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The Ethiopian Messenger



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Quarterly Magazine



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Ethiopian

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THE NEW SPIRIT OF AFRICA

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER





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የአርትኦት ኮሚቴ

Dear Reader,

The Embassy of Ethiopia in Brussels is proud to present the first edition of its quarterly magazine.

Through exclusive reports, this “Ethiopian Messenger” has the ambition to provide the EU and Benelux diplomatic, media and business communities as well as the Ethiopian diaspora with the latest insights about the development of Ethiopia at economical, political, social and cultural levels. This magazine puts a special emphasis on the 40 years old relation between Ethiopia and the European Union. We hope you will enjoy this first edition. Your suggestions and feedback are always welcome. Have a nice reading!

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On the cover: 40th Anniversary of the Ethio-EU relations celebrated on 20 October 2015 in Addis Ababa by Ethiopian Foreign Minister H.E. Dr Tedros, European Union High Representative Ms. Federica Mogherini, Ethiopian Ambassador to the European Union H.E. Teshome Toga and EU Representative to Ethiopia Ms Chantal Hebberecht.



Interview with H.E. Ambassador Teshome Toga

“There is a convergence of interests and of understanding between Ethiopia and the EU”



What are the major sectors of cooperation between Ethiopia and the European Union?

H.E. Teshome Toga: The EU and Ethiopia have a longstanding cooperation, that started in 1975 with the Lomé convention and was renewed with the Cotonou agreement, that will last until 2020. This year, we are celebrating the 40th anniversary of this cooperation. Ethiopia is benefitting from the largest amount of EDF support among ACP countries. This is a sign that Ethiopia has made good use of these funds: the National Indicative Programme reviews issued by the European Commission confirmed Ethiopia has made good use of the resources. The EU has been a strong partner in supporting development in Ethiopia. Priority areas in the cooperation with the EU include: food security and agriculture, that are key sectors for us, as well as urban development.

We also cooperate in infrastructure. Ethiopia is making huge investment efforts in this sector. While the EU usually does not support infrastructure programs for ACP countries, it agreed to make an exception with Ethiopia and is accompanying our projects.

There is also a dialogue on issues such as good governance and democratization, at bilateral

and multilateral levels. The EU is supporting our democratic institutions.

How do you evaluate the importance of trade and investment in this relation?

H.E. Teshome Toga: The utmost importance is given to investment and trade, which are essential to achieve sustainable development and to collect foreign currency. The EU is still the leading trading partner as a bloc, with up to 40% of the Ethiopian exports heading to the EU countries. That is an important point of cooperation, we are focusing on the EU market and its 500 million population. We are working hard to attract more investment and to increase our exports to this huge market.

The issue of migration has been on the top of the EU agenda during the last year. What role is it playing in the relations?

H.E. Teshome Toga: We have now a strong cooperation in the field of migration. This was recently enacted in the Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility signed at the La Valetta summit in November. Ethiopia is a country of origin, transit and destination and is implementing a mechanism to cut irregular immigration. The country currently hosts over 730,000 refugees, and will maintain its



open-door policy to our brothers and sisters from neighboring countries. By doing this, we allow refugees to stay in neighboring countries, not far from their home countries, and they don't have to risk the dangerous crossing to reach Europe. We are expecting to increase our cooperation with the EU on this issue in the future.

More generally, in terms of regional peace and security, Ethiopia is the second contributor of peace-keeping missions in the world and has deployed several missions in the region in countries like South Sudan or Somalia. Thus, our cooperation with the EU in the areas of peace, security and stability is also very strong.

What are other future areas of cooperation with the EU?

H.E. Teshome Toga: A new area of cooperation consists in fighting global warming. Even though our contribution to global emissions is almost null, we are a member of the international community and we want to be part of the solution. Ethiopia has taken its responsibility. Specific targets have been put in place in our Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy and Ethiopia is determined to reach the target of 0% net greenhouse emissions by 2030. It is in the best interest of future and current generations.

Recently, Ms. Federica Mogherini, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Union, visited Ethiopia to meet the Prime Minister and our Foreign Minister Dr. Tedros Adhanom. Together, they celebrated the 40th anniversary of Ethiopia-EU relations. High Representative Federica Mogherini and the Ethiopian Prime Minister agreed to elevate the relationship to ministerial level. Ethiopia is the third African country to enjoy this kind of relationship with the EU, along South Africa, Angola and Nigeria. Moreover, it was agreed to organize an Ethio-EU business forum, either in Addis or in Brussels, which

“It is easy to work with Ethiopia because we keep our commitments, we keep our promises. We take the spirit of our engagements very seriously. I think it makes it easy for the EU to work with us.”

will be organized with the European Commission and relevant authorities in Addis Ababa.

This is a very comprehensive and rich relationship even if like in any relationship, there are areas of differences. For example, EU and Ethiopia have diverging views on areas such as the EU request to liberalize the financial sector and telecommunications. But this does not compromise in any way our fruitful cooperation. Generally, the Ethio-EU relationship is very transparent and productive. This is a cooperation based on mutual respect.

European partners often mention how easy it is to work in Ethiopia. How would you explain this?

H.E. Teshome Toga: There is a convergence of interests, but also a convergence of understanding. It is easy to work with Ethiopia because we keep our commitments, we keep our promises. We take the spirit of our engagements very seriously. I think it makes it easy for the EU to work with us. Of course, they know that we are open and transparent: when we say “yes” it means yes, when we say “no” it means no. That makes us predictable and consistent partner.



Dossier

40 Years of relations between the EU and Ethiopia: from aid recipient to Strategic partner

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the establishment of relations between Ethiopia and the European Union (EU). While the EU has recently launched a reflection process on the future of ACP-EU relations, the celebration of this anniversary is an opportunity to think about the past and make projections into the future.

International relations have changed considerably throughout these four decades, with profound consequences on the relationship between Ethiopia and the European Union. Ethiopia went from a millenary-long monarchy to a Marxist military dictatorship that was replaced by a Federal Democratic Republic, while the EU grew from 9 to 28 Member States and underwent major institutional changes.

The Cold War Years: Limited Relations

On 28 February 1975, Ethiopia signed the Lomé Convention along with 45 other African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) countries. The Convention was aimed at supporting the efforts of ACP states to achieve self-sustained development through trade and development aid. On many aspects, Ethiopia's formalizing ties with the EU (then called European Economic Community, EEC) was somewhat incongruous. The country was an exception, being the only signing member of the Treaty that had never been colonized. Moreover, the democratic and liberal EEC officialized its relations with Ethiopia one year only after the beginning of military rule and the country's switch from a Western to a USSR prism.

