

Newsletter

of the Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels



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Participants attending the Ethiopia Day in Schilde, near Antwerp, on the 16th of October 2014

Dear Reader,

Ethiopia's unprecedented economic growth in the past decade is only one aspect of the development currently taking place in the country: the government is active on many fronts to achieve a multi-sectoral development. As you will be able to read in this week's newsletter, energy safety, economic diplomacy as well as sustainable development are among the most important topics currently on the table.

Regarding sustainable energetical development, it is worth noting that the tripartite meeting of last week between Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia on the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam question ended very successfully on Sunday, with concrete results to move forward in respect to the three countries' interests (see article p. 2). Secondly, economic diplomacy is put in the center of the Ethiopian diplomatic network ([click here](#) to read a Walta Information Center article on this topic). The latest signs for this are Foreign Minister Dr Tedros' participation in an international business forum in Norway last week and the presence of our Embassy at the "Africa Works!" Forum in Leiden (the Netherlands) on Thursday and Friday of last week. Finally, sustainable development has never been so present on the government's agenda, and Ethiopia is in a position to become a leader in sustainable development on the African continent, as it was said in European media this week (see the last section "Ethiopia in the News")

We wish you a good reading time.

Sincerely,

The Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels

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Successful tripartite meeting on the Grand Renaissance Dam

Addis Ababa, 20 October 2014 (WIC) - Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia will choose by December an international firm to conduct studies on Ethiopia's Grand Renaissance Dam (GERD).

In a press conference held in Cairo on Sunday, Egypt's irrigation minister Hossam Moghazi said this week's tripartite talks over the dam in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum succeeded in establishing the terms upon which the three countries will choose the firm. These terms have been sent to seven international consultancy firms, the minister said, which will be invited to Cairo to meet the three countries' representatives. The seven firms are from Germany, Switzerland, France, Holland and Australia, according to Sudan's irrigation minister, Moatez Moussa.

A tripartite technical committee will hold a meeting on 4 December in Khartoum to study the offers and then choose the firm in Addis Ababa on 16 December.

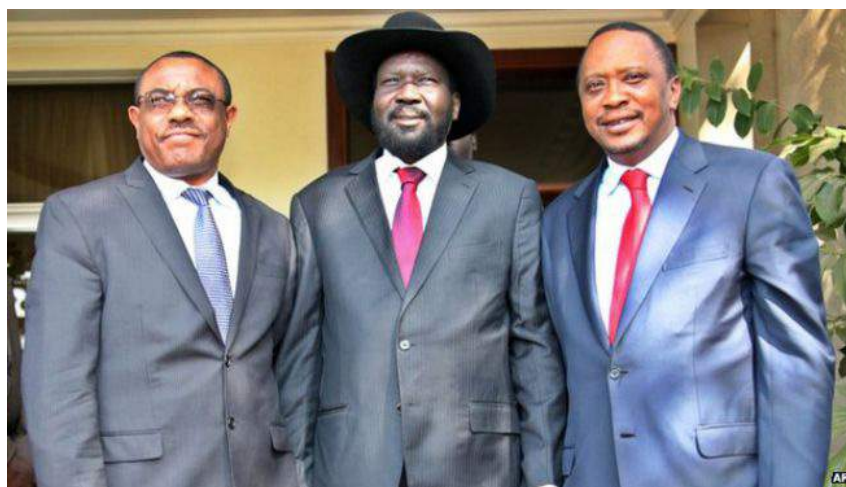
East Africa leaders holding emergency talks

The leaders of Ethiopia, South Sudan and Kenya met in Juba on Thursday, East Africa's leaders are to meet in Kenya to discuss growing violence in South Sudan, where more than 1,000 people are believed to have died.

The talks come a day after South Sudan's President Salva Kiir met the Ethiopian PM Hailemariam Desalegn and the Kenyan president Uhuru Kenyatta. The talks were described by Ethiopia as "very constructive and very candid". Meanwhile, the UN said the first peacekeeping reinforcements were expected to arrive in 48 hours. Violence erupted 12 days ago between forces loyal to Mr Kiir and those backing his ex-deputy Riek Machar. More than 50,000 civilians have sought refuge at UN compounds in South Sudan. East African regional leaders from the eight-member bloc, known as Igad, will meet in Kenya's capital

Nairobi to follow up on issues raised during Thursday's talks with President Kiir in South Sudan's capital Juba. The head of the UN mission in South Sudan, Hilde Johnson, earlier urgently called on the country's political leaders "to give peace a chance".

The violence first erupted after a meeting of the SPLM's high council, when President Kiir accused the former vice-president, who had been sacked in July, of plotting a coup. Mr Machar denied any involvement and said the accusations were an attempt by Mr Kiir to get rid of his political rivals. The fighting then quickly spread to half of Sudan's 10 states. South Sudan has struggled to achieve a stable government since becoming independent from Sudan in 2011. (ERTA, 23th of October 2014)



Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn, South Sudan's President Salva Kiir, and Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta (Image: Ertagov)

Press Release from the African Union: AU Commission Chairperson to visit Ebola-affected countries

AU Commission Chairperson to visit Ebola-affected countries Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – 21 October 2014: As the African Union Commission heightens its response to the Ebola epidemic, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission HE Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma will travel to the West African sub-region to assess the situation firsthand. She will be accompanied by the Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Dr. Carlos Lopes and the President of the African Development Bank (AfDB), Dr. Donald Kaberuka. The AU Commission Chairperson and the delegation will visit Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia, during which she is expected to meet with all the Heads of State and Government of the affected countries to express solidarity and to get an appreciation first hand of the issues on the ground. Dr. Dlamini Zuma's delegation will meet with the President of Ghana, H.E. John Mahama in his capacity as Chair of the Economic Commission of West African States (ECOWAS), critical issues aimed at accelerating the fight against Ebola, as well as measures needed to alleviate the socio-economic consequences of the disease outbreak. Dr. Dlamini Zuma will continue to press on for more support from AU Member States.

