



The Ethiopian Herald

Vol. LXXX 216 19May 2024 - Ginbot 11, 2016

SUNDAY EDITION

Price Birr 10.00

AGI CONSTRUCTING THE FUTURE AFRICA
Abyssinia Group of Industries

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

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



Medhin Decor

የተገጣሙ ደንብ የሰርገ ለላላ ስነ ሙሉ የውበት ስራ የተሟላ የምግብ ዝግጅት ከሙሉ ሙስተግጥ ጋር

ለድራሻ 1ኛ ቤል ፒቲ ኮሚርሻል ጀርባ 2ኛ ከቃሊቲ ማሰልጠኛ ስራ ብሎ ቆርቢና ጣሳ ፋብሪካ ገባ ብሎ

Contact Us 0911222993/ 0911208918

IGAD pins hope in elders, personality's role for peace

BY BETELHEM BEDLU

ADDIS ABABA- The role of the Eminent Personalities Council, which was established last year, is indispensable in building and

sustaining peace in the East African region, IGAD said.

Speaking at the Induction and Orientation Meeting IGAD Council of Eminent Personalities, IGAD Executive Secretary Workneh Gebeyehu (PhD) stated that elders

and the eminent personalities are critical voices of peace and development that can influence the society better than politicians.

The very reason for the establishment of the

See IGAD pins.... page 4

Somalilanders' sentiment remains high on port deal

• Mark 33rd 'restoration of independence'

BY DESTA GEBREHIWOT

HARGEISA- Jubilant Somalilanders who took to the street to celebrate the 33rd anniversary of the 'restoration of independence' cheered their port deal with Ethiopia.

See Somalilanders'.... page 4

Authority ahead to build new history museum

• Nat'l Palace to be converted into museum

BY FIKADU BELAY

ADDIS ABABA - A new history museum that would showcase Ethiopia's significance as the birthplace of humanity would be built soon, the Ethiopian Heritages Authority announced.

The Ethiopian Heritages Authority Director-General Abebaw Ayalew mentioned the significance of Ethiopia as the birthplace of mankind. Despite this historical prominence, the country lacks any museum dedicated to showcase its status as the origins of humanity, leaving visitors and locals without a tangible representation of this remarkable heritage.

Recognizing the scarcity of museums in the country, plans are underway for the construction

See Authority ahead.... page 4



German extends unreserved support foreducation reform in Ethiopia

BY MISGANAW ASNAKE

ADDIS ABABA - The government of Germany would continue supporting Ethiopia's reform in the education sector, Ethio - German Sustainable Training and Education Program (STEP) stated.

STEPHead Mohammad Ali Khan told Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) that the focus of the Program is to improve quality and relevance of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Ethiopia and support government reform to transform the subsector.

Mohammad said, "This program is funded by the German government and European Union and we closely work with training colleges, companies as well as support Ministry of Labor and Skills, Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Associations and other public and private sectors."

See German extends.... page 4



Somaliland marks 'national day' laments on Intl. recognition

BY DESTA GEBREHIWOT

HARGEISA - Yesterday marked its 33rd anniversary of the 'restoration of independence.

For Somalilanders, May 18 is tantamount to national day in which they were able to restore sovereignty after 31 years of rule under Mohamed Siad Barre's dictatorial rule.

The 'restoration of independence' which is however considered to be a unilateral proclamation is commemorated worldwide by Somalilanders.

This year's May 18 was celebrated yesterday with parades crowds lined up in the street waving flags and dancing to cultural and traditional songs.

Celebration begun on the eve of the day with cheerful Somalilanders, spending the national day in various occasions.

The official commemoration event was attended by Somaliland public, high-ranking government officials, including President Muse Bihi Abdi.

Hargeisa which has strong ties with



Ethiopia is said to make a good strides in terms of peace building and infrastructural growth in the last years comparing to other areas in the region.

This year, Hargeisa entered Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Addis Ababa as per of providing the latter access to an outlet or port in the Gulf of Eden.

Many hail the MoU as collaborative approach to essentially for foster regional stability and mutual growth.

Addressing jubilant crowds Somaliland President Muse Bihi Abdi vowed to follow peaceful means to get international recognition while seeking regional collaboration to achieve economic growth and stability.

Ministry recognizes cross-border drivers

BY MESERET BEHAILU

ADDIS ABABA- The Ministry of Transport and Logistics (MoTL) held yesterday an award and recognition program for cross-border heavy cargo and cross-country public transport drivers.

In the program, recognition and certificates were given to drivers who have served for a long time by providing better service in the sector.

Speaking at the event, MoTL Minister AlemuSeme (PhD) said cross-border and cross-country drivers have been playing an indispensable role in improving the national economy and encouraging social ties.

The Minister also expressed gratitude to drivers who are working day and to deliver humanitarian assistance and medicine even in times of difficulty. "Due to their noble contribution in times of difficulty, those drivers are heroes and deserve to be respected and recognized."

Thereform government has been carrying out various activities to create an enabling environment for cross-border cargo and cross-country public transport vehicles during the past six years. Of these, expanding road infrastructure and ensuring drivers' safety are measures that have registered commendable outcomes.

Alemu further highlighted that 95 % of Ethiopia's foreign trade is facilitated through land transport or train operators. "That is why cross-border heavy cargo and public transport vehicles drivers are heroes."

"Cross-border transport is one of the sectors that have greatly supported Ethiopia's development. The sector has also immense contribution to the construction of Abbay Dam by transporting resources and the drivers' departing from their families for several days is a testimony to this."

Ethiopian Transport Employers Federation Public Relations Head Dejene Luche said that driving is a field that needs serious responsibility to safeguard citizens from car accidents.

Ethiopia is still leading several countries in car accidents though the number of vehicles is small in the comparative terms. Therefore, vehicles driving need serious care whilst stakeholders' collaboration would play a vital role in reducing car accidents, Dejene emphasized.

Ethiopia toiling to utilize livestock potential:

Ministry

BY BETELHEM BEDLU

ADDIS ABABA - Efforts are being put towards facilitating market chain to generate income as per to nation's livestock population potential, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) disclosed.

Ministry's Disaster and Risk Reduction and Inclusive Economy Value Improvement Project National Coordinator Jemal Aleye told The Ethiopian Herald that the country is striving to unlock the potentials of its immense livestock population in Africa.

Thus, he said, several activities that focuses on farming communities, which covers about 60% of the total land, 23% animals, 42% cattle as well as 60% of sheep and goats including areas that have huge camel population, are being undertaken.

With the support of developmental partners such as WBG, there are also ongoing activities to establish quality animal center, market and laboratories so as to increase export, he noted.

So far, the construction of animal centers in Mile and Jigjiga have come to an end while preparation are underway to begin road and logistic works to transport animals from Mile to Djibouti, Jigjiga to Djibouti, and from Jigjiga to port of Berbera, Jemal expressed.



Moreover, he indicated that the draft assessment that was carried out to build animal centers where the Ethiopian Airlines is located was presented to concerned bodies in order to commence exporting sheep and goats to different countries.

Similarly, some one billion Birr has been allocated to make pastoralists direct beneficiaries through organizing and linking them with consumers, as to him.

Since drought has remained the major challenge that the country face in

different times, livestock insurance is already being offered to pastoralists through the project, he expressed.

Highlighting that the project is being implemented in five states, 187 districts and nine clusters, the Coordinator emphasized that it protect pastoralists from losing all of their cattle whenever they face disaster.

He further noted that the insurance is being implemented by 115 million USD budget allowing pastoralists cover 20% while the project covers the rest 80% of the insurance.

Editorial

Replicating achieved success in all spheres of endeavor

Sources designate that with a population size of 126.5 million people (2023), Ethiopia is the second most populous nation in Africa after Nigeria, and one of the fastest-growing economies in the region, with an estimated 7.2 percent growth in 2022/23.

This, bountiful resources boasting country, located in a geopolitically advantageous position, also sticks out when it comes to a youthful population capable of allowing the country to get out of the ditch of poverty and propelling it forward in the avenue of development.

All the more so, as the larger segment of the workforce mentioned above is either trained or trainable. Also, not to remain on the short end of cutting-edge technology, Ethiopia, in the process of reform, could align its ambition of achieving set goals of rapid development in all spheres of endeavor with digitalization as the government zeroed in on information technology. Nowadays youths conversant in IT are not in short supply.

In the technology or industry sphere, replicating the country's astounding performance of surplus wheat yield in the agriculture sector and portrayed upswing in productivity achieved through strenuous effort, the country could fast track its surge towards prosperity. The steps it took to materialize import substitution to curtail the outflow of much-needed and hard-won currency are worthy of consolidation. Voluminous export of value-added products is under the nation's radar. The structural adjustment from the service to the manufacturing sector is attributable to this. With the advancement of technology, the production of types of machinery including those meant for the agriculture sector has fallen within the realm of possibility.

The government is working hard to see to it that technology is well transferred, and the youth have sufficient access to research materials and laboratories that let them be abreast with modern technological trends such as Artificial Intelligence (AI). Ethiopia's effort towards embracing AI and brushing shoulders with affluent nations deserves appreciation. Facts on the ground augur well that the country's footfall is in tandem with a promising path.