This was the result of the United Kingdom's desire, two years after its adhesion to the EEC, to extend the Lomé Convention to more developing countries and to move away from the Yaoundé Convention, a previous association agreement comprising mainly former French and Belgian colonies in Africa. A second factor was due to Cold War geopolitical factors: the ethos of Lomé was above all politically neutral, providing large amount of money to countries like « Marxist » Ethiopia and « capitalist »

The EU relation with Ethiopia is currently governed by the Cotonou agreement, whose objective goes beyond aid and includes trade cooperation and enhanced political dialogue. The EU plays an instrumental role in the development process of Ethiopia, by providing funding through the European Development Funds (EDF) that helped lifting millions out of poverty. The latest allocation (11th EDF) of these funds will provide some €745 million for the country between 2014 and 2020 in key areas such as sustainable agriculture in food security, health, roads and energy. These sectors of intervention were elaborated with the Ethiopian government's priorities in mind through a collaboration of a new kind: the EU's plan in the country was developed as a response to Ethiopia's development vision to pursue high economic growth while implementing pro-poor policies – which explains the fact that Ethiopia is the only country where the EU is funding road infrastructure, due to the high level of importance given to infrastructure by the Ethiopian government.



Former Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi and Louis Michel, Member of the EC in charge of Development and Humanitarian Aid in 2006. © European Commission

Côte d'Ivoire alike without conditions, allowing ACP countries to determine their own domestic economic policy and systems of governance. In the atmosphere of the Cold War, the providing of European funding to the Marxist dictatorship of Mengistu Hailemariam was not particularly shocking. Therefore, during the Derg regime (1974-1991), Ethio-EU relations were strictly limited to development and humanitarian aid, independently of domestic political concerns.

The 1990s: A decline of interest

However, in the international shakeout that followed the collapse of the USSR, the geopolitical priorities of the European Union changed substantially and the special relationship shared between Ethiopia and the EU started eroding. The end of the Cold war meant that, from a strategic perspective, African countries ceased to be as important as they once had been, while the EU turned to its Eastern European partners and attempted to expand its influence to Latin America and Asia.

By the end of the Cold war, new concerns over structural adjustment policies, notably on

economic models, human rights and governance in international development also emerged. One of the most significant consequences of this was the introduction of a political dimension to EU-ACP development cooperation. Meanwhile, disciplined guerrilla forces had just overthrown the Derg's ruthless military dictatorship and were setting out to build a new Ethiopia. During the early post-war years of the 1990s, the new Ethiopian government was taken up by internal matters: the country was going through a reconstruction process, while a new governance system had to be put in place, and following the aggression on Ethiopian borders by Eritrean forces, tensions with Eritrea were growing. In consequence, the cooperation between the EU and Ethiopia remained limited during most of the 1990s.

The 2000's Revival

Ethiopia-EU's relations experienced a revival at the turn of the century thanks to the convergence of the EU's new stance on development and the Ethiopian government's efforts. These shared interests were also reinforced by the ability of the Ethiopian government



Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn with President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso in 2013 at the European Union-Africa Summit

to adapt to the changing paradigms of the global development policy and security priorities.

After the Cold War, the landscape of international development had evolved towards a less ideological and politically-oriented approach and a strategy caring about concrete results and supporting ambitious national policies. Poverty reduction came to the fore as one of the main objectives of development cooperation, and a new principle was now widely shared: poorer countries would only emerge from poverty when they would take full charge of their own destiny. This vision was later formalized by the UN in eight “Millennium Development Goals” which have oriented the direction of EU development funding for the past fifteen years.

This new paradigm was also endorsed by Prime Minister Meles Zenawi. As a guerilla commander in the time of the 1984-5 famine, Meles Zenawi was profoundly marked by the mismanagement of the drought and later explained that it had been for him “the most powerful motivation to work daily for economic development.” Once done with major internal political preoccupations, Ethiopia has introduced a developmental democratic economic model which is a total reconversion of the country’s economic policy that made remarkable progress as

over the last decade: Ethiopia has moved from the second poorest in the world in 2000 to an annual double-digit growth.

A multidimensional partnership

Ethiopia’s low level of corruption, good governance record, efficient and effective utilization of development finance and pro-poor economic performance partly explain the increased support it has received from the EU. Indeed, EU diplomats are often heard saying: “If things do not succeed in Ethiopia, then it will not work anywhere. ”

But beyond humanitarian and development concerns, the EU and Ethiopia also share a common concern on international issues such as counter-terrorism, peace and stability, migration and climate change among others.

A strategic ally in regional security

Since the attacks of 11 September 2001, Ethiopia’s geopolitical importance became even more crucial in the eye of Western partners. Given its size and position in the Horn of Africa, the country had for a long time been regarded as a dependable partner with respect to Western security interests and a key

factor in safeguarding stability in the region. But Ethiopia is now a cornerstone of the EU Foreign and Security policy in Africa and the EU's renewed concern for Ethiopia came to the fore in 2011, with the adoption of an EU strategic Framework for the Horn of Africa, while a new Special Representative for the Horn of Africa was appointed in January 2012. The EU has also committed more than €575 million to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) to which Ethiopia is a major contributor, seeking to reduce the threat posed by Al-Shabaab terrorist groups in Somalia.



Ethiopian Foreign Minister H.E. Dr Tedros confers with EU Foreign Policy Chief Ms. Federica Mogherini in Addis Ababa in October 2016

Moreover, Ethiopia's contribution to peace and security in the Horn of Africa, particularly the peace process in South Sudan and the state building in Somalia is regularly acknowledged by European partners and the EU closely coordinates its support to the African Union and the Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD) with Ethiopia.

The year 2015 marks a renewal in EU-Ethiopia relations with the agreement to take the relation to a higher level. It is the culmination of years of an ever-improving relation.

Beyond its geostrategic significance, Ethiopia is also important to the EU in terms of regulating the effects of irregular migration out of the region, both in the region and through its linkages to Europe. The EU recently increased humanitarian funding for refugees, providing an additional €5 million to respond to the needs of the growing number of refugees in Ethiopia and bringing the Commission's humanitarian aid in Ethiopia to €31 million for 2015.

Being host of over 730,000 refugees, Ethiopia's experience became crucial this year, as the EU faced its most severe refugee crisis. It was the first country to sign a Joint Declaration for a Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility at the Valetta on 11 November 2015, another step towards the much broader relationship that the EU is building with Ethiopia and the country will benefit from a substantial part of the €1.8 billion EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa. In this regard, the EU and Ethiopia have decided to elevate the level of their relations into a higher level, involving a regular dialogue at Foreign minister level and organizing Ethio-EU business forums.

All of these activities are underpinned and supported by a robust and meaningful political dialogue based on Article 8 of the Cotonou agreements. Ethiopia is the only ACP country to hold a dialogue three times a year in Addis Ababa in this framework, while political consultations about the democratization process of the country are regularly organized with EU partners.

EU-Ethiopia ties initially developed in the framework of economic and development cooperation that expanded over the years, and is still diversifying from its original aid focus. Over the years, Ethiopia-EU relations have grown into a broad set of strong ties. Now, forty years on, the year 2015 marks a renewal in EU-Ethiopia relations with the agreement to take the relation to a higher level. It is the culmination of years of an ever-improving relation.



