assets and resources of the diverse ethnic groups and peoples who, in the past were denied of these God-given rights.

Yes, the system of unity in diversity has indeed recognized the rights of people long forgotten to come forward and enjoy their inalienable rights to self-determination that includes the right to practice their cultures and traditions in ways only they believe is natural to them. However, the system of unity in diversity is not cultural self-determination alone. It goes beyond cultural determination and provides the means and mechanisms for different ethnic groups to ascertain their equality with the constituents parts of the greater unity of the people that forms a big nation known by the name Ethiopia.

The taste of the pudding is in its eating, says an old adage. It is not clear whether there is a corresponding saying in Amharic but we can perhaps translate this into Amharic by saying that the real nature of a thing can only be known when we put it into practice. It is now more than 20 years since the federal constitution is put in place in Ethiopia. The greatest merit of the federal system can be said to reside in the survival of the constitution in which it is enshrined despite the storms of criticism and calls for its removal or replacement of by another one. A constitutional laws are not like civil or criminal laws that can be changed, amended or revoked quite easily.

Constitutional laws are very complex and need long and complex processes of consultations, dialogues and debates for applying some kind of amendment. Whatever changes will be introduced should be based on objective research and scientific principles that have proved operational in other contexts or proved their worth. The same applies to Ethiopia which is also trying to reform some of the underlying principles and articles of the law that have proved less effective or became the sources of misunderstandings in the last 28 years or so. By pursuing this trajectory, Ethiopia is bound to learn from the experiences of other countries that have long established the federal system that has accelerated their economic development.



## Law & Politics

# Competing political party leaders praising incumbent to the skies

BY ADDISALEM MULAT

In the aftermath of the achievement of the signing of the cessation of hostilities agreement in Pretoria, South Africa, every single thing in connection with social infrastructure restoration and humanitarian aid deliveries has been moving forward in the right direction more than ever before. Apart from accomplishing the intended destination and anticipated results, the peace agreement has largely assisted the path of ensuring peace and tranquility in every nook and cranny of the northern part of the country.

It is worth remembering that since the start of the war, noncombatants have passed through good periods and bad periods, alternative periods of good and bad fortune, beneficial and negative impacts, and other related aspects. However, subsequent to the signing of the agreement on cessation of hostilities, Ethiopia brought into being harvesting the fruits of its labor and reaping the rewards at the earliest possible juncture.

In the same fashion, as a consequence of the firm stance of the federal government, a considerable amount of bodies have been expressing satisfaction over the successful implementation of the peace agreement in the Tigray State like clockwise.

There are no two ways about it the firm determination of the government almost immediately has laid the foundation to get to the bottom of the existing predicament in an atmosphere of calm. In addition to returning to normalcy the full-scale situation in the Tigray State, the government efforts have been smoothing the path of the deliveries of humanitarian assistance and restoration of electric power, telecommunications, and other things of a similar kind.

It is public knowledge that on the grounds of the positive achievements blossoming out in the northern part of the country, the wider international community has been praising the government to the skies.

In the same manner, Ethiopians from all walks of life have been patting the federal government on the back for implementing the peace agreement sooner rather than later as stipulated in the cessation of hostilities agreement. Apart from that a considerable amount of organizations have been standing by the side of the government to smooth the path of the delivery of humanitarian assistance in a satisfactory manner.

In the current state of affairs, the federal government has been allocating resources in furtherance of reinstating fundamental infrastructural facilities in every corner of the Tigray State. A case in point, most of the distribution line and maintenance work has been pushed forward positively. Besides, electricity generating stations in various parts of the Tigray State have been reconnected to the electric grid.



In a similar fashion, a broad range of bodies has been standing by the side of the government in assisting the progress of the restoration of social infrastructure and humanitarian aid deliveries. In consideration of the foregoing, the incumbent is turning out to be the talk of the global community in addition to winning the hearts and minds of their hearts.

For the sake of truth, the measure being taken by the government in the present circumstances has been creating a positive impact on the inhabitants of the Tigray State. Added to that as everything in the Tigray State has been making progress in the right direction, Wogagen and Anbesa International Banks are to resume financial services just around the corner.

In the wake of the dedication of the federal government, inhabitants of the Tigray state have been breathing a sigh of relief and speaking well of the positive developments. In good truth, areas devastated in the northern part of the country by the war that lasted for two years have been returning to normal conditions.

