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Nat'l Anti-Corruption Committee takes action on misconducted officials

BY TAMERU REGASA

ADDIS ABABA- The National Anti-Corruption Committee which was established by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) to prevent corruption, said that it has

started to take action and apprehended some officials suspected of misconduct.

Chairman of the Committee and Director General of the National Intelligence and Security Service Temesgen Tiruneh and Justice Minister Gedion Timotewos made

a joint statement regarding the activities of the committee yesterday.

It was stated during the occasion that several officials of land administration and security and justice institutions, including

See Nat'l Anti - Page 3

Large part of Tigray to regain telecom service very soon

ADDIS ABABA – Most parts of Tigray State will regain telecom service once the ongoing maintenance works at the core network site at Shire are completed, so disclosed Ethio Telecom.

In an exclusive interview with FBC, Ethio Telecom CEO Firehiwot Tamru said the war ravaged telecom infrastructures in all accessible areas are being repaired with utmost efforts.

According to the CEO, war affected areas including Mai Tsebri, Alamata, Korem and Adi Arkai towns have regained mobile network services following the maintenance works.

Shire core network site which was out of service for two years, has been reequipped

See Large part Page 3



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Premier congratulates UAE on 51st National Day

BY BILAL DERSO

ADDIS ABABA- Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) sent a congratulatory message

See Premier ... Page 3

MoFA renews commitments to consolidate diplomatic achievements in 2023

BY STAFF REPORTER

ADDIS ABABA- Ethiopia will further consolidate its diplomatic activities and expand the achievements gained in the field in 2023, according to Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA).

See MoFA renews ... Page 3

Soccer as global culture: Politics should not spoil the great show

Page 6

Intensifying counteroffensive measures against Shene terrorist group

Page 7

"I feel happy when my employees become entrepreneurs,"

Animaw Alemu

Page 8

News

CoHA to boost FDI to Ethiopia: Saudi Ambassador

ADDIS ABABA- The Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoHA) signed between the Ethiopian government and TPLF will boost Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to Ethiopia, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to Ethiopia, Fahd Al-Hamidani said.

Talking to ENA at the Ethiopian Investment Commission Forum organized to create awareness about investment opportunities in Ethiopia, Ambassador Fahd Al-Hamidani said that the peace agreement will help to improve foreign direct investment to Ethiopia.

The ambassador also pointed out that



Kingdom of Saudi Arabia views the peace agreement as an agreement of

prosperity and stability for Ethiopia, adding that the implementation of the agreement will enhance foreign direct investment in the country.

The ambassador said the investment is among the most important issues which is strengthening the Ethio-Saudi Arabia relations.

Business and investment in Ethiopia are very promising, he added.

Among the areas the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia would like to engage are agriculture and mineral investments, the ambassador said.

He hailed Ethiopian Investment Commission for the awareness raising

event it held to the economic and trade attachés of various countries based in Addis Ababa to introduce us about investment opportunities in the country.

The forum that EIC organized was aimed at promoting investment opportunities to embassies based in Addis Ababa.

Ambassadors and economic and trade attachés of various countries attended the high level discussion forum, which was aimed at strengthening collaborations with partners.

A communication strategy to foster investments and stronger partnership is put into force, it was learnt.

Company to build 15,000 housing units for low-income community

BY BILAL DERSO

ADDIS ABABA- Zetseat Yelewit Real Estate Company announced that it has worked to transfer 15,000 cost-efficient housing units within ten years for the low-income households in Addis Ababa thereby supplementing the government's efforts to render affordable homes.

The company is going to lay a cornerstone today for the construction of 5,000 housing units for shareholders in the presence of high-level government officials in the Ayat neighborhood of Addis Ababa. The cornerstone is to be laid on the 6,000sqm plot that the firm recently purchased for the construction of 3-bedroom housing units.

Speaking on the occasion, the company's General Manager Pastor Matiwo Yaekob stated that they aim to help low-income citizens' hope of owning houses in Addis Ababa a reality. The increasing demographic pressure from all corners of the country to Addis Ababa and real estate's overhead prices make low-income citizens' hope of owning houses in the capital far from a reality.

The GM further stated that shareholders will contribute 20 percent of the total cost of the housing units while the real estate company will cover 30

percent and the balance is secured from bank loans. While agreements were reached with Berhan and Abay banks for the provision of loan, consultations are underway with Abyssinia and Cooperative Bank of Oromia to the same end.

"We will channel the revenue that has been obtained from different local and foreign sources and import building materials by our own to supplement the cost of the houses."

Matiwo called on the government to support the competitiveness of local real estate developers by providing duty exemption, income tax holidays and offering land at competitive lease price. Government's contribution of bolstering the capacity of contractors and facilitating the availability of quality building materials is also something worth equal consideration.

Apart from private real estate developers, the government of Ethiopia has been constructing hundreds of thousands condominium houses through various housing development schemes in Addis Ababa and other major cities across the nation and transferred a significant number of cost-effective houses to low-income communities over the last several years.

Ministry to launch Nat'l ID based TIN processing to avoid scam

BY LAKACHEW ATINAFU

ADDIS ABABA- Ministry of Revenue and National ID inked an accord to work in collaboration envisaging Ethiopian digital identity- a robust and reliable identification for all Ethiopians and Legal residents within the country to enhance efficient taxation.

At the signing ceremony yesterday, the ministry said that the agreement would help link the Tax Payer Identification Number (TIN Number) with the National Identification Number, which will help prevent tax and income tax frauds and crimes.

Regarding the agreement, the State Minister of the tax operations department of the Ministry of Revenue, Meseret Meskele, said that the agreement replaces fingerprinting to provide taxpayer identification.

In the past, only fingerprints were used for the identification of the tax-payer, but all the fingerprints needed for the national identification were taken and an agreement was made to give to a taxpayer a

secret identification number.

According to Mesert, this will reduce the amount of foreign currency that our country used to spend for this service. It is also an efficient digital system able control tax evasion, tax evasion and economic fraud in our country.

Eyob Alemu Technical Director for the National ID on his part said that the country has been incurring staggering amount of money for individuals possessed multiple identity which in turn possession of different TIN.

According to the technical director the platform will encode an identification number with the data base interconnection of taxation, transaction routines emigration and other sectors and close all possibility of cheat against offenders and co-offenders.

As one person is one, the National ID is working towards devising authentic platform to reduce tax invasion, fraud and other illicit practices and will enable citizenries to get swift services digitally as they are not expected to avail physically in institutions, It was stated.



Association urges media to raise insurance public awareness

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA- Association of Ethiopian Insurers (AEI) stressed that the media has to work hard in raising public awareness about the importance of the insurance sector.

Experts in the sector highlighted that the insurance industry has been struggling with low market penetration due to many challenges mainly lack of awareness. There are about 18 existing insurance companies in the country with less competition due to limited market.

President of AEI and CEO of Nyala Insurance Yared Mola said that lack of understanding the complexity of insurance industry in the country and low penetration of insurance market is among the core challenges adversely affecting the growth of the insurance industry.

Ethiopian insurance companies are supervised by the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), and the insurance industry needs to be operated independently so as to contribute its share to the economic growth of the country, he opined.

He further stated that the sector is regulated by the NBE and not governed by the proper body which in turn affects the growth of the industry.

The attention given to the sector is very limited compared to that of other countries. High level of data inaccuracy, sensationalism, and others factors need due attention in insurance industry. In order to cover the gap in the area, knowledge based awareness creation has a paramount importance.

Lack of providing information to the media by the side of experts in the insurance industry is another challenge as information gap coupled with language and jargonsis also the main thing that needs serious attention, said Yared.

Presenting paper on practices of the Ethiopian insurance industry, Fikru Tsegaye said that the attention given to insurance industry is very limited. Highlighting basics of insurance practices in Ethiopia, he said that insurance needs information, instruction and advice to be competitive and achieve the desired outcome, he said.

About 18 insurance companies found in the country and having over 120 million people in Ethiopia, the number of people registered as formal insurers is less than four million except traditional insurance methods like Iqub, Idir ones.

"Ethiopia has huge insurance potential but not exploited for a number of reasons, indeed. Human resources development, creating linkage with other sectors, capacity building, awareness, and financial literacy strategies are crucial to develop insurance industry," he stated.

Presenting a paper on the role and responsibilities of financial media and international practices, Insurance Consultant, Getachew Beshahwred said that a lot is expected of the media in educating, informing and creating awareness in a bid to raise public awareness about the importance of insurance. Besides, insurance has paramount important to the GDP of the country, he stated.

News

UN fully supports Ethiopia's humanitarian, dev't activities

Addis Ababa(ENA)- Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the United Nations will fully support Ethiopia's humanitarian and development activities by mobilizing the capacity of UN agencies and appealing to the international community.

Guterres made the remark at the joint press conference he held with African Union Commission Chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat at the end of the 6th AU-UN annual conference in Addis Ababa recently.

Responding to questions posed by journalists, the Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the UN will support the AU-led peace agreement implementation, the rebuilding effort, and humanitarian aid and development of the country.

"We have dramatic humanitarian needs in the areas impacted by the conflict. (So) we are upscaling the capacity of all the UN agencies and our partners in order to be able to take advantage of the opening of roads that already exist, the access by air, and all the other aspects in order to be able to as quickly as possible provide the maximum possible support to all the populations in need."

According to him, the UN is ready to fully support the AU and the parties in implementing the peace agreement.

"Now we are in the phase of implementation and we are ready to fully support both the AU and the parties in whatever way it is necessary to make sure that the implementation is successful."

But the UN believes in African leadership to solve African problems, he underscored.

"We are very happy to be able to support the African Union in this process."

Furthermore, the secretary-general stated



that the United Nations will continue to appeal to the international community to support Ethiopia's development.

"We appeal to the international community to support Ethiopia in its development," Guterres stressed, adding that "there is no better way to consolidate peace than developing the country by creating the conditions for the people to see the peace dividends, people to see how peace contributes to improvement of the living conditions of the citizens in the country."

He underscored that the UN will be in the first line of advocating for international support for the development of Ethiopia in this crucial moment of the country.

Above all, the secretary-general pointed out the need to create favorable conditions for the people to see the peace dividend as implementing the agreement will improve the livelihood of the citizens.

Premier congratulates UAE...

yesterday to the people and government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on the occasion of the country's 51st National Day.

On his social media post, the Premier congratulated the UAE President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al-Nahyan for the day which marks six of the Trucial States (Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Umm al-Quwain, Ajman, and Fujairah) agreed on a Federal Constitution for achieving independence as the UAE.

Abiy also extended similar message to the

people of UAE.

The UAE was formed on December 2, 1971 as a federation of six emirates when the UK's treaty expired, and the separate sheikhdoms decided to form a Union.

The longstanding relation of the two countries is growing from time to time and UAE has become Ethiopia's development partner by providing significant support for the construction of various projects under the Abu Dhabi Fund. High level officials' visits on both sides have also contributed to the thriving relations.

Nat'l Anti-Corruption Committee...

the Director General of Financial Intelligence Center Director-General, Tewodros Bekele have been arrested and are in the process of filing a case.

Temesgen, who stated the government has been doing various things including the use of technology to prevent corruption, highlighted that it has not been possible to tackle the problem to the required level due to the COVID-19 pandemic and northern conflict. The committee was formed due to the need for the information of all institutions to come to one database and work on it.

He stated that the problems complained by the society are a major obstacle in the country's growth and prosperity and conditions are facilitated to ensure active public participation in the process. Accordingly, three sub-committees have been established and put into operation and measures are being taken to establish a

data collection system as well as to collect studies by each institution.

For his part, Gideon stated that land management, security and justice, customs, and service delivery are among the priority sectors, and action is being taken especially on land management and justice and security institutions. Suspects who gave land in the name of a developer with a fake document, stole 175,000 square meters of land and a large amount of wealth in Addis Ababa, and robbed a condominium house, are being arrested.

In the justice and security sector, those who abused their power and received money from individuals and organizations are also being arrested. More than 250 suggestions were submitted in different ways in one week and are being investigated. In the states, from small to large organized theft, the work of holding the participants accountable will continue, the minister remarked.

Large part of Tigray to regain...

with all necessary equipment and devices, she said, adding that maximum efforts are underway to restore the telecom service in almost all parts of Tigray region including Axum and Adwa towns.

Moreover, 266 km of cyber cables have been repaired, and only 6 km are left for full completion of the maintenance works at Shire district, it was learnt.

MoFA renews commitments to consolidate...

Briefing the media yesterday, MoFA Spokesperson Meles Alem said the ministry will focus on image building and scaling up diplomatic relations next year.