Business

Ethiopia and the Benelux: closer relations through rapidly growing business ties

On the path to ensure a sustainable development of its economy and to achieve the status of middle income country by 2025, Ethiopia is increasingly considered as a favorable investment spot in sectors such as agro-processing and light manufacturing. The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg play an important part in this development. Since diplomatic relations were established between Ethiopia and the Benelux countries (1906 for Belgium and 1950 for the Netherlands) Ethio-Benelux relations have experienced growing economic and business relations and they are determined to further strengthen their cooperation. This commitment has been expressed through several high-level business events held this year, both in the Benelux and in Ethiopia.

Ethio-Netherlands Business Event

The economic and business relations between Ethiopia and the Netherlands are flourishing. The Dutch private sector is already extensively involved in Ethiopia, mainly in horticulture and agriculture. In total, more than 300 Dutch companies have secured investment licenses in Ethiopia. The Netherlands are the main export destination for Ethiopian flowers, accounting for 80% of the country's total flower exports. The Netherlands is supporting the Ethiopian business sector by providing yearly development finances equivalent to €120 million as well as supporting innovative financing schemes such as sponsoring consultative groups and cancelling of a substantial amount of debt. However, despite the increasing number of investments by Dutch companies, opportunities available in Ethiopia are not fully optimised. In view of this, both countries have agreed to stimulate the Dutch private sector investment in Ethiopia and trade opportunities between Ethiopia and the Netherlands by holding the very first Ethio-Netherlands Business event in the Netherlands on 5 and 6 November 2015. This event was, for an important part, the result of the second round of Ethio-Dutch political consultations which took place in the Hague on 5 and 6 of March 2015. This Ethio-Netherlands Business event themed 'A Growing Investment Opportunity', was

organized by the Netherlands Embassy in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels and the Netherlands Africa Business Council (NABC). Fifty Ethiopian government officials and private sector representatives led by Finance and Economic Cooperation State Minister Ahmed Shide attended the event. The Forum has provided the Dutch private sector with the right know-how, practical information and network to invest or trade with Ethiopia. In the business event, specific attention was paid to seven sectors, in line with the Dutch development cooperation programme, Ethiopian priorities and Dutch expertise: oilseeds, seeds, dairy, poultry, spices, textiles, logistics and construction.

In total, more than 300 Dutch companies and 30 Belgian companies have secured investment licenses in Ethiopia

The event was marked by a series of bilateral events between the participants, including a general plenary session, sectoral workshops, business networking and a meeting with the Dutch Flying Swans Consortium.

On the occasion of the business forum, both countries signed a Memorandum of Understanding on development and economic cooperation in order for the Netherlands to align its development cooperation programs with Ethiopia's growth and transformation policies and support the Ethiopian private sector in its efforts to do business in the Netherlands. This agreement between the Netherlands and Ethiopia was signed by State Minister Ahmed and the Director-General (Vice-Minister) of International Cooperation Christiaan Rebergen. During the event, business linkages were stimulated with 150 matchmakings

between Ethiopian and Dutch companies and Government officials.

Ethiopia is committed to ensure the creation of a conducive business environment for Dutch private sector companies by minimizing administrative burdens, enhancing transparency and guaranteeing predictable tax regulations. Several Dutch companies are already active in Ethiopia, such as Heineken, Bavaria, Solagrow and Florensis. As the Netherlands will organize an Economic Mission to Ethiopia on Ethiopian priority areas of investment and trade in May 2016, future success stories will have to be added soon.

Belgian Multi-Sectorial Economic Mission to Ethiopia

Belgium is one of the most important partners of Ethiopia, politically, economically as well socially. The two countries share an historical relation and the Belgian Government is committed to support the increased interest from the Belgian companies towards Ethiopia. Out of the 28 EU member states, Belgium is the third biggest exporter of products to Ethiopia just behind Germany and Italy. The country exports products such as pharmaceuticals, machinery, cars and trucks to Ethiopia. Belgium is also the third biggest importer of Ethiopian products, just behind Italy and Sweden mainly importing coffee, tea, spices as well as seeds from Ethiopia. In terms of foreign direct investment, Belgian companies have started investing in brewery, solar energy, construction and other sectors. More than 30 Belgium companies have already secured investment licenses in Ethiopia. The trade volume between the two countries in 2014 was USD 410 million, but compared to the potential, there is a very vast room for improvement.

As a first step to further deepen this relation, a multi-sectorial economic mission to Ethiopia was organized in collaboration with the Flanders Investment and Trade Agency (FIT), Wallonia Investment and Trade Agency (AWEX) and Brussels Enterprise, Commerce and Industry (BECI). The mission, which took place from 19 to 22 November 2015, aimed at boosting the economic and business relations of the two countries in terms of trade and investment. Fifty three multi-sectorial Belgian companies active in sectors like architecture, banking and investment projects, infrastructure, energy, consumer, agrofood, agriculture and manufacturing industries held discussions with Ethiopian government institutions and with about hundred Ethiopian private companies including the Ethiopian Investment Council, Ethiopian and Addis Ababa Chamber of Commerce and

“A lot of opportunities”

Vincent Libbrecht, from a Belgian construction company that is currently operating in DR Congo said ‘Ethiopia is a fast growing economy and has lots of opportunities we will assess the market to invest in the country’. He also counted on business networking events and highlighted that it will give a chance to get to know Ethiopian counterparts and do business jointly.

Sectorial Associations. To support closer relations, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ethiopian Chamber and Sectorial Association and the Chamber of Commerce and agriculture of Belgium was recently signed. The MoU is set to be the first step for cross-country cooperation between the business communities of the two countries that is expected to further strengthen the trade and investment relations.

The fact that European countries such as Belgium are in possession of advanced technologies in construction machinery and agro-processing sectors and the fact that Ethiopia is in a dire need of adopting such technologies to advance its economy makes them attract one another.

The Luxembourg Economic Mission

The economic and business relation of Luxembourg and Ethiopia is picking up as time goes: the very first Luxembourg Economic Mission to Ethiopia will take place in February 2016, organized by the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce and Industry in collaboration with the Embassy of Ethiopia in Brussels and the Embassy of Luxembourg in Addis Ababa. In preparation to this Mission, some members of the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce had a pre-mission to Ethiopia this October 2015.

By and large, these are strong signs for an increasing interest from the Benelux investors to do business in Ethiopia. This in return will have a strong and positive effect on the people-to-people relations between Ethiopia, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg.



Tourism

Lalibela – the 8th wonder of the world

The Northern part of Ethiopia exhibits the highest collection of fascinating historical and religious wonders of the world such as the twelve majestic monolithic rock-hewn churches in Lalibela. The town of Lalibela was the strong political power house of the Zagwe Dynasty that ruled Ethiopia from the late 12th to early 13th century. The city, previously known as Roha, got its famous name after the death of Saint Gebre Mesqel Lalibela who is said to have been surrounded by a swarm of bees at his birth, signifying his future sovereign kingship of Ethiopia. Ethiopia's adoption of Christianity in the 4th century had a strong influence on the King Lalibela, and he is believed to have been in Jerusalem as spiritual pilgrimage at his earliest age. However, following the conquest of Jerusalem by the Muslims in 1187, the pilgrimage of Ethiopian Christians to the holy city was halted.