As peace is the foundation and backbone of everything under the sun, the intended destination has been attained. Notwithstanding the fact that the whole thing in Northern Ethiopia is making progress in the right direction, some entities have been going to the ends of the earth to throw cold water on the positive moves and place the blame on the federal government.

It is common knowledge that in light of the current situation the federal government has been smoothing the path of deliveries of humanitarian assistance and restoration of social infrastructure working in close collaboration with a wide spectrum of bodies.

It is public knowledge that the incumbent has been working in the current conditions giving special attention to delivering humanitarian assistance, reconstruction, ensuring accountability, and other things

of a similar kind. Other than that a wide spectrum of services such as electricity, telecommunications, and other important services has been restored in areas affected by the war in the northern part of the country.

It should be remembered that the agreement signed between the federal government and Tigray People Liberation Front (TPLF) in Pretoria, South Africa under the auspicious of the African Union has been coming to fruition and bringing home the bacon.

Though a lot of efforts have been made in the current climate to pour cold water on the efforts of the government coming up with a wide spectrum of bogus stories, all their efforts have gone for nothing. Above and beyond, the discredited international media outlets have been working around the clock with Ethiopia's arch-foes to distract the implementation of the peace process. No matter how far they travel to realize their ill intention, they cannot accomplish the desired goal on the grounds that it is an unattainable dream.

Taking the ongoing positive moves into account, all African nations should stand by the side of the government in smoothing the path of implementation of the peace agreement in the shortest possible time. As the implementation of the cessation of hostilities agreement has been bearing fruits, all nations worldwide should support the efforts of the government to return the whole thing to normal conditions.

Approached by the Ethiopian News Agency Tigray Democratic Party (TDP) Chairperson, Aregawi Berhe said the agreement reached to solve the problem in northern Ethiopia permanently has pleased peace lovers.

According to him, the government's effort in delivering humanitarian aid and reconstruction is also laudable.

Noting that the conflict in the northern part of the country has caused chaos in social,

political, and economic spheres, he added that peaceful resolution to the conflict has multi-faceted benefit.

Aregawi further stressed that "all need to stand in safeguarding the peace as it is essential to ensure the guarantee of services of citizens, development of the nation, and stability.

"The peace agreement is a big step. The importance of peace for development or stable life is unquestionable. Hence, the agreement is very commendable as it provides peace and stability, particularly to the people of Tigray and neighboring regions. The effort made by the government to bring peace in the region has borne fruit and this is pleasing."

All of us need to support the government's effort in delivering humanitarian aid, rehabilitation and restoration of other basic services that is underway, following the peace agreement, he said.

All Ethiopian Unity Party President, Mamushet Amare said on his part that the peace agreement is crucial for public peace and the existence of Ethiopia.

He also appreciated the government's effort to support the needy and rehabilitate the internally displaced people.

The president urged all the pertinent bodies, including foreign aid agencies, to support the government's effort.

"There are people displaced in Tigray, Amhara and Afar regions. There is a need to provide humanitarian aid for all these people equally. It is vital to supply them with food and clothes. There is also a need for emergency humanitarian aid and health services to the people. The displaced must be resettled to their permanent life. In this regard, NGOs, investors, civil organizations must support the government's efforts."

Enat Party Public Relations Head, Yayah Asmare said that the peace agreement and the effort intensified to implement is commendable.

All need to be committed for the implementation of the peace agreement, he stressed.

According to him, anyone who tries to disrupt the peace agreement is against peace and all of us need to stand firm against these and promote peace.

"The agreement of cessation of hostilities is commendable. It is only the children and mothers who reside in the war zone that really understand the significance of the ceasefire agreement. The idea to stop fighting and discuss the other problems and find solutions later is commendable. However, the two parties should work in order to implement the agreement until the end." He also called on all citizens to play their part for the implementation of the peace agreement.