Raising resources by mobilizing the Diaspora, expanding international finance access, attracting investment flows, and raising fund for reconstruction and rehabilitation, among others are also the main areas of activities, he added.

Lots efforts are expected from diplomats to strengthen and expand the achievements that the country has gained despite many challenges, the spokesperson stated.

To realize this, training has been given to Ethiopian ambassadors from December 16 to January 5, 2023.

The training focuses on the measures the government is undertaking on the implementation of the peace agreement, renewing diplomatic relations after the peace agreement, promoting FDI, and other related issues, it was learned.

Meanwhile, the spokesperson stated that the peace agreement has been widely accepted by the international community and things are returning to normal in the field of diplomacy.

Ethiopia's partners from near and afar have expressed their desire to provide support, he noted.

President of the Transitional Sovereign Council of Sudan, General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan has expressed his satisfaction over the signing of a peace agreement between the Ethiopian government and the TPLF. He affirmed Sudan's unwavering support for its full implementation.

The United States, the European Union, the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific countries also expressed their support for the peace agreement through their ambassadors.

Moreover, the EU, through its partners UNICEF and WFP, has extended 33 million Euros aid to restore essential education services and implement school feeding programs so that children living in conflict-



affected areas can get back to learning.

It also donated 38 million Euros to support conflict-affected health and education sectors in Ethiopia.

The spokesperson finally underlined that the Government of Ethiopia is working with commitment to effectively implement the peace agreement.

Opinion

Kleptocracy, absolutely corrupted power, shall feel absolute penalty

BY LAKACHEW ATINAFU

Extenuating corruption and leaving to combat it to government alone might be let authorities to make use of it as an abash business. The chores need solidarity of citizens and all forms of governance power.

As one investigates cancer for the emerging nations and the merit of the amassed, it is deep seated laying its foundation on rapacious interest of few despotic and the culture to gain everything in short cuts against fundamental interest of the *demos*. In one or other ways, the evil is mainly associated with corruption and mal practices.

No matter how smart may be the governance system; it would be in the ash until statesmen put in place to curtail corruption and mal practices? If not so, the reform that was expected of too much from its inception would only be tentative gestures and figment of imagination for bright hoe in Ethiopia.

Indeed, there have been measures to reduce the deep rooted corruption practices steered by the then despotic regime.

Beyond establishing federal institution to avert lethargies emanated from feudalism and establish *neo feudalism* system, groups under the guise of stewardship continued to exploit the poor.

Never escape from the truth, after the coming of Abiy Ahmed (PhD), there appeared political parties, new leaders taking lessons from mistakes of their past.

The leader of the past establishment, EPRDF has forced citizens and adopted state democracy which is an amalgam of Orient countries and navigated the economy as state capitalists.

Presently, initiatives taken by the administration is a smart move no matter the issue is so complicated and need much more time. Right after the breakneck reform the Administration has formed responsive institutions and task forces with mere building execution capacities.

The Ethiopian government wants to privatize many more firms, but the process is slow since the former administration made it so and tried to enhance the negative image of the country for groups personal gain and indulge in the realm of corruption.

The predecessors of PP seem determined to maintain state ownership of strategic sectors such as telecommunications, civil aviation, railways, energy, mining, chemicals, insurance and banking. However, it is expected that such and such practices is reinforcing corruption and mal practices.

“Everyone should do his/her part to root out the corruption that is being done as if society is condemned to be poor.” Ustaz Abubeker Ahmed Islamic teacher and social activist

Everyone should do his part to dismantle the corruption that is being practiced until it seems

that the country is doomed to be destroyed and the society to be impoverished, according to the Ustaz Abubeker Ahmed who was approached by the Ethiopian Press agency.

The Islamic religion teacher and social activist Ustaz Abubeker Ahmed told the Ethiopian Press Agency; Corruption is rampant in its chain and structure at a shameful level. Currently, the corruption situation in the country is sad.

Law and order and the rights of citizens are not being respected. Therefore, he said, everyone has do his/her part to root out the corruption that is being done until it seems that the country is doomed to be destroyed and the society is impoverished.

Ustaz Abubeker said that giving or receiving bribe is a big crime. He pointed out that corruption is a criminal act that undermines the general living conditions of the society and puts it to the test and explained that the society should participate appropriately in the anti-corruption movement.

Stating that the government’s actions to fight corruption are disappointing; the economic crisis is very serious. He pointed out that the income gap among citizens is widening due to widespread corruption.

Ustaz Abubeker, said that wherever there is corruption, the trials are more and stronger. He said that corruption is a dangerous crime that distorts the life of society beyond the individual.

According to Ustaz Abubeker; Corruption has a structural chain and it is becoming a necessity everywhere. If a person does not offer a handshake, there is no situation in which he can even protect his own right.

These things require clear action from the government; the society should actively participate when there are such activities. Ustaz Abubeker said that every individual should fulfill his role as a member of society and make the country better for future generations. He said that every individual should cooperate by exposing corruption in a manner free from malice and revenge.

If people do not rise up with revenge and hatred and other things, but if all the stakeholders take their responsibilities, it is possible to show and expose the people who are at fault.

He said that the government will allow legal action to be taken. He pointed out that the community is struggling for suggestions because few government bodies are not exempt from the problem. He said that the society should realize that its contribution to this is very important and that it should help the bodies established by the Prime Minister to help ensure the accountability of corruption and theft activities.

However, be it as it may and it had been reiterated as an evil which lead souls to hell in religious books and grave crime to be penalized by criminal laws. The day showcased that the practice is source of pride and a short cut for

one’s economic security.

In this regard states men have to investigate and revise legal frameworks tackling the nation from reaching the verge of the spring board of success.

Documents and studies in the area reveal that sustained corruption and human rights violations have caused widespread unrest in Ethiopia since 2015.

A change in the country’s leadership in 2018 provided Ethiopians with hope of a change to the status quo. Corruption exists in various forms, including but not limited to clientele, kleptocracy, rent seeking and state capture. While anti-corruption laws remain strong in principle, they are not implemented adequately. The executive maintains control over the judiciary and legislature.

As many scholars and experts would agree, corruption is not a social phenomenon simply defined as a simple cause/effect model.

It is rather a complicated social hazard issue, and the result of many contingent circumstances, which produce varied and wide-ranging effects.

Though it might be difficult and controversial to reach judgment tracing the fundamental factors that lead authorities and the public to corruption, is principally believed that the practice is catalyzed by the following parameters.

According to the expert analysis of the civil service reform program and some other related sources, poor governance, lack of accountability and transparency among all forms of government, undemocratic culture and tradition, lack of citizen participation, lack of clear regulations, low level of institutional control, authorization, extreme poverty and inequity, harmful cultural practices and centralization of authority and resources are the major causes of corruption in Ethiopia.

Family and ethnic loyalties and obligations, blurred distinction between self and public interests privatization, weak financial management, inadequate auditing, impotent legal and judicial system, over regulated bureaucracy, deterioration of acceptable moral and ethical values, unsound policies and inefficient civil service system have are convenient factors cited by many scholars and researchers as the primary causes of corruption in Ethiopia.

Some four years have passed since the new administration assumed power in Ethiopia no matter the reformists didn’t shift the gear as they were expected for circumstances. The Administration of Abiy is yet crawling to tackle corruption for the infant governance is incumbent upon domestic and global pressure.

In deed the new government is so enthusiastic to up line Ethiopia in the helm success starting its track in bringing state corrupts to justice. The verdicts of METEC can be a good instance to show the good stride of ABIY.

In an effort to raise its performance in fighting corruption in the years to come, the new administration coupled with law enforcement mission and sustaining sovereignty of the country and territorial integration expected to launch comprehensive campaign against those to take advantage of the current conflict as ample opportunity.

According to local media, Prime Minister Abiy has announced the establishment of the national anti-corruption committee to coordinate the government’s campaign against corruption, identify actors in addition to those identified in a study, and bring them to justice.

Security Head Temesgen Tirunch, Attorney General Gedion Timoteos (PhD), Customs Commissioner Debele Kabeta, Information Network Security Agency Head Solomon Soka, Samuel Urkato (PhD), Abduhamid Mohamed and Teklewold Atnafu are the seven member of the national committee.

This comes following the PM’s remark in the parliament where he criticized government officials including Judges to be main actors in a widespread corruption.

In a statement announcing the establishment of the committee, Prime Minister Abiy said, “corruption is a pest that eats a country from the inside and depletes its resources by consuming it day and night. When corrupted authorities, greedy brokers and investors come together having large number of citizens lined up behind them, corruption becomes an epidemic to a country.”

The statement said a study is being carried out investigating government officials, public servants, bribers and recipients. However given the fact that corruption is sometimes carried out in a sophisticated manner using technologies and under the guise of legality, extra action is needed according to the statement.

Thus, to uproot corruption from its roots, in addition to legal and operational reforms, an action that makes corrupts hate corruption is needed.”

The statement also said that corrupt individuals including those in the government used the fact that the government is focused on the war in northern part of the country and the Corona pandemic, to spread their networks everywhere.

The Prime Minister also called on the public to take an active role in the campaign against corruption by exposing corrupts to the National Committee without resentment or retaliation.

The administration has devised mechanisms to involve key state institution in the combat against corruption which is a stab in the back business for a country to get rid of conflict and extreme poverty.

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

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Editorial

Peace, tranquility second to none

Pertinent regional and international entities have given testimonies to the fact that the people and government of Ethiopia are always after peace. Despite the barrage of disinformation that targets tainting the image of Ethiopia, the facts were not able to be obscured.

The Ethiopian side had worked to the last minute to preclude war. Even after war broke out in Ethiopia's north with the choice of the other party, the former had declared a truce twice to avoid the suffering of the innocent people. Gains made over the last weeks prove the claim true.

The situation in Tigray region is improving immediately on the heels of the signing of the Agreement for Lasting Peace Through A Permanent Cessation of Hostilities between the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) and Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF).

Well over five million people could get access to food as a result of a-70,000 metric tons of grain delivered to Tigray region following the peace deal. Out of the stated amount, in addition to facilitating conditions of all sorts, the government supplied 13.6 metric tons of grain and nutritious food during the said period.

International partners, with the Catholic Relief Service and the World Food Program (WFP) taking the lead, are also playing a pivotal role. Reports of the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) have it that the latter delivered over 60,000 metric tons of grain and nutritious food to the people in need in Tigray. Around 16 aid agencies have been supporting the government's humanitarian response to Tigray per the report.

Medicine and fuel are among the dearly needed items in Tigray. In this respect, reports of the NDRMC have shown the fact that more than 800 metric tons of medical drugs and equipment have been supplied to the region. Moreover, over 460,000 liters of fuel have been transported using the Abala-Shire route.

As we speak, the four humanitarian corridors to Tigray are busy. Humanitarian wheels are set to motion along all the corridors. This is not to mention the humanitarian flights. The four corridors namely the Semera-Abala corridor on the Afar State to access Mekelle; Woldia -Alamata- Korem towns; Debarq-Addi Arkay-Mai Tsebri-Shire and Gondar-Humera - Sheraro-Shire-Axum- Adwa are open and are safe to humanitarian delivery.

Whenever relative peace reigns even in the midst of war the reform administration throws full weight to save lives. Suffice it to say that WFP Deputy Country Director & Emergency Coordinator North Ethiopia Adrian Van der Knapp in a BBC Focus on Africa interview in mid July 2022 said famine was averted in Tigray due to the truce the government declared.

Of course, the war-ravaged areas in the northern Ethiopia would not live on aids forever. Aids are critically important until the people come back to normal life. In this regard, works are in the pipeline to fully resume services by restoring the damaged basic infrastructure.

The people both at home and abroad, except a few rather ghoulis ones, are expressing their support to the new dawn befalling Ethiopia.

The agreement has made it possible to prevent the loss of more lives and the destruction of property. What matters most now is to fully put the accord to effect per the agreed terms. Recently, a Technical Planning Joint Committee which is expected to outline a detailed plan for the disarmament of the Tigray combatants has started functions. Its detailed plan is sought to address issues of disarmament, among others. This and similar other developments are heartwarming ones for they are the avenue to lasting peace.

Opinion

Ethiopia still beacon of independence

BY DANIEL ALEMAYEHU

Although the world believes Africa and the whole world are free from slavery, and many countries have been celebrating their independence days, the truth stands on the opposite side. Africa has been suffering from complex conspiracies that carry hoarded agendas that put the continent under the shackles of dependency.