Military capability and alertness could be sure proof of fending oneself against aggression. Arming one's army with its arsenals is heartening. Happily, the nation is flexing its muscles in this regard. Leaders in the army are undertaking remarkable work using reverse engineering to develop strategic weapons, rockets, and tanks. It is not hard to surmise aside from ensuring the maintenance of tranquility the significance of this move in preserving hard currency laid waste during unrest for the procurement of the arsenals through the hardest ways.

The bottom line is as the saying goes success breeds complacency and complacency breeds failure redoubling our vigor and stamina witnessed in the agriculture sector we must bask under a similar success in the spheres of industry. Complacency is the only hurdle that could stand between us and another success around the corner. But it must be known that success is not a low-hanging fruit. It tasks hard work, perseverance, and conviction. Cognizant of this fact we must learn to work better than our best with determination. But above all things, we must keep our peace and unity as the apple of our eyes, for these ingredients presuppose the perks mentioned above



The Ethiopian Herald

Established in 1943

Published daily except Mondays
By The Ethiopian Press Agency

Office of the CEO

Tel. 011-126-42-22
Fax. 251-011-156-98-62
email- epa@press.et

Advertisement and Dist. Department

email: etpresspromotion@gmail.com
Tel. 011-156-98-73/011-811-13-15
Telegram :- 0976084707 - press
Editor-in-Chief: Worku Belachew
email- workubelachew@press.et
Address- Nifas Silk Lafto Sub-city
Woreda - 05, House No----
Tel- +251 111 26 41 98

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

Deputy Editors-in-Chief:

Alem Hailu
Elizabeth Mengistu
Zekarias Woldemariam
Desta Geberehiwot
Daniel Beyene

Website: www.press.et
email: ethiopianherald@press.et
Fb//Ethiopian Press Agency/
The Ethiopian Herald

Opinion

“Forging New Partnerships: The Iran-Africa Summit 2024”

The Iran-Africa Summit of 2024 marked a significant milestone in diplomatic relations between Iran and the African continent. Held against the backdrop of evolving geopolitical dynamics and increasing global connectivity, the summit aimed to foster deeper cooperation and partnership between Iran and African nations across various sectors, including trade, investment, security, and cultural exchange.

Hosted in Tehran, the capital city of Iran, the summit brought together leaders, policymakers, and representatives from Iran and numerous African countries. The event provided a platform for constructive dialogue, exchange of ideas, and the exploration of mutually beneficial opportunities for collaboration.

One of the primary objectives of the summit was to enhance economic cooperation between Iran and Africa. With Iran possessing a diverse range of resources and expertise in sectors such as energy, agriculture, technology, and infrastructure development, African nations saw the summit as an opportunity to leverage Iran's strengths for their own socio-economic development agendas. Likewise, Iran sought to expand its economic footprint in Africa, tapping into the continent's growing consumer markets and abundance of natural resources.

Trade and investment agreements were a focal point of the discussions at the summit. Both Iran and African countries expressed their commitment to facilitating trade flows, removing trade barriers, and exploring avenues for investment in key sectors. The signing of bilateral trade agreements and memoranda of understanding (MoUs) paved the way for deeper economic integration and partnership between Iran and African nations.

Energy cooperation emerged as a key theme of the summit, reflecting Iran's status as a major energy producer and exporter. African countries, many of which are experiencing rapid industrialization and urbanization, expressed interest in tapping

into Iran's expertise in the energy sector, including oil and gas exploration, renewable energy development, and energy infrastructure projects. Collaborative initiatives in these areas were discussed, with a focus on promoting sustainable energy solutions and addressing the continent's energy challenges.

Security cooperation, addressing terrorism, piracy, and organized crime, was a key focus of the summit. Discussions emphasized intelligence-sharing and joint counterterrorism measures. Additionally, cultural exchange initiatives aimed to strengthen the bonds between Iran and Africa, promoting understanding through programs and tourism.

In addition to official summit proceedings, various side events, business forums, and cultural showcases were organized to further deepen engagement and interaction between participants. These platforms provided opportunities for networking, knowledge-sharing, and forging new partnerships beyond government-level cooperation.

Overall, the Iran-Africa Summit of 2024 represented a significant step forward in strengthening the relationship between Iran and Africa on multiple fronts. By fostering greater economic cooperation, enhancing security collaboration, and promoting cultural exchange, the summit laid the groundwork for a more robust and enduring partnership between Iran and African nations in the years to come.

Iran Expo 2024

Moreover, held in Tehran (Iran Expo 2024) that showcased Iran's diverse economic sectors, offering a platform for global collaboration and investment. Highlighting key areas like energy, technology, healthcare, agriculture, and tourism, the expo demonstrated Iran's potential for trade and investment. Through seminars, discussions, and networking, it promoted dialogue and partnership, contributing to economic growth and positioning Iran as an innovative global player.

Clean environment for cleaner thinking and living

BY SOLOMON DIBABA

Clean thinking focuses on clarity, objectivity, and impartiality in thought processes. It emphasizes avoiding bias, emotional influence, or subjective judgments, while analytical thinking focuses more on breaking down complex information, identifying patterns, and drawing logical conclusions.

Clean thinking seeks to minimize emotional influence and bias in decision-making, emphasizing clear, objective, and rational thought processes. Analytical thinking may involve acknowledging and managing emotions, but it primarily focuses on logical analysis and reasoning.

Clean thinking emphasizes simplicity, clarity, and coherence in thought processes and communication. It involves distilling complex information into clear, understandable concepts. Analytical thinking, on the other hand, involves a more detailed and systematic examination of data or information to uncover insights and patterns.

All told, what basic health advantages can clean mindset bring for the people of Ethiopia?

Ensuring a clean mindset can have numerous health benefits, both physical and mental. Here are some ways in which a clean mindset can contribute to overall well-being:

A clean mindset promotes orderliness, organization, and clarity of thought, which can help reduce stress levels. By maintaining clean and tidy surroundings, individuals may experience a greater sense of calm and relaxation, leading to lower levels of stress and anxiety.

In addition, a clean mindset often translates into cleaner living environments, which can have direct benefits for physical health. Cleanliness

reduces the risk of exposure to harmful pathogens, allergens, and toxins, lowering the likelihood of infections, respiratory problems, and other health issues.

Living in a clean environment supports a healthy immune system by reducing the spread of germs and infectious agents. This can lead to fewer illnesses and infections, as well as a stronger immune response to pathogens.

Clean air quality is essential for respiratory health. A clean mindset that prioritizes indoor air quality through regular ventilation, dusting, and cleaning can reduce the risk of respiratory conditions such as asthma, allergies, and respiratory infections.

A clean and clutter-free environment promotes better sleep quality. Sleeping in a clean, comfortable space can enhance relaxation, reduce sleep disturbances, and improve overall sleep hygiene, leading to more restful and rejuvenating sleep.

A clean mindset fosters mental clarity and focus by minimizing distractions and clutter in the environment. A clean, organized workspace, for example, can improve concentration, productivity, and cognitive performance.

Living in a clean and orderly environment can have positive effects on mood and psychological well-being. A clean mindset promotes feelings of satisfaction, pride, and accomplishment, which can contribute to overall happiness and life satisfaction.

Maintaining a clean and clutter-free environment reduces the risk of accidents and injuries, such as slips, trips, and falls. By eliminating hazards and maintaining safe surroundings, individuals can protect themselves from physical harm and maintain their overall well-being.

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

Scholars call for pollution control

BY MESERET BEHAILU

ADDIS ABABA – Scholars have urged relevant parties to work tirelessly to bring attitudinal change regarding smooth human-environment interactions and pollution control.

Recently, Addis Ababa Environmental Protection Authority hosted a discussion forum themed “Preventing pollution: Promoting Beautification” aiming at advocating environmental protection with active participation of academicians.

In the sideline event, Addis Ababa University Lecturer Molalegn Emirie said that his university is teaching environmental protection under its master’s and doctoral degree programs.

He told *The Ethiopian Herald* that the university has been carrying out various activities such as conducting environmental impact assessment, cleaning the environment with volunteer residents, and utilizing



resources effectively to end pollution.

“Though Addis Ababa University has participated in river side projects, corridor, and parks development, no adequate outcome on environment protection has been recorded due to lack of stakeholders’ integration,” he cited.

He further stated that Addis required effective waste management system, improve policy and procedure, establish new system, and the

likes to control environmental pollution.

Gofa Industrial College Deputy Dean, Bekele Godana on his part said that removing wastes and awakening the community must be done in a sustainable manner to achieve a clean environment.

Bekele stressed on the need to recycling wastes into biogas, which has a dual purpose in protecting the environment and generating energy at the same time.

Authority ahead to...

of a large national museum that describes Ethiopia at present and in the future. Among the planned projects, a museum dedicated to display the history of the human race, focusing on fossils and stone tools discovered throughout different periods.

In light of this, the director-general has emphasized the need to reevaluate and implement modifications to the existing design work.

Furthermore, Abebaw revealed plans for the National Palace to undergo a transformation into a museum, set to open its doors to the public in the coming months.