This impediment inspired King Lalibela, who is also considered as a saint, to build dozens of churches curved out of a rock of monolithic blocks, in an attempt to build a "New Jerusalem" as his capital in Lalibela. Still today, these churches are considered to be among the holiest places in Ethiopia for pilgrimage and annual devotion for Ethiopian orthodox Christian, next to the holy city of Aksum. The construction of the rock-hewn churches of Lalibela, with its breathtaking and remarkable architectural design of the past generations, remains a mystery despite the many researches undertaken by archaeologists and historians. There is a widespread belief that King Lalibela received his revelation to construct the New Jerusalem from God, and according to a legend, angels also took part in the construction of Lalibela at night while Ethiopian men were carrying out the excavation work during the day for 24 years until its completion. However, referring to the chronicles, Ljubicia D. Popvich in her Article 'An Ethiopian Holy land' in 1971 stated that King Lalibela only saw the angels while they were helping the laborers during the day, and continued working during the night on their own. The Portuguese explorer Pero Da Coilha, who is said to have been the first European to eyewitness the rock-hewn churches of Lalibela, said in his testimony "I weary of the more about these buildings, because it seems to me that I shall not be believed if write more, I swear by God in whose power I am that all I have written is the truth".

“Centuries after its construction, many scholars and visitors, overwhelmed by its wondrous construction and mystical history, have claimed Laibela is the 8th Wonder of the World.”

According to the UNESCO, the Churches of Lalibela are constructed in two major groupings crossed by the holy river of Jordan found in Lalibela. To the north of the river Jordan, Biete Medhani-Alme (House of the Savior of the World), Biete Mariam (House of Mary), Biete Maskal (House of cross), Biete Denagel (House of Virgins), Biete Golgotha Micheal (House of Golgotha Micheal). Similarly, to the south of the river Jordan, Biete Amanueal (House of Emmanuel), Biete Qddus Mercoreus (House of Saint Mercoreos), Biete Abba Libanos (House of Father Libanos), Biete Libanos (House of Libanos), Bite Lehem (House holy bread) and Biete Giorgis (House of St. George) is isolated from others but connected by trenches. The interior designs, the painting along with elaborately decorated processional cross and ancient manuscripts scrolls in Lalibela are the exceptional mark of the Ethiopian Civilization presented to the world. Centuries after its construction, many scholars and visitors, overwhelmed by its wondrous construction and mystical history, have claimed Laibela is the 8th Wonder of the World.

Biet Gyorgis Church, Lalibela.
© Rod Waddington





Cuisine

Ethiopian gastronomy in Belgium: a love story with a bright future

During the last ten years, the interest and attention towards Ethiopian gastronomy has dramatically increased in Belgium, with the opening of four restaurants and one coffee house. Located in Antwerp, Leuven and Brussels, these friendly Ethiopian places are an outstanding way for Belgian and Europeans to discover the Ethiopian culture and more specifically the Ethiopian cuisine. Whether they are operated by managers of Ethiopian or European origin, these places have a common ground: the passion for Ethiopia and its culture. We interviewed some of the men and women behind these businesses to know the inside story of this interest for Ethiopian gastronomy.

Familial atmosphere

In her small restaurant “House of Lalibela”, Mrs Seble Wongel has everything in hand: the administration, the decoration, the service and, most importantly, the kitchen. She cooks herself with the help of another cook. “There is no fixed recipe, you have to reinvent everything again and again”, she explains about her colorful dishes that combine curcuma, cardamon and other spices both with and without meat. Mrs Seble also gives a big importance to the contact with the clients. For her, eating at “House of Lalibela” is not just about tasting good food: it is a way to discover



Esayase Abraham from Little Ethiopia restaurant (Leuven).
© Nieuwsblad

Coffee Ceremony

It starts with the green raw coffee beans, charcoal and a frying pan. The beans are progressively roasted and will be ready after it cracks. This is where the traditional coffee maker (usually a young woman in a beautiful traditional white dress) replaces the frying pan with now freshly roasted beans for the traditional coffee pot filled with water, to let it boil. While the water is on its way to boil, the coffee maker will first make a round with the frying pan filled with freshly roasted beans amongst its spectators to give everyone a sniff of the fragrance. Then she will be pounding the beans into coffee powder. Once the water has boiled, she adds a certain amount of coffee to the pot and then a last round of waiting starts, until all of the powder has sunk to the bottom of the pot and your coffee will be ready.

Margit Eelbren Vegter, from www.hetgrottemensenleven.nl



Brussels Aksum Coffee House has everything in-house to offer fine coffee. © l_lbgue_c/Instagram

the country through the stories she can tell, but also through the original decoration she has made herself: paintings, photographs and craft objects. After living among others in Ethiopia, Ukraine, Cape Verde, Senegal and Mali, Mrs Seble Wongel opened her restaurant in Leuven in 2006. She did this as a real world citizen, to give a comprehensive and profound taste of what Ethiopia actually is. She does it so well that clients often come from other regions in Belgium to enjoy the hospitable atmosphere of this familial restaurant.

From anthropology to Ethiopian gastronomy

For Nassim Khabazi, manager of Kokob restaurant in Brussels, the discovery of Ethiopia has been game-changing in his personal track. With a background in anthropology, he visited Ethiopia and decided to open a restaurant in Brussels with two business partners. The initial idea was to combine an anthropological project with a restaurant. Two of the initial business partners are still part of the adventure: Nassim and

the other founder, an Ethiopian, is still part of the team as chief cook of the restaurant. Since 2007, the restaurant has become an important place for gastronomy in Brussels and received very positive reviews in the press. In addition to food and coffee ceremonies, clients can also enjoy elegant and modern Ethiopian decoration. Fully booked nearly every evening, the restaurant is particularly popular to celebrate special occasions like Christmas, New Year's Eve and, of course, the Ethiopian New year.

Improve the image of Ethiopia

When he first came to Belgium in 2001, Esayase Abraham was sad to see that his country, Ethiopia, had often a bad image in the eyes of the Belgians. "They were even surprised to hear that we had three meals a day in Ethiopia!" Esayase remembers. To counter this lack of knowledge, he decided to undertake a project to promote Ethiopian culture. While he first thought about going into the clothing business, he then decided to prepare himself to open a restaurant. After



several years of training as a cook and experience gathering in the United States, he finally opened his restaurant, “Little Ethiopia”, in Antwerp in 2010. Apart from food, the restaurant also offers several opportunities to get a wider glimpse of Ethiopia: a yearly tourism information session in November, as well as group trainings in Ethiopian cooking.

Fine coffee is all you need

Do you know where to find the top-rated coffee house in Brussels (according to TripAdvisor)? It is located rue des Éperonnier in the very historical center of Brussels. Aksum Coffee House was started by Jarmo Pikkujamsa in 2010. While a lot of coffee producers focus on robusta coffee, Aksum Coffee House carefully selects top-quality arabica beans from Ethiopia,

which produces one of the finest coffee in the world. According to Jarmo Pikkujamsa, the country itself is more and more taking advantage of this local excellence: the quality of coffee beans served locally improved dramatically since his first trip to Ethiopia 15 years ago.

