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Forum: Opportunity to promote African's networking, cooperation

BY ASHENAFI ANIMUT

While undertaking grass root infrastructural, renovation and tourism development activities nation-wide, Ethiopia is offered to host the inaugural African Cities Forum which is to be convened from September 4-6, 2024 under the theme "Sustainable

Urbanization Planning for Africa's Transformation – Agenda 2063" at the historic Adwa Victory Memorial Museum.

It is also believed to bring ample opportunity for African brothers and sisters to enhance networking, mutual cooperation and navigate far-reaching continental thriving future coordinative roadmap for

continental sustainable development.

Expressing the country's readiness and preparations, the Ministry of Urban and Infrastructure State Minister FentaDejen told the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) that it would help promote the tourism industry and awaken

See Forum: Opportunity ... page 4

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Ethiopia, UAE ink 300MW Wind Project Power Deal

ADDIS ABABA (ENA)- Ethiopia has signed 300MW Aysha-1 wind project Power Purchase and implementation agreements with United Arab Emirates (UAE)'s AMEA Power.

The Aysha wind energy project is poised to become the largest wind energy project in the Horn of Africa after investing 600 million USA, it was learned.

Finance Minister Ahmed Shide and other senior government officials

See Ethiopia, UAE ink ... page 4



Ethiopia pays sacrifices to Somalia's peace: Field Marshal

BY MISGANAW ASNAKE

ADDIS ABABA - The Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF) made unparalleled sacrifices to bring peace to the people

of Somalia, Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF) Chief of General Staff Field Marshal Birhanu Jula stated.

Field Marshal Birhanu welcomed a battalion

See Ethiopia pays sacrifices ... page 4

Small-Scale Farming: Entrepreneur cultivates fish farming in Addis

BY YESUF ENDRIS

Considering the growing demand for fresh fish in the suburb of metropolitan Addis Ababa, Aynalem Mulugeta, a young entrepreneur has taken an initiative to provide a sustainable solution with small-scale fish farming for which he was acknowledged by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Despite the availability of market opportunities, the entrepreneur is struggling with challenges related to shortage of land and he is not even yet licensed for the pond where he is now fishing.

Applying for a land license on one hand, Aynalem continues making waves in the local community on the other through proving the capacity of urban farming by supplying 10 to 15 kilograms of fresh fish daily from his fishpond located in the

See Small-Scale Farming: ... page 4



Council vows to strengthen disaster emergency response activities

ADDIS ABABA (ENA)- The Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Council has set out future directions to intensify the disaster emergency response activities.

In its emergency session held in Dire Dawa City, the council has discussed in detail on the current disasters including the recent landslide and floods triggered by heavy rains and reviewed the humanitarian aid response.

Deputy Prime Minister Temesgen Tiruneh who is also chairperson of the council recalled that many of the citizens have lost their lives following the sudden accidents caused by heavy rains in this rainy season.

Recall that a landslide which occurred in last July 2024 and triggered by heavy rain in the Gofa Zone alone has killed over 231 people.

Acknowledging the current national efforts to mitigate risks are commendable, the Deputy Prime Minister stressed the need for establishing effective emergency preparedness system to manage the future accidents.

Temesgen further emphasized on the importance of revisiting and inspecting the government disaster risk management structures in a way to give a proactive emergency response and handle crises.

Accordingly, the Deputy Prime Minister has given executive order to the council in order to enhance disaster prevention activities and provide timely information, noting there is forecast data that indicates other disasters may still occur.

For this, he said, there is a need to inform the citizens in the areas of risk and relocate them when it becomes necessary.

The Deputy Prime Minister highlighted the importance of enhancing relief support for those displaced by disasters. Temesgen also underlined that it is to focus on finding long-term solutions in this regard.

The rehabilitation activities of citizens who have been displaced by the previous conflicts will continue to be strengthened in coordination with the various regions of the country, he stated.

On the other hand, he stressed that accurate information of beneficiaries and citizens seeking support should be clarified and linked to the national identification program.

He also emphasized on the strengthening of resource mobilization initiatives for emergency response works.

The Ethiopian Meteorological Institute Director General Fetene Teshome on his part mentioned the prediction of the ongoing Ethiopia's rainy season which has continued to receive heavy rains since May 2024 due to the influence of La Niña.

He also indicated that above-normal rainfall is expected to continue until September, adding that citizens in the Abbay, Awash, Baro Akobo, and other basins are at risk of flooding.

Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commissioner Shiferaw Teklemariam has reported that this year's winter has seen unprecedented disasters.

He stated that evacuation of citizens from river basins and slopes vulnerable to floods and landslides has begun, and urged the leadership to reinforce these efforts.

Shiferaw stressed that the society should notice early warnings and take precautions to protect themselves from any future danger.

Finally, the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Council has set out direction to consolidate activities of covering humanitarian aid by the country's own capacity.

Local company EVs assembling on rise

BY MISGANAW ASNAKE

ADDIS ABABA –In an ambition to facilitate knowledge and technology transfer and promoting the national green legacy program, a local company based in Debre Berhan is supplying the market with hundreds of electric vehicles of different types.

Part of the Belayneh Kindie Business Group, the Debre Berhan Phibela Industry Car Assembly PLC is mainly assembling electric vehicles and feeding the local market, Company Director General Mohammed Ahmed said.

Most of the vehicles do not release noise and carbon dioxide that affect the environment so that they go in compliance with the national plan of achieving green legacy and green development, he emphasized.

Inaugurated this Ethiopian fiscal year, the company has been assembling various trucks, city buses and minibuses which are compatible to the country's green legacy initiative, he stated.

He told the Ethiopian Press Agency that his company has assembled over 200 minibuses while assembling city buses in an agreement with the Debre Berhan and Addis Ababa city administrations.

The industry is playing a vital role in advancing technology transfer and job creation in the sector thereby saving the country a significant amount of foreign currency to import such products, he stressed.

“Our factory has immense potential in utilizing the country's abundant electric



Photo: Eyob Teferi

generating capacity thereby reducing the expenditure to import fuel,” Mohammed said.

He elaborated that the electric city buses assembled by the Phibela Industry can cover some 540km with less than 500 Birr expense for electric energy than the traditional buses that consume fuels at a cost of about 40,000 Birr to cover almost similar distance.

The company promotes technology transfer to Ethiopia and introduce new knowledge in the sphere in the future, he believed.

According to the Director General, Phibela

has a capacity of producing about 12 vehicles per day though it is currently assembling with 40% of its capacity.

It has created some 400 jobs though it would employ a total of 1000 citizens when it gets fully operational, he indicated.

Mohammed also expressed that the industry is working with universities to produce spare parts in the country to curb shortage of inputs and hard currency.

In this process, the company has planned to promote university-industry linkage and nurturing skilled manpower, he added.

Dashen Bank launches Dube Ale-IFB service

BY STAFF REPORTER

ADDIS ABABA– Dashen Bank, in collaboration with EagleLion System Technology, has introduced a pioneering Interest-Free Banking (IFB) service called “Dube Ale-Interest Free Banking” (DubeAle-IFB).

This innovative Buy-Now Pay Later scheme allows customers to purchase goods and services on credit while strictly adhering to Shariah principles.

DubeAle-IFB offers short-term financing through partnerships with merchants and traders, enabling customers to make purchases and repay the amount over three, six, or twelve months without any interest or profit mark-up. According to Dashen Bank CEO Asfaw Alemu, customers can easily access the service by downloading the “Dube Ale-IFB” application from the Play Store, registering, and visiting a nearby Dashen Bank branch for account verification.

After verification, they can make credit purchases from participating physical and online stores. The system includes professional guidance to help customers determine their financing limit based on their income.

To use the service, employed customers need to submit a letter from their employer, confirming their income and employment status. Repayment can be made via Amole,



Dashen Bank's mobile banking platform or through automatic deductions from their bank account. Customers with fixed assets can also provide a third-party guarantee or secure the financing with a bank deposit.

The maximum spending limit for DubeAle-IFB is set at Birr 700,000 with all payments processed exclusively through the application.

This service is anticipated to boost economic activity by allowing consumers to purchase products and services without the need for immediate cash.

Dashen Bank previously launched the popular Amole payment platform and introduced the DubeAle conventional banking service in 2023.

Editorial

Double checking decisions than lamenting missteps

It is not a hyperbole to claim that no country comes near to Ethiopia regarding the life sacrifice paid to ensure an enduring peace and a reliable stability in Somalia. This virtuous deed consummated with success has not only won fame and recognition to Ethiopia but has also allowed it to stand out as the alacritous troubleshooter in the region. To date, Ethiopia displays the stamina to sustain the tempo. Owing to these virtues various countries are willing to work with Ethiopia.

It could not be gainsaid that by seeking ways for armistice and facilitating means for warring factions of divergent political views to resolve their disputes round the table Ethiopia had labored a lot and played a paramount role in Somalia's time of need when Siad Bare's government collapsed and the country failed to stand on its feet as a nation.

Considerate of the security needs of other countries in the region too it has emasculated the terrorist group Al Shabaab posing threat in the region. Obviously, for this the region owes Ethiopia a lot. However, in a show of ingratitude to Ethiopia's good gesture as well as to the selfless role of Ethiopia for the emergence of the Somalia state in the stateless Somalia. Clearly the peace-votary Ethiopian government has no intention of deploying its troop indefinitely there. That is why it has been training militias that could see to the furtherance of the hard-won tranquility of their country by themselves. Somalia is indebted for that.

The problem now is not the withdrawal of the Ethiopian peace keeping force in Somalia. Rather it is the alertness and military capability of the country to forestall the intermittent aggression of Al Shabaab in the region. This is an issue of concern for all those who want a genuine peace in East Africa.