He highlighted the abundance of monuments housed within the National Palace. Efforts are

underway to convert the site into a museum while preserving its architectural and historical integrity, ensuring that these precious artifacts can be admired by visitors.”

Significant progress is being made in the museum sector, with the conversion of the National Palace offering a long-awaited opportunity to explore artifacts that have been inaccessible for many years. So, with the National Palace's transition into a museum, Ethiopia is embarking on a remarkable journey to preserve its rich heritage and make it more accessible to the public, fostering a deeper appreciation for the country’s cultural legacy, the director-general emphasized.

“The authority is providing substantial support in terms of professional expertise to

existing and upcoming museums throughout the country. Moreover, the development of museums and the establishment of new ones in various parts of Ethiopia will remain a priority. The renovation of existing museums and the creation of visitor-friendly environments are also part of the agenda.”

To fulfill the promise made in 2017, a budget will be allocated for the purpose of conducting the necessary design work and executing additional research-related activities.

To ensure effective monitoring and management of both existing and future museums across the nation, the Authority is collaborating with other concerned parties in drafting a proclamation for the establishment of a comprehensive museum organization, Abebaw remarked.

German extends unreserved...

“We provide technical assistance to help build capacity of key actors for TVET and our focus is entirely on how we can improve quality and relevance of training by bringing together the private sector with public ones. For its evolutionary process, we are working with over 200 institutes across Ethiopia,” he noted.

The Head also said, “People get training but they don’t get jobs this is the main problem because the private sector isn’t involved. Thus, when we involve the employers, they will know university industry-linkage and help create ample jobs.”

He further noted that new project phase will start in December 2024 and the focus will be on supporting Ethiopian Ministry of Labor and Skills as well as the private sector.

On behalf of German government, GIZ implements programs such as working in vocational training, climate change, and energy as well as on many projects which are undertaken in Ethiopia.

The German and Ethiopian governments have longstanding development cooperation since 1964 and Ethio-German sustainable

Training and Education Program is working in Bahir Dar, Hawasa, Addis Ababa and Adama for effective implementation of vocational training. Learning from other experiences including European counterparts is also part of the capacity building program, he added.

“We also bring some other African nations here to help Ethiopia draw important lessons. We have been providing training for TVET and chamber leaders and staffs by teaching them new things so as to bring international TVET system to Ethiopia.

Somalilanders’ sentiment remains...

Optimism among Somalilanders remains as fresh and as high as it was in the wake of the announcement of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the utilization of sea access with Ethiopia.

This year’s national day celebration, what Somaliland calls ‘restoration of independence’, came on the heels of the January 2024 pact inked between Addis Ababa and Hargeisa allowing Ethiopia to develop a port or have access to a sea outlet in the Gulf of Aden.

Shadia Mohamed Roble is a Somaliland national. She has been a journalist for five years. She served in BBC Somalia service and VoA as a reporter. “I received the MoU between Ethiopia and Somaliland with warm hearts. Public opinion has also been positive. I was able to chat with many people here in Hargeisa, and their reaction was positive.”

Shadia, who now resides in Canada, said the accord will bring lofty dividends to both sides. Somalilanders feel excited that the neighboring side is forging strong bilateral ties with Ethiopia.

“Ethiopia has been there for us in the time of agony and suppression and it had been on our side during Mohamed Siad Barre’s repression. The people of Somaliland are celebrating the MoU and it is a great deal for both sides and the leaders worth admiration and recognition.”

According to the journalist, it is only the historical foes of Ethiopia and Somaliland that appear to be opposing the MoU. Some countries are green-eyed on the deal, for they do not want the prosperity of the two neighbors. “The partnership between Ethiopian and Somaliland will get momentum and the grand ambition will come to reality.”

“With or without the benediction of external parties, the accord according to me will see the day’s light,” Shadia opined confidently.

Abdirahman Habane is a lecturer at the University of Hargeisa and researcher at the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies.

The academician highlighted that the reaction of Somaliland scholars toward the port deal has been positive and remains high.

The pact is an action towards a better future. If managed well, it will lead toward prosperity for both sides. And, it is a positive gesture amidst the increasingly hostile situations in the Horn of Africa.

“Somaliland has the sole right to decide which countries it has to work with and what it has to do with its sea or land. And, many nations are

IGAD pins hope ...

council is to support the endeavor of IGAD regarding peace and security, environment, migration, and cross border issues for the last 36 years as well as to boost the institution's effort by knowledgeable people, Workeneh (PhD) added.

Based upon their leverage and role in the society, the purpose of the eminent personalities from the eight member states is to make and assist all of IGAD's endeavors for peace while working together and become voice for the voiceless as well as to share experience. “As it is the beginning of a long road journey, we need representation of women and youth.”

Even if IGAD had played a critical role to bring peace and security in the region such as in Somali, South Sudan, Ethiopian and other member states, he stressed that there are still challenges in the region.

The secretary general recalled the incident in Sudan which was the host of millions of refugees in their capital who are now refugees themselves. “More than eight million Sudanese are displaced, some are out of their homes and some are out of their country. This is the tragedy that is happening in front of us.”

Despite the fact that the region is facing environmental change, flooding, food insecurity, illegal migration and other challenges including the unnecessary loss of lives due to instability, it remained resilient and navigated its challenges.

Emphasizing IGAD’s commitment to make all resources available, Workeneh (PhD) urged the council members to take the responsibility seriously to tackle the challenges in the region by becoming a strong voice for the people that are suffering and losing their lives due to instability.

Justice Minister Gideon Timotheos (PhD) commended IGAD and his team for the initiative they have taken and leadership they have shown in bringing the council together. “I believe it is a critical initiative in a region that is ravaged by conflict and discord. For IGAD’s aspiration to be realized, such councils have a greater role. Therefore, the government of Ethiopia reiterates its support for the initiative.”

He went on saying: “Elders are the repositories of our communal wisdom and from this wisdom flows wise council and guidance which could be interpreted meaningfully in their works.”

Mentioning the council’s indispensable role in charting way forward peace, the Minister recapped the unwavering support of the government to IGAD and its all endeavors.

The Eminent Personalities will be appointed to advise on key pillars of cooperation at IGAD, including Peace and Security, Agriculture and Environment, Health and Social development, and Trade and regional integration, it was learnt.

collaborating with Somaliland. And, Ethiopia should be no different and such a deal must not come as a bombshell.”

The Horn region is rocked by terrorism and other violent acts, and any cooperation among entities in the region should be considered a positive move, the academician emphasized.

He appealed to people in academia to conduct research and write more articles to turn the agreement into implementation.

“We welcome the agreement and good benefits the deal might bring to both parties,” a street vendor commented on the issue to *The Ethiopian Herald*.

It was earned that both Ethiopia and Somaliland are working on wide ranges to translate the port deal into reality.

Opinion

Needful prerequisites for sustainable economic development

BY GETACHEW MINAS

Economic development is a dynamic and complex process that engages the people of a country in improving their economic well-being. In this process, the quality of life for a community, region, or country is enhanced. This process demands a multidimensional approach that covers several factors. These factors cover key prerequisites for economic development, such as human capital supported by education and healthcare. A well-educated labor force is essential for productivity, innovation and efficiency.

Investing in education at levels, including literacy and skills would enable the labor force to adapt to new technologies and processes. These technologies are critical for economic advancement and employment generation in developing countries, including Ethiopia. Investment in the various sectors of the economy assumes the existence of qualified workers.

Human capital should, therefore, guarantee high productivity and profit for investors. Workers with the necessary skills and experience create high value in the products they produce. Their skills have to be relevant to the modern techniques of production in all economic sectors.

The Ethiopian labor force should consist of healthy individuals who are more productive to sustain economic advancement. Enterprises in every sector of the economy, including agriculture, industry, and services, must ensure access to quality healthcare for their workers. This measure reduces absenteeism and increases the life expectancy of productive workers.

Labor experts encourage business enterprises to have a periodic health inspection for their employees. This saves unnecessary costs due to absenteeism for health reasons. They also advise employers to engage in “preventive” health care measure than the “curative” ones for their employees. These measures reduce cost of labor in the long-run, resulting in high productivity. Workers, in turn, have to demand for protective health services from their employers during negotiation of collective agreements. These endeavors by both the employers and workers contribute to a more stable and robust workforce that results in the economic development of Ethiopia.

Another important factor that supports economic development is infrastructure. Adequate infrastructures, including roads, railways and ports are crucial determinants of growth and development. Lack of such critical inputs leads to failure of the country's overall economic development. Roads, railways and ports facilitate the import of goods and services needed by the different sectors of the Ethiopian economy. Similarly, they make possible the smooth delivery of export items to the external markets.

The infrastructure development also facilitates the supply of energy to all sectors of the economy. Energy is distributed to both the urban and rural areas for household uses and for industrial production. The hydro-power development projects are, therefore, very critical for the supply of energy to all sectors of the economy. Infrastructure development also supports the expansion of telecommunications, which is a critical input for economic activities and connectivity.

Other prerequisites for economic development are industrial facilities. These include factories and warehouses that are preconditions for industrial investment. These facilities also include office spaces that support the management of industrial activities. Managers use these offices for conducting technical meetings such as planning, programming, monitoring and evaluations of their activities.