It is true that western supremacy has rooted deep in the systems and activities of most African nations. The essence of slavery in the hearts of Africans has not vanished. This is due to the grief and inhuman deeds committed by colonizers on our black forefathers. Not only have their fathers experienced the pain and grief, but their grandchildren have also felt the agony.

It is everyday news that former colonizers of African countries have been involved in the issues of sovereign African states. Exploiting the natural resources of those countries, former colonizers would never say enough in the nearest possible junction.

Though African countries have not been free from those pressures and unwanted exploitations of resources, a country called Ethiopia has still resisted even the idea of living under the burden of colonization and dependency. It is the undeniable truth that the nation has been going through many pressures that threaten its sovereignty. But, thanks to our fathers and forefathers, we

Ethiopians have never tasted the luxury of colonizers who would rather have imposed their rules on us.

Some colonialists still have a grudge on Ethiopia. It is because the people of the nation will never entertain either the idea or the action of being under the rule of other countries. This stand made the nation living between the hammer and anvil. In the worst scenario, even though countries have signed multiple agreements to work with Ethiopia, history showed us they always wait for the right time to strike the wounds of the nation.

For several decades, Ethiopia has been seen as the beacon of freedom and independence in the eyes of black people. Similarly, the nation is still trying to maintain its reputation to be a model of independence. The nation's resistance is liked by Africans and friends of Africa; however, it left the nation to be seen with red eyes, consequently putting it in difficult situation.

In the present climate, the world is aware of the conflict that broke out in the northern part of the country, and the people have been suffering from multiple challenges that the war brought in. Apart from defending the sovereignty of the country and the well-being of its citizens, the federal government has been resisting the pressures imposed by external forces. However, the federal government has looked for possible ways to the solution from happening. Even after the war started, the government showed

its commitment to ensuring the peace and stability of the country.

Before the Cessation of Hostility Agreement (CoHA) was signed between the Federal Government of Ethiopia and Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) in South Africa, Pretoria, the nation was under numerous pressures from inside and outside. Countries who believed to be our friends turn their back on the nation to make things worse. A simple illustration might be the nation's expulsion from AGOA.

It is obvious that any dispute could be resolved by bringing the issue to the table. Understanding the idea, the federal government showed its utmost effort to solve the problem by opening its door to peace. This time, many European countries and the West presented themselves to play the mediator's part in the agreement. This was the time that the nation reaffirmed that Africans have the capacity to solve their own problems in their own ways. The incumbent identified that the only way to sit around the table with the other side is with the African Union's involvement. Firmly, the nation confirmed that Africa's problem needs African solutions.

With different actors involved, Africa has come into contact with various unwanted conflicts and wars when we are exploring the museums of the past. Interventionists have played their role in making peace in the continent by injecting their own agenda

behind the curtains.

From our earlier experience, we have seen that most international media portray the Government and the people of Ethiopia by darkening the reality on the ground. By doing this the so called international media that have plenty years of experience on the business put their profession and trust in jeopardy. Yet Ethiopians and friends of Ethiopia at home and abroad have played their part by exposing this smear campaign.

In the modern days, Ethiopia is still reflecting the power of Africa and its people to act on their issues. For several occasions, the nation taught the African continent the power of independence and how to determine one's fate. Ethiopia also knows the power of living in peace and tranquility among people and neighbors. That is why the incumbent and the people always defend the nation whatever happens.

Ethiopia still has the power and courage to defend its sovereignty and will not sell its freedom at any price. The nation will also remain the beacon of prosperity and independence. The nation has the message to convey that is 'the African continent has the power to solve its problems using its people with its techniques.'

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

Art & Culture

Soccer as global culture: Politics should not spoil the great show

BY MULUGETA GUDETA

This year's global soccer fiesta is taking place in Doha, Qatar and the global carnival of 'the beautiful game' has started without beer or something that could make the occasion really crazy, maybe giving the green light for soccer hooliganism. After all Qatar is an Arab country and has all the rights to celebrate the occasion by respecting its culture, tradition and faith that prohibit the use of any intoxicating substance on any public occasion. Had it not be prohibited by tradition and faith, we can imagine that Qatar could build a beer factory nearby all the post-modern stadiums it has built across the small but very rich Arab country.

Fast backward to 1986, to the Mexico world cup when the famous Maradona scored the infamous goal or the 'Hand of God' goal and there was no VAR to rule out the goal and reverse the final score. By the way, the 1986 World Cup in Mexico was won by Argentina, which, according to Wikipedia, "was captained by the 25-year old Diego Maradona who played a large part in the team's success by scoring the "Hand of God" goal, as well as another voted the "Goal of the Century" in the same quarter final against England."

The soccer world has been speaking about Maradona's "Hand of God" goal" for the last 36 years. Journalists have been commenting on its merits and wondered how Maradona could get it undetected by the referee. Fortunately now, the 'Hand of God' or any other controversial goal has become impossibility thanks to the technological advances that have made cheating not only ridiculous but also punishable with a red card.

Spectators are of course the most important parts of any soccer fiesta. We have seen that soccer becomes dull, boring, meaningless and unattractive when stadiums are devoid of spectators who shout ceaselessly, beat drums or play their vuvuzela as they did during the World Cup in South Africa, or dance in unison to the music of soccer being played in the fields. By the way the 1986 World Cup in Mexico created a new spectator-generate phenomenon known as "the Mexican Wave" which Wikipedia described as "a spectator phenomenon which was popularized worldwide after featuring during the tournament."

In 1986 many technologies were not invented as far as how the game is played and transmitted to the world. Color

television was just invented and its black and white cousins were rarities in Ethiopia where the soccer fever was born when the national team won the African Cup of Nations back in 1961? When Mengistu Werku, Luciano Vassalao and his brother were the most famous or most popular attackers on the winning Ethiopian side.

During the Mexican World Cup, young boys gathered in the few bars and households that had the TV sets and enjoyed the games, their eyes glued to the screen and eagerly following the leg movements, dribbling, and speedy runs past defenders by players like Maradona, Sergio Batista of Argentina, Gary Lineker from England Careca from Brazil and others.

Now, after 36, almost neighborhood Ethiopia has at least one color television whose size was unimaginable in 1986. The 43 and 56 inches TV sets usually give you the magical impression of being present at the stadiums or being at touching distance from the players. This has heightened the imagination of soccer crazy youngsters and given them the illusion of being at home and in the world at the same time. Nowadays boys as young as ten in Ethiopia would tell you the names of European soccer teams and the names of the most famous players as if they are reading them from a newspaper.

Meanwhile, soccer has grown into a global cultural phenomenon and has now reached technical and tactical levels that have assumed impressive dimensions, producing new star players and soccer phenomena like Ronaldo the elder from Brazil, Ronaldo the younger from Portugal, Messi, Neymar, Mbappe...the list is long and continuing to grow with the arrival of new stars. Soccer is now one of the biggest global businesses and players' salaries have reached staggering figures.

Meanwhile the soccer World Cup has assumed political, economic, cultural and social importance never seen before in entertainment culture so far. It has produced giant promotion companies and media outlets that link the ball with the

spectator every other day of the year.

Global soccer has also assumed political dimensions and taking part in the tournaments is regarded a great honor not only for the players but also for the participating countries. National flags are more visible and patriotic feeling overflow on such occasions. A flag has also become not only a national pride but also a national humiliation when the big soccer countries suffer defeat and surrender to the underdogs.

Although Africa's participation in past World Cups was largely volatile, the continent has produced some of the best players and teams that shined when they played against highly experienced European sides. However, chance of shining at the cup seems to have limited to a few African countries like Ghana, Nigeria Cote D'Ivoire, Senegal, Egypt, Morocco and a few others. These are African countries that do well in economic development and have managed to send their promising players to Europe or America where they not only shine but also become rich beyond imagination, contributing to social developments in their countries of origin.

Given the high numbers of African players who made it in Europe, Africa should be represented by more countries than five or six. The good thing is that when African countries are individually represented during the World Cup all Africans support them as one because in the imagination of soccer crazy African spectators Africa is one big country, rising, defiant and able to fight against their more established Western counterparts. Five African teams are represented in Qatar and all eyes in African are turning towards Doha as African teams have surprised the soccer world more than once in the past and beaten such greats as France, Germany, Argentina and what not.

The spirit of global soccer is one of unity, togetherness, happiness verging on elation, and respect for diversity. When politics enters the arena, it does more harm than good. Politics and soccer are

antithetical because the former is about nationalism, patriotism and national interest while the latter is about globalism, global culture, and about thinking and enjoying something that beyond borders and beyond national identity. Whether we like it or not, this year's World Cup final is marred by politics. It began with alleged human rights accusations against Qatar that should laid to rest once the games started well before the finals and continued unabated beyond the opening games.

FIFA in its official sight wrote about the World Cup mascot or good luck charm by saying that, "Qatar and FIFA have unveiled La'eeb as the official mascot of FIFA World Cup 2022. La'eeb is an Arabic word meaning super-skilled player.

He belongs to a parallel mascot-verse that is indescribable –everyone is invited to interpret what it looks like. La'eeb encourages everyone to believe in themselves as 'Now is All'. He will bring the joy of football to everyone."

This is the spirit of the mascot, a free spirit that gives entertainment and joy to everyone-players and spectators alike. This should be the real message of the games, a message that is facing challenges from people who do not care about the beautiful game but seem to use the occasion to send political messages of disunity, accusations and counter-accusations as well controversies. Qatar may be accused of some rights infringements but why is it made to fall under the strains and stresses that such accusations might create in the minds of its organizers and the government that made all it could to make it a success.

Why not wait the end of the games to accuse the country of any ills that it are alleged to have been committed? Would this happen if Qatar was in Europe or America? Why now that an Arab country is trying to bring joy to the global soccer? Why tarnish the image of the country and the attractiveness of the games?

There is no point in engaging into politics at this point. Simply put, Qatar should be commended for organizing and hosting the first World Cup in an Arab country and trying to make soccer-crazy fans happy by all means. It is time to forget these things and enjoy the soccer extravaganza for the coming two months or so.



Law & Politics

Intensifying counteroffensive measures against *Shene* terrorist group

BY ADDISALEM MULAT

Making unholy alliances with internal and foreign adversaries the terrorist *Shene* group in several instances has been making every effort an attempt to dismantle the country carrying out heinous crimes and committing a spree of killings against civilians.

Serving as the Trojan horse for Ethiopia's historic adversaries, the terrorist *Shene* group in a number of situations has been claiming the lives of non-combatants and ransacking their properties in various parts of the Oromia region. As nothing makes the criminal organization happier than shortening the lives of innocent civilians and lining up their pockets, they have continued escalating tensions with their nefarious deeds in the aforesaid state.

Regardless of the fact that a lot of attempts have been made by the federal government to resolve the problem in an atmosphere of calm, the criminal entity has continued in its terrorist activities claiming the lives of innocent civilians and targeting both Amhara and Oromo ethnic communities. Given the current circumstances, the criminal enterprise has sustained attempts to turn the population as a whole into chaos and bring discredit to the constructive steps unfolding in every corner of the country.

It should be borne in mind that at the time when Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed came to power, he gave the go-ahead to all armed actors to return home to broaden the political landscape of the entire nation in the shortest possible time. It is common knowledge that following the government's move the whole thing at the outset embarked on pointing forward in the right direction. But to everyone's dismay, with time, the criminal clique ended up becoming a pain in the neck and a thorn in the country's flesh.

In a similar vein, the rouge group set in motion bankrolling, training, and arming to the teeth their inner circles aimed at turning the country upside down.

The terrorist group has been intensifying its brutal horrors against communities in various parts of Oromia to sow discord among different ethnic groups and disrupt the peace process of the country. To foil this evil act, the Ethiopian government has been taking stiff countermeasures against the insurgent group.

On the heels of the evil deeds of the group against innocent civilians in various parts of the country, communities living in the tarted areas have been protesting against the terrorist *Shene* group. In the recent past, rallies have been held in various parts of the country against the evil deeds of the criminal group. Apart from condemning the nefarious deeds of the terrorist group, protestors have enunciated their unwavering stance to stand by the side of the Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF) that has been working at all hours of the day and



night to defend the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the country.

On the contrary, the demonstrators verbalized their unflinching stance to support ENDF in the struggle against the criminal *Shene* group that has been turning the lives of noncombatants upside down in close collaboration with entrepreneurs of war. Other than that they denounced some entities to distance themselves from supporting the criminal group that aimed at extending the disgruntled group.