# African nations should be treated as sovereign nations controlling their own policy

Laurence Freeman

BY ZEKARIAS WOLDEMARIAM

*Laurence Freeman is an American Political Economic analyst for Africa. He created the website entitled [www.laurencefreemanafricaandtheworld.com](http://www.laurencefreemanafricaandtheworld.com). He has been lobbying for economic interventions that liberate Africa from poverty and suggesting ways that African policy makers should adopt in order to sustainably address the economic problems of Africa. Among them, he stood as strong proponent of focus on energy and infrastructure development which can speed up the industrialization, job creation ... etc in Africa and cut poverty significantly.*

*He argues that the west, including his country, America should follow the steps or approaches of the far eastern countries like China and India in collaborating with Africa in its development endeavors.*

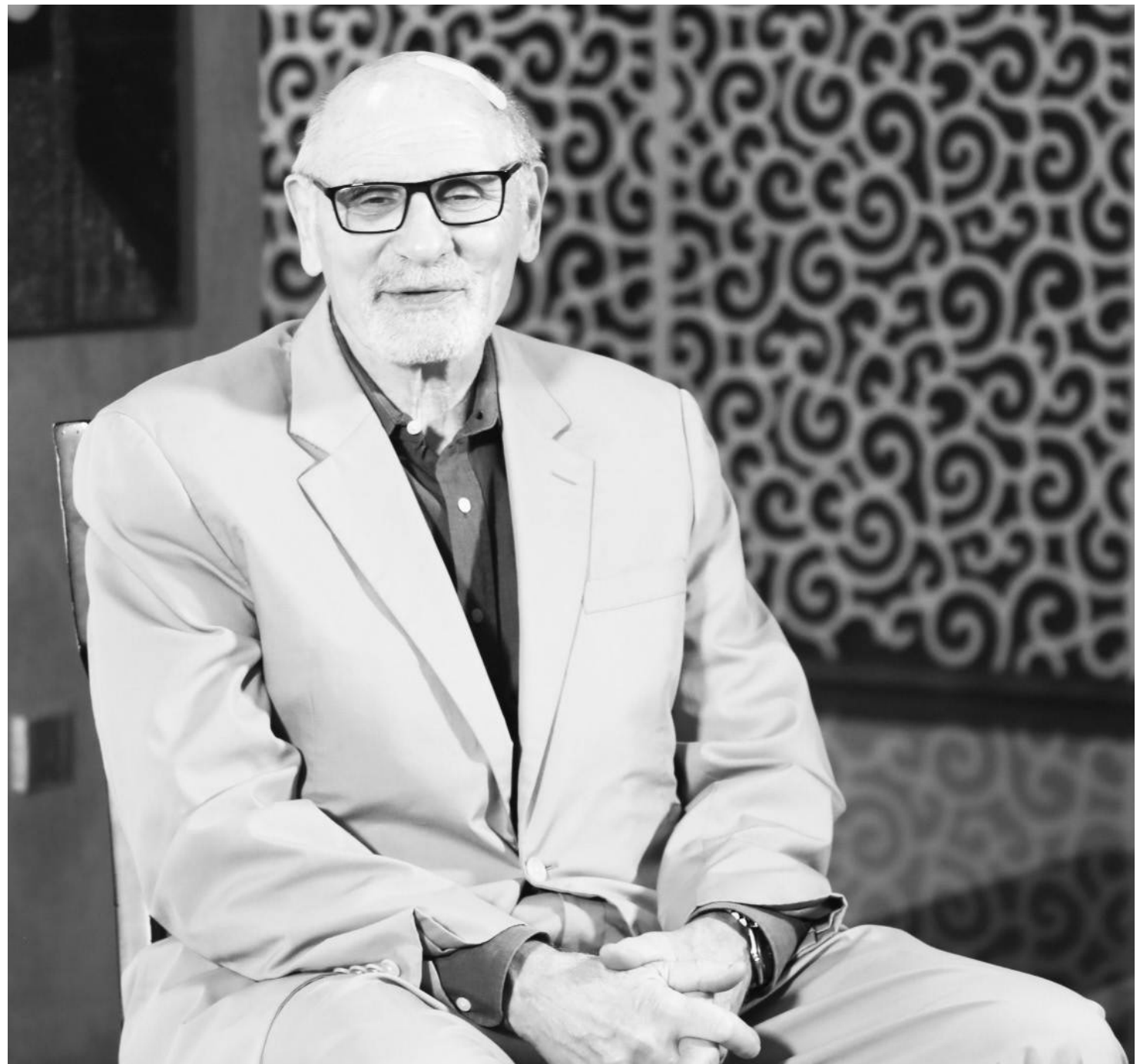
*The Ethiopian Herald has had a brief discussion with Freeman to elaborate on his ideas about Africa's political economy and the recently held US Africa leadership summit. Have a nice read!*