In the not distant past, when Somalia was a stateless country pirates were ransacking the Red Sea and ships were subject to detention and robbery. Countries that were using the route were in the rollercoaster of anxiety.

As PM Abiy Ahmed (PHD) put it in parliament lately, Ethiopia is willing to discuss with the current government of Somalia for the peaceful resolve of the misunderstanding. He urged the Somalia government to openly embrace harmony. The discussion the two countries held in Turkey is indicative of Ethiopia's commitment for peaceful coexistence simultaneously keeping its interest in a win-win approach.

Ethiopia's foreign policy homes in on the wellbeing of neighboring countries that have immense role for collective security and common growth. Ethiopia needs the prevalence of enduring serenity within and without. For this to happen, its door is wide open.

Amicable Ethiopia's trustworthy peace keeper role is acid tested.

Now the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) is to cede place to African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM.)

Things must be examined in light of the aforementioned facts. Stakeholders must reach on decisions calm, cool and collected.

Ethiopia's arch and historic enemies must not serve as Trojan horses to those dreaming to destabilize the region. There is a need to differentiate the cheese from the chalk and the seed from the chaff. Cracking the mask of the sanctimonious and according credit where credit is due prove plausible. Double checking actions beforehand are sagacious, for lamenting missteps costs stakeholders a lot.

The Red Sea is a nerve center for trade, investment and transport. It is against this backdrop the global community must voice its concern for the right solution.

Opinion

Leapfrogging into the Ethiopian New Year with full confidence for accelerated development

BY SOLOMON DIBABA

The Ethiopian New Year is characterized by the end of the long rainy season, a bright sky and a dazzling sunlight. The countryside turns into gold with the yellow daisies (adey abeba), which covers the entire fields in rural areas of Ethiopia are in bloom at this time of the year.

The festival is celebrated with the singing of special songs dedicated for this holiday by Girls dressed in traditional clothes and giving the bouquets of flowers (adey abeba), they collected from the fields to each household. In return, they often receive a small gift, usually money. On the eve of the New Year, young men gather in groups singing songs that herald about the New Year. They sing from house to house getting gifts usually in the form of money.

The celebration of the Ethiopian New Year, *Enkutatash*, meaning the "Gift of Jewels" is believed to be celebrated since the time of the Queen of Sheba. During her visit to King Solomon of Israel in Jerusalem, the Queen had gifted the King with 120 talents of gold (4.5 tons) as well as a large amount of unique spices and jewels, as mentioned in the Bible.

When the Queen returned to Ethiopia her chiefs welcomed her with precious jewels to replenish her treasury. *Enkutatash* has been celebrated since then.

Lighting bonfire on the eve of the New Year is also part of the celebration. Male members of the family light a bonfire made of branches and leaves of trees to say good bye to the concluding year and wishing for a brighter year, peace and prosperity for the family and the country as a whole.

The Ethiopian calendar is derived from the Alexandrian or Coptic calendar. Like the Julian calendar, it adds a leap day every four years without exception.

The Ethiopian calendar has twelve months of 30 days plus five or six epagomenal days, which comprise a thirteenth month. The sixth epagomenal day is added every four years.

As the Ethiopian counting of years begins in the year 8 of the Common Era, a calendar era often used as an alternative naming of the AD, there is seven to eight years gap between the Ethiopian and Gregorian calendar. This mainly results from an alternate calculation in determining the date of the Annunciation to Virgin Mary.

The Common Era (AD) follows the calculations of Dionysius, a 6th-century monk, while the non-Chalcedonian countries continued to use the calculations of Annius, a 5th-century monk, which had placed the Annunciation of Christ exactly 8 years later. Because of this, on 11th of September 2016, it will be 2009 in the Ethiopian calendar.

Enkutatash is a very festive occasion and a

get together for families. The rainy season is the busiest time for families in rural areas, as it is the main season in the highland areas for cultivation of crops. The end of rain means time to get some rest and celebrate.

The Ethiopian New Year is a source of inspiration for all Ethiopians. Farmers in the rural areas tend their farms expecting a bumper harvest in the next season for food stuff. School children are getting ready for the new academic year while university students throughout the country are preparing themselves for yet another year in college.

This year Ethiopians celebrate *Enkutatash* with a mixed feeling of hope and challenges. The country is grappling with higher level of inflation which seriously affects people with less income due to the skyrocketing of prices on foodstuff. Moreover, the devastating effects of two years of war in the northern part of the country and now another round of war in Amhara has displaced millions of people who would require enormous amount of food aid. Sporadic conflicts across several regions have affected normal duties of farmers some of whom are in short of agricultural inputs.

However, everything is not bleak for Ethiopia, the country is now enjoying good rainy season and there is a relative stability in most of the areas in the country. Ethiopia conducted a promising level of diplomatic activities in terms of climate, diplomacy and successfully conducted the first part of the second phase of National Green Legacy Initiative by planting more than 30 billion trees to date since 2019. After painstaking and rigorous negotiations, the nation was able to secure more than 27 billion USD in foreign loan and grants which set the cornerstone for the implementation of Ethiopia's Macroeconomic Policy.

Rehabilitation of the war devastated areas in northern Ethiopia is going on along with attempts being made to distribute relief food to the needy. Despite huge economic challenges, the country has been able to register economic growth exceeding 7%.

Ethiopia has now ceased to import wheat and is also looking forward to be self-sufficient in rice and other food items through the Basket Bounty Program.. The country expects more FDI for the years 2017 propelling more progress in better performance at Ten Years Perspective Plan and Digital Ethiopia by 2025.

Accordingly, more focus is to be made on improving the entire education system in the country through the participation of major stakeholders and the public at large.

Traditionally Enkutatash is an annual celebration of peace and tranquility among all the people of Ethiopia and is also a season of optimism and hope for better life.



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Ethiopia , UAE ink 300MW Wind Project..

from Ethiopia and UAE attended the signing ceremony.

The project implementation agreement was signed by Finance Minister Ahmed Shide and Hussain Al Nowais, AMEA Power Chairperson .

Similarly, Chairman of AMEA Power signed the power purchase agreement with CEO of Ethiopian Electric Power Ashebir Balcha, it was indicated.

AMEA Power, a United Arab Emirates' renewable company is anticipated to develop, invest, build, own and operate the wind farm through its fully-subsiary, AMENA Power Aysha Wind One PLC.

The energy generated will be sold to Ethiopian Electric Power under a 25-year Power Purchase Agreement.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Minister of Finance Ahmed Shide said the Aysha-1 300MW wind power project is a cornerstone of our national energy policy



and the legacy to be set in the renewable energy growth.

“This clearly shows our ongoing commitment to green energy and also to

energy diversification. This project is not just about generating power; it is about energizing our future through sustainable green development,” he elaborated.

Moreover, Ahmed added that this project aligns with international best practice and meets the governmental and environmental standards.

AMEA Power Chairperson Hussain Al Nowais said the 300MW Aysha-1 Wind Project marks a significant milestone for AMEA Power.

“As we have embarked on the next phase, we remain committed to working closely with the local community,” he added.

Noting energy transition is the way forward, he said, adding that the Aysha project is a step in that direction.

He reiterated we look forward to continuing our collaboration with our partners and stakeholders.

AMEA Power is one of the fastest growing renewable energy companies in the region with a clean energy pipeline of over 6,000 MW across 20 countries.

Forum: Opportunity to promote African's...

economic development.

In the sideline of the event, ranges of discussions, tourism exhibitions and corridor development visits will be taking place in the attendance of various countries' leaders, experts in the area, researchers, youth and other pertinent guests from across the globe.

Fenta further highlighted that, “Ethiopia, a sovereign, historical, ancient, and diplomatic hub, has had profound continental and global experiences on staging forums.”

In addition to security entities, he remarked that national committees that are composed from various federal institutions and ministries are currently teaming up to run a successful engagement.

The state minister underscored that the ongoing corridor development activities would also have a positive impact on the country's image building and be exemplary for other brotherly and sisterly countries. Besides, the forum will have a significant contribution on knowledge, technology transfer and ensuring citizen's benefit.

By the same token, issues related to agenda 2063 sustainable development goals and exploring ways to enhance Africa's global competitiveness will be thoroughly entertained in the forum, he noted.

“It is projected that best practices made by the tourism ministry, investment commission and other ministries are supposed to take part in exhibitions which in turn cherishes remarkable recognition for the country,” he emphasized.

He urged the media and people in all walks of life to give a great honor to African sisters and brothers.

With its focus on sustainability and collaboration, the forum would be an ideal platform to bring continental stakeholders

together and craft Africa's future prospects and contribute to citizen's livelihoods, according to the Urban Infrastructure Ministry.

Apart from promoting African countries and global partner's connectivity, it stated that the forum would be significant to showcase the ongoing corridor development activities in the metropolis and a turning point for the rest of African countries.

“The forum also helps echo inclusive and holistic urban development issues and promotes initiatives and builds the country's image.”

Given its sovereignty, urbanization structure, exemplary pan-African spirit for African cities transformation, Ethiopia is screened to host the first and historic African Unity event.

Government Communication Service Minister Legesse Tulu (PhD) told the press recently that 59 urban development ministers, 14 African mayors and over 2,640 participants are registered to take part in the upcoming forum.

He has also indicated that future prospects for sustainable urban development across the continent will be thoroughly deliberated.

As a historic nation and a founding member of the African Union (AU), Ethiopia is taking the forefront role in championing sustainable development across the continent. Moreover, the forum would be a guiding star for urban planning across the continent.