In defiance of the ongoing efforts of the government to resolve the difference peacefully, the criminal organization has been persistently casting aside the efforts of the government working in partnership with foreign entities that have an aversion to seeing a peaceful Ethiopia. Even though the illegal group turned out to be an element of danger to the people of Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa, some entities have continued rubbing shoulders with Ethiopia's opponents and mystifying the entire world with cock-and-bull stories that do not reflect the prevailing circumstances on the ground.

In the present circumstances, terrorist *Shene* has been moving heaven and earth to make the horn of Africa hotbeds of criminal enterprises, radicalism, militarization, and other actions in violation of law and anarchistic acts. As the illegal enterprise is a threat to the entire world, the global community should stand by the side of the government to eliminate the crooked group for good and all from the face of Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa at the earliest possible time.

One thing the paymasters of the terrorist *Shene* should know is the fact that the criminal organization is a risk factor to the peace and security of the wider international community. Nowadays, the illegal group has continued sparing no effort to turn the lives of civilians in Oromia State into a living hell and pulling to pieces the country.

In times gone by speaking to the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA), Tulema Abba Geda, Gobena Hola, said that attacking civilians everywhere and under any circumstance is an inhumane shameful action unfitting Ethiopians. Such a devilish act is part of the projects orchestrated to dismantle the nation by creating havoc and hostility between the two largest segments of Ethiopian society—the people of Amhara and Oromo, who have been living with peaceful coexistence so far.

He said, “Reflecting political differences is inevitable, but killing innocent citizens who have never had any political affiliation is quite unacceptable and cursed.”

According to Gobena, the recent massacre of innocent civilians near Wollega- Tole District is one of the most reprehensible and condemned acts in the country.

The Oromo people have *Mogassa* and *Gudifecha* cultural systems which pave the way for people to live and help one another. That is why the people, who come from other regional states, have been living in harmony with the Oromo people for centuries without any security problems.

He also underlined that the government should extend strong intelligence and security institutions to avoid such unacceptable actions committed by *Shene* and ensure sustainable peace for citizens across the nation.

Nowadays, there are various indications that the enemies are working day in and day out centering Oromia State to disrupt the peace of the country and taking the place as a good opportunity to dismantle the nation. Therefore, the people of Oromo should give serious attention to the fight against the inhuman actions perpetrated by terrorist groups thereby keeping the culture of the people and the value of embracing Geda system, Gobena added.

“The people of Oromia in particular and those of other places have to give a deaf

ear and a blind eye to this false information disseminating groups as they are performing actions pretending they are working for the people; they have never thought of people except for their selfish interest,” he noted.

The Oromia Regional State government lately called on Oromo youth who joined to fight alongside the terrorist *Shene* group.

Hailu Adugna, head of the region's communication bureau, said that the regional government has been doing a lot of work to ensure the security of the Oromia region and has made several attempts to bring those who joined the *Shene* terrorist force back to peaceful lives, according to local media.

He added that the regional state government has “extended a hand of peace to anyone” and many “*Shene* members” have been surrendering to the Abbaa Gadas (traditional leaders), as well as religious leaders and elders of the country.

Regardless, the regional government has been working to make the youth “who mistakenly joined the *Shene* forces” surrender by involving the Gada leaders, elders, and the community and will continue to do so, Hailu said, adding that the region will keep its arms stretched for peace for the members of the armed group to surrender peacefully. To that end, he urged communities to work together with the regional government and its security forces in their respective neighborhoods.

In the meantime, however, the regional state government will keep taking military measures against the rebels to ensure the peace and security of civilians, stated the media.

No matter how hard Ethiopia's arch-foes bend over backward to pursue their objectives, all their endeavors failed to bring results as a consequence of the uncompromising stance of the incumbent and the people of Ethiopia.



Herald Guest

“I feel happy when my employees become entrepreneurs,” Animaw Alemu

BY GIRMACHEW GASHAW

Today's Herald Guest is Animaw Alemu, an all-rounded entrepreneur in the making. Animaw started his business with a lorry he obtained from his brother as a gift. By working day and night he promoted his business to a higher level and now engages in exemplary activities in the import, export and manufacturing sectors.

Born in Sekela woreda of Amhara State where the world's longest river, the Blue Nile, originates Animaw has served in the Ethiopian National Defense Forces. Following that he studied management through distance education.

Animaw is now engaged in the import export and manufacturing industry sectors. He ventures exemplary ideas of business that are beneficiary not only for him as an investor but for the country as he intervenes in areas that need the courageous venture of the investor.

As an entrepreneur, Animaw mostly underlines a principle to prioritize the benefits of the nation and the people rather than merely maximizing personal profit.

During his interview with The Ethiopian Herald recently, he pinpointed the main areas where and how the private sector should work hard, and be sincere to the business and the nation. Have a nice read!

What were the challenges you faced as a start-up?

As I started my business with one truck I have faced problems to fulfill accessories and other services. I continued working in my brother's company where he exported sesame. I worked hard and with maximum honesty as General Manager to make it profitable. So, in addition to the truck, my brother also allowed me to share a quarter of the income from the export of sesame from Humera through Sudan. This helped me to quadruple the number of trucks in two years.

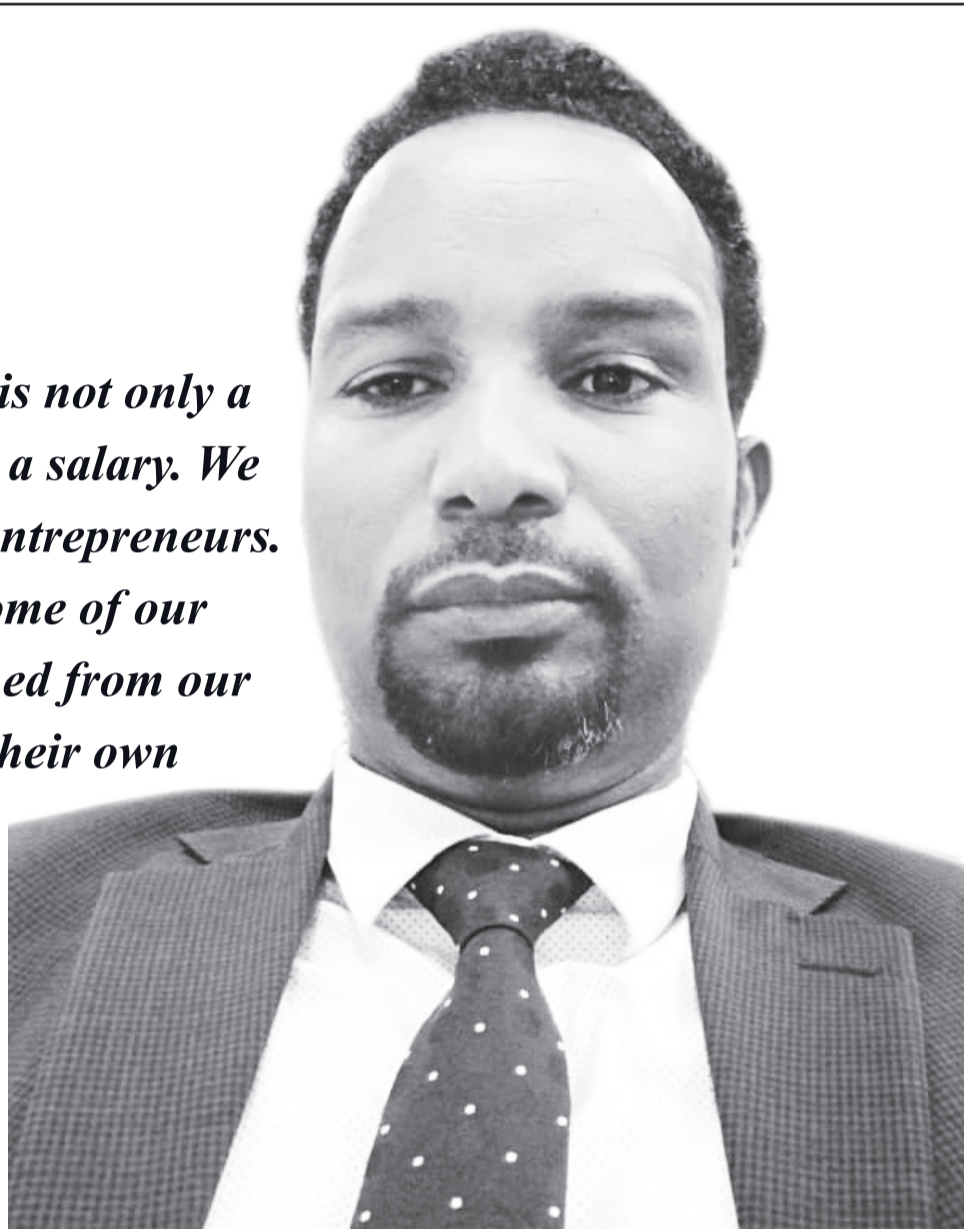
Then I joined the export market. By the time I joined, the export market was very interesting. Not many exporters are involved in the business. This created an environment where the market had a smooth flow in one or two directions.

With this performance, I was able to request a bank loan. The banks also consider only the clarity of your documents or records that show your good performance. In due course of time, I have managed to reach A-level clients at the banks.

You are engaged in many sectors of the trade like mining, petroleum, water bottling ... etc. How do you select the sectors that you are engaged in?

I used to work in the import and export

Promoting employees is not only a matter of paying them a salary. We help them to become entrepreneurs. For instance, so far some of our employees have resigned from our company and started their own businesses



sector originally. Our exports mainly focused on sesame, coffee ... etc. We are now transiting to the manufacturing industry. Now what is officially inaugurated is the water bottling factory. Other than the export sector we are now producing electric poles in our factories in Kombolcha and Mojo towns. We have contributed a big share in alleviating the shortage of poles for electric power transmission and telecommunication lines. This is a need-based production as it responded to the looming shortage of poles in the country.

When we do business we should also see national responsibility beyond personal gains. In this case, we were able to produce the necessary amount of poles as the clients for the concrete poles collaborated in alleviating the shortage of inputs like cement.

We have a plan to establish a car assembly line in Gelan town. We also aspire to engage in petroleum and gold mining. We are now working in Dima town of Gambella. We are transforming from traditional to modern gold mining. When we do these mining activities we aspire to contribute our share in alleviating the foreign currency shortage of the country.

Our concrete pole factory is also transforming the country's electric power grid from wooden to concrete poles. Recently, we will inaugurate sport petroleum which is imported from abroad and distributed for the local market.

What kind of support do you expect from the government?

We want government support like any private sector. But we understand the current situation of the country and the world at large. So we do not expect that much support from the government at this moment.

But we would like to stress the need to give due attention to electricity supply. In this regard, we have enjoyed due collaboration from principals of electric power supply in Oromia State have collaborated with us to access electric power connections to our industries in a short period.

I believed that we have received more support than we requested.

There are many challenges to doing business, which even baffle experienced entrepreneurs. What do you do when you face such challenges?

There were challenges in export. It is our career document that matters. Otherwise,

you won't face financial problems. We didn't face any problems as the time we started the business was an optimal one. That means there were not too many exporters in the field. Now we are facing a contest from many exporters that do the job unprofessionally. This complicates the job now. All of us know this. Previously we take time to contemplate. Some of the exporters rush to get the loan only. But they have no idea about the business. They do not calculate their gains and loss in advance. These challenges came only recently. They have affected our possibility of accessing the loan. Now, many enabling situations like loan facilities are getting weaker. We hope this would improve in the future.

Previously, the government used to share with the exporters some 50 percent or 30 percent of the foreign currency obtained from the export. This encourages exporters to work more. The exporter would search for all means to export as many items as possible seeking to maximize his benefit.

There is a shortage of foreign currency in our country. How are you trying to overcome the challenges?

So far we have been using the LC that we opened earlier, exports we did before



Herald Guest



and some support from the government. But by now it is difficult to import. That is why I urge the government to revise the permission for exporters to retain a portion of the foreign currency like 50 percent or 70 percent.

You have now started bottling water. And the water is destined for export too. How do you see the potential of the country to export bottled water?

Doing a water business is my longtime dream. God willing my dream has come true. What motivated me was that I observed the demand for water in the Middle East where I export other items. For instance, I received an order for the export of 5 million bottles of water from Qatar, where the world cup is underway. Unfortunately, I couldn't make it to the world cup due to some gaps. But the brand and design have received big acceptance. The quality of water in Ethiopia is good and we will start exporting water recently to Saudi Arabia. As to the Minister of Industry our company is the third one to export water.