**To start with, could you tell us how you started your work of 'political economic analyst for Africa'? And how long have you been working on?**

Well, so it's a long story, goes back to my early years in high school in college, which is 50 years ago, when I started thinking about Africa. And then I got involved in various political works in the United States. And I started thinking about Africa, again, around 1990 and writing about it and lecturing on African history and ended up with traveling to Nigeria in 1994. And then, since then, I've been in Nigeria dozen times, and Sudan, Mali, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, and many times to Ethiopia. So, maybe I have paid 20, 25 or 30 visits to Africa over the last couple of decades.

**What were the challenges you faced throughout those years, while working as political economic analyst for Africa? And how were you trying to address them?**

Well, one of the big questions is that people not just in Africa, because my country as well, United States, people tend to think on a small level. And I tried to think on a big level, people accept the axioms of what the accepted public opinion is of the day. And I reject those axioms. And I always try to come up with new ideas that could provide a solution to the problem. For example, in Africa, there is no reason for them to be in hunger, and poverty, yet there is a massive hunger and poverty. There's no reason for African countries being poor spending USD 35 billion to USD 45 billion of food each year, I threw methods



that I learned from one of the founders of my country, Alexander Hamilton, who was the first Treasury Secretary on the George Washington, I learned from him economic policies, which if implemented, we could eliminate hunger and poverty in Africa, probably within a generation. Okay, now, that's just one of the problems. There's also many other problems that Africa faces that I addressed in my work on infrastructure, like the lack of electricity in the continent of Africa, it's literally killing Africans every day that there's no electricity. And Ethiopia is trying to solve their problem. One is the grand Ethiopian Renaissance dam, which, unfortunately, is not supported enough by the rest of the world.

**Does it mean countries like Ethiopia, need more support for developing electric power?**

Well, look at what the current reality looks like, probably less than 100,000 megawatts for over a billion people in Sub Saharan Africa, and South Africans have about half of that. So there's no electricity, it doesn't

really exist. And without electricity, you can't have an industrialized manufacturing society; it gives 600 million people without access to grid electricity. And I want to change that I'm very strong supporter of nuclear power, which could help solve that problem. I want to increase the power capability of African nations. So, they have abundant and easy accessible electricity. Without that African countries won't develop; you need electricity for manufacturing, you need electricity for domestic purpose, you need electricity, for medical purposes, to light up schools, to light up libraries. So this is one of the biggest deficits being experienced in Africa. There is a serious deficit in Africa in this regard. Electricity also promotes the program for high speed rail network across the country. That's a very essential element as well, connecting all the cities, all the ports by rail, with increased inter trade inside Africa, maybe six or seven times of what is now which is very minimal. African nations do not need to be poor. And they need assistance in terms of long term credit to invest in the type of infrastructure

projects they needed.