It is to be recalled that the Africa Urban Forum was established in 2022 by the African Union Commission and its member-states in response to the rising consciousness of the rapid urbanization in Africa and unlocking the potential of urbanization in the continent.

Ethiopia pays sacrifices...

of ENDF which successfully completed its peacekeeping mission under the umbrella of the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) in Ferfer Woreda of Shebele Zone, Somali State.

Upon receiving the battalion, Field Marshal Birhanu emphasized that Ethiopia sent its army to Somalia for several years prior to and following the resolutions passed by the

African Union, and paid incalculable price to protect the Somali people from al-Shabaab attacks.

Field Marshal Birhanu added that the battalion was well-harmonized to the people of Somalia and won their acclaim for its bravery throughout the peacekeeping mission, local media reported.

Small-Scale Farming: Entrepreneur...

suburb, Bole Bulbula.

“My fishpond area is about 2000 meter square and 200 meter faraway from *Legedadi* River that streams from the city surroundings. I always use electric-powered pump to fetch water from the river. I was once awarded by Ministry of Agriculture for my achievement,” he told *The Ethiopian Herald*.

Aynalem's venture is not only providing fresh fish but also contributing exemplary experience to the local economy. His business is becoming an alternative to the limited fish supplies to his customers who were buying and transporting fish from distant regions.

“I began with pond fishing with a vision of creating sustainable income and actually become source of fresh fish within the vicinity of the city. I need the government to support me with land provision. I am not licensed for the ownership of the pond where I am fishing. I could supply more amount as the potential is still untouched,” he underlined.

Seconding to Aynalem's sentiment, Investor GirmaMengistu, who involved in animal feed production with his enterprise named Friendship Agro-Industry PLC, said that the agricultural sector holds more opportunities far bigger than the existing ones.

“We are producing and supplying animal

feedings. Almost 98% of our products are made of locally produced inputs. We just need the support of the government to expand our businesses that could benefit more people and create jobs,” he said.

The future looks promising for agricultural entrepreneurs as the government pledges support to expand agricultural funding. The government is supporting investors through land provision and incentives. Besides, it has expanding platform for the use of improved farming tools, soil fertilizers, and seeds, Agriculture Minister, Girma Amentie (PhD) said while opening the Agricultural investment exhibition.

He highlighted innovation and mechanization as key priorities in advancing the agriculture sector.

The agriculture sector, which contributes one-third of national GDP and accounts for 65% of employment, is growing at an average rate of 5.2% per annum in recent years, according to Plan and Development Minister, Fitsum Assefa.

Legal and structural reforms are also expected to attract more private sector investment, including foreign companies. Financing had been a challenge for the sector, with foreign investment was rare. However, she expressed optimism that the recently introduced macro-economic reform would enable agricultural investors to access financial support from both local and international creditors.

Opinion

No room for alien forces to interfere in Ethiopia, Somalil and seaport access deal

BY ADDISALEM MULAT

Since the dawn of history, Egypt has been interfering in the internal affairs of Ethiopia at various points in time. As there is nothing which makes Egypt happier than driving Ethiopia into unfamiliar waters and delving into unexplored realms, the country has been working around the clock to drag through the mire the reputation of Ethiopia and the positive moves unfolding in various regions of the country.

It is important to highlight that since the laying of the cornerstone for the construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), Egypt has been working around the clock to interference in the internal affairs of the country and expressing its disappointment in various ways in the face of Ethiopia's stance on fair and equitable water use on Nile River.

In the present circumstance, failing to learn from its past mistake, Egypt has sustained expressing its disappointment on the heels of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ethiopia and Somaliland on the topic of access to seaport.

In actual fact, Ethiopia with a population of more than 120 million has no access to seaport which enables the country to smooth the path of its import and export procedures, grow its economy and other related aspects. To everyone's dismay, aside from fanning the flames of hatred and animosity between Ethiopia and Somaliland, Egypt has continued badmouthing the recently signed deal.

Somaliland vowed to continue defying and counter-fighting the ongoing smear campaign by what it calls 'arch and historical adversaries' to fracture the glowing ties between Addis Ababa and Hargeisa.

The all-weather Comradery between the two neighbors will get more boosts devoid of external meddling, said recently the Somaliland Ministry of Information in an exclusive interview with *The Ethiopian Herald*.

Since the signing of the Ethiopia-Somaliland sea deal, some external entities tried to besmirch the very intent of the agreement and bewilder the international community with coordinated propaganda, Director General at the Ministry Mustafe said "Some Arabian entities that have issues with Ethiopia on the Nile are trying to use us as a weapon to attack our brothers in need. But surely, Somaliland cannot serve as a bullet to hit Ethiopia,"

"We believe Ethiopia is the second country for Somalilanders. Ethiopia was there by our side when we were being subjugated and chased by a dictatorial rule.

Somaliland people faced persecution elsewhere. Ethiopia was the only country that hosted fleeing Somalilanders and treated them well when they were killed and tortured by Mohammed Siad Barre.

Somaliland cannot conspire against their second nation. Ethiopia is where they can go



and get refuge during turbulent times. It is clear that many Somaliland communities live in Ethiopia and there is also a large population of Ethiopian origin, he added.

Somaliland has the full right and ability to decide its fate without any external involvement. It is also countering the smearing propaganda campaigns waged by some entities through aggressive communication work. Ethiopia's well-being and security are beneficial to Somaliland, as to him.

To fend off the ongoing acts of meddling and defamatory propaganda, Somaliland media tries to explore Ethiopian media and align their agenda accordingly. Some entities have also tried to cast doubt on the deal saying it is all rhetoric but currently lawmakers are working on the deal and will announce the progress in due time.

Albeit Ethiopia at different points in time pulled out all the stops to familiarize the wider international community with the honest truth surfacing in every corner of the county, Egypt has kept on bewildering the global community with barefaced lie time and again.

In a similar way, at the current stage, it has continued as always hoodwinking the worldwide community with hoax news with a focus on winning the hearts and minds of the global community and accomplishing their hidden agenda going behind closed curtains.

Following the illegal moves of Egypt with regard to the issue, high government officials from Ethiopia and Somaliland have been tossing around scores of ideas against its evil acts which do not reflect the existing circumstances on the ground.

Though Ethiopia has been working around the clock for changing the lives of its people, its economic growth as well as catapulting development, Egypt has persisted engaging in smear campaign against the positive moves of Ethiopia and Somaliland in relation to the pact. Blinded by hatred, Egypt has kept on misleading the international community with erroneous and disingenuous information

throwing cold water on unvarnished truth.

Instead of giving priority to oiling the wheels of diplomatic efforts among the horn of Africa, Egypt has sustained causing animosity among the people of the region and beating the drums of war. No matter what happened, Egypt cannot accomplish its hidden agenda going behind closed curtains and in a secretive manner.

Somaliland is not just dedicated but unwavering in its commitment to implement the sea access deal it entered with Ethiopia in recent times, reiterated Mohamed Hussien Jama Rambo, member of Somaliland house of parliament. In exclusive interview with *The Ethiopian Herald*, the MP slammed external intervention while vowing that Hargeisa will not bow down to any pressures.

"We are accustomed to pressures from entities that do not appreciate our development. Yet, we resist these pressures, demonstrating our resilience. We honor agreements. Somaliland will not bow down to any pressure."

Commenting on the statements of some entities like the Arab League, he said that the agreement between Somaliland and Ethiopia does not concern the Arab League, and they should not waste their time on such issues. Previously, Somalia objected Somaliland's deals with DP World and the U.S., but the objection did not work. It did not impact how these deals were implemented, he added.

Speaking of the reaction of Somaliland public, he said that Somaliland people are happy with the agreement. They welcomed it and expressed joy. Somalilanders are ready for business and are committed to engaging with their neighbors closely to ensure integration. That is enshrined in the constitution.

Notwithstanding the fact that a lot has been said with respect to the seaport access deal, Ethiopia has sustained as usual bringing the wider international community into the light with the existing reality on the ground giving the cold shoulder to some groups working in close collaboration with Egypt with a view to blemishing the image of the country and

attaining their hidden agenda.

Though Egypt has engaged itself involved in various conspiracies to weaken Ethiopia in various aspects of development activities, bringing about its intended target is turning out to be a wild goose chase and an insurmountable obstacle.

In an exclusive interview with the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA), Ethiopian Ambassador to Israel Tesfaye Yetayeh in the recent past said that Egypt's pushing of Somalia to take aggressive measures against Ethiopia aims to deviate the internal pressure. Some Egyptian officials are also attempting to capitalize on Ethiopia's justified port deal with Somaliland to incite war against the former and to regain public support.

"Those actors are pretending to be patriots and to garner overwhelming public support in their internal politics. Ethiopia has been calling all countries for integration and collaboration, not for war."

The African Union (AU), which has a prime mandate in mediating disputes, has also recommended regional discussion and bilateral resolutions and made a remarkable gesture. But, the Arab League, which has no mandate on the region, is releasing unimportant and inconsequential statements that only target to harm Ethiopia, he remarked.

Sharing the above rationale, Ethiopian Ambassador to South Sudan Nebil Mahdi also underlined Ethiopia's access to sea demand is unavoidable. "The population of Ethiopia is surging and will hit 150 million in the near future. So, it is clear that having access to the sea will no longer be avoidable."

"Ethiopians have a long history of repelling external pressures. There must be no difference on national issues. We need to learn from countries that are defending their common interests while they are in political and internal disputes."

There may be polarized political views among people and political parties. However, Ethiopians need to unite themselves to make their national interest true. If not, the country could not ensure the development it aspires for long.