Warehouse management is an important skill for keeping raw materials, inputs and outputs/products in an orderly manner. It also arranges products for sale in the domestic markets and for exports. Such management skill is required in the various modern industries. It is also useful for attracting investment. This leads to further development of the various sectors of the economy. As investors are attracted to these sectors, they tend to produce goods and services for both the domestic and the global markets. They generate foreign exchange from outputs they export and create more employment opportunities for the trained and skilled Ethiopian labor force. Both employers and workers engage in the production process with due respect to the laws of the country.

The enforcement of laws requires institutional framework in which economic sectors operate legally. Effective and transparent operation of the judicial system encourages all parties in the various sectors of the economy. In particular, stable governance ensures the enforcement of laws. Free and fair enforcement of laws reduces corruption and builds investor confidence. Also, a strong legal framework protects property rights, which encourages investment in the country.

The enforcement of contracts contributes to the protection of rights of parties to a contract. In case of disputes, the legal system resolves them efficiently and effectively. In some situations, though the legal system is in place, there is failure in the implementation of contractual agreements. The reasons for that may be corruption, fraud, dishonesty, treachery and duplicity. These may be unavoidable characteristics of persons with power, authority, influence and clout within the bureaucracy or the judiciary of developing countries. The reign of law and order within these countries is a precondition for social and economic development.

The economic development of any country presupposes the existence of effective economic policies. These policies comprise

monetary and fiscal policies that reflect the realities of a country. The monetary policy, in particular, is instrumental in stabilizing inflation and interest rates. These are also important factors for the stability of the economy. These factors also encourage investment in Ethiopia.

In this regard, the international financial institutions have responsibility for assisting the country in its endeavor of poverty reduction and employment creation. They may also support with the means of raising the level of productivity in every sector of the economy. Such measures may lead to the creation of savings which may be used for further domestic investment. These endeavors should be supported with fiscal policy in which the responsible government institution collects revenues from the taxpayers. It should develop and implement tax policies that may stimulate economic growth and development. Such measures should definitely ensure sustainability of economic development within Ethiopia.

The public and private sector should be able to operate using trade policy that is open and fair. Such a trade policy may promote global trade that is free and fair for all entrepreneurs. The policy may also bring in external capital for use in all sectors of the economy. The policy may attract the use of new techs with the appropriate expertise. Such measures encourage innovation, technology and skills development in countries, including Ethiopia.

Of course, research and development (R&D) is a precondition for technological advancement. Thus, investment in R&D encourages innovation, leading to new products and services. This process is a key factor that drives economic growth and development in the country. It also improves the adoption of technology generated anywhere in the world. The widespread use of modern technology improves labor productivity and production efficiency across all sectors of the economy of the country. These efforts contribute to more employment creation, generation of income and growth in the gross domestic product (GDP).

Economic growth needs to be consistent with social and cultural factors that contribute to cohesion within a society. A society that promotes inclusivity and equality guarantees the benefits of economic development to all citizens. It also promotes social justice that ensures fairness and equity in developing countries. The people of these countries should, therefore, be in a position to keep injustice at bay.

Studies reveal that an injudicious system of government is the root cause of all troubles leading to wars, social unrest, and skirmishes. There should, therefore, be check and balance within the three pillars of government, which are known as the executive, the legislative and the judiciary. In particular, the legislative branch, which is representing the people of Ethiopia, is authorized by the Constitution to endorse,

control, or to approve the activities of the other branches. It, as usual, has to check periodic developments that may lead to social injustice and to endless civil unrest. These factors impede the economic development of the country. To jumpstart and drive forward the economic progress of any country rapidly and forcefully, all branches of the government have to work together.

Another prerequisite for economic development is positive cultural attitude toward productive work. Respect and appreciation for entrepreneurs who take economic risks during initial period of investment is very critical for development. The work ethics of these groups of investors has a significant positive impact on economic growth. They generate output for domestic and external market. Domestically, they generate employment opportunities for the youth and the unemployed labor force. They supply goods and services for the local markets in a competitive manner and at fair prices. These entrepreneurs also export domestically produced goods and services (airlines, shipping, etc.) to the rest of the world. In these endeavors, they generate foreign exchange for Ethiopia. These make the country self-reliant, independent of external aid and influences. Entrepreneurs should, therefore, be encouraged to invest in new sectors and zones of the country. They must be given technical support by sector authorities to expand their productive capacities without limit.

For a constant growth of the economy, it is critical to ensure sustainable management of resources. Proper management of natural resources such as minerals, forests, and water ensures long-term economic development in Ethiopia. Also, human development in terms of skills is a prerequisite to guarantee the benefits and environmental sustainability in the country. This requires policies and programs to combat climate change and preserve biodiversity in Ethiopia.

Experts believe that the overall development of the country requires access to capital with strong financial institutions. Strong banking and financial systems provide the necessary capital for economic development and expansion. However, this process presupposes an investment climate that attracts both domestic and foreign investment. The financial institutions need to provide the necessary funds for economic development. Such domestic endeavor has to be supported by global partnerships and participation in international organizations. These institutions may bring in technical assistance, financial aid, and market access to countries, including Ethiopia.

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

Business & Economy

Transformative power of industrial expos

BY LAKACHEW ATINAFU

As Ethiopia continues its remarkable economic transformation, the role of industrial expos in driving growth and development has become increasingly evident. These specialized trade fairs have emerged as crucial platforms for showcasing the country's burgeoning manufacturing prowess, fostering valuable connections, and accelerating the nation's industrialization agenda.

The annual Ethiopian Industrial Expo, now in its third year, has proven to be a resounding success, attracting a diverse array of domestic and international enterprises. In 2024, the expo welcomed over 240 high-producing industries, offering a comprehensive glimpse into the breadth and depth of Ethiopia's industrial capabilities.

"The expo provides an unparalleled opportunity for our local manufacturers to present their products to a wide audience, forge new partnerships, and gain invaluable insights from industry peers," authorities remarked. "It is a testament to the rapid strides Ethiopia is making in becoming a manufacturing powerhouse on the African continent."

One of the expo's key strengths lies in its ability to shine a spotlight on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which account for over 80 of the participating companies. These smaller players, often the backbone of any thriving industrial ecosystem, benefit immensely from the exposure and networking opportunities afforded by the event.

Bethel Engineering Pvt. Ltd., a manufacturer of metal shutters and accessories, is a prime example of SMEs that has leveraged the expo to propel its growth. "The 2024 Expo was a game-changer for us. It allowed us to introduce our innovative products to a nationwide consumer base and establish valuable connections with suppliers and potential partners," Eden Salomon, the company's manager, said.

Bethel Engineering's story is emblematic of the transformative impact industrial expos can have on Ethiopian enterprises. From humble beginnings with a 1.5 million Birr capital, the company has now grown its capital to a formidable 7.1 million Birr operation, creating permanent employment for 30 individuals.

Similarly, the Peanut Butter Producers Association has experienced remarkable growth, expanding from a 10,000 birr start-up to a 20 million birr enterprise in just three years. Sisay Kolato, the association's marketing manager, credits the expo for helping the company connect with new consumers and suppliers beyond its local market.

Beyond fostering business connections, industrial expos also serve as invaluable



"Ethiopia Tamirt" expo 2024 promoted local products

platforms for showcasing Ethiopia's innovative prowess. Abbay and Friends Steel and Fiber Glass Manufacturing Enterprise, for instance, stunned visitors with its locally developed, cost-effective machinery capable of producing 25,000 cardboard boxes per day.

"These expos allow us to demonstrate our ability to engineering solutions that cater to the unique needs of the Ethiopian market. It's a powerful way to highlight our homegrown innovation and encourage further investment in domestic manufacturing," Abiy Girma, the enterprise's manager said.

The transformative power of industrial expos extends beyond the business realm, as they also play a crucial role in shaping the national psyche. "These events help cultivate a stronger sense of pride and appreciation for locally produced goods," Eden opined. "As more Ethiopians recognize the quality and value of our manufacturing capabilities, the culture of supporting domestic industries will continue to grow," She added.

As Ethiopia's industrial landscape evolves, the importance of industrial expos will only continue to rise. These specialized trade fairs have become indispensable tools in the country's quest to become a manufacturing powerhouse, empowering enterprises of all sizes, fostering innovation, and instilling a deep-rooted appreciation for homegrown products and solutions.

More than 240 domestic and foreign high-producing industries participated in the 2024 Ethiopian Industrial Expo, which was held for the third time from May 9 to 13, 2024. This annual event showcases Ethiopia's growing industrial capabilities and is an important platform for local manufacturers to connect with potential customers and partners. More than 80 of the participating enterprises were small and medium-sized manufacturing firms, reflecting the government's efforts to support the development of the country's industrial base.

The enterprises represented a diverse range of sectors, including textiles and clothing, leather and leather products, processed agricultural goods, chemicals,

and construction materials. They presented a wide array of standard and high-quality products at the expo. One of the participating small and medium enterprises was Bethel Engineering Pvt. Ltd., a manufacturer and supplier of metal shutters and shutter accessories.