To lift the economy, one good measure is the peaceful conclusion of the war. Now that the war concluded, the next step that the government has to do is to increase the

involvement of the private sector. This is my interest. The government should also involve selected entrepreneurs in some national meetings as they can contribute some ideas. The collection of these ideas is going to benefit the country in the end. When the government revises policies and comes up with reforms in the economy it is advisable if it raises the involvement of the private sector.

What is the plan of your company?

Our plan as a company is to engage in activities that can benefit the nation and its compatriots. When we do our jobs like export, we do not merely focus on the profit we obtained but also on recognition for our quality works. As an employer, we also aim to promote our employees. Promoting employees is not only a matter of paying them a salary. We help them to become entrepreneurs. For instance, so far some of our employees have resigned from our company and started their own businesses. Just as I mention my brother's name for my success, I am sure these people would mention my name when they succeed. Helping others to be successful is an enjoyable feat.

Thank you very much!

My pleasure!

7th Internet Governance Forum in Addis Ababa

New technologies must remain a force for good

A recurrent theme at IGF 2022 is harnessing advanced digital technologies, such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, biotechnology and robotics, for the greater social good. These frontier technologies have the immense potential for driving the successful implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. However, their misuse can threaten human rights, generate unemployment, and foster the spread of inequalities, especially for developing countries who lag behind in the application of these technologies.

If harnessed effectively, advanced technologies can accelerate financial inclusion, prevent future pandemics, and help combat climate change. According to UNCTAD Technology and Innovation Report 2021, new technologies already represent a \$350 billion market which could grow to \$3.2 trillion by 2025. Advanced technologies can also allow for the reductions of 5% to 10% of greenhouse gas emissions.

Delegates called for more capacity-building, greater multi-stakeholder engagement and the coherent development of policies that effectively harness the use of advanced technologies. The private sector was cited as a crucial partner as they are at the forefront of innovative technological advances. Main Session: Enabling Safety, Security and Accountability

Participants acknowledged that cyber security is being approached in a more whole-of-society, human-centric manner. There is also more focus on how human rights is integrated into cyber security measures.

Some countries have made progress in developing national mechanisms for responding to threats. Examples include passing data protection laws that provide breach notification requirements; investing in research and development for digital transformation; and launching a national cyber security strategy.

Participants stressed the importance of meaningful participation of all stakeholders including civil society. Efforts to address cyber security must center around people and the impacts of these attacks on their lives and livelihoods. Participants also stressed the need for governments to be transparent in how they use surveillance tools.

Best Practice Forum on Cyber security

The Best Practice Forum on Cybersecurity updated IGF2022 participants on cybersecurity norms and agreements that currently exist globally. Two new agreements have been introduced since 2021, namely the Copenhagen Pledge on Tech for Democracy and A Declaration for the Future of the Internet. These new additions bring the total to 38 international agreements between or among stakeholders, including

voluntary, nonbinding cybersecurity norms. Aside from general cooperation norms, the most common elements in these agreements include protecting human rights and democracy and countering disinformation and influence operations.

An emerging priority issue is combatting ransomware, considered to be one of the most dangerous national security threats by Governments worldwide. John Hering, Senior Government Affairs Manager for Digital Diplomacy at Microsoft, emphasized that improving "cyber hygiene" is one of the most basic actions governments, corporations and other organizations can take to protect their systems from cyberattacks. For example, adopting multi-factor authentication across systems reduce the likelihood for attackers to intrude.

A key feature of the best practice forum held today was Storybanking, where the presenters investigated a specific cybersecurity event, in this case, Log4j, to gain insights about whether or not norms have had an effect in mitigating the attack or where norms development would have benefited from their input.

Global AI Governance for Sustainable Development

Artificial Intelligence (AI) possesses immense potential for fostering economic growth and environmental sustainability

and accelerating the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Recent studies pointed out that AI has the potential to help achieve more than 70% of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, while promising prosperity, AI and other advanced digital technologies present risks of growing unemployment, underemployment and inequality, and raise new ethical and moral challenges such as replication of social biases and discriminatory algorithms.

Today's Workshop on Global AI Governance for Sustainable Development presented participants with the linkages between AI and sustainable development, in particular, how advanced digital technologies impact SDG 8 on decent work, SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure, SDG 10 on reduced inequalities, SDG 12 on sustainable consumption and production and SDG 13 on climate.

The fundamental challenge on AI governance is the lack of data, especially from the Global South, that is needed to provide important inputs into the process of improving machine learning and AI. Where data is present, there is also a risk of data bias. Multi-stakeholder cooperation is needed to set governance standards and ethical boundaries that are inclusive, non-discriminatory, auditable and rooted in human rights.



Light for all!

BY TEWODROS KASSA

According to the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063, improving the lives of Africans and undertaking tangible progresses in all sectors is the foremost continental wide agenda and the matter that gains more attention from member states. All member states' engagement and contribution is fundamental to realize this all-inclusive socio-economic development aspiration.

Accordingly, Agenda 2063 seeks to deliver on a set of Seven Aspirations each with its own set of goals which if achieved will move Africa closer to achieving its vision for the year 2063. These Seven Aspirations reflect the Union's desire for shared prosperity and well-being, for unity and integration, for a continent of free citizens and expanded horizons, where the full potential of women and youth are realized, and with freedom from fear, disease and want.

Realizing a prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development is the primary aspiration of the African Union. All states are determined to eradicate poverty in one generation and build shared prosperity through social and economic transformation of the continent.

According to the goal, the following targets should be achieved before 2063 to keep Africa's journey towards sustainable socio economic development. A high standard of living, quality of life and well-being for all Africans is possible where poverty is ended. Thus, significant work is expected to averting inequalities of income and opportunity and expanding job creation especially addressing youth unemployment.

In addition, facing up to the challenges of rapid population growth and urbanization, improvement of habitats and access to basic necessities of life such as water, sanitation, electricity as well as providing social security and protection are important strides to realize the Agenda.

Ethiopia is doing its level best regarding improving electricity access through providing enough electricity to local

Ethiopia places utmost consideration to working closely with its neighboring nations to promote trade, investment, development and infrastructure with a view to hasten economic integration in the region

consumption and exporting power to its neighboring countries. Not only electricity, the country aspires to integrate with neighboring countries through supplying water to Djibouti and other countries.

Currently, Ethiopia is exporting electric power to neighboring countries -Sudan, Djibouti, and Kenya. In the future, it aspires to supply electricity to Tanzania, Uganda, South Africa, among other countries.

The country builds numerous mega hydropower dams that sought to alleviate not only local electricity consumption but also address the neighboring countries growing demand for electricity.

Ethiopian Electric Power (EEP) Transmission and Sub-Stations Construction Projects Executive Officer told *The Ethiopian Herald* that the country has accomplished various electricity transmission lines construction to its neighboring countries.

As to him, the accomplishment of such

projects immensely contributes to create sustainable partnership between Ethiopia and its neighboring countries. Having strong infrastructural interconnection will play significant roles towards strengthening the on-going people-to-people ties and elevate countries' interaction to a greater level. The project is the first of its kind in East Africa that lays the foundation for the country's efforts to integrate socio-economically with neighboring countries.

Accordingly, the Ethio-Kenya electric transmission line is assured with sufficient quality to transmit electricity for longer period of time. It is one of the state of the art electricity projects in the world. The project was accomplished with the financial support from the World Bank (WB) and the African Development Bank (ADB) by the Chinese CET and German Siemens companies.

The Wolaita Sodo Converter Station that supplies power to Kenya was built outside of the city of Wolaita Sodo at a cost of over 500 million USD is a center where electricity is measured and sent from Ethiopia to Kenya.

Currently, the electricity transmission test work is being carried out; and generating the aforesaid income will continue after a month.

Ethio-Kenya Electricity Project Site Manager Tewodros Ayalew said that by exporting power to Kenya, Ethiopia will double its foreign earnings from energy export in the current fiscal year. The manger further said that Ethiopia is going to secure over 100 million USD exporting power annually to Kenya alone.

It was learnt that Ethiopia earned over 95.5 million USD from electric energy export during the last 2021/22 fiscal year. Based on the agreement reached between the two countries, over 100 million USD will be generated by exporting 200 megawatts of energy to Kenya every year, he said

Thus, the Ethio-Kenya project is expected to solve the country's foreign exchange deficit to some extent. For the next three years, Ethiopia would continue to earn such revenue. But, after three years, over 400

megawatts of power will be supplied and at the same time the income will be doubled, he added.

On his part, Wolaita Sodo Converter Station Operation Head Habtamu Girma said that the project has contributed greatly to the economy of the country through exporting power to Kenya. This transmission line will also help sending electricity to other neighboring countries including Tanzania and Uganda.

It is to be recalled that Ethiopia signed a power sale agreement with Kenya in August, 2022. According to the agreement, Ethiopia will sell one kilowatt hour of electricity for 6.5 USD cents.

The agreement states that after three years, there will be a negotiation to revise the current tariff price at the Ethiopian Electric Power request.

Ethiopia places utmost consideration to working closely with its neighboring nations to promote trade, investment, development and infrastructure with a view to hasten economic integration in the region.

At exclusive interview with the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) once, Water and Energy Minister Habtamu Itefa (PhD. Eng.) stated that Ethiopia believes that electricity interconnection will help to integrate and transform the economies of the East African countries. Ethiopia's interconnectivity with neighboring countries in electricity has many benefits for the former.

"Ethiopia cannot stand alone without making connections with its neighbors and we need to be connected by physical infrastructure including electricity for the benefit of our people and economies. In doing so, due attention has been given to the electricity export will not cause a significant harm in the domestic demand."

As to the minister, Ethiopia's aspiration to electricity interconnectedness is a good example for the world and the experience can be expanded to other countries and will bring immense economic benefits. The move also nurtures Ethiopia's diplomatic ties with neighboring countries.

Tender No. NALF .02/2022

1. National Alcohol & Liquor Factory invites all interested and eligible bidders for the supply .Gin flavor, Anethol flavor, PEPPERMINT flavor, Cognac flavor, Bitter flavor and fernet flavor .
2. A complete set of bid document can be obtained against payment of non-refundable fee of Birr 115 /one hundred fifteen birr/ from main cashier at head office.
3. The bid must be accompanied by a bid security 2% of the total offer in the form of CPO or bank guarantees. Bid documents shall be submitted in the separate sealed envelopes labeled “original” and “copy” both for technical and financial proposals.
4. The bid bond will be sealed in separate envelop and marked bid bond.
5. The closing date is Dec 29, 2022 at 10:00 AM and the bid will be opened at the same date at 10:30 AM in the conference hall in the presence of the bidders or their legal representatives.
6. National Alcohol & Liquor factory reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

National Alcohol & Liquor Factory

P.O.Box:- 3516 Fax:- 0115-513299

Tel:- 0113-690563, 0115-517937

Addis Ababa

Notice

•“IL SOLE ONLUS” has applied to the FDRE Authority for Civil Society Organization to register as a Foreign Organization. Any individual or organization opposing the name is hereby requested to report to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Authority for Civil Society Organization, United Insurance Building, 4th floor office no. 407, until December 09, 2022 at 9:00A.M.

AUTHORIY FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION

Notice

• “ETIO-ARAB COUNTRY RETURNED ORGANIZATION” has applied to the FDRE Authority for Civil Society Organization to register as a Board-led Organization. Any individual or organization opposing the name is hereby requested to report to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Authority for Civil Society Organization, United Insurance Building, 4th floor office no. 407, until December 9, 2022 at 9:00A.M.

AUTHORIY FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION

Notice

YEABADO AKABABI AZAWUNITOCH MAHIBER has applied to the FDRE Authority for Civil Society Organization to register as Association. Any individual or organization opposing the name is hereby requested to report to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Authority for Civil Society Organization, United Insurance Building, 4th floor office no. 407, until December 09, 2022 at 9:00A.M.

AUTHORIY FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION

Notice

Regarding the diverse case pending on Bishoftu Town worda court between the petitioner and Respondent the court urged the respondent to be aware that a petition was instituted against him by this notice attach his written response through the law officer on the appointment date 13/12/2022 10:00 AM unless a judgment shall be made on the case after the due process of litigation

Beshotu Town worda court Civil bench

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES - FIRMS SELECTION)

COUNTRY: EASTERN NILE COUNTRIES (EGYPT, ETHIOPIA, SOUTH SUDAN AND SUDAN)

NAME OF PROJECT - Nile Cooperation for Climate Resilience

Project Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No.: TF172848 NCCR (Nile Cooperation for Climate Resilience)

Assignment Title: Consultancy service for Work Package 2 — “Enhancement of the Eastern Nile Flood

Forecasting and Early Warning System (EN-FFEWS) and Flood Risk Mapping”

Reference No.ET-ENTRO-237321-CS-QCBS

The Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office ENTRO has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Nile Cooperation for Climate Resilience Projects (NCCR) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for firm consulting services.