Ethiopia's desire is taking the country to a new height; it has continued working in close collaboration with its neighbors in various aspects of development activities is to grow together without causing any harm to any downstream nations.

No matter what naysayers say, Ethiopia and Somaliland will not abstain from attaining the intended target down the road and taking the Horn region to new heights in the shortest possible time.

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

Business & Economy

Aptly injecting foreign currency into the intended target

BY MENGESHA AMARE

It is well recognized that traders, economists, and analysts await trade announcements because the balance of trade is seen as an indicator of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of a given nation, country's economic well-being, and its potential for growth. Obviously, currencies and equities can fluctuate when trade statistics are released, presenting trading opportunities. National Bank of Ethiopia has intervened in foreign exchange markets in order to achieve a variety of overall economic objectives such as controlling inflation, maintaining competitiveness or maintaining financial stability.

Keeping this in mind, *The Ethiopia Herald* had a short stay with Getinet Abera, an economist graduated from Addis Ababa University to have a piece of information about the utilization of foreign exchange pumped to the economy.

He said, "Currency floating switches demand from imports to domestically produced goods by increasing the relative prices of imports and export industries. As the step helps the nation become more competitive in international markets by stimulating domestic production of traded goods and inducing domestic industries to use more domestic inputs, the measure the Ethiopian government has taken is legitimate and acceptable amid some challenges."

As to him, of course, an exchange rate is the price of one currency expressed in terms of another currency or group of currencies. For developing economies such as Ethiopia that actively engage in international trade, the exchange rate is an important economic variable. Movements in the exchange rate influence the decisions of individuals, businesses and the government as well. Collectively, this affects economic activity, inflation and the balance of payments. There are different ways in which exchange rates are measured. Over the years, there have been also different operational arrangements for determining Ethiopia's exchange rate. The Ethiopian dollar is now freely traded in foreign exchange markets."

According to Getinet, in the long-run, Ethiopia needs to maintain its international competitiveness for which nominal exchange rate adjustment will be an important instrument. The precise objectives of policy and how they are reflected in foreign exchange market intervention depend on a number of factors, including the stage of a country's development, the degree of financial market development and integration, and Ethiopia's overall vulnerability to a range of alarms.

He further stated that the balance of trade influences currency exchange rates through its effect on foreign exchange supply and demand. On the side of the government, three immediate objectives of intervention have been important: to influence the level of the exchange rate; to dampen exchange rate volatility or supply liquidity to foreign exchange markets; and to influence the



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amount of foreign reserves.

According to Getinet, it is found that expected floating of the domestic currency, while relatively high, does not play a major role in sustaining the dollarization of transactions. Conversely, preferences for the use of foreign money are strongly influenced by people's perception that foreign money is already widely used in the economy. What matters here is aptly injecting foreign currency into the intended target helps the nation making a difference in terms of socio-economic progress.

He said, "Obviously, currency is a medium of exchange for goods and services. In short, it is money, in the form of paper and coins, usually issued by a government and generally accepted at its face value as a method of payment. It is the primary medium of exchange in the modern world, having long ago replaced bartering as a means of trading goods and services. In the 21st century, a new form of currency has entered the vocabulary and realm of exchange. Currency is simply one, tangible form of money."

Many countries in the African continent have been affected by a slowdown/ downtrend, in their already very low levels of economic and social development, as a consequence of both internal and external factors. These factors are, among others, the foreign debt burden,

the insufficient achievements in financial resource mobilization, price and exchange rates distortions, the high dependency on exports of few commodities, and unfavorable weather and internal security conditions. In order to interpret the causal links underlying this negative performance in the Ethiopian case, a time-series analysis has been carried out on various indicators of the real and monetary economy, Getinet said.

He further stated that foreign exchange market intervention is driven by broad macroeconomic objectives so as to control inflation or maintain internal balance, to maintain external balance and prevent resource misallocation or preserve competitiveness and boost growth as well as to prevent or deal with disorderly markets or predicament. To achieve these objectives, the National Bank of Ethiopia might seek to target the level of the exchange rate, dampen exchange rate volatility or influence the amount of foreign reserves.

The economic objectives of intervention will influence its targets, for instance the under a floating exchange rate regime, if the concern is with inflation, the estimated pass-through from exchange rate changes to inflation is relevant, and the behavior of the nominal exchange rate will be monitored with a view to preventing sharp changes or volatility.

If external balance is the primary concern, the real exchange rate and the current account, and factors that may influence these variables, such as the terms of trade or capital flows, will be monitored. If the concern is with financial stability and crisis prevention, then market conditions can be highly informative incorporating concepts like how fast the exchange rate changes; the size of exchange rate volatility; transaction volumes; and the exposure of different market participants, he opined.

The purpose of National Bank intervention is to influence the exchange rate as excluding national bank operations that are not intended to influence the exchange rate can rule out a number of transactions that might have no underlying stabilization policy goal, such as small technical transactions, foreign reserve purchases financed by foreign currency borrowing, or transactions that are similar to those of other economic agents and are related to underlying economic activities, for instance using foreign reserves to purchase

a piece of equipment on behalf of the government.

In some cases, national bank does not consider as intervention transactions that are mainly intended to regulate the amount of foreign reserves, particularly if they are automatic or based on rules, rather than discretionary, he added.

He said even when the exchange rate is floating, national bank sometimes prefers to intervene in the foreign exchange market rather than conduct an open market operation to achieve a monetary policy objective. Understanding the motives for and characteristics of national bank operations in the foreign exchange market under these conditions is of considerable policy interest, whether the operation is labeled intervention or not.

Besides, national bank foreign exchange transactions can affect the exchange rate even if this is not the primary intention. For example, in pursuing its policy of reserve accumulation, the National Bank of Ethiopia has been trying to limit the impact on the exchange rate by entering the market only when large supplies of foreign currency become available.

However, the transactions are large, so it is likely that the impact on the exchange rate is significant, even if this is not the primary purpose. Reserve accumulation can also affect the exchange rate because of its impact on sovereign ratings and spreads. True, the national bank finds some positive impact of reserve accumulation on sovereign credit ratings. A traditional reason for such intervention is that the government wishes to control the allocation of foreign reserves. Another reason is to insulate the foreign exchange market from the impact of very large foreign exchange flows that is to dampen exchange rate volatility.

He further said that the forex market refers to the decentralized market for the trading of currencies which determines specific foreign exchange rate for every currency. Here, sorting out the pros and cons of joining the forex market with reference to the foreign exchange management regulations and foreign exchange management plays a very crucial role in currency trading in the global forex market as it controls and manages all the exchanges in every currency.

In sum, exchange rate intervention remains popular among many emerging market, small/medium and open advanced economies. The relative values of currencies are influenced by the demand for them, and that demand is influenced by trade. If Ethiopia for instance exports more than it imports, which is known as a trade surplus, there is a high demand for its goods, and thus, for its currency. The economics of supply and demand dictate that when demand is high, prices rise and the currency appreciates in value. In contrast, if the country imports more than it exports, which is known as a trade deficit, there is relatively less demand for its currency, so prices should decline. In the case of currency, it depreciates or loses value.

Planet Earth

Government, stakeholders encourage private sector role in renewable energy transition

BY FIKADU BELAY

Our planet is undergoing a silent crisis. This crisis is neither a war nor a pandemic, but a slow, insidious change that threatens to unravel the very fabric of our existence. Climate change, once a distant warning, is now a tangible reality, manifesting itself in extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and mass extinctions. The consequences of our actions, like ripples in a pond, are spreading across continents, impacting ecosystems, economies, and the very fabric of human civilization.

From scorching heat waves to devastating floods, from rising sea levels to mass extinctions, the Earth is sending us a clear and urgent message: the time for complacency is over. We must act now, with unprecedented unity and resolve, to avert the impending catastrophe and secure a sustainable future for generations to come.

Ethiopia has made significant strides in developing its renewable energy sector in recent years as part of its broader efforts to transition towards a green economy. The country has set ambitious targets to increase its renewable energy capacity and reduce its reliance on fossil fuels.

The country's renewable energy policy is primarily guided by its Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) strategy, which outlines Ethiopia's goal of becoming a carbon-neutral middle-income country through the expansion of renewable energy, reforestation, and other sustainability initiatives.

It needs to meet rapidly growing electricity demand, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and build climate resilience. The country has abundant renewable energy resources, including significant hydropower, geothermal, wind, and solar potential. Developing these resources is seen as key to supporting Ethiopia's economic and social development goals.

To achieve this, the government has invested heavily in expanding its installed capacity for the renewable energy transition. Several large-scale renewable energy projects are currently underway or in the planning stages across the country.

Recently, the Ethiopian Investment Commission (EIC), Ministry of Water and Energy (MoWE), and United Nations Trade and Development Agency (UNCTAD) held a discussion on financing and investment for energy transition in Ethiopia in the presence of government officials, CSOs, and experts.

EIC Commissioner Hana Arayaselassie said that the government has been revising policies and legal frameworks in a bid to promote private sector engagement in the renewable energy sector, but it has not yielded fruit because of a lack of streamlined institutions and collaborative interventions among stakeholders, institutions, and the private sector.

She has also asserted that the country has immense potential in renewable energy sources such as hydro, wind, geothermal, and solar



power, in spite of the minimum investment in the sector. To address this gap, the commission is working on investment promotion through providing incentives to investors.

The commission is promoting investments by offering incentives to investors in an effort to close this disparity. Even though Ethiopia is one of the leading nations in the green economy and has a virgin market, only roughly 55% of people have access to electricity.