According to Eden Salomon, the company's manager, Bethel Engineering was the country's first manufacturer of metal shutters. The company has since expanded its product range to include shutter accessories, enabling shutter installers to purchase all the necessary materials from a single source. This eliminates the need for shutter workers to have their own manufacturing facilities, saving them time, cost, and labor.

Bethel Engineering started with a capital of 1.5 million Birr and has now grown to a capital of over 7.1 million Birr. The company has provided permanent employment opportunities for 30 people. Eden noted that the 2024 Ethiopian Industrial Expo was an important platform for the company, as it allowed its products to be introduced to a wider consumer base. Many visitors to the expo were impressed by the quality of Bethel Engineering's products and expressed interest in purchasing them.

Another participant, Abbay and Friends Steel and Fiber Glass Manufacturing Enterprise, is an example of a company that has developed innovative, problem-solving machinery for the local market. The enterprise has created 10 permanent and 17 temporary jobs for a total of 27 citizens. One of the machines it presented at the expo was capable of producing up to 25,000 product packaging cardboard boxes per day. The company was able to manufacture this machine locally for 450,000 birr, a significant cost savings compared to the one million birr it would have cost to import a similar machine.

The Peanut Butter Producers Association, which operates in the agricultural processing sector, was another notable participant. The association started three years ago with a capital of 10,000 Birr and has since grown to a capital of 20 million Birr. It has created 190 permanent job opportunities and many temporary positions. The expo allowed

the association to expand its reach beyond its local consumer base and establish new market connections, including with suppliers of raw materials and packaging products.

The 2024 Ethiopian Industrial Expo was officially opened by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD), and it was attended by state heads, mayors, federal government officials, ambassadors, and other local and foreign producers and consumers. The expo provided a valuable platform for Ethiopia's growing industrial sector to showcase its capabilities, forge new partnerships, and receive high-level support and attention from the government and the public.

State expos, also known as trade fairs or exhibitions, have played an important role in Ethiopia's economic and social development in recent years. These events provide a platform for businesses, entrepreneurs, and government agencies to showcase their products, services, and initiatives to a wide audience.

According to a report by the Ethiopian Trade and Investment Promotion Agency (ETIPA), state expos have become increasingly important for Ethiopia as the country works to diversify its economy and promote industrialization. State expos provide an opportunity for Ethiopian manufacturers, artisans, and agricultural producers to promote their goods and services to both domestic and international buyers. This helps to boost the visibility and competitiveness of local industries.

The events attract potential investors, both foreign and domestic, who are interested in exploring business opportunities in Ethiopia. This can lead to increased foreign direct investment and the establishment of new enterprises within the country.

State expos allow Ethiopian businesses to connect with international buyers and explore export markets for their products. This supports the country's efforts to increase its exports and reduce its trade deficit.

State expos feature exhibits and demonstrations of new technologies, innovations, and best practices in various sectors, such as agriculture, manufacturing, and renewable energy. This helps to disseminate knowledge and encourage the adoption of modern techniques and solutions.

These events provide a platform for government agencies, policymakers, and the private sector to engage in dialogue, share information, and collaborate on initiatives that support economic development.

Overall, state expos have become an integral part of Ethiopia's economic development strategy, helping to promote local industries, attract investment, facilitate trade under the "Made in Ethiopia" initiative, and foster innovation and collaboration between the public and private sectors, it was learned.

Planet Earth

Institute raising awareness on biodiversity to alleviate looming threat

BY FIKADU BELAY

Ethiopia's biodiversity is nothing short of astounding. The country is home to a staggering number of species, many of which are endemic and found nowhere else on Earth. In fact, Ethiopia ranks among the world's top biodiversity hotspots, making it a region of significant global importance for conservation.

The country's geographical diversity is a key factor in its exceptional biodiversity. It is home to numerous distinct regions, each with its own unique climate, topography, and habitat. From the verdant rainforests in the southwest to the arid deserts of the Danakil Depression in the northeast, Ethiopia encompasses an incredible range of ecological niches.

One of the most remarkable features of Ethiopian biodiversity is its high level of endemism. Based on the various studies, over 6,000 plant species have been identified in the country, and an estimated 10% of these are found nowhere else on Earth. The Ethiopian Highlands, with their towering peaks and deep valleys, harbor a wealth of endemic flora, including the otherworldly giant lobelia and the striking Abyssinian rose.

It is also a haven for a stunning array of animal species. The Ethiopian indigenous animals, like the Simien fox, are an iconic symbol of the country's biodiversity. It is the rarest animals in the world and is found only in the Ethiopian highlands. The gelada baboon, with its impressive golden mane, roams the grasslands in large troops, while the Ethiopian Highlands host the critically endangered Ethiopian ibex and the charismatic walia ibex. Furthermore, Ethiopia's waterways and wetlands provide critical habitats for an abundance of aquatic species.

Despite the incredible richness of Ethiopian biodiversity, many species face significant threats. Habitat loss, deforestation, climate change, and unsustainable agricultural practices pose challenges to conservation efforts in the country. However, the Ethiopian government's commitment to conservation, along with that of local communities and others, is evident in its extensive network of national parks and protected areas. These havens safeguard the country's unique biodiversity, providing refuge for countless species facing threats such as habitat loss and climate change. Also, recognizes the importance of protecting this natural heritage and has implemented various initiatives to safeguard its biodiversity.

The Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute (EBI) Director, Melese Mariyo (PhD), recently held a media briefing to announce the 23rd celebration of International Biodiversity Day under the theme Be Part of the Plan.

According to Melese, the International Biodiversity Day celebration serves as a platform to raise awareness and stimulate action for biodiversity conservation.

Biodiversity, the variety of life forms on Earth, plays a crucial role in sustaining ecosystems and providing benefits to humanity, including food security, medicinal resources, economic opportunities, and climate resilience.

The global biodiversity framework, consisting of 23 targets, guides efforts towards halting biodiversity loss and promoting sustainable use of natural resources by 2030. Ethiopia has developed 19 targets, emphasizing societal and community engagement to protect and restore ecosystems, combat climate change, promote sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and ensure equitable benefits from biodiversity use, he remarked.

He stated the critical importance of conserving and protecting biodiversity, particularly in the present era. Biodiversity plays a vital role in sustaining ecosystems and providing a wide range of benefits to humanity, including essential ecosystem services, food security, medicinal resources, economic opportunities, cultural heritage, climate resilience, and aesthetic enjoyment. Conserving biodiversity is not only a moral imperative but also a wise long-term investment in the sustainability of our planet.

Ethiopia's rich biodiversity serves as a crucial hub of genetic diversity and endemism. The Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute, as a governmental entity, has the responsibility to safeguard biodiversity, ensure sustainability and fair access to genetic resources, and promote equitable sharing of benefits. Over the years, the institute has expanded its mandate to encompass various biodiversity sectors, including crops, forests, rangeland species, animals (both domestic and wild), microbial genetic resources, and biosphere reserves.

As the advisor to Agriculture Minister Tarekegn Tsige, the EBI has achieved significant milestones since its establishment. It has established seven biodiversity centers, three botanical gardens, and a duplicate gene bank in the country. The institute has also implemented conservation efforts under several initiatives that have been undertaken in Ethiopia to promote the well-being of the country and its people.

He further stated that over 30 community seed banks have been established, along with 28 forest gene banks that include medicinal plant gene banks. Additionally, there are 16 indigenous cattle protection centers as well as 15 sanctuaries dedicated to the preservation of wild and aquatic animals. Furthermore, five crop field gene banks have been set up, resulting in the collection of more than 70 varieties. The Central Gene Bank of Ethiopia has successfully organized and safeguarded over 9,000 hot plant accessions.

However commendable these efforts are, it has become evident that there are limitations in implementing them within the desired scope and timeframe. Therefore, it is crucial that we prioritize the expansion of these

fostering multi stakeholder engagement are crucial to safeguarding Ethiopia's biodiversity, which is essential for the country's environmental, economic, and social well-being. Moreover, Ethiopia has made significant efforts in reforestation and forest conservation to combat deforestation and habitat loss. Ethiopians planted more than 32.5 billion seedlings during the past five years.

Ethiopia's efforts were not only limited to the national level but also participated on the continent. The country has set ambitious targets to restore degraded lands and increase forest cover. One notable initiative is the Great Green Wall, a pan-African project aimed at creating a green belt of trees across the Sahel region. In Ethiopia, this initiative involves planting trees along the country's northern border to combat desertification and restore biodiversity.

To mitigate the negative impacts of agricultural practices on biodiversity, Ethiopia has implemented sustainable agriculture and land management strategies. These initiatives promote practices such as agroforestry, terracing, and soil conservation to reduce soil erosion, improve water management, and preserve biodiversity.

Furthermore, Ethiopia actively engages in international collaborations and partnerships to enhance its conservation efforts. It collaborates with international organizations, such as the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), and the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), to access technical expertise, funding, and resources for effective conservation planning and implementation.