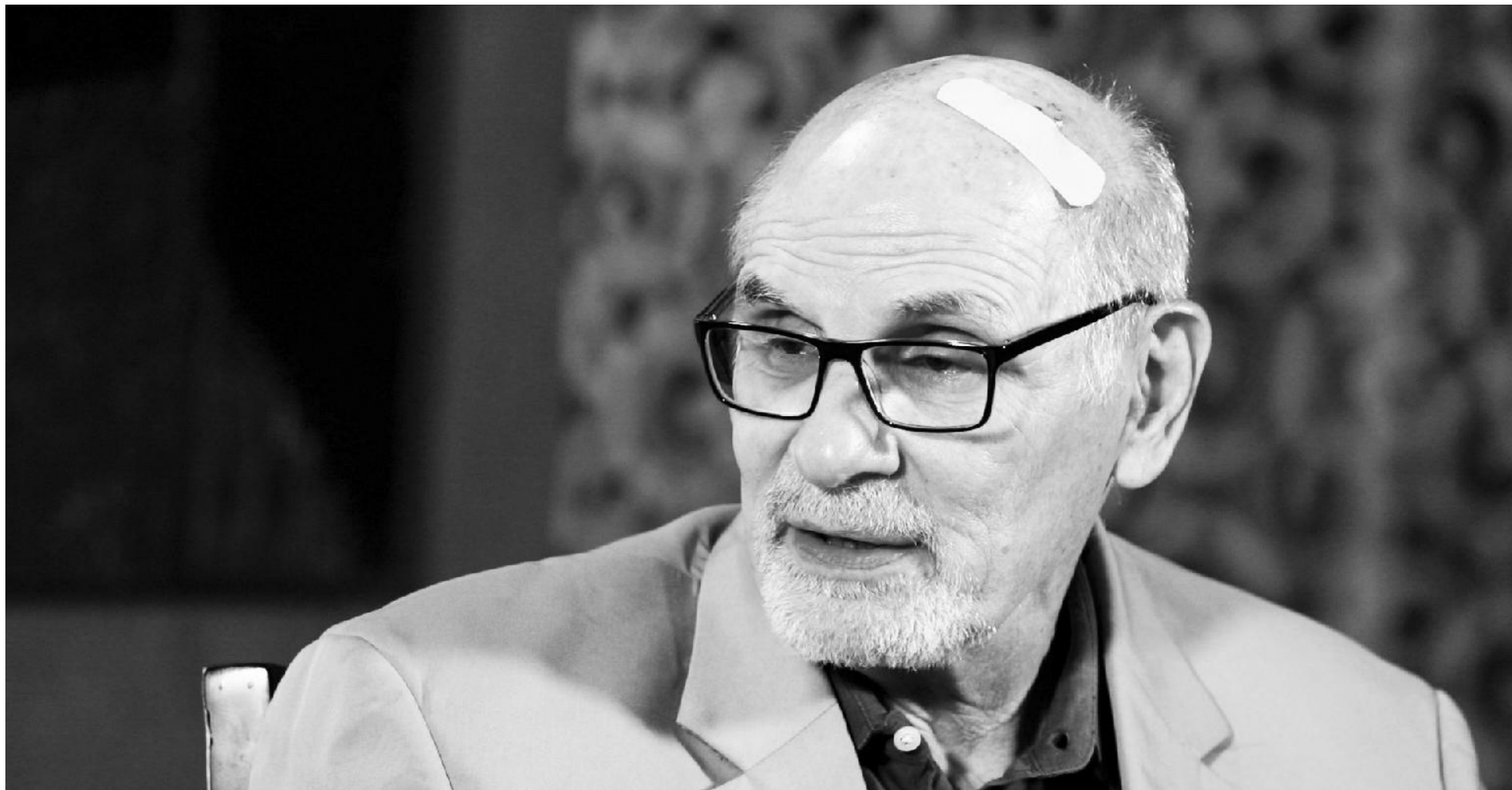
**And let's come to the US-Africa Summit 2022. What were your expectations?**

Well, I know a couple of things. I don't know everything. One: The United States, the Biden Administration, has figured out that the United States has lost significant influence in Africa. China has made impacts primarily through their economic development policy. The other thing is that the African nations no longer jump on to the wishes of the West. And I think that the Western governments, particularly the United States, were shocked early this year, when two votes took place at the United Nations. And both those votes, the majority of African nations did not support the sanctions against Russia, which I didn't support either. And I think that's the reason that Secretary Anthony Blinken arranged his trip to South Africa, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in August of this year, is trying to repair some of the damages, but it didn't work. The three countries he met with did not provide him





# Herald Guest

with, let's say, robust diplomatic support. I think Biden is going to announce at the summit, it's pretty definite, that he will support the African Union joining the G-20. Now, there's something African nations are demanding, which is fine, but he's doing that because the United States is on the defense. The other thing United States is going to do is they're going to try to introduce the African leaders to the private sector. The problem is that the United States itself is not offering what we called deliverables, it's not giving anything, and it's going to introduce the private sector to Africa as if they need introduction. The problem with this policy is that they don't do the key thing the United States could do. If they understood how to develop nations in Africa, the way I do, we will set up our funds, credit lines, or funds targeted for building infrastructure in Africa, because without infrastructure, nothing is going to work. And the private sector is not going to build that infrastructure. They're not interested in it. They don't have the capacity to do it. But they can't initiate it. And they don't have the money to do it. But they want to make money. And the example I use is what Franklin Roosevelt did. When he came into office in my country in 1933, we were in a full scale depression, he mobilized the power of the government, public sector credit, to build massive infrastructure, United States had turned around the United States, and actually prepared us to win the war in World War II, because we built the factories. I've been working with a number of Africans to build an African Infrastructure Development Bank that is that would lease credit only for infrastructure projects. Now, infrastructure projects take five 7 to 10 years in some cases. Therefore, you don't want to charge a high interest rate when a low interest rate 2 to 3 per cent is more advantageous. The Chinese are doing that in some of their projects. That's what we should be doing. We're not going to do that. We're going to try to get some big