Jarmo is not only a businessman: he is first and foremost an art-lover, and also a scholar who has studied the tradition of coffee houses and tried to trace the influence of the Ethiopian coffee ceremony in the way we consider and drink coffee today. “My findings on this topic are still sleeping in my computer. One day, it might come out as a book or a film”, he explained.

Kokob restaurant in the heart of Brussels





The



From decoration to food, everything is self-made at House of Lalibela restaurant in Leuven

Aksum coffee house is so successful that Jarmo decided to open a second Ethiopian café early 2016. At this new place, food will be offered in addition to the same high-quality coffee. By then, the current Aksum Coffee House will focus on selling raw coffee. Franchising could also be an option, Jarmo told us. But franchising cannot be reduced to the brand “Aksum Coffee House”: it is first and foremost about the concept. In three words: Excellence for the coffee,

conviviality for the visitors, and authenticity for the place.

At the end of our interview, Jarmo spontaneously thanked the Embassy for the support provided when he started his business several years ago, most notably by putting him in contact with the relevant business partners in Ethiopia.

Discover the Ethiopian restaurants in Belgium

House of Lalibela

Brusselsestraat 59
3000 Leuven
Open in the evening, closed on Monday
Booking: 016.23.38.80
<http://www.houseoflalibela.be>

Kokob

10 Rue des Grands Carmes
1000 Bruxelles
Booking: 02 511 19 50
Open every evening, lunch on Friday, Saturday and Sunday
Coffee ceremony on Wednesday and Sunday
<http://www.kokob.be>

Little Ethiopia

Zirkstraat 8, 2000 Antwerpen
Booking: 03 336 22 93 or resa@little-ethiopia.be
Open in the evening every day except Tuesday.
<http://little-ethiopia.be/>

Aksum Coffee House

Rue des Éperonniers 60-62
1000 Brussels
+32 484077695
Open every day 10-19 except Monday
<http://www.aksumcoffeehouse.com>

Toukoul

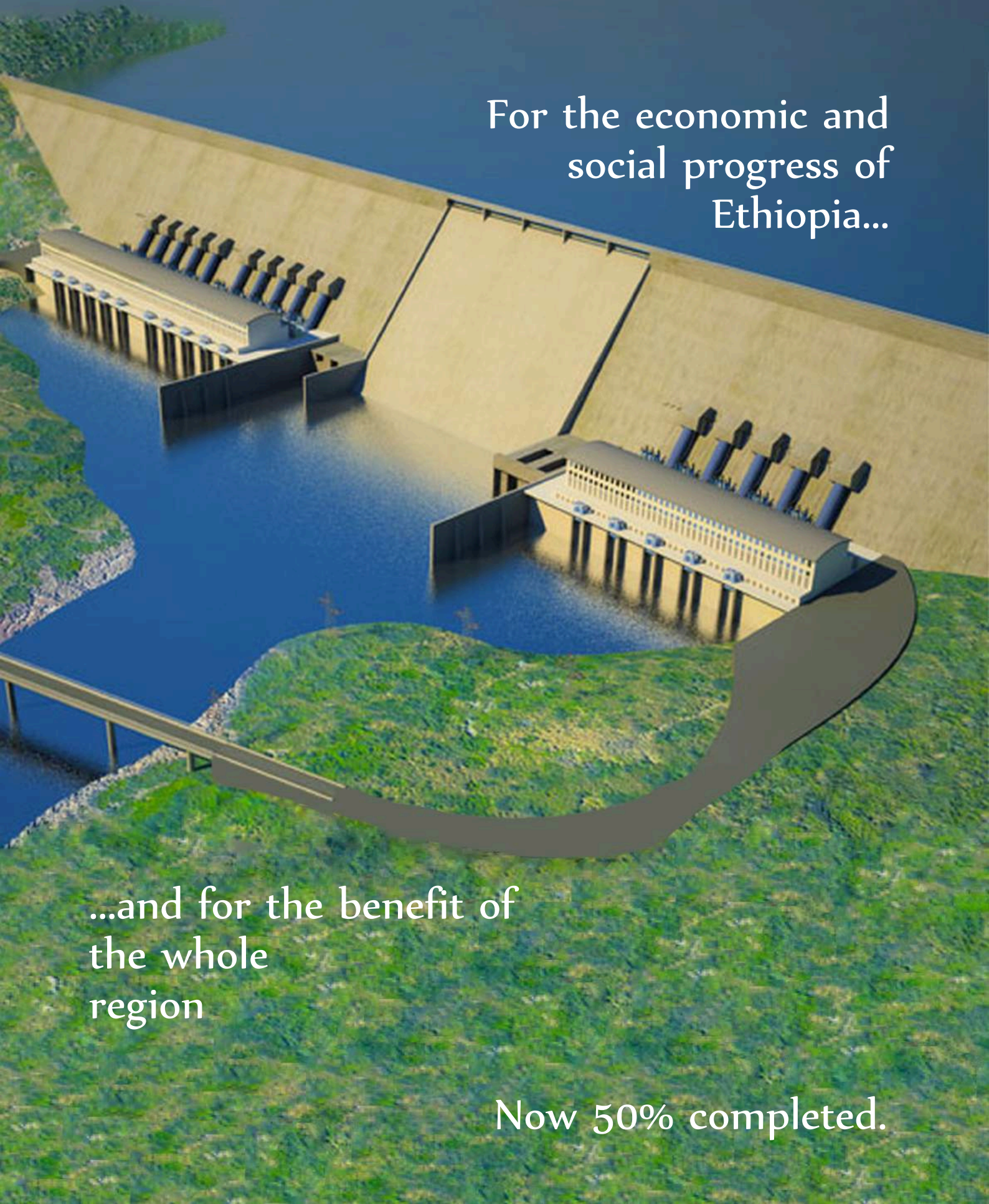
Opened every day except Monday
Rue de Laeken, 34
1000 Bruxelles
Booking: info@toukoul.be
Coffee ceremony on Sunday

Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam

For the economic and
social progress of
Ethiopia...

...and for the benefit of
the whole
region

Now 50% completed.





የዲያስፖራው ዓምድ!