Melese emphasized that everyone has a role to play in biodiversity conservation and restoration. Policymakers, scientists, educators, and citizens all have a part to contribute. Engaging in the plan involves transformative change in attitudes, policies, practices, and governance structures. It also requires strategies such as community engagement, ecosystem preservation, policy advocacy, climate change adaptation, public education, integration of traditional knowledge, sustainable resource use, technological innovation, adaptive management practices, and collaborative partnerships. Additionally, by working together, embracing transformative change, and taking decisive action, we can ensure a brighter and more sustainable future for generations to come.

Besides, Ethiopia's biodiversity is a testament to the country's ecological significance and natural wonders. Its unique mix of habitats and climatic conditions has fostered the evolution of countless species, making it a treasure trove for scientists, conservationists, and nature enthusiasts alike. Preserving and safeguarding this remarkable biodiversity is not only crucial for Ethiopia but also for the global community, as it represents an irreplaceable part of our planet's natural heritage.

Mobilizing resources and fostering multi stakeholder engagement are crucial to safeguarding Ethiopia's biodiversity, which is essential for the country's environmental, economic, and social well-being

ongoing initiatives to ensure maximum benefits for our country and its people. He noted that by placing special emphasis on further developing and enhancing these projects, we can address the existing limitations and achieve more substantial outcomes.

The EBI advocates for initiatives like the Green Legacy, National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, and ecosystem restoration to address the challenges facing biodiversity. Mobilizing resources and

Art & Culture



A broken heart suffice

BY ALEM HAILU G/KRISTOS

When a
Remorseful convert,
Astray that had gone far
Blemishing his /her soul
With Sin's tar,
Puts a broken heart
On the altar,
By far,
S/he could enjoy
God's grace
Or even
Win a higher place
In His face
Than a devotee,
Taking pride
In his/her deed,
Who oft mount
A spiritual war
Devil's way to bar.

It is with
A broken heart
The culprit
Hanged by the right
Of Jesus Christ

Got to Eden's garden First
Though Adam, Moses,
Abraham, Job
And others were
Top on the short list.

It is by the virtue of
Their determination
Sinful ways to quit
Zacchaeus and
Mary Magdalene
Were seen fit
Than the hypocrite!

It is this line
From genesis
To revelation
God labors to bring
To our attention
So with conviction
Let us pray for
Our soul's resurrection.

Of course, no doubt,
Our devotion could buttress
Our chance to enjoy
His mercifulness!



Truth

BY SENAIT G/HIWOT

We try to be perfect
But we often get lost
We are not always right
Things are not always bright
We have a darker side
That we deny so bad
We suppress our emotions
To experience happiness
But it doesn't work like that
That is the known fact
Happy emotions come with sad
The good comes with the bad
As there is night and day
Feelings change the same way
The world is meant to be heavenly
For those whose mind is easy
They don't worry or bother
About things that don't matter

They are conscious about the moment
Never once do they go out of it
For majority of us that isn't the case
We try to find a needle in a maize
Our intelligence demands definition
To every little thought and action.
Part of us wants to be ill
We don't know how to be still
We can say we miss the darkness
In the time we find happiness
our creativity is fueled by pain
Without it there is no gain
Stability gives us boredom
We can't pass the conundrum
Without being tied to the norm.
As a diamond shines through heat
Ours is revealed through it!
"We are all like the bright moon,
We still have our darker sides"

Wait with Patience (Gurindam)

BY ALEMSEGED SISAY

So I whom have lived suffered
for the love, for the betray i got

Oh man on his road whom have lived suffered
long walked on ages journey so tired

When the darkness comes whom have lived suffered
they will pierce the wall of their hidden mind

Begging God latter whom have lived suffered

To see rays of hope through the hole of the pierced
wall

The accolade for whom have lived suffered
In the heaven of God is awaiting us

There is joy for whom have lived suffered
Albeit nothing granting from our age we have got

Gurindam poem, a type of irregular verse forms of
traditional Malay poetry



Society

Excelling tech to avail effective healthcare services

BY TEWODROS KASSA

In recent years, technological advancements have revolutionized the healthcare industry, leading to more effective and accessible healthcare services around the globe. Different countries are leveraging technology in the health sector; and in turn it is immensely contributing to improve the delivery of healthcare services to their citizens.

According to experts, one of the key roles of technology is revolutionizing healthcare services through telemedicine. This innovative approach allows healthcare providers to remotely diagnose and treat patients using telecommunications technology. By deploying telemedicine, patients in remote areas can access medical expertise without the need to travel long distances to urban centers. Another significant technological advancement in healthcare is the implementation of electronic health records.

Similarly, Electronic Health Records (EHR) systems enable healthcare providers to securely store and access patients' medical information, leading to improved coordination of care and more accurate diagnoses. Mobile Health (mHealth) solutions have also been instrumental in improving healthcare services. Through mobile apps and text messaging services, patients can receive vital health information, schedule appointments, and even consult with healthcare providers remotely. mHealth solutions have helped overcome barriers to access healthcare services in rural and underserved areas.

More importantly, implementing robust health information systems has been crucial in enhancing the delivery of healthcare services in different countries. These systems enable to easily collect and analyze health data, providing valuable insights for healthcare providers and policymakers to make informed decisions. Utilizing health information systems helps to track disease outbreaks, monitor population health trends and improve healthcare planning.

Recently, the Government of Ethiopia announced that it has been investing on innovation and technology infrastructure to ensure quality healthcare services.

The summit themed: "Promoting Health System Innovation to Enhance Healthcare Quality, Safety and Equity" has attracted various stakeholders from the country and other international organizations working on health.



During his keynote speech to the 8th National Healthcare Innovation and Quality Summit, Health State Minister Ayele Teshome (MD) said the number and type of innovation interventions implemented in Ethiopia have increased in recent years.

Not all, but some of these interventions were successful and have significantly improved the health system, he added.

According to him, innovations in medical technology, treatments and procedures are critical in improving quality and continuity of care.

Innovations such as digitization and automation in the health information system contribute significantly to identifying potential safety issues, preventing medical errors and ensuring accountability and learning opportunities.

Furthermore, innovation can help to address healthcare disparities and promote equity by improving access to care for the underserved population as well as overcome geographical barriers.

Ayele also noted that over the past ten years, various reform programs have been carried out and remarkable achievements obtained through innovation based solutions in the health sector.

Innovation and Technology State Minister Bayisa Bedada said on his part that science, technology and innovation play a crucial role in achieving 2030 sustainable development goals and Agenda 2063.

The government of Ethiopia has been carrying out various activities realizing that innovation contributes to the national economy of the country, he stated.

Bayisa added that the government has also been tirelessly working on legal frameworks, infrastructural and human development that would enable the sector to become competitive and effective.

On behalf of WHO Ethiopia Country Representative, Bejoy Nambiar (MD) said that the organization is committed to supporting the Ministry of Health in achieving strategic objectives of harnessing innovation for health systems

quality, equity, and safety.

One of the key ways in which technology is revolutionizing healthcare in Ethiopia is through the use of Electronic Health Records (EHR). EHR systems allow healthcare providers to securely store and access patient information electronically, streamlining the healthcare process and improving overall patient care. Additionally, telemedicine is another tech solution that has been instrumental in providing healthcare services to remote areas in Ethiopia. Through telemedicine, patients can consult with healthcare providers via video conferencing, eliminating the need for long travel times to receive medical care.

On the other hand, while technology has brought many benefits to the healthcare industry in Ethiopia, there are also challenges that come with implementing tech solutions. One of the main challenges is the lack of infrastructure and resources in some areas of the country. However, through partnerships with tech companies and government initiatives, solutions are being developed to address these challenges and ensure that all Ethiopians have access to quality healthcare services.

Accordingly, it is imperative to see that the use of excelling tech in healthcare is transforming the way healthcare services are delivered in Ethiopia. From electronic health records to telemedicine, technology is improving patient care, increasing access to healthcare services, and making the overall healthcare process more efficient. By continuing to invest in tech solutions and infrastructure, Ethiopia is on track to provide effective and accessible healthcare services to all its citizens.

In sum, the integration of excelling tech in healthcare services has brought about significant improvements in the delivery of healthcare services in Ethiopia. From telemedicine to mobile health solutions, technology has enabled healthcare providers to reach more patients, improve care coordination, and enhance overall patient outcomes.

As Ethiopia continues to embrace technological innovations in healthcare, the future looks promising for the delivery of effective and accessible healthcare services through narrowing current sector challenges. With the rapid advancement of technology, the healthcare industry in Ethiopia is experiencing a major transformation. Excelling tech solutions are being implemented to provide effective and efficient healthcare services to the people.

Law & Politics

Promoting National Dialogue Commission through media

BY FITSUM GETACHEW

The phrase 'Ethiopia is at crossroads' has been heard many times in the past referring to certain crucial moments in its history. We have heard it during various epochs of the recent history of the country when the people felt that something pivotal was about to happen. This kind of assertion was also heard from among the academics, intellectuals or people who are considered as knowledgeable and keen observers of the country. They make these remarks based on what sort of developments were about to take place in the society and the establishment as a whole. These observers refer to past stories developing and events actually taking place including possible regime changes or other critical events that may determine the fate of the country.