The consulting services (“the Services”) is aimed for the scope of work under Work Package 2 —“Enhancement of the Eastern Nile Flood Forecasting and Early Warning System (EN-FFEWS) and Flood Risk Mapping” covers the necessary surveying, data collection, data compilation, as well as data quality

control activities. It is to be noted that the Work Package 1 — the consultancy work on floodplain topographic, infrastructure and community survey and data collections - will commence in December 2022 which will

provide the some of the inputs in the latest survey and data for Work Package 2.

Work Package 2 includes five major tasks for the riverine flood prone areas in the Eastern Nile basin:

Task 1: Improve Performance of the EN-FFEWS

Task 2: Flood Hazard Assessment and Flood Extent Mapping

Task 3: Flood Vulnerability Assessment

Task 4: Flood Risk Assessment

Task 5: Flood Impact Assessment Capacity Building at Regional Level

The deliverable includes improved and enhanced EN-FFEWS (functioning system with detailed manuals); maps and reports on flood hazard assessment and flood extent, flood vulnerability assessment, flood risk assessment; reports on flood impact assessment; documentation of data processing; and capacity building at regional level and bi-monthly progress reports. This assignment will be carried out over a period of 10 months and the detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website: <http://www.nilebasin.org/entro/>.

The Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office (ENTRO) now invites eligible Consulting Firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The short-listing criteria are:

1. A minimum of ten (10) years firm’s general experience in developing and commissioning flood forecasting and early warning system — rainfall forecast, flows forecast and flood mapping, early warning dissemination and flood risk mapping and impact assessment.

The Consulting Firm shall have sound experience of providing consultancy services (at least three in the last 10-15 years) in conducting the followings:

- developing and commissioning flood forecasting and early warning system,
- flood hazard assessment and flood extent mapping,

- flood vulnerability assessment,

- flood risk assessment, and

- flood impact assessment capacity building at regional level

3. If the Consultancy Firm is in the form of a JV (max two partners), each partner shall have specific experience of working and the lead partner shall have experiences for the minimum of two tasks.

4. The Consultant Firm shall submit satisfactory Completion Certificate of assignments from the concerned employer showing the completion date of assignment related to this consultancy work.

5. The Consultant Firm shall have team of core experts with track record of minimum 10 years experiences: (a) Team Leader — Hydrologist / water resources engineer, hydraulic engineer, (b) Flood Forecasting Expert (rainfall and flood forecasting) (c) Modelling Expert (flood plain hydraulic modelling), (d) Data Management and Analysis Specialist/ GIS Specialist associated FFEW system and hazard, vulnerability,

and risk mapping.

6. The Consultant Firm shall furnish the explicit details for the last five (5) years of the inhouse team of professionals as a proof for permanent nature of employment.

Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” November 2020, setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest. In addition, please refer to the following specific information on conflict of interest related to this assignment: [information on conflict of interest related to the assignment as per paragraph 3.17 of the Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” November 2020].

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection QCBS method, Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, November 2020.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during week days office hours [i.e. 08:30 to 17:30 hour’s local time].

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, by email or by fax,) by 23 December 2022 5:00PM Addis Ababa local time.

Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office (ENTRO)

Attn: Executive Director

Dessie Road, Lamberet-Opposite to ARRARRAT Hotel

P. O. Box 27173-code 1000

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Tel: +251-011- 6461130

Fax: +251-011.6459407 E-mail: entrovacancvnilebasin.org; Copy to: gabdinilebasin.org yseleshinilebasin.org

**INVITATION TO BID
FOR NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BID
Bid No. NCB/ GOV/AAWSA/G011/2022**

Addis Ababa Water and Sewerage Authority (AAWSA) invites interested bidders to participate in the tender for the supply of 7MBRs, Kality UASB-TF operational chemicals, Laboratory chemicals & Reagents.

1. The bid documents shall be purchased from the Procurement Support Process during office hours against payment of non-refundable fee of Birr 700.00 (Birr Seven Hundred).
2. The bid shall be submitted in two envelopes: 1. Technical envelope 2. Financial envelope. One original and one copy.

Addis Ababa Water and Sewerage Authority (AAWSA) invite interested bidders to participate in the tender for the supply of 7MBRs, Kality UASB-TF operational chemicals, Laboratory chemicals & Reagents.

1. The bid documents shall be purchased from the Procurement Support Process during office hours against payment of non-refundable fee of Birr 700.00 (Birr Seven Hundred).
2. The bid shall be submitted in two envelopes: 1. Technical envelope 2. Financial envelope, one original and one copy.
3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information at the office of A.A.W.S.A Procurement Support process Located, around Megegnagna, next to Customs Authority Head Office, on the road to Old 24 Kebele, P.O.Box 1505, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and Tel +2510116673646/0116624972/0116630857, Fax. +2510116623924 E-mail: aawsaprocu@gmail.com.
4. The bid must be accompanied by a bid security of Birr 200,000.00 (two hundred thousand) in the form of cash payment order (C.P.O) or unconditional bank guarantee or Cash. Bid security should be in a separate envelope and be submitted in the tender box together with the technical bid documents.
5. All eligibility certificates should be found in the original technical document envelope and are submitted in the tender box on or before the closing date.
6. The public body reserves the right to increase/decrease by 20% the goods indicated in the tender document.
7. The winner supplier shall furnish 10% of the contract amount as performance security within 15 days as of the contract signing date.
8. The bid must be deposited in the tender box prepared for this purpose at or before 10:00 A.M. on November 13, 2022.
9. The bid will be opened in the presence of bidders and/or their official representatives who wish to attend at 10:30 AM on November 13, 2022.
10. The Authority reserves the right to accept or reject the bid partially or wholly.

**ADDIS ABABA WATER & SEWERAGE
AUTHORITY (AAWSA)**

INVITATION TO TENDER

Bid Announcement No. SSNTT -346

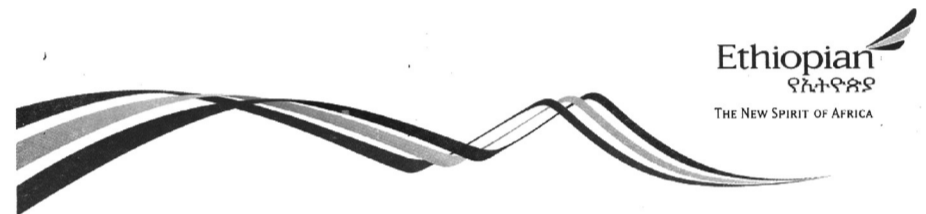
Ethiopian Airlines Group (ETG) intends to lease space available for Bookstore shop at Bole International Airports, Terminal 2 departure area.

Hence, ETG invites all interested and eligible Bidders who can meet the requirements stated hereunder:

1. Any company legally established in Ethiopia with valid and renewed trade license in the above-mentioned service, have VAT registration certificate, Commercial registration certificate, TIN (Tax Identification Number), Tax Clearance Certificate and with two years' and above working experience can participate the bid.
2. Bidders shall submit bid security in the form of CPO or unconditional bank guarantee from banks with an amount of Birr 50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Birr) in the name of "Ethiopian Airlines Group". Any insurance guarantee shall not be accepted.
3. Interested bidders should deposit non-refundable ETB One Hundred (100.00 Birr) to the nearby Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE) branch referring this tender number SSNT-T 346 to Ethiopian Airlines Group Account Number 1000006958277(E-99). Bidders shall email the scanned copy of the deposit slip to the below address and will get the Tender document by the return Email.
4. The sealed bid document must be submitted in separate envelopes i.e., the (Financial Offer, and Bid Security) and one outer envelope, duly marking the inner envelopes as "ORIGINAL" and "COPIES" document delivered to Ethiopian Airlines Group, Strategic Sourcing Non-Technical section before/on 15th Dec.2022 at 8:30 PM afternoon. The bid will be opened on the same date at 9:30 PM, Ethiopian Airlines Group Head office Addis Ababa, Employees Main Cafeteria, at presence of those interested bidders or their legal representatives.
5. Bidders who have active contractual agreement with ETG/Ethiopian Airports - on any business and have legal case and pending payment shall not participate in the bid.
6. Any company who have active contractual agreement with ETG- Ethiopian Airports on similar Services cannot participate in the bid.

For more information; please contact the below address.

Address: Ethiopian Airlines Group, Procurement & Supplies Chain Management Strategic Sourcing non-technical office. Email: AddisGEW@ethiopianairlines.com
Tel: +251 115 17 8025/4028



Request for Bid (National)

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

Ministry of Agriculture- Second Resilient Landscape and Livelihood Project (RLLP)

Project ID: P163383: Bid Reference No. ET-MOA-301685-GO- RFB

Contract title: - Supply and Delivery of Office

1. The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Ministry of Agriculture received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of Resilient Landscape and Livelihood Project (RLLP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Supply and Delivery of Office Equipment.
2. The Ministry of Agriculture now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the following and other items:

No	Description of items	Quantity	Remark
1	Desktop Computers core i5	21	Bid bond Amount ETB 50,000.00
2	Laptop Computers core i7	15	
3	Photocopy machines	14	
4	Printers	14	
5	A4 Scanners	7	
6	External hard disk 3TB	14	
7	Generator	8	
8	A3 Scanner	8	

3. Bidding will be conducted through National Request for Bidding (NRFB) procedures as specified in the World Bank's Regulation: Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consultancy Services under IBRD Loans and IDA credits and grants by World Bank Borrowers July 2016, revised November 2017 and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the procurement regulation.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Ministry of Agriculture Procurement Directorate Block A. Floor 2, Room No. 2-2 and inspect the bidding documents during office hours 9:00 to 12:00 A.M and 2:00 to 5:00 P.M at the address given bellow.
5. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested eligible bidders up on the submission of the written application to the address below and upon payment of nonrefundable fee of Birr 100.00 or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. The method of payment should be cash.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before December 29, 2022 at 2:00P.M. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidder's representatives and anyone who choose to attend at the address below on December 29, 2022 at 2:15 PM.
7. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security amounting ETB 50,000.00 (Fifty thousand Birr) in a freely convertible currency in the form of CPO or unconditional bank guarantee. Insurance guarantee is not acceptable.
8. The address referred to above is: Ministry of Agriculture, Procurement Directorate Building A, Floor 2 or Building B, Floor 2

**CMC Road, Gurd Shola, behind Geological Survey
P.O. Box 62347, Tell: +251011646-13-00/011646-1242**

Ministry of Agriculture

NOTICE FOR INVITATION TO BID

Oromia Development Association (ODA) is a non-governmental organization established to fill the development gap in Oromia region and ensure effective implementation of the region short and long term development programs and projects in terms of time, finance and quality through effective project management to sustain the ongoing rapid development of the country.

ODA has secured budget towards the cost of the procurement of External auditing service /external auditors firm to audit 2022-2024/ for consecutive three year and intends to use these budget to place a contract for which these bidding documents are issued.

Oromia Development Association is now, invites eligible bidders that have legal trade license and other necessary documents listed in the table below.