For his part, MoWE Senior Energy Advisor Gosaye Mengistie stated that Ethiopia is one of the few countries in the world generating almost all its electricity from renewable sources, mostly hydropower and green energy.

However, he emphasized that the generation capacity and related infrastructure development are very low, since the country's electricity access rate is not more than 54% and the clean cooking access is about 10%.

Gosaye underscored that with six years of ongoing effort, the overall electricity access rate has increased from 44% to 54%, but still 46% of the population lacks access to electricity.

Although there has been progress in electrification in recent years, the expansion rate is still far from what is needed to achieve universal electricity access by 2030. The work is constrained by limited funding, weak implementation capacity, and a lack of imported materials, he said.

Hana emphasized the need to adjust generation and transmission opportunities accordingly in order to satisfy the remaining rate concurrently with the established industrialization aim in the manufacturing and other sectors.

As to her, prospective investors have expressed a strong desire to involve in the renewable energy industry by creating a playground through improved banking and investment ecosystems.

She further stated that the commission and UNCTAD had started a three-year operational project to showcase the nation's potential as a hub for renewable energy and attract foreign investment.

The government, understanding the threat posed by climate change, has embarked on a bold transition to a renewable energy policy. This visionary shift, a beacon of hope in a world struggling to adapt, signifies a commitment to a sustainable future, not just for Ethiopia, but for the entire planet. By harnessing the power of nature, Ethiopia is leading the way, demonstrating that a greener future is not only possible, but essential for our collective survival.

Furthermore, Ethiopia's renewable energy policy represents an important component of the country's broader sustainability agenda and efforts to transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy. The successful implementation of this policy will be critical to determining Ethiopia's long-term energy security and environmental sustainability.

UNCTAD Regional Office for Africa Chief Diane Sayinzoga stated that the discussion is crucial for the development of a robust strategy to promote, and it seeks to leverage the country's ambitious climate change objectives outlined in its Climate-Resilient Green Economy Strategy as well as facilitate sustainable investment for the energy transition in Ethiopia.

She emphasized that a whole-of-government approach is needed for the promotion of green growth investment areas, the development of green bankable projects, and to support new and existing companies and project sponsors to invest in the energy transition.

She highlighted the urgent need for investment in renewable energy generation, energy efficiency, and energy infrastructure to combat climate change and achieve sustainable energy access for all. Ethiopia, with its ambitious climate-resilient green economy strategy, is committed to transitioning to a greener future.

This energy transition also promises significant economic benefits, creating new industries, generating jobs, and attracting foreign investment. Furthermore, it ensures energy security for a nation that has historically faced power shortages.

In this sense, the country must overcome logistical hurdles, invest in infrastructure, and develop a skilled workforce to fully realize the potential of this ambitious plan. However, the Ethiopian government is demonstrating a remarkable commitment to addressing these challenges head-on. The government's unwavering dedication to renewable energy is a testament to its understanding of the interconnectedness of climate change, economic development, and social progress.

The project aims to support a "whole-of-government" approach to attracting investment in the energy transition, involving key government actors like the EIC and MoWE, with a call to action for stakeholders to work together to develop a comprehensive strategy for attracting and facilitating sustainable investment in Ethiopia's energy transition, it was learnt.

Ethiopia's journey towards a renewable energy future is a powerful example for the world. It shows that even developing nations can take bold steps to combat climate change while simultaneously improving the lives of their citizens.

Among the initiatives, the country has been recognized for its efforts in promoting sustainable development, particularly with the establishment of the Hawassa Industrial Park, an eco-friendly textile and apparel facility that utilizes efficient water and energy consumption, waste treatment, and renewable energy. Embracing renewable energy, Ethiopia is not only

By securing its own future but also inspiring other nations to follow suit. The world is watching, and Ethiopia's success in transitioning to a sustainable energy system could serve as a catalyst for global action.

Art & Culture

A fight to get a breath (Avoidance-avoidance conflict)

By Desalegn Dagneu

(A Short Story)

A silent enemy knocked at the gate of a quite family in deep slumber. The young girl felt the looming danger immediately. Her rasp breathe panicked her mother. Jolting out from their sleep both stood up. The young girl got on her mother's back. Like the waters of the ocean her belly was undulating in anxiety. But the mother kept her normal composure and began thinking how to troubleshoot the challenge.

The flood inundated their Den and its volume continued snowballing. Sacredly the young mouse looked at the water from the safety of her mother's shoulder.

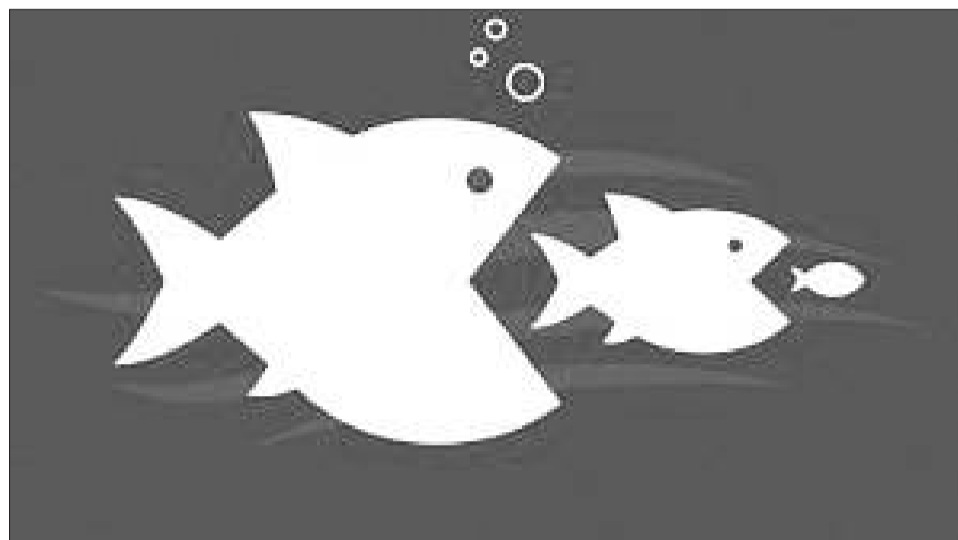
The "Mew, mew, mew..." sound dinning into their ears continued near their hole. The rodents' dread increased. The size of the swamp became shoulder high.

"It seems gentle but dangerous," said the little rodent gazing down at the flood. The mother rat hadn't yet gotten the way out from the flood; their den's roof was not that high.

"Hurry up. We have to go out now?" The young girl begged the old lady.

"There is a fire out there. Stop your nonsense" the oldest rodent quivered lowering her voice.

"Relatively the fire affords us a second chance at least," said the younger one eager to avoid a washing away or drowning by the



flood.

"What is that second chance?" The mother snared annoyed than ever before, for they were locked in avoidance-avoidance conflict.

"We can escape that demon cat! We can outpace it," said the young rodent. The mother murmured withstanding the biting teeth of the cold. Narrowly escaping from the famished cat, gnawing its teeth, is rarely possible seen in light of the old rodents' experience.

"Only humans win competing on the racing lane. We rats need rocky places and haggard terrains to win races against our enemies," said the old lady. Gradually her hind legs became shaky from the load and the cold. Soon the young lady's back got swallowed by the flood. Two souls were confronted by the ugly face of death in their hell hole. For

them rats' world is riskier than any creature. In the presence of cats, their ends begin. Imminent risks compel them to do what they had never done before when they stood on the brink of a do or die battle.

The flood filled their hole gradually. A little free space was left beneath the roof. Unsuccessfully the old lady tried her child to jump out of the hole using her shoulder as a springboard. Then standing on her toes she trimmed the wood below the roof by her third trial.

A fight to get a breath continued, holding up the bites, the mother fought hard to save lives, the muscles around her neck distended awkwardly. The cats growled and shouted on one another.

For the rats landing on the floor proved risky, remaining in the hole was no better choice.

Many times in life, the only chance once in a blue moon knocks by the gate of a lot of houses. A mother bore excruciating pain hoping that it ends soon.

Cats waited wagging their tails for a while and left. Their growling became distant after many anxieties. The mother rodent ordered her child to swim with the tide. They became free then after.

"I can't breathe" a subdued voice was heard.

The old lady pressed the young rodent's belly quickly to regurgitate the water. Finally, the latter managed to breathe.

Some incidents in life may make you unable to breathe, visitations in terms of hardships come in life to challenge your limitless or give you a lesson the hardest way.

"Chances are very slim for us babe," the old rat advised the younger one hugging the latter after resilience, "you are lucky today, for your siblings were made preys by demon cats," again she hugged her.

"You have to be cautious, vigilant, serious, active and fighter at any moment of your life. Don't sleep much. Nobody could come to save you if once you faced a risk" The young lady affirmatively nodded, the old lady's pieces of advice were not just words, they look as testate.

Two cats were lurking in the corner to stalk the mousses nearby; the advice made the latter to forget the cats for a while.

"Heed my words," the mother uttered. True to the fittest survive, the races began.

Mother earth yells...!!!