headlines, like the African Union will try to renounce some big wingding deals, and everybody will try to feel good that the United States is finally helping Africa. But I don't think the substance is going to be that strong. And that's why I'm here in Ethiopia and not in Washington, because I think I could do more good here than I can there in Washington, My country has lost its vision for development. And so they don't listen to me as much as they should.

**What about the stance on the side of African countries? What should we expect them to just to discuss on this summit?**

Well, first of all, this is the first summit that US has had with African countries since 2014. So it's eight years. That's a long time. Secretary Blinken has made three trips to the continent. President Biden hasn't made any, but he said he would. But then I think the African countries will be happy to be meeting if they do get a chance to meet with the President, to meet with government leaders, to meet with people in the private sector. And maybe some deals will be struck, but they won't be of the quality and type that is needed. I don't think anybody's going to say anything negative not to the United States, probably not while they're in Washington. When they go back home, they may be more frank and honest. I'm not expecting great things. I hope they do occur. But I do expect that the administration will put up as much positive news as they can. Because they're trying to really capture the influence they've already lost on the continent. And there's no question. I don't care what they say publicly. They're defensive and panicking. And this summit is a panicky move to try to recapture their influence, which Russia and China have undermined and also in the turkey have also been involved in development in the continent.

**You mean that the African countries should push for tangible supports that back their development?**

Absolutely! They have to tell the West to stop trying to control their energy. You have the conference COP27, I think they're trying to tell African countries not to use your coal, oil, gas, allegedly, because that is going to cause the carbon dioxide that was destroying the environment, which is not true. And but we can do that. So you've seen an increase of desperate moves by European countries for more oil and gas, and even coal contracts because of the loss of gas coming from Russia. So they are expanding their efforts for these contracts. Diametrically opposite to that and they tell African countries to refrain from using their resources in the name of destroying the planet with carbon dioxide. And this has already been rejected by a number of African countries, South Africa, has rejected it. Nigeria has spoken out against it. Mo Ibrahim has spoken out against it. The fact is that African nations should be treated as sovereign nations controlling their own policy. The US side is saying plainly that we are giving you democracy, human rights... No one else will do that for you. We are going to support good governance. But for me, the most fundamental human right is—the right to live. And 'the right to live' requires 'the right for economic development'. And that's where the West and the US in particular fall short of delivering. If you are concerned about human rights, then you will build electricity and roads and rail in Africa. If you don't do that, those are empty words. No, I think there is going to be a lot of empty words.

**My next question is related to the point you raised earlier, on nuclear power for Africa, how do you think this could be implemented?**

Well, you know that there's one nuclear

powerplant on the entire continent—that is in South Africa. That speaks for itself for there is a noticeable problem The South Africans a while ago, developed what was called a nuclear was a pebble bed small nuclear reactor. And there's a whole technology now, to build 200 to 400 megawatts, small reactors, traditional reactors have been much larger and 1000 megawatts. If we start building these which are perfectly feasible, we can then begin hooking them into the current grid in various countries, India, for example, Russia are working on floating nuclear power plants, that you put it on a barge, and you can bring it into the central structure in a port area to the grid. Now there are about 17 African nations, which is almost a third that are in one stage or another of looking into nuclear energy, some are looking at feasibility projects, some are making applications to the Atomic Energy Agency. Others are in discussions, Ghana, Nigeria, for example, even Ethiopia is looking into South Africa, looking to expand several 1000 megawatts of power. And Egypt, as we talk is working with the Russians to build two to four nuclear power plants in Egypt. So the process has started, it should be accelerated. And we can build larger plants to one to 1000 megawatts, and the small 200 to 400 megawatts. But this would be a transformation because once you bring in a new source of energy; you also bring in a new technology. And when you bring in a new technology, you transform your economy. So if we get nuclear-based economy in Africa, this will be a revolution in economics. And then that is the preparation for fusion power. This is fusion; fusion power is more advanced, as even more powerful economy. And we are bringing a whole higher level of technology. So you keep raising your technology platform. And that technology platform then changes and transforms your entire economy.