For instance, similar observations were made when the monarchy was living its final days due to widespread protests against the way things were being handled. In the pivotal year of 1974, there were conditions in which the country was at crossroads. Unprecedented developments took place. The military began to complain loudly by voicing their woes to the monarchy. Civil servants, the business community, teachers and other society sectors voiced their opposition against the worsening economic situation of the country. The opposition was also supported by the students' movement. Therefore, it was clear that the country was at crucial crossroads.

With the deposition of the monarchy and the military takeover, the country seemed to head to a more stable situation. But soon, even the military government was to face opposition from various fronts including those who craved for the right to self-determination of certain communities. Then, it was again clear that the country was at crossroads.

Ethiopia never had any scarcity of enemies given its crucial geopolitical situation and Ethiopians were constantly reminded of this case by having to mobilize to deter any aggression from outside. Again, there was the feeling that the country was at crossroads with the future not very clear or bright.

With the increasing assault of certain forces that struggled for cessation of the military government, it was difficult to predict that the future would be bright because peace and stability was dwindling and people had begun to worry. The policies and records of the military government did not convince Ethiopians in general. Many observers began to raise the issue of the country being at crossroads again.

Some people even began to support the guerrilla fighters so that the military regime is done with. People wanted peace and harmony among communities ridding of the military government. Then, another new chapter was written with the deposition of the Derg and the takeover of power by the EPRDF coalition.

It seemed that the series of wars and military



campaigns were destined to end and people would never hear the sound of guns again. The new regime presented itself as a kind of 'savior' of the country. However, after a few years, once again a new cycle of discontent erupted. The policies of the government were accused of discrimination among nationalities and that power was systematically abused by the new.

The resistance movement was continued for years before the EPRDF government was deposed by a wing in itself that formed a kind of 'reformist party'. EPRDF was made to vanish and a new party called Prosperity Party was founded by the new leaders such as Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed. The new government promised that no ethnic group or nationality or indeed political force would feel discriminated or sidelined from the central authority. Each will have their say in the affairs that concern them and opposition forces that were stationed abroad were invited to return home and take part in a peaceful political discourse.

With certain forces still raising the perennial issue of the lack of participation in the country's government, there seemed to be a sense of discontent that has persevered along the years despite the measures of the reformist government taken to change things so that the old injustices would be redressed.

It was also in reaction to these presuppositions that the so called National Dialogue Commission was founded and every entity would be given the chance to air its voice in the deliberations. During the past few years since the formation of this Commission, there have been made significant progresses towards identifying the major issues that divide the country, the possible solutions that people envisage, and how to go about reforming the country along fair and equitable lines in terms of sharing power and the resources.

Persistent issues are to be well-identified according to what people actually feel and well-deliberated solutions are to be prospected by this National Dialogue Commission that is meant to embrace every segment of society including those who have resorted to armed struggle. This move of the Commission is crucial because no one force or group would be excluded from the deliberations. The role of the media here becomes fundamental because it needs to responsibly cover what is being done in

not be economically motivated to take the wrong side. It needs to show people that it always keeps the major interests of the country above every other force or interest.

The Ethiopian media needs to support the efforts of the Commission in its attempts to gather as much input as possible without any bias from the participants because the success of the efforts of the Commission will contribute to building a society and a nation that are based on a certain consensus. The views of every group would be guaranteed representation and consideration, and no one would feel excluded from their fair share of the national pie.

In a country such as Ethiopia, where there are tens of ethnic groups and languages, the way power is shared has always presented a challenge, also because there are external forces in the country who try to drag the nation into turmoil and fish in troubled waters. They try to abort its development into a powerful force in East Africa and the continent as a whole. For such sabotage, there are multiple agents and forces, particularly in social media, trying to sow discord among Ethiopians. That is where the media should flex its muscles and show its resistance.

One of the main duties of the media is, hence to expose these destructive forces and convince people that they are enemies of the people who are busy peddling unfounded narratives and venomous assertions among communities. The media should give due emphasis to these developments, actively support the efforts of the National Dialogue Commission in reporting on each and every development, and keep the public well-informed so that they have trust and confidence in what the Commission is doing.

Ethiopia cannot afford to squander this opportunity once again as it has done in various other chapters of its history. Opportunities do not always recur easily because things continue to evolve. The country's position vis-à-vis outside forces is also bound to change. We need to seize the moment and take full advantage of similar developments so that the country addresses its crucial issues and go ahead one step to the right direction.

Attaining full peace and permanent stability would facilitate the growth of the country. For all this, the role of the media cannot be underestimated. It is a key force capable of swaying things in any direction. It can be constructive but also destructive. The efforts and positive contribution of the media are precious and irreplaceable. We should all realize and acknowledge the importance of this fact and support the media because we cannot afford to fail in this endeavor.

The development trajectory of the country cannot continue if we fail to settle this issue of national consensus through the efforts of the National Dialogue Commission. And the Commission's efforts need to be well covered and promoted by the media so that people are well aware of what the implications are and not sabotaged by the enemies of the country.

The Ethiopian media needs to support the efforts of the Commission in its attempts to gather as much input as possible without any bias from the participants because the success of the efforts of the Commission will contribute to building a society and a nation that are based on a certain consensus

the country regarding the activities of the Commission.

Undoubtedly, the media is a very powerful force in society considered by many as the fourth branch of a government. Indeed, in the current situation, its responsibilities have doubled because the emergence of social media has complicated and tried to diminish its role. To avoid the risk of being eclipsed by the social media that are very popular, direct and immediate, the conventional media needs to present itself in a responsible and professional manner raising its profile higher than any of the social media outlets that try to outshine it or even push it out of business. That is why the media needs to be professional, reliable and trustworthy and



Ephrem Endale
Contributor

Between you & me

“You Caused Them; You Solve Them!”

I was imagining what I would say if I get the chance to talk to Him for a few minutes. There are so many things I'd like to tell him, ask him, and things which would force me to demand explanations. Somehow say I get this chance.

Him:- It is rather odd wouldn't you say? I mean a complete stranger having an audience with Me is a little difficult to explain to others.

(I get the urge to ask him why it should be difficult for me to talk to him. Am I not his creation? Am I not one of the billions of souls and is He not supposed to treat every single one of us equally? But I keep my cool. I didn't go all the way to him to pick up a fight.)

Me:- With all due respect I wouldn't say it's odd. After all I have been waiting for this chance like many billions are waiting and luckily I got the chance.

Him:- I'll tell you one thing. I'll be accused of favoritism. Already you down there are treating my case as if I have certain people I love and help in every and all ways populations I hate.

Me:- Are You telling me you hate no one.

Him:- Are you telling me I actually hate people.

Me:- I'm not telling you; I'm just asking the question because for them, nay things I noticed I really don't know how to think. Since everybody even the atheists at times try to send their message to You it seems some of them get their requests answered while others don't.

Him:- Do you think I'm the one deciding who gets what? Do you think I reward some while I deny others?

Me:- Again with due respect; I don't only think; I believe with all my heart since I have seen a lot

of such happenings while some are happy while others are sad for absolutely no reason...

Him:- Except favoritism on my part.

Me:- Well I don't want to put it that way, but many, perhaps too many people think that You act like norms!

Him:- Oh now you're talking, aren't you? Forgive me for being blunt; do you guys really believe that I am the one who brings the smile to some people while I make others sad? Give me a “yes,” or “No,” answer.

Me:- But it's not that easy.

“One minute you try to be a bold and non-sense guy who calls a spade a spade. Isn't that what you down there say? The next then shift and play softy, softy as you guys down there say.

Me:- But I'm not playing softy, softy as You say. I was just trying to make things clearer to me so that my outlook and decisions would be informed.

Him:- Ok trying to argue with you people would be nothing less than wasting time in the most blatant way. Tell me in any way which you think is appropriate.

Me:- Well, it's hard to give a final verdict on all. But most of you think that way.

Him:- What ‘that way?’

Me:- What I was trying to say was...I hope you wouldn't take it against me for telling You the general mood.

Him:- Am I right to feel that you're treating me like just another human being? Allow me to be surprised. Him:- Why should I take anything against you!

Me:- Please take my comment as a slip of the tongue. To come to the point, I've to say quite a lot of believe that you're consciously punishing some while you're rewarding others while the sins of one side were neither worse nor ‘better’ than those the others.’

You know what I've to commend you for being so candid. One thing I notice about many down there is that they never have the guts or the conviction to say or what they actually should say.

Me:- Pardon me for crossing some lines, but aren't you supposed you know the problems of each and every one of us?

Him:- I can't believe you're asking me such a question!

Me:- Sorry! I'm messing up things, am I not?

Him:- I'm not trying to scare you. Come to think of it and I think it is nice you brought that point. Many of you believe that I'm with you 24/7 hanging on to everything you do, every thought lament every word you say.

Me:- yes we do.

Him:- Well I wouldn't dare deny it in its entirety. But I've to tell you that you've taken it way of over the line. Anyway I have a crucial question for you.

Me:- please ask me.

Him:- Do you realize that all this time we haven't talked about anything significant? Is that why you came all the way.

ME:- Not at all! I want to ask you why there are so many wars and armed conflicts all over the world.

Him:- How would I know?

Me:- that wasn't the answer I expected.