BY MENGESHA AMARE

The over eight billion population,
The planet provides with necessary requirements, ration,
These days entertains a war as a new fashion,
If I am allowed,
Let me question head of states, scholars,
Officials, in general world leaders,
Who benefits out of conflict, deadly war,
It is quite trying for life, too far,
When will egocentric nature of people dry?
When the arrogant stop to human fry,
For how long innocents made cry,
Properties of a given nation demolished,
The sacred deeds of some have been shadowed,
Blur and covered with fog,
Every free move is accompanied with severe snag,
Up to when, when.....
The diabolic spirit of many shine out,
Numerous citizens are crying out,
As conflict entrepreneurs can't live without,
Because their standard is double,
War has become worldwide inevitable,
Conflict is potentially presumed,
So long as human race has interacted,
Getting self-styled and run bad,
Instead of doing good,
Is doing good for them,
Getting others suffer,
Getting annoyed the creator,
True, people are sacred creatures,
Despite their alacrity to be jealous,

Ukraine is calling the world for help,
Russia is crying for peace,
Crying are many others,
Especially developing ones,
In the 21st century when,
State-of-the-art technology is used,
Potential to do everything is at everyone's door,
With a smart scientist, investor, doctor, farmer,
Many are dying of hunger,
Famine and poverty,
And everywhere lacks surety,
Where are humanitarian agencies?
Where are Ombudsman offices?
Where is security, where is peace-loving sect,
Are they merely for fattening a report?
Mother earth is sufficient to house,
To feed and to nurture inhabitants,
What gives it hard time are human beings,
Indeed! They themselves,
Due to their.....,
Curse feature, bad spirit and self-centered nature,
Power monger stance and gloomy picture,
The bad thing is every human race on earth,
Has made cursed deeds up to,
Going down to earth,
Generation goes, generation comes,
The belly of the earth has never been satisfied,
Can never be quenched,
Takes all human beings open mouthed,
No matter how rich people are,
Whatever smart they are, too,
No one is left from filling earth's abdomen,

Be they are old, young, men or women,
Better to think as such,
Accompanied with study the fact, deep search,
Say no to conflict, say no to war,
The graveyard and the tomb are deep and far,
Human beings leave earth, the planet,
To eternally stay in a narrow dark net,
A three meters crypt,
House, palace, villa or tattered tent,
Despite their difference in various aspects,
Wealth, health, education or level of dearth,
No one is left from going to earth,
So what makes people quarrel,
It is state of being wide unparallel,
Generation comes, generation goes,
Solely remains the earth,
Why don't they enjoy the given,
Why fail to make earthly heaven,
The planet provides them with,
Up to the time they go hell or heaven,
Whether there is life after death or not,
Better to do good for others,
Apart from carrying out the reverse,
Say no war, say no conflict,
But I don't think some people think.
You sons and daughters of the planet,
You can avoid war, conflict,
Hard work, read one another's mind,
As much as you can, do good,
Save a number of lives,
Your mother, our mother Earth severely yells!!!

Society

Together, we can create a greener, healthier Ethiopia!!

BY LEULSEGED WORKU

Ethiopia, which is sometimes called the roof of Africa, is the land where several fauna and flora species are found and it is a home to diverse range of ecosystems and biodiversity. Due to this, the country is suitable for various plant species; and once most of its land was covered by forests. However, for various reasons, this forest coverage has been depleted and resulted in threat to the survival of wild animals living within the forest and to human beings as well for the reason deforestation causes drought in various parts of the country.

However, since recent years, the country, under a new initiative dubbed as 'Green Legacy Initiative' and spearheaded by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD), is working to plant billions of seedlings and rehabilitate its degraded lands. This ambitious initiative, launched in 2019, has mobilized citizens from all walks of life, and millions of tree seedlings of different species planted all over the world. This commitment is also enabling the nation to restore degraded landscapes, and promote sustainable environmental management.

The prime objective of the Green Legacy Initiative is to plant billions of trees by 2025 and counteract deforestation, restore ecosystems and resilience against climate change effects.

As indicated by the Premier, this Initiative is not just about planting trees but to cultivating a sense of responsibility toward protecting the environment among all citizens.

Starting from the year the initiative was launched, positive results are witnessing. The tree planting project is inviting several people from different walks of life. Ranging from the Diaspora community to daily laborers, from teachers to students, ministers, ambassadors, and others are leaving their legacy. For instance, last year, on July 17, more than 566 million tree seedlings were planted within a single day surpassing the initial target of planting 500 million seedlings.

This year also a goal is set to plant 600 million tree seedlings in 12 hours across the country. As indicated by the Prime Minister, Ethiopians will plant 600 million tree seedlings in a single day accords the country on August 23, 2024.

In his message posted on Social media, the Primer has called on Ethiopians to get ready for the massive tree-planting campaign scheduled to be carried out on the coming Friday, August 23, 2024. "Let's plant 600 million seedlings in a single day on August 23, 2024," he urged.

Prime Minister Abiy also emphasized the importance of unity and harmony among Ethiopians. According to him, through unity, Ethiopians can achieve more. Thus, Abiy encouraged every adult and teenager to leave their legacy for the next generation by planting more tree seedlings on that special day. Planting trees is one way of showing love to Ethiopia and leaving a green legacy



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to the next generation is a manifestation of true patriotism in this era. "Let us leave our legacy all over Ethiopia with one spirit. If we are one, we can do more."

In a related development, Planning and Developing Minister Fitsum Assefa (PhD) disclosed lately that the Green Legacy Initiative has been significantly contributing to the achievement of national forest cover. In her late report last June, Fitsum said that by 2023, nation's forest coverage has increased to 23.6 percent from 17.2 percent in 2019.

Speaking on a high-level panel discussion on the Green Legacy Initiative, Fitsum said that the Initiative has brought about

positive impacts in terms of increasing the country's forest coverage and promoting environmental rehabilitation efforts.

According to her, the Green Legacy Initiative is not only benefiting Ethiopia. The ambitious Initiative is also benefiting neighboring countries and the world at large. That is why Ethiopia has been encouraging other African countries to be part and parcel of the tree-planting campaign by providing tree seedlings. In her speech, the Minister also urged the international community to support Ethiopia's tangible effort.

Mentioning the fact that Ethiopia's firm determination and commitment in building a climate-resilient economy, Fitsum said this commitment is being translated into action.

Speaking on his part, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) Country Representative, Okechukwu Daniel Ogbonnaya said that the Green Legacy Initiative is laudable and an ambitious move to mitigate climate change. In this regard, he emphasized that other neighboring countries should emulate what Ethiopia is doing to rescue our planet from global warming and its related threats.

Ethiopia's Green Legacy Initiative stands as a vital remedy in our collective fight against climate change, embodying the spirit of resilience and responsibility that is essential for our planet's future.

The initiative's goal of planting 20 billion trees by 2025 is not just an environmental campaign; it is a call to action that resonates with every Ethiopian. This endeavor highlights the crucial role that individuals play in fostering a healthier ecosystem and combating the pressing challenges posed by climate change.

Indeed, every Ethiopian can be an integral part of this initiative. By planting tree seedlings—be it in our backyards, schools,

or our premises or community land—we can contribute meaningfully in restoring our ecosystems, enhancing biodiversity, and improving air quality. Each tree, we planted symbolizes hope, providing future generations with a greener, more sustainable world. It is essential to remember that planting is just the first step; but protecting and nurturing these seedlings is equally vital. By ensuring their growth, we can safeguard our environments and strengthen our communities.

The Green Legacy Initiative empowers individuals to take ownership of their environments. It instills a sense of pride in participation—every seedling nurtured, every tree protected, contributes to a collective legacy that strengthens not only our social fabric but also our natural landscape. Engaging in this movement fosters collaboration, as neighbors come together, share knowledge, and support one another in this shared goal of eco-restoration.

Embracing the Green Legacy Initiative means acknowledging our role as stewards of the earth. Together, we can combat deforestation, mitigate the impacts of climate change, and create a sustainable environment for all. As Ethiopians, we have to protect our natural resources and ensure that our beautiful landscapes and rich biodiversity endure for future generations to cherish.

In conclusion, let us join hands and hearts in embracing the Green Legacy Initiative. Let every Ethiopian commits to planting trees, protecting natural resources, and nurturing a culture of environmental stewardship. Together, we can create a greener, healthier Ethiopia—a testament to our determination in the face of climate change and a gift to the generations that follow. The future is in our hands.

Law & Politics

Constitutionalism is at the heart of the Pretoria peace deal

BY STAFF REPORTER

Since the signing of the Pretoria peace deal, things have been significantly improving in Tigray state with better humanitarian and basic services. With the guns silenced, the Tigray interim government was established, and the agreement has been implemented accordingly. The Ethiopian government has been doing its level best to walk the talks and engage in peaceful settlement of issues. The ruling Prosperity Party and Tigray People's Liberation Front have been holding negotiations to find a political resolution and smooth the way forward. The government has also been making extensive efforts.

Following the inking of the peace deal, the Ethiopian Government and Tigray interim administration have been doing their part and have taken decisive action to carry out the provisions of the agreement as stated in the agreement. As a result, the peace agreement has been fully implemented, and the agreements made by the two sides have been gradually put into practice.

Resuming essential services, facilitating unimpeded access to humanitarian aid, reestablishing law and order, and bringing the State back to normalcy were all made possible. The Government Communication Service (GCS) stated that the fundamental principle of the Pretoria Agreement is adherence to the Constitution and its institutions.

Communities who were displaced from their area are returning to their villages and there have been attempts to implement transitional justice and demobilize and reintegrate fighters. In spite of the progress, there has been some reluctance and illegal activities displayed by TPLF.

Recently, the Government Communication Service (GCS) issued a statement asserting that the central principle of the Pretoria Agreement is adherent to the constitution and constitutional institutions. According to the statement, in all respects, the Pretoria Peace Agreement revolves around adherence to the country's constitution and respecting its institutions.

In a statement it issued today on current affairs of the country, GCS recalled that the National Election Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) has recently issued a registration certificate to TPLF as a political party in accordance with the amended election proclamations number 1332/2016 article 2 (1).