የኢትዮጵያ ፌዴራላዊ ዲሞክራሲያዊ መንግስት የኢትዮጵያ ዲያስፖራ ማኅበረሰብ በሀገራቸው ልማት እና ዕድገት ተሳታፊ እና ተጠቃሚ እንዲሆኑ ለማድረግ መንግስት ከፌደራል እስከ ክልል የዲያስፖራ ፅ/ቤት በማቋቋም ዲያስፖራው በአገር ልማት ላይ ንቁ ተሳታፊ ለማድረግ ከፍተኛ እንቅስቃሴዎች ከማድረጉም በተጨማሪ የዲያስፖራው ተሳትፎ እና ተጠቃሚነት ይበልጥ ለማረጋገጥ መንግስት የዲያስፖራ ፖሊሲ በማዘጋጀት በመንቀሳቀስ ላይ ይገኛል። በመሆኑም የዲያስፖራው ማህበረሰብ ንቅናቄ ለመፍጠር በፌዴራልም በክልልም የዲያስፖራ መድረኮችን በማዘጋጀት ዲያስፖራው ስለ ሃገሩ ወቅታዊ ሁኔታ ማወቅ እንዲችል ከማድረጉም በተጨማሪ ቋሚ አገር አቀፍ የዲያስፖራ ቀን በዓል እንዲከበር በመደረጉ መንግስት የዲያስፖራ ቀን በዓል በቋሚነት በሀገር-አቀፍ ደረጃ ማክበር አስፈላጊነትን በግልጽ ባስቀመጠው መሰረት የመጀመሪያው የዲያስፖራ ቀን በዓል ከነሐሴ 6-10 ቀን 2007 ዓ.ም. ድረስ ከፍተኛ የመንግስት ባለስልጣናት እና ኃላፊዎች፣ የዲያስፖራው ማኅበረሰብ ተወካዮች እንዲሁም ሌሎች የሚመለከታቸው ባለድርሻ አካላት በተገኙበት በተለያዩ ዝግጅቶች በደማቅ ሁኔታ በማክበር በዲያስፖራው ማህበረሰብ ጥሩ የመነቃቃት ስሜት ፈጥሯል። (ዲያስፖራውን አስመልክተው የወጡ አዋጆች እና የፖሊሲው ዋና ዋና ይዘት በቀጣይ እትምቻችን በተከታታይ ይቀርባል።)

የኢትዮጵያ ዲያስፖራ ፖሊሲ፣

* ዲያስፖራውን ለማሳተፍ በመንግስት በኩል ከተወሰዱት እርምጃዎች መካከል ዋነኛው በውጭ ሀገር የሚኖሩ ኢትዮጵያውያንና ትውልደ ኢትዮጵያውያንን ከሀገራቸው ጋር ለማስተሳሰርና ሁለንተናዊ አቅማቸውን ትርጉም ላለው ተግባር ለማዋል በዲያስፖራው ተሳትፎ በታህሳስ ወር 2005 ዓ.ም. የኢትዮጵያ ዲያስፖራ ፖሊሲ ወጥቶ ስራ ላይ ውሏል።
 ፡ ፖሊሲው አስፈጻሚ አካላት ተግባርና ኃላፊነታቸውን በአግባቡ ተገንዝበው አመቺ አደረጃጀትና የአሰራር ስርዓቶችን ፈጥረው ለመንቀሳቀስ ያስችላቸዋል።
 ፡ ሀገራችን ዲያስፖራው ከሚኖርባቸው አገሮች ጋር

ስለሚኖራት ግንኙነት ግልጽ አቅጣጫን ስለሚያስቀምጥ መብቶቻቸውንና ጥቅሞቻቸውን ለማስከበር የሚያስችል የተሻለ ሁኔታን ይፈጥራል።

- * ፖሊሲውን መሰረት በማድረግ እስካሁን ድረስ፣
- ወጣት የዲያስፖራ አባላት በውጭ ጉዳይ ሚኒስቴር እና በኢትዮጵያ ኤምባሲዎች የስራ ላይ ልምምድ እንዲያደርጉ የሚያስችል የኢንተርንሺፕ ፕሮግራም ማስፈጸሚያ መመሪያ ተዘጋጅቶ በስራ ላይ ውሏል።
- ወጣት የዲያስፖራ አባላት የትውልድ አገራቸው ታሪክ፣ ባህል፣ ቋንቋ እና ዕሴት የሚያዳብሩበት “የወጣት ዲያስፖራ አገርህን እወቅ ፕሮግራም” ማስፈጸሚያ መመሪያ ተዘጋጅቶ ለውሳኔ ቀርቧል።
- ከዲያስፖራው ሲቀርቡ የነበሩ ቅሬታዎች በመሰብሰብ ለበላይ አካል የቀረቡ ሲሆን መንግስትም ይህንን ግምት ውስጥ በማስገባት እና ሰፊ ጥናት በማድረግ ለአስፈጻሚ አካላት መፍትሄ እንዲሰጥበት እየተደረገ ነው።

የኢትዮጵያ ተወላጅነት መታወቂያ ካርድ፣

በውጭ አገር የሚኖሩ ኢትዮጵያውያንና ትውልድ ኢትዮጵያውያንን ከሀገራቸው ጋር ለማስተሳሰርና ሁለንተናዊ አቅማቸውን ትርጉም ላለው እና ወጥ በሆነ መልኩ ለመጠቀምና እነሱም የልማቱ ተጠቃሚ እንዲሆኑ ለማስቻል በመንግስት በኩል ልክ እንደሌሎቹ ሴክተሮች የህግ ማዕቀፍ ኖሮት ቢሰራበት የተሻለ ውጤት ለማስመዝገብ እንደሚረዳ በማመን እና ተጥሎባቸው የነበረውን የህግ ገደብ ለማንሳት አዋጅ 270/94 ወጥቶ በመተግበር ላይ ይገኛል።

አዋጁ በውጭ አገራት የሚኖሩ በትውልድ ኢትዮጵያውያን የውጭ አገር ዜጎች ከጥቂት ለዜጎች ብቻ ከተሰጡ መብቶች በመለስ በትውልድ አገራቸው እንደ ማንኛውም ኢትዮጵያዊ ዜጋ የሚታዩበትን፣ የሚስተናገዱበትንና የሚጠቀሙበትን ሁኔታ ለማመቻቸት የሚያስችል የኢትዮጵያ ተወላጅነት መታወቂያ ካርድ እንዲያገኙ ይፈቅዳል። በአፈጻጸም ሂደት ያጋጠሙ ችግሮችንና ማነቆ የሆኑ ጉዳዮችን ለይቶ በማሰባሰብ የነበረው የማስፈጸሚያ መመሪያ ተሻሽሎ



ስራ ላይ እንዲውል ተደርጓል። የትውልድ ኢትዮጵያዊ መታወቂያ ለሚያሳድሱ ትውልድ ኢትዮጵያውያን ሰነዱ የአገልግሎት ዘመኑ 6 ወር ሲቀረው እና የተረጋገጠ የልደት ሰርተፊኬት በአካል ይዘው በመቅረብ ማሳደስ ይችላሉ።

የኢንቨስትመንት ማበረታቻ

የዳያስፖራውን የኢንቨስትመንት ተሳትፎ ለማሳደግ እ.ኤ.አ. በሐምሌ 2002 አዋጅ ወጥቷል። እንዲሁም ስለኢንቨስትመንት ማበረታቻዎችና ለሀገር ውስጥ ባለሀብቶች ስለተከለሉ የስራ መስኮች በሚኒስትሮች ምክር ቤት በህዳር 20 ቀን 2003 ዓ.ም. ደንብ ወጥቷል። አገር ውስጥ በተለያዩ የኢንቨስትመንት ዘርፎች መሰማራት ለሚፈልጉ የዳያስፖራ አባላትም የፍራንኮ ቫሎታ አሠራር ተዘርግቶ በአገራችን ባንኮች LC (Letter of Credit) መክፈት ሳያስፈልጋቸው ውጭ ባፈሩት የውጭ ምንዛሪ ለስራቸው እንዲያግዙ የሚፈቀድላቸውን መሳሪያዎች፣ ቁሳቁሶች፣ ወዘተ... ከቀረጥ ነጻ እንዲያስገቡ ተፈቅዶ ተግባራዊ እየተደረገ ይገኛል።

