

# Newsletter

of the Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels



21<sup>th</sup> of November 2014  
Issue N° 11



Graduate students from the KU Leuven University during a briefing, this week at the Embassy

**Dear Reader,**

We are very pleased to send you this 11th edition of our Newsletter, which offers fresh news on Ethiopia, as well as insights on activities of the Embassy during the past week.

Everyday, you are more and more to follow us on social media. If it is not the case yet, please come to interact with us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)!

Sincerely,

**The Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels**

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## Dr Tedros meets EU High Representative Ms. Federica Mogherini and Danish Foreign Policy and Foreign Affairs Committee Chairperson, Ms. Mette Gjerskov

Dr Tedros, Minister of Foreign Affairs, held discussion with the European Union Foreign Affairs High Representative, Ms. Federica Mogherini in Copenhagen on Wednesday (November 19). Dr Tedros said Ethiopia appreciated the continued cooperation and the support provided by the European Union to help the country achieve development, democracy and good governance. The Minister said the good relations between Ethiopia and European Union member countries could be strengthened by boosting investment, trade, tourism and technical cooperation. He briefed Ms. Mogherini on the situation in South Sudan and Somalia. Dr Tedros said European Union support for Somalia should continue to enhance efforts to realize a developed, democratic and stable Somalia. He also noted that the comprehensive and inclusive IGAD-led peace talks on South Sudan were bringing the warring parties towards a resolution to their conflict. Ms. Mogherini welcomed Ethiopia's commitment and efforts to realize a developed, secure and stable state in Ethiopia as well as provide for these benefits for the region, for Africa and

more widely. She reiterated the EU's commitment and support to the development of Ethiopia.

On Tuesday, the Ethiopian Foreign Minister had held talks with Danish Foreign Policy and Foreign Affairs Committee Chairperson, Mette Gjerskov. Dr Tedros briefed Ms. Gjerskov on Ethiopia's great efforts to help solve the crisis in South Sudan peacefully, and also on socio-economic and political developments over the last two decades. He also explained the Government's efforts to ensure active participation of communities and of women at grass roots level across the country. Ms. Gjerskov said she appreciated the Ethiopian government's commitment and efforts to develop security and integration with the Horn of Africa, and noted its active participation in UN, AU and IGAD activities to help maintain peace and security. She promised the Danish people's continued support for Ethiopia's effort to realize development, democracy and peace.



Ethiopian Foreign Minister and EU High Representative on Wednesday in Copenhagen

## Ethiopia and Egypt narrow their differences over the construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam

Ethiopia has finalized preparations to send a public diplomacy delegation to Egypt next month, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said on Friday. "Members of the delegation will be drawn from different segments of the society including prominent figures, elders, scholars, religious institutions and artists, among others," ministry spokesman Dina Mufti told The Anadolu Agency.

"This people-to-people diplomatic visit will help to strengthen the relations between Ethiopia and Egypt," Mufti said. He said that Egypt had sent a public diplomacy delegation to Ethiopia earlier this year. "We will do the same not only to reciprocate but to advance the people-to-people ties," he added. Ethiopia and

Egypt established diplomatic ties in 1927.

Ethiopia and Egypt are in the middle of diplomatic rapprochement to narrow their differences over the construction Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the Nile. The two countries agreed to resume tripartite talks – which also included downstream country Sudan – after Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn and Egypt's President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi met in Equatorial Guinea in June. In September, the tripartite technical committee agreed to commission research firms to study trans-boundary and environmental impacts of the Ethiopian Nile dam.

(World Bulletin/News Desk/Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels)

## PM Hailemariam awards 268 outstanding science, technology innovators

Addis Ababa, 14 November 2014 (WIC) – Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn has awarded 268 extraordinary science and technology innovators today in Addis Ababa.

Speaking at the 5th National Science, Technology and Innovation Award Day marked with the theme "Science and Technology Research for Sustainable Industrial Development" across the nation, Prime Hailemariam emphasized the need to boost capacity to conduct coordinated scientific and technological researches. According to the Premier, exerting a consolidated effort in the sector is crucial to realize the country's renaissance.

The government is committed to enhance technological transformation in the country and support scientist in the fields, he said adding that it will be important to effectively implement the 70/30 intake system off universities so as to strengthen the need to science and technology innovation. Minister of Science and Technology Demitu Hambissa on her behalf said that technological streams are vital to fulfill Ethiopia's transformation plans. Vocational program trainers, teachers, trainees, researchers and innovators who demonstrated remarkable progress in science and math were awarded.