It said the government accepts and commends decisions made by constitutional institutions based on legal and institutional freedom as the fruit of the ongoing reform.

The TPLF lost its legal status following the decision made by NEBE based on the Proclamation of Political Parties' Registration and Code of Conduct. The Board passed this decision due to TPLF's involvement in violent activities.



The GCS emphasized that this decision was independent of the subsequent declaration of the TPLF as a terrorist organization by the House of People's Representatives.

Regarding the Pretoria Agreement, the statement clarified that the federal government's obligation was to facilitate the removal of the TPLF's terrorist designation, as indicated under article 7 (2) (C) and there is no particular responsibility or obligation that the government had taken concerning TPLF's legal status or registration.

The statement further asserted TPLF's commitment to respect the constitution, laws, federal institutions, and other constitutional institutions as outlined in the agreement's article 7 (1) stressing the need for TPLF to operate by complying with the country's political party registration laws and NEBE's mandate.

Hence, the issue of TPLF's legal status should be resolved only through the existing pertinent laws and the procedures of NEBE with respect to the Pretoria agreement.

The statement noted that the federal government has been making efforts to facilitate ways for the party to regain its status as a political party by conducting a series of discussions with the leaders of TPLF and NEBE.

According to NEBE's position in this matter, the only legal alternative available to TPLF is to register as a new party using the same procedures that other newly formed political parties must follow.

However, TPLF argued for recognition as an existing political organization insisting that it is an old political organization. It also claimed that the matter is not only legal but political and requires a particular political decision.

Accordingly, to bridge this gap and ensure a

The Ethiopian government has been doing its level best to walk the talks and engage in peaceful settlement of issues. The ruling Prosperity Party and Tigray People's Liberation Front have been holding negotiations to find a political resolution and smooth the way forward

peaceful resolution, the government initiated legal reforms to accommodate the TPLF and other similar groups by recognizing the freedom and independence of institutions.

Following these legal amendments, the federal government amended the law and was approved by the House of Peoples' Representatives.

After revising the Election, Political Parties Registration, and Code of Conduct Proclamation, the Ministry of Justice communicated the necessary steps for the

TPLF to obtain legal status to the NEBE.

The government emphasized its proactive role in facilitating discussions between the NEBE and the TPLF. Therefore, the statement underlined that the government has done everything to resolve the issue of TPLF's legal status.

The election board has requested cooperation from the board in order to register TPLF and gain its legal status and recognition based on the amended law, the Government Communication Service indicated.

Accordingly, TPLF has been registered and granted its legal status as a political party based on the amended proclamation after it submitted its program, bylaw, and other related documents to the National Election Board of Ethiopia.

GCS concluded its statement by calling for cooperation among all stakeholders to prioritize peace, reconstruction, and development. It urged a shift in focus from contentious debates to constructive efforts that benefit the people.

The GCS in its statement also called for cooperation and to prioritize peace, reconstruction, and development and for a shift from contentious debates to constructive efforts that benefit the people.

True, unproductive debates and being extremely stubborn benefit no one as it yields any good. We also fully understood the undesirable consequences of dissension and discord.

The government has shown its firm stance on peace by implementing the terms of the Pretoria Agreement accordingly, even though some aspects need to be fast-tracked by both parties. Thus, putting aside the narration that gets no one anywhere, all parties have to work in the best interests of the people at all times.

BY EPHREM ENDALE

Between you & me

The Last Laugh!

Saying goodbye to bad experiences or people who insist on bringing them up over and over despite your discomfort which you don't try to hide is the wisest thing you could do. Call it sort of self-defense. I mean bringing up some old narratives you're not comfortable replaying and making your life worse than it already is an attack, a vicious one too. So you can't go out with sleeves rolled up and rage in full control of every cell in your anatomy. What you can do is keeping your distance, getting away as far as you can from those who insist on bringing up this sad and disturbing episodes from yester decades. But life has never been meant to be a nice afternoon on the beach a night out with the boys where laughter comes by the tons and the only thing you could say "Who in their minds wants to leave this life! It's so fabulous!" So many of those episodes you just stuff in some deep hole and heap all the amount of rocks and debris you could manage could come in ways you aren't prepared to counter.

Say you've this bad experience somewhere down the years or decades, an experience you don't want to replay in your minds so much so that you take every care not to ever be accidentally drawn into some talk where that memory comes knocking. "Hello!" and that would be the worst "Hello!" of your life. But then as we said the world is never expected to work as we'd have loved it to. Especially in these days of practically total insanity or near insanity all over the world you just can't lock out yourself from the unexpected. Say you were in junior high and you get this crush over some girl; a girl who, unfortunately for you, happens

to be under the watch of quite a lot of radars at school and elsewhere. That was how pretty she was. But either by luck or because you played your chess smartly and made the right moves you're the gold medalist and she's yours. (Nice for you!) It wouldn't be news that half the boys in school just want to the nearest cliff edge and throw her over as far as they can and they don't even hide their disdain.

Love or something close to love as that age means that you've been turned into a lion which wouldn't give away an inch of its territory away. Good for you! I mean defending your territory isn't the most natural thing to do, wouldn't you say? Then one particular day this long-time friend of yours maybe because he's too tipsy to form his thoughts correctly or because he is one of those dummies who think they can always be the life of the party even when there's no party blurts out almost at the top of his voice;

"Do you remember that time in high school when we were forced to carry you to the nearest clinic?"

What the hell is this dude whom you never liked anyway, saying?

"Don't tell me you've forgotten! We couldn't avenge you at that time because the guy was one hell of a human monster."

'No not that! Oh God please take his guy away from me before he destroys my day!' Of course sadly your day has already been destroyed right from the very first word the guy utters. Then as you remain speechless as that event just rolls in your mind frame by frame. You were to the back

of the school for a little pee because all the toilets were damaged and sealed. You practically stop peeing halfway when some voice booms "So you are being a hero! I told you to stay away from her and you think I'm joking." When you turn your head in very slow motion which film editors would...you already know it was her elder brother. (Not another member of that species!)

Well what happened of the overprotective elder brother has warned you a couple of times to stay away from his little sister. He thinks that easy, that fool! And she being one of the prettiest girl in the school he thinks you can just give her your back never to turn to her again! "Hey dude, go have some walk or drink some hard stuff or something and maybe that would clear your mind!" you sizzle inside. Someday you'll give it to him in his face in real time and show to him who runs the show when it comes to his 'little sister.' Of course long before that day arrives he's the one who 'arrives!' How about that! These elder brothers of pretty girls seem to have some invisible radar attached to them which can flush of you out wherever you might be. No secrecy at all!

Not being the aggressive guy you just try to talk in a very soft voice, so soft you'd even...it came out from you! "Look, I'm not doing no harm..." you never uttered the opening syllables of the next word when a big stone-hard fist catches your completely unprotected jaw and sends you somersaulting through the air finally landing on the very spot you were reliving yourself a couple of minutes ago. You try to turn and fend

off whatever blows and kicks might come your way when a big right foot in heavy boots catches you midsection sending the remaining oxygen or whatever air out of your system.

Yes, the matter is finally solved; you give your 'word of honor' "I'll never, ever come anywhere close to where she is let alone trying to socialize with her!" pledging to uphold your words whatever the problems on the way! And believe me this time around you're not trying to play some Mr. Bean stuff and mean every word you say.

After some bad experience comes and goes at its own pace you think you're out of the dark bushes and relishing on the vast expense as green as the greenest golf course when this guy comes and destroys your day. "Do you remember when you were kicked out of your first job because..." "Shut, shut, shut up you moron! The only thing you'd have loved to do at the most is beat that fellow black and blue and even an additional color more. You just grumble some incoherent words just to let him know that wasn't something you wanted to talk about. "I remember how he snatched away that girl from you and you almost had a nervous breakdown."

"Hey! Hey! What the hell is all this about?" All this is about making you so angry and so disturbed that not only your day but the whole week just goes down the drain. So maybe the best you can do is put up your defenses and deny these guys from enjoying the last laugh! After all, most things are about who laughs the last laugh.

Tell It As It Is!

It happened way back but I think it might our purpose for this piece. There were some administrative earthquakes and aftershocks in this office for reasons no one really knew for sure. Things have gone from bad to worse in only a couple of months' time that opposing groups were formed among the staff and all the nastiest of rumors made the rounds of even nearby offices with no direct link with the one we're talking about. No one really what actually drove the staff to form in groups while everyone knew all the decisions come from upstairs with no involvement of the general staff! One rumor was that they have secretly downsized quite a significant number of the staff. When the bosses called an emergency meeting emotions were high and names of those who have been dismissed and also demoted started making the rounds. It was total mayhem. No one claimed to have seen the list and the question "Who told you so?" was practically non-existent.

This guy was told his name was the very top of those to be dismissed. Him being a good and industrious staff member that was too much to take. They say he went into immediate depression and as almost everyone was on edge there was no one to advise him to take things easy. Many of the staff had many sleepless nights as we're not in times when you could just get another job the morning next to the day you're dismissed.

Well, the meeting day arrives and surprise! Surprise! There were no layoffs except for two guys who committed such gross mistakes which could have put the very existence of the organization in question. So where did all that buzz of carpet bombing of staff members by

the bosses come from? Later it was discovered that a cleaning lady heard a boss utter the word "dismissal" casually and the flood gates I opened. Exaggerations and more exaggerations! I just think that we're in times when what you see is a hungry frog emanating loud sounds which seem to come from some mini-loudspeaker and someone tries to convince you it's an elephant! Ha!