# Verbatim and Caption

## Ethiopia, U.S. discusses bilateral, regional issues

A delegation of Ethiopian government led by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) has traveled to Washington DC to attend the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit. Parallel to the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and his delegation held constructive discussions with U.S. key officials and on various current issues as well as bilateral and regional topics.

“I held a candid and productive meeting with U.S. Secretary of State, Antony Blinken. I expressed our appreciation to the U.S. for their contribution in our efforts to achieve peace. For decades, Ethiopia has been a key ally of the U.S. in Africa and we discussed ways of strengthening



our partnership.”  
**Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD)**



Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken met with Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed today to welcome progress made on the implementation of the November 2 Cessation of Hostilities Agreement, which is key to bringing lasting peace to northern Ethiopia. Secretary Blinken commended steps taken by the Ethiopian government to improve humanitarian access and begin restoration of essential services. The Secretary urged accelerated implementation of the agreement and access to the conflict areas by international human rights monitors. The United States remains committed to supporting the African Union-led peace process, including the AU monitoring and verification mechanism.

*Ned Price, U.S. State Department Spokesperson (Via, U.S. Embassy in Addis Ababa)*

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed had a discussion with American National Security Adviser, Jack Sullivan. The discussion is focused on the implementation of the Cessation of Hostilities, the political and economic reforms of the government in Ethiopia. In addition, the discussion focuses on strengthening the bilateral relationships between Ethiopia and the U.S.

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed held a constructive discussion with US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan over a host of issues including the implementation of the cessation of hostilities, the political and economic reform initiatives of the government and the way forward on revitalizing the historical bilateral relationship between the two countries.

**Office of the Prime Minister, Ethiopia**



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 Armauer Hansen Research Institute**

## AHRI's training on grant development, management skills

BY MENGISTEAB TESHOME

Grant awards specify a set amount of time that the grantee has to complete the project and fully spend the awarded funds. Typically, the term ranges between one to three years, depending on the project. If more time is needed, a no-cost time extension can be requested and is usually approved, if reasonable.

Some grant projects require the grantee to commit to a contribution of its own resources in order to leverage the federal funding. This is known as match dollars. The amount required is based on a percentage of the award calculated using high standard cash match formulas and techniques. In some grant solicitations, the match requirements can be met by using an “in kind” match which means that the cost of the time, facilities and/or equipment provided may be applied as the local match or “contribution” toward the overall project. Other times the solicitation may require a cash contribution, or a combination of both.

For grant makers, grant management encompasses the processes and administrative work that happen throughout the grant lifecycle. This includes setting up



the grant, reviewing applications, selecting worthy recipients, disbursing grant funds, and ensuring those funds are put to good use. There are responsibilities related to the receipt and administration of grants. These responsibilities involve managing the programmatic, financial, and reporting aspects of the project.

It is critical that a grantee exercise effective grants management strategies for a variety of reasons. The most important is that a grantee can lose funding during the implementation process of a project if he or she is not effectively managing the grant.

Grantees need to fully understand the relationship that they are entering into when

they sign the award agreement. In addition to this relationship with the grantor, grantees who accept grant awards are entering into a legal contract with them.

In exchange for financial support (the grant award), grantees are promising that they will honor the intent of the project and implement it to the best of their ability as out-lined in the proposal that was submitted. They will work towards achieving the objectives and goals as outlined, and they will conduct an evaluation to determine whether they successfully did so.

In addition, they will spend the award funds as delineated in the line items listed in the budget. If a grantee chooses not to

work to-ward the objectives, evaluating their success and spending the money appropriately, it can be considered a breach of contract, and grantors can request that funds be returned or they can stop the funding at any point during the project implementation.

As already mentioned in regard to final report submission, the mismanagement of grants can have both immediate and long-term negative consequences for a grantee that include loss of funding from both current and would-be future grantors, damage to one's reputation, and in the most severe cases, criminal prosecution.

Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI) in partnership with the Ministry of Health's Continuing professional development (CPD) team has successfully conducted a weeklong training on 'Grant Development and Management' too aimed to hone the skills of researchers as well as to bolster their grant hunting expertise.

The training which kicked off at the Institute's premise from December 5-9, 2022 was designed to prepare participants to develop and manage grants effectively for the sustainability of organizational programs.