1. All external auditors' applicants must include the following in their proposal package:-
 - Evidence of the firm's qualifications to provide the above services
 - Timelines and tasks to be carried out by auditor
 - Renewal of license, Hold, TIN No, Vat reg. cert. and payment of government taxes
 - Registered In Charity and society Agency(CSA)
 - Staff Profile
 - Qualification & experience
2. ODA requires the following services:-
 - 2.1. Yearly financial audit, including
 - a. Statement of financial position (assets, liabilities, and net assets)
 - b. Statement of activities (revenue, and expenses)
 - 2.2. Preparation of program and administration expenditure
 - 2.3. Management letter
3. Bidding will be conducted in accordance with the open bid tendering procedures contained in the National competitive bidding (NCB) as specified in the bidding documents.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Oromia Development Association Procurement and property administration Department, Tel.+251-116-392-194 +251-116-392-176 Or else physically by coming to office found at Oromia tower 6th floor room number 605, located around Bole Medihanialem. (a) From 2:30-11:30 Local Time (From, Monday to Friday).
5. A complete set of bidding documents prepared in English language may be purchased by any interested eligible bidders from the first date of this announcement on the Herald newspaper by presenting documents mentioned under items listed in the table above to Oromia Development Association Procurement and property administration Department, bidders can receive bid documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Birr 100Br (one Hundred Birr) for each lots mentioned above.
6. Bid proposals comprising one original and one copy of the technical (qualification), of which one original and one copy must be separately signed, stamped and wax sealed. And one original and one copy of financial proposal must be separately signed, stamped and wax sealed in a separate envelope clearly marking "ORIGINAL" and "COPY", and all off the four separately wax sealed, stamped and signed envelopes must be placed in a one outer envelope signed, stamped and wax sealed. This outer envelope shall bear the submission address, specific name of the service the bidder is competing, signature and address of the bidder and presented to Oromia development association address:-Bole Medihane'alem Oromia tower 6th floor procurement and property administration.
7. Each bids must be accompanied by bid security enclosed with the separate envelope in the amount of One percent (2%) of the amount of BOQ, furnished by certified (C.P.O.) issued by a recognized Domestic Bank so as to be valid for 60 days after bid submission date. Separate Envelope for Bid Bond shall be attached to original Technical Qualification placed inside the mother envelope.
8. All Bids must be delivered to the address below 14 (fourteen) calendar days for the lots specified in the table above after the first day of this bid is announced on the newspaper at 4:00 Local time. Late bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened on the same date at 4:30Local Time or in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below. If this day is not a working day the next working day is the day on which the bids should be closed and opened.
 - a) Address documents may be inspected at: - ODA building 6th floor,
 - b) Address documents will be issued from: ODA building 6th floor, Procurement & Property administration Department, 6th floor,
 - c) Address Bids must be delivered to: procurement & property administration Department, 6th floor,
 - d) Address of Bid Opening: ODA Conference hall on 7th floor
9. Without incurring any bidder the Employer reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Oromia Development Association (ODA)

NOTICE

Pursuant to pecuniary (monetary) litigation pending between Fikir Worku, plaintiff and you the defendant, the court notifies you of the charge made against you and orders you to appear at Bahir Dar and Vicinity High Court for the asjournment scheduled on December 05, 2022 at 10:00 A.M, unless the case shall be treated in your absence.

Amhara National Regional state, west Gojam zone High court

NOTICE

"EJOK INTERNATIONAL SPECIAL NEEDS DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS (EISNDO)" has applied to the FDRE Authority for Civil Society Organization to register as a Board-led Organization. Any individual or organization opposing the name is hereby requested to report to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Authority for Civil Society Organization, United Insurance Building, 4th floor office no. 407, until December 9, 2022 at 9:00A.M.

Authority for Civil Society Organization



Notice on the Establishment of Yeshewa Birhane Microfinance Institution S.C

Yeshewa Birhane Microfinance Institution S.C is hereby established with 174 shareholders in accordance with Micro-Financing Business Proclamation No.626/2009 and Proclamation No.1164/2019 (Amendment) and has got business license from the National Bank of Ethiopia effective from July 08, 2022.

NATIONAL BANK OF ETHIOPIA

INVITATION FOR BID OROMIA BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE TENDER No.RE - OBA/NCB/08/2015

Oromia Bureau Agriculture invites National Competitive Bidding (NCB) from eligible and qualified bidders to bid for the supply 'veterinary drugs'

Sulphadiazinetrimetroprime of 100ml

Broad spectrum Antihelmentics Albendazole 300mg for sheep and goat

Broad spectrum AntihelmenticsTetraclazan 3400/2400gm for cattle

Broad spectrum AntihelmenticsTetraclazan 900mg for sheep and goat

Broad Spectrum Antihelmentics Albendazole 2500mg for cattle

Broad spectrum Fenbendazole 10mg/12mg fan equine

Multivitamin Injectable solution in vial of 100ml

Enrofloxacin Injection 10%

Enrofloxacin Injection 20%

1. Interested bidder who have relevant renewed license for the current budget year, VAT registration evidence and supplier list registration certificate is mandatory.
2. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English can be purchased by interested bidders from Oromia Bureau Agriculture at "Sarbet" area in front of School of Nations The regional government of oromia bureaus Middle Block 3rd floor Procurement during office hours upon payment of non-refundable fee 200.00 (two hundred) birr starting from December 05, 2022
3. All bids must be accomplished by bid bond Birr 400,000.00 in the form of unconditional bank guarantee or certified payment order (C.P.O).
4. Bids must be delivered to Oromia Bureau of Agriculture, "Sarbet" area in front of school of nations The regional government of oromia bureaus in the Middle Block 3rd floor at Procurement team on December 23,2022 up to 4:30 local time in the morning.
5. Bidders should submit their technical and financial offers separately in waxsealed envelopes one original and one copies.
6. Bid will be closed on December 23,2022 at 4:30 & opened in the presence of bidder or their legal representatives on the same date at 5:00 am.
7. Late bids will be rejected.
8. Bidders may obtain further information from Oromia Bureau of Agriculture **Tel no. +251-118829173/Fax-0113717488, P.O.box 8770 Middle Block 3rd floor.**

TEL. +251-118829173 P.O.BOX 8770 FINFINNEE

Oromia Bureau of Agriculture



INVITATION TO NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BID

FLOATING DATE: AS OF December 07, 2022

RFQ NO. 4088275-2

1. Ethio telecom, invites all interested and eligible bidders by this National Competitive Bid (NCB) for the procurement of "Computer and Network Maintenance Tool Kit with Case with RFQ No. 4088275-2. The Bid remains floating from December 07, 2022, to December 28, 2022.

No	Descriptions of the Items	Unit	Qty.	Bid security	Floating Period	RFQ No.
1	Genuine Tool Kit Maintenance Tool Kit Case	Piece	35	50,000.00	December 07, 2022-December 28, 2022	40882752
2	Soldering Gun	Piece	25			
3	External CD/DVD ROM	Piece	30			

Bid documents can be obtained from ethio telecom's websites www.afrotender.com, www.extratenders.com and www.2merkato.com upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Birr 100.00 (Birr One hundred only) by using tele birr payment platform.

In addition, If you are interested to be on the supplier list of ethio telecom please register using the following link or copy and paste the link on a browser "https://erp.ethiotelecom.et/OA_HTML/jsp/pos/suppreq/SupplierRegister.jsp?oid=0EED8A04B857259C".

2. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from ethio's website (i.e. https://www.ethiotelecom.et/tender/, www.afrotender.com, www.extratenders.com and www.2merkato.com

2.1. Sealed bids marked as: "Tender for the Supply of "Computer and Network Maintenance Tool Kit with Case with RFQ No. 4088275-2 and be addressed to:

Ethio telecom, Head Quarter

**Supply Chain Division, 2nd Floor, Room No.211B,
P. O. Box 1047, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

Bid proposal will be received at ethio telecom, Head Quarter 2nd Floor, Room No. 211B, Before or on December 28, 2022 5:00 P.M. Bids presented by any bidder after the closing date shall not be accepted.

3. Bids received in time and fulfilling the other formalities shall be opened in the presence of interested bidders or their legal representatives December 29, 2022, at 10:00 A.M, at ethio telecom, Head Quarter 2nd Floor, Room No.210.

4. Partial bid is allowed.

5. Ethio telecom reserves the right to reject all or parts of this bid.

Ethio Telecom

Notice

For the legal argument proposed and filed to enact before the law about the petition case and issue for the civil procedure to be performed between Plaintiff Mr. Mehari Berhe Teklay and respondents M/S/Mr. Tilahun Feta (four personnel in number), thus you, who are the administrators and controller's of the assets and properties that are belonging of Mrs. Nigist Tsegaye and who are the inheritors of her assets, such as; 1. Mr. Amanuel Mehari, Mr. Yonas Mehari, 3. Mr. Teklay Mehari and 4th inheritor Mr. Belay Mehari. The court has ordered you to appear before the Federal Court Hawassa center, on the appointment date 27/12/2022 at 10:00 A.m. You are also ordered to present before the court on the date of the appointment as mentioned above in the premises and center of the F/H/Court Hawassa center which is located next to Alation Hospital, Hawassa and the court has ordered that if you are not willing to appear in person before the court, it will be concluded that you do not want to defend the argument and the court will take the necessary measures in your absence.

Federal High Court Hawassa Center No.1

Notice

"FENOTE YESUS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH" has applied to use this name as a religious institution.

Any individual or organization opposing this name is here by requested to report to Ministry of Peace Religious and Faith Affairs desk, till on DEC 14 /2022 at 9:00 am.

MINISTRY OF PEACE

Notice

"RURAL PASTORALIST INITIATIVE DEVELOPMENT (RAPID)" has applied to the FDRE Authority for Civil Society Organization to register as a Board-led Organization. Any individual or organization opposing the name is hereby requested to report to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Authority for Civil Society Organization, United Insurance Building, 4th floor office No. 407, until December 9,2022 at 9:00 AM

Authority for Civil Society Organizations

Invitation to Bid

Program: Municipal Project

Procurement Reference Number: SOD/MUN/W-26/2015

1. The Office of Finance of Wolaytta Sodo City having legal address at:

Town/City:	Wolaytta Sodo
Region:	Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region
Country:	Ethiopia

2. The Office of Finance now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Construction of Merkato market flood protection and access project (ditch and redash).

3. Bidding will be conducted through the National Open Bidding and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Bidding Documents.

4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Office of Finance, and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM and from 1:30 PM to 5:30 PM.

5. Qualification requirements include: Legal, Professional, Technical and Financial admissibility of the bids, as detailed in the Bidding Documents. In addition a bidder shall submit a renewed certificate of competence showing that it is a contractor of Grade-5 GC/RC/BC and above Contractor. This is to be verified when necessary.

6. Appropriate margin of preference shall be applied for local companies. Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents.

7. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written Application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of 1000 ETB (One Thousand Ethiopian Birr). The method of payment will be in cash, against a receipt. The Bidding Documents will not be sent by any other method than through a bidder's representative (in person).

8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 9:30 AM, 04-Jan-2023. Late bids will be rejected.

9. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at 10:00 AM, 04-Jan-2023.

10. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of 100,000.00 ETB (One Hundred thousand Ethiopian Birr) or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.

11. The Office of Finance of Wolaytta Sodo City reserves the right to reject any bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to Bidders.

12 The address referred to above is:

Public Body:	Office of Finance of Wolaytta sodo
Authorized Representative:	Zelalem Dawit, 046-180-0863
Room Number	Procurement Case Team Room
Town/City:	Wolaytta Sodo
Country:	Ethiopia

**Wolaytta Zone Sodo Town Administration Finance
and Economic Office**

Request for Bids (Invitation for Bids)

COUNTRY: Ethiopia

NAME OF PROJECT: Urban Productive Safety Net and Jobs Project (UPSN&JP)

Loan No. /Credit No./ Grant No: - IDA — D7320

Contract Title:- Procurement of Personal Safety and protection Materials.

Reference No:- ET-OROMIA-ADAMA-309644-GO-RFB

1. The Ethiopian Government has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Urban Productive Safety Net and Jobs Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for procurement of Safety Materials.

2. The Adama City Administration Finance Office now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for:-

Lot #	Description of Goods	Delivery
1	Procurement of Protective overall, women's overall coats, Hats, Waterproof Jacket or raincoat and Tents	Within 90 calendar days
2	Procurement of Safety Shoes for Men and Women	Within 90 calendar days
3	Procurement of Protective Gloves Leather and Plastic, Eye Safety Glass, First Aid Kit and Mask or respirators filters	Within 90 calendar days

3. Bidding will be conducted through national competitive procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers: Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers ("Procurement Regulations"), and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.

4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Adama City Administration Finance office Around Ethiopian Electric far side 200m In front of Adama City Administration office Department of procurement and property administration and inspect the bidding document during office hours 8:30 AM-5:30 PM (local time) at the address given below.

5. The bidding document in English may be purchased by interested Bidders upon the submission to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of 200 Birr. The method of payment will be in Cash. The document will be sent by /delivered/ on hand.

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 02/1/2023at 2:00 PM (Local Time) and will be opened the same day at 2:30 PM (Local Time) on Announcement of The Ethiopian Herald. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below at the end of this invitation and also bidders should submit sealed bid documents containing one original and one copy.

7. All bids must be accompanied by a "Bid Security" CPO or unconditional Guarantee issued by a Bank for Lot-1 /45,000 Birr/, Lot-2 /45,000Birr / and Lot-3 /25,000Birr / Totally for Lot 1,2 & 3 are =115,000 /One hundred fifteen thousand birr only/ from a reputable Bank prepared in the name of Adama City Administration Finance office.