It looks like it's some sort of a pandemic. Why is that it seems every other one of us is obsessed with inflating anything and everything! Exaggerating everything from the so-called news items and gossip to how you plan to write the next great novel in the country isn't the result of accidental blurs but the way some people justify our existence.

"You know the Third World War is about to begin."

"Oh, now that's the biggest breaking news I heard so far this year. Where did you get that information from?"

"Well, it was on so and so's radio show."

"Are you telling me he said word for word that the Third World War was to start?"

"Yes he did."

"And where did he say it'd begin?"

"Well he just said that the entire world would be at war with each other. He didn't mention any specific place. Why are you so surprised? The guy knows almost everything there is to know about the world."

"Ok take it from me and he knows absolutely nothing about his own country let alone the rest of the world. All he's knows picking up the most

picturesque, sensational adjectives from all over the place and feeling his pieces with them."

Anyways if you ask me there are a lot to do to do justice to commentaries of international affairs on the airwaves or in print. People are being misled by wrong and highly exaggerated and fictionalized narratives. Indeed much of the news we hear these days are not only discomfoting but also scary too. Yes there is a lot of talk about the Third World War stuff. This world is the messiest it could ever be. Yes especially the Middle East could lead to very nasty international scenes, causing much harm. But then concluding that every one of us would go for every other guy is taking things a lot too far. Maybe one day there might be this big scenery where every one's hands are on every other person's throats! At least that would be the worst of the worst scenarios, wouldn't you say?

Recently some guy told me the breaking news he heard from "those who know the case." He said he was told in all secrecy the US and Russia were going to war and the only thing remaining was who shoots first. And he was told this in 'the utmost secrecy!' Either most of us are becoming hopeless fools or something very strange was going with us. Being told the 'secret' of an upcoming war between two giants, information hidden from the rest of the world of all places in this part of the world! That's insanity in all its superlatives! He told me because he was sure I wouldn't parrot it to any other person! Thanks for the confidence!

Yes, I too browse the net because somehow it appears that despite the near-total mess it has turned into it is not as bad as searching for the elusive needle in the haystack. But still things are so bad sorting out the genuine from the fake

is becoming difficult. So don't blame yourself if you at some point in time are taken astray by some sensational news and think it's the truth. Maybe it's something that you yourself wanted to hear and when it comes there is no room for thinking twice. "I told you!" would be the first words that come to you!

The problem is we don't like and share such news only on the web but we do it in real time. The only thing is you don't share it with hundreds or thousands of people at the same time. So we rush to the nearest friend or somewhat we know rather fairly and say, "I told you so!"

"What did you tell me so?"

I remember quite a while ago at a certain gathering this guy probably in his seventh or so decade in this world was talking about old times. One thing was that the man really knew how to talk, you know appealing to the senses of the rank and file and almost every one most way younger than he was were listening to him with real attention. He was talking how those times were and sounded like it was some sort of an earthly paradise you could have a whole lunch with 'siga wot' for a few cents, and there was no talk of hunger and everyone was happy and smiling. Nonsense. And he is talking about an age when millions were starved and the world was being fed scenes of famine and hunger which it never expected to see on TV. Yes there were good times, no doubt about that. But such exaggerations wouldn't do justice to any generation past, present or future.

"Tell It As It Is!" should be a slogan gracing the walls of homes the world over. That's how severe the problem of exaggeration has become!

Ambassador Taye discusses with Lassina Zerbo, Board member of Tana Security Forum

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, Ambassador Taye Atske-Selassie welcomed a delegation led by Lassina Zerbo, former Prime Minister of Burkina Faso and Board member of Tana Security Forum, at his office. The two sides exchanged views on ways to hold the Tana Forum. The Tana Security Forum is an annual think-thank forum organized in Bahir Dar City of Ethiopia and the two sides discussed on ways to hold the next forum.



The Megenagna-CMC Corridor route opens for the public

Addis Ababa is becoming more glamorous as the Corridor Development project ripples across different corners of the city. This week, the Megenagna-CMC corridor route opens for the public after finalizing the beautification and infrastructural adjustment works.

While visiting the project, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) said that the corridor development work has progressed significantly. The expansion reflects the broader perspective as the initiatives by the government continued to advance.



Juba set to extend transitional government for third time

South Sudan is set to extend its transitional government for a third time, the result of missed targets in election preparations and a realistic assessment that elections are riskier now than later.

Senior government officials gathered in Juba this week to ponder the problem, even as the UN Security Council was told of painful delays in implementing parts of the peace deal that would have made it easier to hold elections.

It is now almost a foregone conclusion that

the Transitional Government of National Unity (TGNU), which is due to expire on September 22, will be extended and that the planned December 22 elections are no longer viable.

At a meeting of the presidency attended by President Salva Kiir and his five vice-presidents, including his former opponent Riek Machar, the parties to the 2018 peace agreement expressed doubts about the proposed election date.

Source: The East African



Special Economic Zones key to job creation for youths: Mudavadi

NAIROBI, Kenya, Aug 17 – Special Economic Zones (SEZ) are crucial in achieving the Kenya Kwanza government's goals of job creation, youth empowerment, and sustainable development in the country, Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has said.

Mudavadi said that the government was committed to creating an environment that encourages investment and job creation among the youths.

Speaking during a tour of Tatu City, Kenya's first operational Special Economic Zone, Mudavadi SEZ projects like Tatu City were crucial in achieving the government's goals of job creation, youth empowerment, and sustainable development.

"Tatu City is more than just a place; it is a model for the kind of development we want to see across Kenya. It is about creating opportunities, empowering our youth, and building a future that we can all be proud of," Mudavadi said.

With its strategic location, modern infrastructure, and favorable investment climate, Mudavadi noted that Tatu City is set to play a pivotal role in Kenya's economic future, important in empowering the next generation of leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs.

Mudavadi, also the Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs noted that Tatu City showed what can be achieved when the country mixes innovative infrastructure with strategic investments.

Mudavadi, focused on youth empowerment during his visit to Tatu City, highlighting the city's crucial role in creating opportunities for young Kenyans.

During the tour, Mudavadi met with the Executive Management team at Tatu City led by Stephen Jennings, Founder and CEO of Rendeavour and held discussion on how Tatu City was driving Kenya's economic transformation.

"The opportunities here are vast. They are key to our mission of empowering the youth, who are the backbone of our nation's future," said Mudavadi.

Mudavadi stressed that the Digital Superhighway will open up many job opportunities for young people, especially in technology and communication.

"One key area we discussed is the Digital Superhighway initiative. It is part of the government's broader agenda to integrate technology into various sectors of the economy. I am happy that Africa's largest call center, operated by Call Centre International (CCI) has

employed 5000 and is expected to double the number in the near future," said Mudavadi.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary also highlighted other sectors that will benefit from Tatu City's developments. These include agriculture, manufacturing, education, and affordable housing.

He noted that integrating these sectors into the city's framework ensures that economic benefits reach a broad part of the population, particularly the youth.

Tatu City is one of Kenya's first operational Special Economic Zones (SEZ). It offers a range of incentives to attract investors, that include reduced corporate taxes, zero-rated VAT, and import duty exemptions.

So far, over 60 companies have established a presence within Tatu City. These businesses represent more than \$1 billion in investments. This level of investment highlights the city's growing importance in Kenya's economic landscape.

Mudavadi also visited the FullCare Medical garment production facility that is operational within the city. It currently employs 1,800 individuals, with plans to expand the workforce to 7,000.

The growth of FullCare Medical is vital in providing sustainable employment, especially for the youth in the manufacturing sector.

In addition to these key facilities, Mudavadi also toured Unity Homes and KWAL (Kenya Wines Agency Limited)

Unity Homes focuses on providing affordable housing. This sector is crucial to the government's agenda of ensuring that all Kenyans have access to decent living conditions.

KWAL, a major player in the manufacturing sector, further contributes to Tatu City's economic vibrancy.

Tatu City is a 5,000-acre, new city with homes, schools, offices, a shopping district, medical clinics, nature areas, a sport & entertainment complex and manufacturing area for more than 250,000 residents and tens of thousands of day visitors. Schools and businesses are already open at Tatu City, and a range of homes suit all incomes.

Tatu City is Kenya's first operational Special Economic Zone, providing reduced corporate taxes, zero-rated VAT and import duty exemptions, among other benefits.

Source: Capital newspaper

In Pictures

BY DARGIE KAHSAY

Olympic heroes leaves their Green Legacy

After arriving home from the 33rd Olympic Games of the Paris 2024, the Ethiopian Olympic Medalists leaves their Green Legacy at Entoto Botanical Garden. Ethiopia secures four medals at the Paris Olympic, one gold, three silvers. Gold by Tamrat Tolla in Men's Marathon, and silver by Tigest Assefa in women's Marathon, Berihu Aregawi at 10,000M men and Tsige Dguma at 800M women. The medalist athletes with other athletes, journalists, artists and other public figures left their Green Legacy on Friday. Ethiopia plans to plant 600 million seedlings in a single day on 23rd of August and Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) called adults per sec to plant more than 20 trees and children to plant 10 seedlings and above during the day.



Ethiopia starts harvesting fruits of the Green Legacy

Ethiopia's Green Legacy initiative helps the country to increase its forest coverage by 7% within less than six years. By planting over 30 billion seedlings since 2019, Ethiopia has managed to increase its forest coverage from 17.2 to 23.6 in 2024. In addition to increase its forest coverage, Ethiopia's Green legacy initiative targets fruit cultivation for food consumption. The fruit cultivation efforts of the Green Legacy initiative starts yielding impressive results and demonstrate significant progress. The picture shows the progress of the Green Legacy initiative in advancing agricultural objectives.

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