## The 2nd Ethio-French Business Forum Opens in Paris

Addis Ababa, 19 November 2014 (WIC) – Ethiopia's Minister of Communication and Information Technology with the rank of Deputy Prime Minister to coordinate the Economy and Finance Cluster, Dr. Debretsion Gebremichael, and French Minister of State for Foreign Trade, Promotion of Tourism and French Nationals Abroad, Mr. Matthias Fekl, opened the second Ethio-French Business Forum in Paris on Monday (November 17).

The Forum aims to expedite economic cooperation as well as an opportunity for the business persons of the

two countries to network.

The meeting, at the French Agency for International Business Development (UBIFRANCE), brought together around 30 Ethiopian firms and contractors and representatives of almost 150 French firms, including many from Small and Medium Enterprises and intermediate-sized companies.

The Forum is another step in the deployment of economic diplomacy to promote business-to-business cooperation and sustain Ethiopia's ongoing economic growth.

## Ethiopia major destination for refugees

The UN refugee agency (UNHCR) said last week that the number of refugees seeking asylum in Ethiopia increased sharply in the recent months. Along with Sudan, Ethiopia has experienced a dramatic increase in arrivals, including large numbers of unaccompanied children. During the last month alone, more than 5,000 Eritreans crossed into Ethiopia while 3,000 South Sudanese refugees entered the country, mainly through the Burbiey border point on the Ethio-South-Sudanese border. "We are extremely concerned that the refugees crossing into Ethiopia will eventually try to move on, said Adrian Edwards, spokesperson for the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees. There is a need to boost education and livelihood opportunities for the refugees," he added. After Sudan, Ethiopia is the second largest country of asylum for refugees coming from Eritrean with a total of 106,859 asylum seekers at the end of October, including 1,591 unaccompanied children. They mostly live in four refugee camps in Tigray region and two in Afar region in north-eastern Ethiopia

While it was a source of refugees twenty years ago, Ethiopia is currently Africa's largest refugee-hosting country, with a total of 640,000 refugees, including more than 100,000 Eritreans and 257,000 South Sudanese. To help the country deal with the significant

human, financial and technical burden associated to the inflow of refugees, several international partners and institutions are working closely with Ethiopia. Last month, Ethiopia received an additional € 5 million from the European Union to tackle the pressing humanitarian situation in the refugee camps, increasing the total of the EU contribution on this issue to 31 million. Moreover, the UNHCR is currently working with the Government of Ethiopia to find land where some 50,000 flood-affected refugees can be relocated in the near future. The Ethiopian government is very thankful towards international partners like the European Union, UNHCR and the International Red Cross Committee who are assisting the Ethiopian authorities in handling the situation.

(Text: UNHCR and Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels)