8. The Adama City Administration Finance office reserves the right to accept or reject all or parts of the bid.

9. The address(es) referred to above is(are):

**Adama City Administration Finance office Street: Around Ethiopian Electric far side
200m In front of Adama City Administration office
Tel: +251 222111442, Adama, Ethiopia**

Adama City Administration Finance office

**INVITATION FOR BIDS
TENDER No SWWCE NCB 41/2022**

Notice to Bidders

South Water Works Construction Enterprise here invites qualified and eligible suppliers and manufacturers to provide an offer for the supply of the following items. Supplying all items fully from stock will be considered as advantages.

LOT NO	DESCRIPTION
1	CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS
2	SHEET METALS AND RHS
3	PIPES AND FITINGS
4	CHEMICALS

A complete bid document may be obtained from the Office Room No 17 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Birr 300 [Three Hundred Birr only/ To Deposit at Commercial Bank of Ethiopia South Water Works Construction Enterprise Account Number 1000013650838 with in 20 consecutive days of this announcement.

Bidders must include non refundable Recently Renewed trade license for the year 2015 Ethiopia calendar year, VAT registration certificate and the letter from tax agency to participate.

All bids must be accompanied by bid security of not less than 2% of the total price in the form of Bank certified (CPO) or not less than 6 month unconditional Back guarantee..

The bid security shall be packed with wax sealed financial Document.

Bidder shall submit financial proposal original & copy separately in wax sealed envelope and also Technical proposals original & copy separately in wax sealed envelope for the above office on the date of December 23, 2022 after noon from 8:30 O'clock up to 11:00 O'clock local time.

The bid will be open in the presence of interested bidder or their legal representative December 24 2022 morning at 3:30 O'clock local time in the Enterprise.

Attention

* "All non technical documents such as recently Renewed Trade License, VAT registration certificate, the Letter from tax agency to participate in bidding, Tax identification number / TIN , Bid Submission Sheet & the bid security (CPO) or un conditional bank guaranty must be packed together with the financial original documents"

The Enterprise reserves the right to reject any or all of the bids

P.O. BOX 21

Tel 0462203944, 046 2210021 Fax 046- 2203937, 046-2202563

**South Water Works Construction Enterprise
Hawassa**

Notice

"ETHIOPIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION" has applied to the FDRE Authority for Civil Society Organization to register as "Endowment". Any individual or organization opposing the name is hereby requested to report to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Authority for Civil Society Organization, United Insurance Building, 4th floor office n°. 407, until December 10, 2022 at 9:00A.M.

Ethiopia Authority for Civil Society

Notice

Being cognizant that the civil argument between the plaintiff/applicant/ DY ICT Technologies PLC and the defendant/respondent/ Abigen Fitsum Nega is under investigation by the Federal first instance court, trade and investment 3rd bench, you are hereby ordered by the court to submit your written response on 19/12/2022 at 10:00 through registrar in response to the call made through this newspaper and appear before the trial to hear the argument on 20/12/2022 at 09:50.

**THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA
FEDERAL FIRST INSTANCE COURT
TRADE AND INVESTMENT BENCH**

INVITATION FOR BID

TENDER Ref. No. NCB/OCC-127/2022

Oromia Construction Corporation (OCC) has intended to invite eligible bidders for the procurement of (50) units of DUMP TRUCK to be used for different construction projects Therefore, interested bidders are invited to participate for the supply of the items required to be purchased in local currency.

1. Those who owned renewed relevant license, Supplier's Registration Certificate, VAT Reg. Certificate, TIN Number & Tax Clearance letter can purchase a complete bidding document upon payment of non-refundable Birr 400.00(four hundred in cash).
 2. Obligatory to provide bid security of Birr 500,000.00(five hundred thousand) in the form of C.P.O or unconditional bank guarantee.
 3. Bid will be closed on December 22, 2022 G.C at 2:00 P.M. and opened on the same date at 2:30 P.M.
 4. OCC reserves the Right to Accept or Reject Partially or the entire bid.
- Address: Procurement Directorate at Kality
Road in front of Drivers Training Center Near CCRDA
+251-11-439-02-22/0280 FAX. NO. 0114396476/0114390546/0114396594
- OROMIA CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION**

INVITATION FOR BID

The office of Oromia Coffee Farmers' Cooperative Union L.L. located at Oromia Regional state around Finfinne Oromia Sp.Zone,Gelan town invites a sealed Bid from International suppliers to supply:

1. Coffee arrival jute bag 85kg
2. Coffee export jute bag 60kg

Procurement reference Number OCPCU/CPM/04/2015

Therefore, Bidders can obtain a complete set of bidding document from the office of the Union located at Gelan town, starting from the first date this notice posted on the news Paper against payment of non-refundable fee of Birr 400.00 (Birr Four Hundred only).

Bidding will be conducted through international Open Competitive Bidding (ICB) Procedure Specified in the bidding documents and is open to all eligible bidders. A detail qualification criterion is stated in the bidding documents.

Bidders shall present:

- a. ETB 100,000.00(One hundred thousand) only bid security in the form of CPO or unconditionally bank Guarantee and bidders are strictly advised to adhere the terms and conditions set in the tender document.
- b. Incomplete methodology; incomplete profile Audit report and CVs will be examined strictly.
- c. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents at the Union office with the address stated Below from 2:00 to 6:00 am and 7:00 to 11:00 pm from Monday to Thursday and 2:00 to 5:30 am and 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm on Friday and Saturday 2:00 to 6:00 am local.
- d. Submission and opening of the bid will be at the office of the union procurement & property administration Division, at the address stated below.
- e. The deadline of bid submission & bid opening Technical and financial

offers will be:-

1. For technical proposal, the closing and opening day will be on the 28th working day at 4:00 am & 4:30 am local respectively from the first date posted on the newspaper. If the 28th day will not be working day, the closing date of the BID will be the next working day with the same time table stated above.
2. Financial proposal opening date will be, after evaluation of earlier submitted or opened technical proposal documents and late bid shall be rejected.
- f. Bidders shall submit one "Original" and "One Copy" of Technical and financial documents shall be produced in such a way.
- g. That the original one and copy to be wax sealed in one envelope for technical and financial separately.
It should also be labeled as 'one original and one copy' and all to be placed in one outer large mother envelope. The bid security must be wax sealed separately marked as "Bid security" and must be put in the envelope of the original financial documents. Every envelope should be wax sealed. Signed and stamped by the bidder properly and separately.
- h. Bidders should return the original bid document and fill forms on the information required. And for open tender, stamp, seal, and sign the bid document failure to do so results as non-responsive and rejected automatically.
- i. For winner bidders, there will be 10% performance Bond from the total contract.
- j. The office of Oromia Coffee Farmers' Cooperative Union has the right to reject all or parts of the bid.

For More Information

Office Tel. No. 011-445-00-46

011-445-02-74

Oromia Coffee Farmers' Cooperative Union

Verbatim and Caption

Ethiopia on right track to build resilient digital infrastructure

• 17th Internet Governance Forum (IGF) concluded in Addis Ababa

Internet coverage shows an increase from 19 million users in 2017 to 30 million in 2022 in Ethiopia. 4G and 5G networks have been rolled out in populated towns throughout major cities of the country; accelerating connectivity. Moreover, 2,300 high schools across the country have internet access.

Ethiopia's ICT and digital transformation journey has been marked by key progress aligned with the five sub themes of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), connecting all people and safeguarding human rights, avoiding internet fragmentation, governing data and protecting privacy, enabling safety, security and accountability as well as addressing advanced technologies, including artificial intelligence.

As a developing country, we recognize that our aspirations and international journey to realize a prosperous Ethiopia, conducive and inclusive for all is intimately tied to advancement in technology. The internet thus provides a means to securing our ambitious targets as laid out in the national ten year perspective plan.

Our economy is the third largest in sub Saharan Africa. We remain steadfast in our commitment to achieving food sovereignty, increasing



industrialization, boosting tourism, maximizing gains from our sector, and promoting a green and climate conscious culture. All of this is being supported through mainstreaming ICT, of which the internet is key.

Considering our large and growing population, improving connectivity and expanding accessibility - have been a priority with investment being made in infrastructure expansion opening up telecom sector to private investors and building government data infrastructure.

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD), speaking at the 17th IGF in Addis Ababa

Building a resilient infrastructure is at the core of the Digital Transformation Agenda of Ethiopia. Creating digital equity requires creating a situation where all individuals and communities have the digital capacity. This digital equity is vital for full participation in the society, democracy and economy.

Without digital equity, it is hardly possible to ensure equal participation in civic and cultural activities, employment opportunities and access to essential services. Ensuring available, affordable and resilient digital infrastructure should be scaled up and supported so as to address the challenges of the least developed countries.

During the last three years, Ethiopia has scored remarkable achievements in reforming the ICT sector. Activities were underway in connecting schools and health facilities throughout the country. Reforming the



legal and regulatory environment to build a strong National Digital Ecosystem is also going on. We are also in the processes of launching a national study to redefine the national Broadband plan.

Belete Molla (PhD), Minister of Innovation and Technology of Ethiopia at IGF

We welcomed our guests of the 17th IGF in Addis Ababa. Addis Ababa City Administration is working to make the city a smart city and ICT is vital to realize it. Addis Ababa is working to expand the ICT infrastructure and the IGF would stimulate the sector in our city.

Adanech Abiebie, Mayor of Addis Ababa City



Published every Saturday in Cooperation with Armauer Hansen Research Institute

Solidarity PLUS trial contribution to global COVID-19 research

BY MENGISTEAB TESHOME

It is crystal clear that the COVID-19 pandemic has stretched health-care workforces around the world to their limits as illness and burnout exact a toll from clinicians, nurses and staff. The need for innovative solutions and solidarity in addressing gaps in bid to reduce workloads is pressing and has intensified interest in artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics as potential technologies to help in many ways, from processing doctors' notes, to improving surgical outcomes, and even assisting clinicians with rapid decision-making during crises.

Incognizant of the dire demand for innovative approach senior researchers from Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI), Clinicians from Eka Kotebe General Hospital and pertinent health sector professionals, gathered at Bishoftu from November 21-22 to review the treatment of COVID-19. The stage was organized by the WHO Solidarity Trial Initiate Round the Globe.

The Solidarity Trial which is an unprecedented, international collaboration to identify life-saving treatments for COVID-19 was reviewed through a series of three sessions. Engaging presentations were had on: Progress of clinical trials in response to the pandemic, review of developments thereof, and ways forward from the lessons learnt at the back of the Solidarity Trial.

This large, global randomized control trial was designed to provide robust results on whether a drug can save lives for those hospitalized with severe or critical COVID-19. Ethiopia's participation in the trial has provided a learning curve and has fueled the need to strengthen the clinical trial capacity in the country.

Global platform trials like Solidarity not only help Ethiopian health professionals to prepare for future pandemics but also open a new global synergetic approach to the robust evaluation of several therapeutics.

The WHO Solidarity PLUS trial involves collaboration among hundreds of hospitals in dozens of countries. It began by

evaluating four repurposed drugs, and now guided by an independent expert group, is evaluating three new drugs in addition to the local Standard of Care.

WHO has announced the next phase in its Solidarity trial: Solidarity PLUS will enroll hospitalized patients to test three new drugs in hospitalized COVID-19 patients.

These therapies - artesunate, imatinib and infliximab - were selected by an independent expert panel for their potential in reducing the risk of death in hospitalized COVID-19 patients. They are already used for other indications: artesunate is used for severe malaria, imatinib for certain cancers, and infliximab for diseases of the immune system such as Crohn's Disease and rheumatoid arthritis.

"Finding more effective and accessible therapeutics for COVID-19 patients remains a critical need, and WHO is proud to lead this global effort," said Dr Tedros Adhanom, WHO Director-General. "I would like to thank the participating governments, pharmaceutical companies, hospitals, clinicians and patients, who have

come together to do this in true global solidarity."

The Solidarity PLUS trial is a platform trial that represents the largest global collaboration among WHO Member States. It involves thousands of researchers in over 600 hospitals in 52 countries, 16 more countries than the first phase of trials. This allows the trial to assess multiple treatments at the same time using a single protocol, recruiting thousands of patients to generate robust estimates on the effect a drug may have on mortality--even moderate effects.

It also allows new treatments to be added and ineffective treatments to be dropped throughout the course of the trial.

Previously, four drugs were evaluated by the trial. The results showed that remdesivir, hydroxychloroquine, lopinavir and interferon had little or no effect on hospitalized patients with COVID-19.

Through the Solidarity PLUS trial, researchers across the world have an opportunity to use their expertise and resources to contribute to global COVID-19 research.