የዳያስፖራው የውጭ ምንዛሪ የባንክ እና ሬሚታንስ

ዳያስፖራው በአገር ውስጥ ባንኮች በውጭ ምንዛሪ የባንክ አካውንት በመክፈት ገንዘቡን ወደ አገር ቤት በማስተላለፍ እንዲቆጥብና እንዲጠቀምበት ለማስቻል በኢትዮጵያ ብሄራዊ ባንክ እ.ኤ.አ. በ2004 መመሪያ ወጥቷል። ይህ መመሪያ ከሁለት ዓመታት በኋላ እ.ኤ.አ. በ2006 በአፈጻጸም ሂደት የታዩ ችግሮችን ለመፍታት በሚያስችል መልኩ ተቃኝቶ በመመሪያ ቁጥር ኤፍ.ኤክስ.ዲ/31/06 ተሻሽሎ እንዲወጣ ተደርጎ በተዘረጋው የአሰራር ስርዓት ዳያስፖራው ለራሱም ተጠቅሞ ለትውልድ አገሩ የውጭ ምንዛሪ ግኝት ዕድገት አስተዋጽኦ ማድረግ ችሏል። ዳያስፖራው በሬሚታንስ መልክ የሚያስተላልፈውን የውጭ ምንዛሪ ፍሰት ለማሳደግና ለማበረታታት የሚያስችል መመሪያ ቁጥር ኤፍ.ኤክስ.ዲ/30/06 እ.ኤ.አ. በ2006 ወጥቶ እየተሰራበት ይገኛል።

የታላቁ የኢትዮጵያ ህዳሴ ግድብ ግንባታ

የዳያስፖራውን የልማት ተሳትፎና የሀብት ፍሰት ከማሳደግ አንጻር ለታላቁ የኢትዮጵያ ህዳሴ ግድብ ግንባታ የሚውል ፋይናንስ ከዲያስፖራው ለማሰባ

ሰብ የህዳሴ ግድቡ የመሰረት ድንጋይ ከተጣለበት ጊዜ አንስቶ በዲያስፖራው ተሳትፎ የቦንድ ሽያጩንና ድጋፍ አሰባሰቡን የሚያስተባብሩ ምክር ቤቶች እንዲቋቋሙና እንዲጠናከሩ በማድረግ ግንባታው እስከሚጠናቀቅ ድረስ እንዳጋመስነው እንጨርሰዋለን በሚል መሪ ቃል አሁንም ተሳትፎ በማድረግ ላይ ይገኛል።

በዲያስፖራው እየተደረጉ ያሉትን እንቅስቃሴዎች፣

Remittance:- ከውጭ ሃገር ወደ ሃገርቤት የሚገባ የገንዘብ ፍሰት (Remittance) በሚመለከት ዲያስፖራው የሚልከው ገንዘብ በአንድ በኩል በቤተሰብ ደረጃ የሚላከው ሲሆን የዚህም ጠቀሜታ የተቀባይ የቤተሰብ ኑሮ መሻሻል ፣ ለትምህርት ፣ ለጤናና ለተሻለ አመጋገብ ወዘተ እስተዋጽኦ የሚያደርግ ሲሆን በሁለተኛ ደረጃ ደግሞ የአገሪቱን የውጭ ምንዛሪ ፍላጎት በመጠኑም ቢሆን በማሟላት ወደ ሃገር ለሚገቡ ዕቃዎች እና ግዢ አገልግሎቶች ክፍያና እንዲሁም ሃገሪቱ ላለባት እዳ ክፍያ (debt Servicing) ሊያገለግል ከመቻሉም በላይ ለውጭ ቀጥታ ኢንቨስትመንት (FDI) አማራጭም ይሆናል።

ኢንቨስትመንት:- ኢትዮጵያ እያስመዘገበች ባለው ፈጣን ዕድገት በተለይም ደግሞ ባለፈው አስር አመታት በተገኘው የሁለት አሐዝ እድገትና ለኢንቨስትመንት አመቺ የሆኑ ፓሊሲዎች ተግባራዊ መሆን የማይናቅ ቁጥር ትውልድ ኢትዮጵያ ዊና ኢትዮጵያዊ በተለያዩ የኢንቨስትመንት መስክ ውስጥ እንቅስቃሴ በማድረግ ላይ ይገኛል ።

በዚህም ከ300 000 በላይ ለሚሆን ዜጋ የስራ እድል መፍጠር ተችሏል ።

ገበያ ማፈላለግ:- ዲያስፖራው በሚኖርበት አገር ከሚገኝ ህብረተሰብ ጋር ከሚፈጥራቸው ግንኙነቶች አንዱ በኢትዮጵያ ለሚመረቱ የፋብሪካና የእርሻ ውጤቶች ገበያ ማፈላለግ ነው ። ይህ በጅምር ደረጃ ያለ ቢሆንም ኢትዮጵያ ውስጥ ያሉ አምራቾችና በዲያስፖራ መካከል መተባበር እየተፈጠረ በመሄድ ላይ ነው። ይህን ለማበረታታትና ሰፊ እንቅስቃሴ በማድረግ የበለጠ ውጤታማ መሆን እንደሚቻል መገመት አያስቸግርም

ቱሪዝም:- ኢትዮጵያውያን ሆኑ የውጭ ቱሪስቶችን ቁጥር ለመጨመርና ሃገራችን ከቱሪዝም ማግኘት የሚገባትን ጥቅም ለማስገኘት የሚያስችል የሃገሪቱን ተፈጥሯዊ እና ሰው ሰራሽ የቱሪዝም መስህብን በተለያዩ አህጉራት በመዘዋወር በማስተዋወቅና የአስጎብኚ

ድርጅቶችን በማሳተፍ የድርሻቸውን በመወጣት ላይ የሚገኙ ዳያስፖራ አባላት ቁጥር ከጊዜ ወደ ጊዜ እየ ጨመረ መምጣቱ አበረታች ነው።

የእውቀትና የቴክኖሎጂ ሽግግር:- በዚህ መስክ ኢትዮጵያውያንና ትውልደ ኢትዮጵያውያን ዳያስፖራ በግልም ይሁን ተደራጅተው ሰፊ እንቅስቃሴ በማድረግ ላይ ይገኛሉ። በከፍተኛ የትምህርት ተቋማት በቋሚነትና ለአጭር ጊዜያት በመምህርነትና በምርምር የሚሳተፉት ቁጥር ከጊዜ ወደ ጊዜ እየጭመረ ነው።