## Graduate Students in Management receive briefing on Ethiopian Economy and Investment opportunities

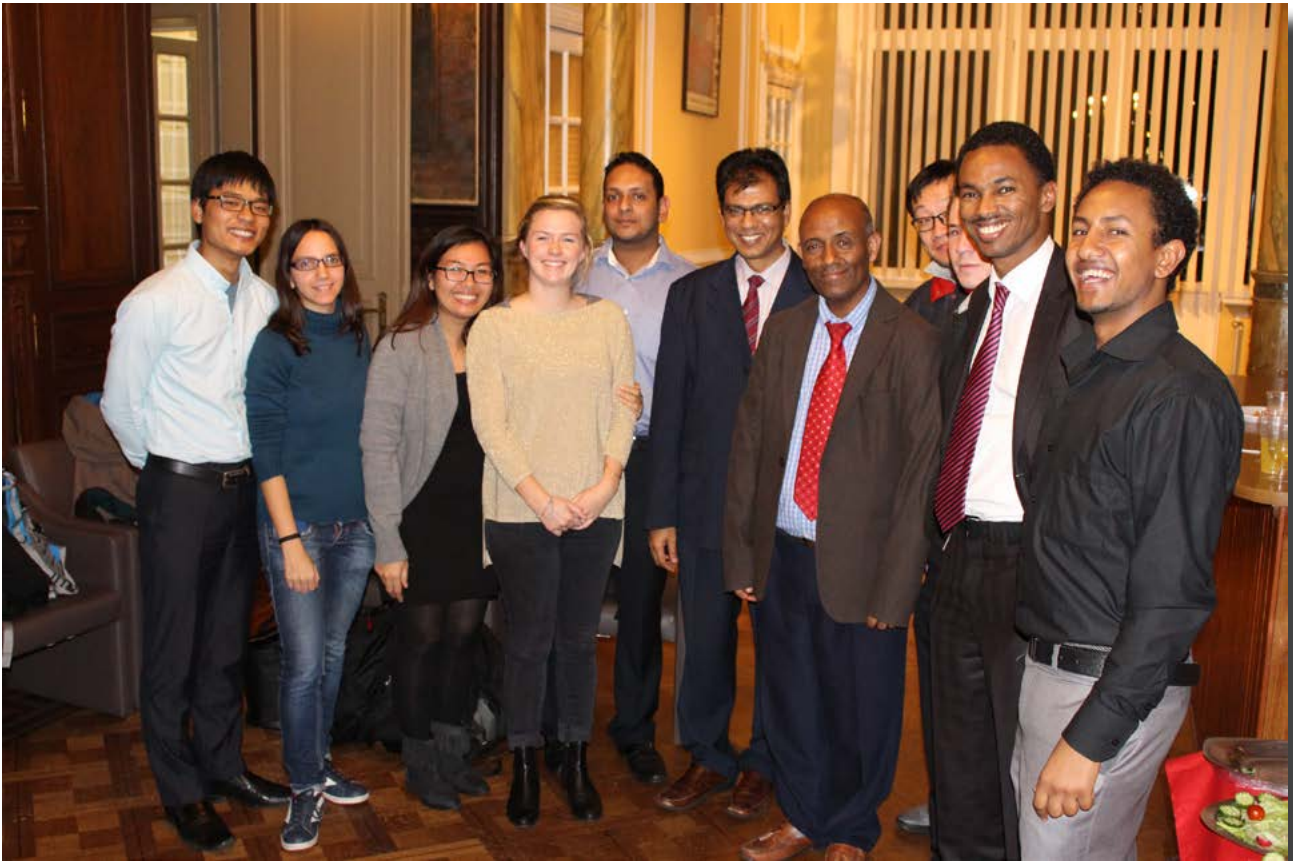
In the afternoon of Tuesday the 18th of November 2014, two diplomats in charge of Investment and Economic Cooperation at the Brussels Ethiopian Embassy welcomed eight students from KU Leuven University and their professor at the Embassy premises. The students are enrolled in the graduate programs of Enterprise and Logistics Management at the University. The Embassy in collaboration with KU Leuven University (Group-T) has been organizing this programs as a part of their course on Intercultural Management for the past three years and this is the fourth occasion where the program is taking place.

During the occasion that focused on Ethiopia, the diplomats made a presentation to the students on the country's latest economic developments and investment opportunities. Then, the student made

a brief presentation on their business ideas that they prepared to be implemented in Ethiopia. This was followed by questions and answer session, which was very informative to all parties. The participants finally met around refreshments in the Embassy's main hall for informal discussions. The Professor and the students thanked the

Embassy for arranging this event. Both the Embassy and the University expressed their wishes to continue organizing this useful and experience sharing platform in the coming years.





Graduate students and their professor from the KU Leuven University after the briefing, this week at the Embassy

## GERD Council Members meeting in Rotterdam

On November 15<sup>th</sup> 2014 in Rotterdam, Ambassador Teshome Toga and the Embassy staff made a meeting with GERD Council Members of the Ethiopian Diaspora living in the Netherlands. During the meeting, Ambassador Teshome Toga gave a brief about the economic and social achievements of Ethiopia and the role of the country in peacekeeping and stability building in the Horn of Africa Region. He made a detailed explanation on the recent negotiations outcomes with Egypt and Sudan on the Great Ethiopia Renaissance Dam. The GERD Council Members living in the Netherlands appreciated the economic developments of the country. They reaffirmed their commitment to mobilize Ethiopians living in the Netherlands to buy bonds and increase their contribution until the completion of the Dam. In the meantime, members of the GERD Council have bought bonds worth a total of 121,800 Ethiopian Birr.



Ambassador Teshome Toga and participant to the GERD Council Members meeting in Rotterdam, on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2014



Meeting with GERD Council Members in Rotterdam, on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> on November 2014



## Agenda

Ethiopian Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Day  
December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Diaspora Reception organized by the Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels  
Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Brussels

### About the Embassy

**Working Hours:** 9:00 – 13:00 & 14:00 – 17:00

**Consular Service:** Monday – Friday 09:00 – 13:00

**Legalization and Power of Attorney:** Monday – Thursday 9:00 – 13:00

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