Him: well, sorry but that's the answer you'd get. You brought the question to the wrong place.

Me:- B...but It doesn't make sense. If you don't know who would?

Him:- I don't know! I really don't know! You should be asking those who are fighting and those who are making them fight. I don't pull the triggers; I don't fly the warplanes and drop the bombs; I don't maneuver the tanks and shoot the big guns; then how in the world would I know which practically is your responsibility.

Me:- You know how much what you're saying is denting my hopes!

Him:- It shouldn't. Look, the problem is that you create the problems; you cause the conflicts; you blow each other's head off and what do you do? You point your accusing finger at me. I've heard your compatriots saying that I was the cause of all the armed conflicts in your nation.

Me:- Sorry for interrupting you. But look what's going on in my country. There's a lot of talk that things are in your hands. You're the only one who could solve it.

Him:- It is bitterly funny. You people are even saying I'm punishing the hundred million-plus people for all their sins. Did I ever say that? Did anyone ever hear me saying that? Did I ever say that I particularly picked your people out for punishment while practical 99% of you are sinners! Since you've used up your time do you want to hear my final message about what you say are your problems?

Me:- Yes. I do.

Him:- You caused them, you solve them!

‘A totally perfect evening!’ - Spurs fans

It was supposed to be just another one of those crucial games in the English Premier League. The buildup leading to last Tuesday's game between Tottenham Hotspurs and Manchester City was so charged even many back here made it their main agenda. By the way whether we like it or not the English Premiere League is followed here by many times more people than we'd have thought. Not that you put both teams on the same level of skills and team organization as Spurs a once upon a time great team has been in steep nosedive for quite a long time. The result of this game heavily affect Arsenal's chances of winning the season's EPL cup. That, dear readers, decided the emotional narratives. If spurs win it would have been all smiles in Arsenal's camp as they would have advantage over Man.

Now the talk was more about the reactions of sections of Spurs fans rather than the fight their team would keep up. You would expect that majestic stadium reverberating with the loudest of noises you seldom hear. Yes there were noises of Spurs fans but there were also noises and actions caught on camera fans cheering City! Such a story would have been sense if the fans had some issues with their own club and they wanted to make themselves heard. Unfortunately, it wasn't that. A win for Spurs would have benefited archrivals Arsenal and boosted their chance of winning the season's EPL cup. But those spur fans didn't want this to happen and what do they do? They cheer their team's defeat! I, too, would say embarrassing as many commented. How can you treat your

own team as the sacrificial just because you hate your age-old rivals!

But then it gets you thinking. Isn't this something quite many of us do? I mean being happy over the failure of someone who had done absolutely no harm to us. Such behavior has probably been around for ages and the only difference is that this time, things have taken such a nasty twist that there could be more people who hate your success than those cheering you on. I mean Arsenal had been a wonder team this season and despite iron-hot hatred acknowledge that fact would be what a real football enthusiast does. Spurs on the other hand have a tough homework to catch up if they ever do, that is.

Sadly we are in times even complete strangers who never dealt with you or anything would like to see you suffering the KO life gives you. You would ask how those people would feel once the dust settles. By the way a win for Spurs would have boosted their chance to win in next season's EPL and their own fans cheer their defeat. One guy wrote on the social media, “How can any fan actually want another team to beat theirs irrespective of what that would mean, they lost the opportunity of possible CL football just to stop Arsenal. It doesn't make sense to me, as a United fan I still wanted us to win against Arsenal on Sunday even though City could have been champions last night.”

“The last 48 hours have revealed to me the foundations are pretty fragile,” Australian Spurs coach Ange Postecoglou said. The coach,

a usually reserved man on the touchlines unlike many other emotional coaches, was all worked up when a fan said to him “Throw the game...”

Sorry to say it but watching spurs fan enjoying their team being pummeled you can't help thinking “These must be the types of guys who they say are dead from the neck up.” The catch here a win for them would have boosted their chances taking part in next season's Europa Cup. I mean with your team so close to international competition you're supposed to be the most anxious person for miles around. But that didn't happen.

Many Spurs fans wished for their team to lose and they got their wish. But at a very heavy cost to the reputation of the normally boisterous fans. I mean reading anywhere about fans cheering their team's defeat you'd say it's either problem of typography or whoever wrote it was an untreatable weirdo! But no; their hatred towards their ‘historic’ rivals was so much so they were willing to sacrifice their own team's destiny just to see The Gunners wouldn't anywhere close to the PL cup.

There is this story of a guy whom God asks what he wished. He gave twice of whatever He gave him. So the guy tells God he wants to lose an eye. You might ask why. Well in that case his friend would be losing both eyes. The display of Spurs fans wasn't only despicable but, something that doesn't happen often. It might be premature to accuse the players of harboring the same wish of their rivals not taking this seasons EPL cup. But it can't be

denied that though Spurs were good many Arsenal supporters think otherwise. Some even say Spurs golden boy squandered that scoring opportunity in a very amateurish display that raised eyebrows as any player of his caliber would have found that the easiest scoring chance of their entire football career. Now accusing Son of foul play is not easy. But especially Arsenal's fans are saying he missed it consciously. Next EPL season isn't going to be nice for Son and his teammates.

In our society, too, there are many of us who are more delighted at the loss of others than at out our own successes.

Have you heard that guy has been booted out?

What do you mean booted out?

He has been dismissed.

You don't mean it! That is the most wonderful news I heard for the whole year.

“Why are you so happy at him being dismissed? Has he done anything to you?”

“No; in fact we don't even greeted each other.”

“So isn't it a little too harsh to enjoy his being unemployed!!

Yes it is harsh! We're in an age where we seem to have been tuned to applaud all the negative things in spite of the persons or groups having done nothing to us. More times than you'd like to admit you come across people rejoicing at the defeats, losses and falls of others.

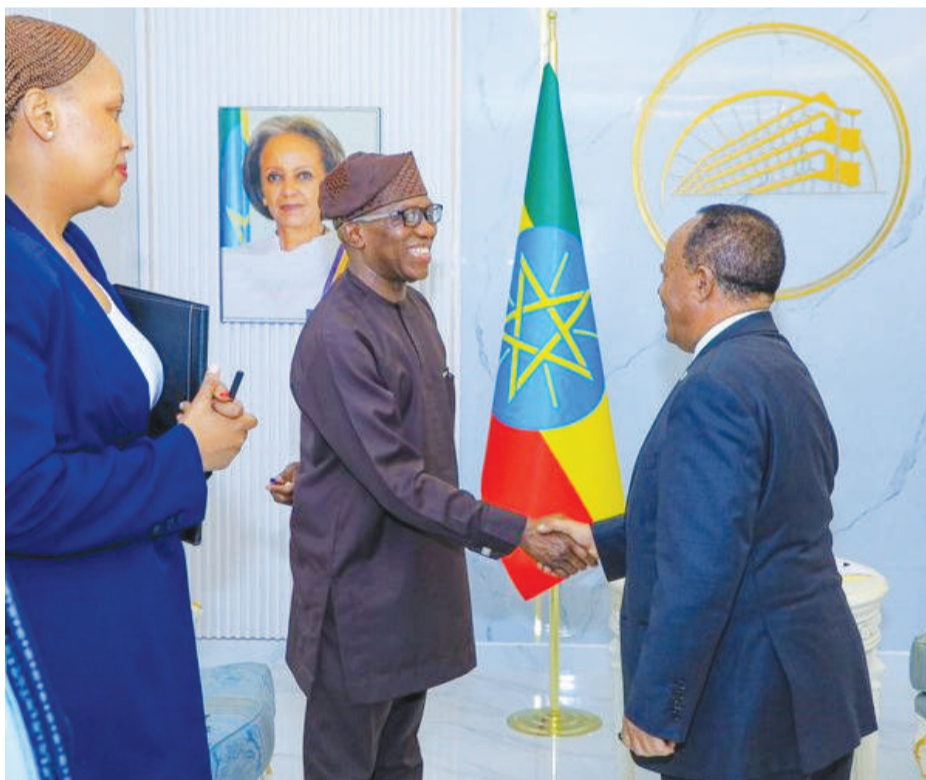
In Pictures

Spurring growth promoting peace, dialogue, diplomacy, alliance

BY NAOL GIRMA

The gains Ethiopia has made in the agricultural sector are now being replicated in the industrial sector, following structural reforms and leadership changes at the Defence Engineering Industry Corporation, the leaders are undertaking remarkable work using reverse engineering to develop strategic weapons, rockets, and tanks

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed



The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, Ambassador Taye Atske-Selassie, received the African Union Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, Ambassador Bankole Adoye, in his office. Ambassador Taye affirmed that the Ethiopian government is fully committed to the implementation of the Pretoria Peace Agreement.



BRICS Plus alliance will be crucial for Ethiopia to expand its global diplomatic relations and enhance economic cooperation, Foreign Relations and Peace Affairs Standing Committee Member at the House of People's Representatives
Ambassador Dina Mufti

The upcoming inclusive dialogue in Ethiopia is a critical opportunity that will play a significant role in shaping the destiny of the nation, member of the Advisor Group of the National Dialogue Commission,
Rahel Bafe