የሃገር ገጽታ ግንባታን በሚመለከት:- ኢትዮጵያውያን በሚኖሩበት አካባቢ ድህረ ገጾችን፣ የሬዲዮ ስርጭቶችን፣ ማህበራዊ ሚዲያዎችን፣ pal talk ና ሌሎች ሚዲያዎችን በመጠቀም ሃገሪቱ የደረሰችበትን የኢኮኖሚና ህብረተሰባዊ እድገትን ለኢንቨስትመንት ምቹ መሆንን ማስተዋወቅ፣ በተጨማሪም በሆቴልና ቴሪዝም ዘርፍ የተሰማሩ ኢትዮጵያውያንና ትውልድ ኢትዮጵያውያን ፕሮጀክት ቀርፀው በገፅታ ግንባታ ስራ ላይ እንዲሰሩ ይጠበቃል።

የዳያስፖራው ተሳትፎ ለማሳደግ የወደፊት አቅጣጫዎች፡

* አሁን ያለው የዳያስፖራ አደረጃጀት በውጭ ጉዳይ ሥር ሆኖ በዳይሬክተር ጄኔራል የሚመራ ነው። ይህ አደረጃጀት ፊት ከነበሩት አደረጃጀቶች ጊዜው በጠበቀ መልኩ እየተሻሻለና እያደገ የመጣ ቢሆንም ሌሎች ሃገራት በተለይም የአፍሪካ ሃገራት ዲያስፖራውን የሚከታተል አካል የሚያደራጁት ለሃገሩ ልማትና ዕድገት ሊያደርገው የሚችለው አስተዋፅኦ ትስስር በመረዳትና ክብደት በመስጠት ሲሆን በሚኒስቴር ደረጃ ተጠሪነቱ በቀጥታ ለጠቅላይ ሚኒስቴር ወይንም ለፕሬዚዳንቱ የሆነ አደረጃጀት አላቸው። ሃገራችንም አስፈላጊነቱ ተጠንቶ የአደረጃጀት ለውጥ የሚደረግበት ሁኔታ የሚታይ ይሆናል።

* ለዳያስፖራ መድረስ የሚገባቸው አጠቃላይ መረጃዎችን ተደራሽ ለማድረግ የተጀመሩት ጅምርዎች መልካም ሆኖ በተጠናከረና ወቅታዊ በሆነ መንገድ የሚደረስበት ስርዓት ይዘረጋል።

* በተለያዩ ሃገራት የሚኖሩትን ኢትዮጵያውያንና ትውልደ ኢትዮጵያውያንን የተደራጀ የዳያስፖራ መረጃ (Data) የማሰባሰብ ሥራ በፍጥነት እንዲከናወን ለምርምር ፣ ለጥናት ፣ እንዲሁም ለፕሮግራም ፓሊሲ አወጣጥ በሚረዳ መልኩ እንዲደረግ

ራጅ ማድረግ፤

* ለመጀመሪያ ጊዜ በሃገር አቀፍ ደረጃ በተደረገው የዳያስፖራ ቀን ክቡር ጠቅላይ ሚኒስትራችን ዳያስፖራውን በ Financial sector ከማሳተፍ አኳያ ለጊዜው በ Capital equipment lease financing እንዲሳተፉ መወሰኑን በገለፁት መሰረት ዳያስፖራው በዚህ ዘርፍ እንዲሳተፍ አስፈላጊውን ድጋፍ ይገረግለታል።

* ባጠቃላይ ህብረተሰቡን በተለይ ደግሞ የዳያስፖራውን ተሳትፎ የሚያደናቅፉ የቢሮክራሲ ማነቆዎች ለመፍታት አስፈላጊውን እንቅስቃሴ ይደረጋል፤

* እንዲያውቁት!

* ነባር ሰማያዊ ፓስፖርት ከባለፈው እ.አ.አ ማርች 2015 ዓ.ም ጀምሮ በአዲሱ ኤለክትሮኒክስ ፓስፖርት እየተተካ በመሆኑ ነባሩ ፓስፖርት አገልግሎት አይሰጥም።

* በውጭ የነበራቸውን ቆይታ አጠናቀው ጠቅልለው ወደ አገር ቤት የሚመለሱ የዳያስፖራ አባላት የግል መገልገያ ቁሳቁሶችን ከቀረጥ ነፃ የሚያስገቡበት መመሪያ ወጥቶ ተግባራዊ ሲደረግ የቆየ ቢሆንም በተለያዩ ምክንያቶች እንዲቋረጥ ተደርጓል። ይሁንና በቀረጥና ታክስ ክፍያ የሚያስገቡበት አሠራር እየተሰራበት ይገኛል።

በመጨረሻም ዲያስፖራው በግል ከሚያደርገው እንቅስቃሴ ይልቅ በተደራጀ መንገድ መንቀሳቀስ የበለጠ ውጤታማ በመሆኑ ዳያስፖራው በመዚህ መስክ ለሚያደርጋቸው እንቅስቃሴዎች መንግስት አስፈላጊውን ድጋፍ ያደርጋል።



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EMBASSY OF ETHIOPIA
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



Letters to the Editor

From shepherd to surgeon

Prof. Mitiku Belachew contacted us to pass a message for Ethiopian youngsters. In fact, this Professor and reknown doctor has an inspiring experience for young people in Ethiopia: raised in Ethiopia, he then came to Belgium where he became a very well-known professor and doctor. Now that he is retired, he will go back to Ethiopia where he has educational and medical missions. This inspirational life path between Ethiopia and Belgium can be further explored by reading his autobiography “Le Berger devenu Chirurgien” (in French only).

PROF. MITIKU BELACHEW
mitiku.belachew@gmail.com

CENTER for LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY
<http://www.lebergerchirurgien.com/>

Ethiopian Airlines and Belgium

Recently, Ethiopian Airlines moved departing cargo flights from Brussels to Maastricht. The alleged reason was that no direct traffic rights could be given permanently by Belgium to Dubai, Hong Kong and

Shanghai (the so-called fifth freedom) without transiting through Addis Abeba.

This was wrong, as under the 1944 Chicago Convention, any State may freely grant (or indeed refuse) traffic rights vis à vis another State. The simple proof is that the Netherlands immediately granted the traffic rights which were refused by Belgium under pressure from a local competitor.

I suggest that this should be revised soon as the origin airport (Brussels) is more suitable to efficient logistics.

André Clodong
02 652 16 68 Info(at)prudence-consulting.be

የሥደት ዓምባዬ ሀገራዎች “ቋሚ ነገር የለም” የሚሉት ነገር አላቸው አሉ “ሁሉም ነገር መንቀሳቀስ አለበት ዕድገት እንዲኖር” ማለታቸው ነው። እናም እልፍ ልንል ነው “ከሶሻል ሚዲያው” (የኛ ቃል ስላጣሁለት ነው) እበራችሁ በጅ ልንመጣ ነው ሲባል አበጃችሁ ቅን ሐሳብ ከማለት ወጪ ምን ይባላል??! እርግጠኛ ነኝ ዕቅዳችሁ ተጨማሪ የሰው ሃይል ጊዜና ሥራ እንደሚጣይቃችሁ እንዳሠባችሁብት፡ በርቱልን



Did you know?

The first tramway in Sub-Saharan (South Africa excluded) opened in September 2015 in Addis Ababa. It is carrying up to 60,000 passengers per hour on the two lines of the network.

In **Ethiopia** corporate profits are not taxed during the first five years.



Tempted?



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