Last week, Dr. Dlamini Zuma wrote to African Heads of State and Government appealing for more medical volunteers to assist with the dire needs to stem the epidemic that is fast becoming a major threat to Africa's peace and security and socio-economic development. "We remain committed and in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in West Africa to put the Ebola epidemic under control", said Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, the AU Commission Chairperson. "We commend the ongoing continental and global efforts, but frankly, a lot more needs to be done to raise the needed resources considering the magnitude and rate of increase of the epidemic. The continent must mobilise the human resources needed as a matter of urgency", she added. The Chairperson's visit to the region follows an earlier visit by the AU

Commissioner for Social Affairs, Dr. Mustapha Sidiki Kaloko to affected countries and to Ghana two weeks earlier. In addition to the emergency meetings of its Executive and Peace and Security Councils creating the African Union Support to Ebola Outbreak (Operation ASEOWA), and the providing financial assistance, the AU has deployed medical volunteers to Liberia and Sierra Leone. Deployment to Guinea will follow soon.



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Ambassador Teshome Toga presents Credentials to the President of the Republic of Estonia



On Wednesday 22nd of October 2014, H.E. Ambassador Teshome Toga presented his credential to H.E. Mr. Toomas Hendrik Ilves, the President of the Republic of Estonia.

Presenting his credentials, Ambassador Teshome conveyed the greetings and good wishes of Ethiopia's President Dr Mulatu Teshome, for the well-being of the President of Estonia and for the welfare and prosperity of its people. He also noted that his appointment will strengthen the already existing relations of the two countries. Ambassador Teshome further discussed Ethiopia's economic growth and its role in promoting peace and security of the region under the auspices of IGAD. The President on his turn appreciates the relations between the two countries and Ethiopia's role in promoting peace and security in the region. During the discussions, both sides identified ICT, promotion of trade and investment as major areas of the cooperation

between the two countries. Ambassador Teshome appreciates the ICT development of Estonia and



Ambassador Teshome Toga meeting Tallinn Mayor Edgar Savisaar

expressed Ethiopia's interests to share the system as Ethiopia plans to increase the size of mobile users to 60 million in the next five years.

During his stay in Estonia, Ambassador Teshome also met with officials from the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of Economic affairs and Communication, as well as representatives from the Estonian Parliament and discussed the present socio-economic and political status of the Ethiopia, and areas of cooperation between the two countries. He also held talks with the Mayor of Tallinn Edgar Savisaar, with whom he exchanged views on city to city twining especially between Axum and Tallinn as both share archeological historical similarity.

Both sides mentioned the need of strengthening people to people relations through tourism and tour operators. During a meeting with the Director of the Estonian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, it was agreed to initiate cooperation between the Estonian and Ethiopian private sectors. The need to organize a forum where the investment opportunities of Africa could be explained for Estonian entrepreneurs was reiterated. The Meeting he had with Gourmet Coffee board members of Estonia was successful as they are convinced to visit Ethiopia for a week between end of November or beginning of December, opening the door for direct coffee trading between the two countries.

Successful Africa Works! 2014 edition



Participants at Africa Works, 2012 edition (Image: africaworks.nl)

The conference was held in Leiden (the Netherlands) on the 16th and 17th of October 2014 and was organized by the Netherlands-African Business Council (NABC) and the African Study Centre. This second edition of the conference had an ambitious goal: "connecting the business, knowledge, government and NGO sectors working in and with Africa". About 850 participants attended the event, which was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and Rabobank.

Our Embassy was well represented at the Forum, with the Ambassador and a diplomat in charge of business affairs. Moreover, an Ethiopian stand was set up by the Embassy of the Netherlands in Ethiopia in collaboration

with the Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels and the Ethiopian Horticulture Association. The stand included materials about Ethiopia and was coloured by Ethiopian flowers and Ethiopian coffee ceremonies.

In addition to the keynote speeches and panel discussions, 36 workshops related to African business and development were proposed to the participants. The representatives of the Ethiopian Embassy participated to the following workshops:

- Africa Works! For whom? - Companies and communities - whose realities count? (proposed by Oxfam Novib, Zela and VU University Amsterdam)
- Inspiring Experiences: Agri-Business

Partnerships in Africa (proposed by NABC, Aerea Group, BeJo Zaden and the Netherlands Embassy in Ethiopia). During this workshop, Ambassador Teshome Toga briefed the participants about the business opportunities in Ethiopia and the role of the Embassy in support of these opportunities for Benelux actors.

-Do's, Don'ts and Matchmaking: Dutch Good Growth Fund (proposed by RVO, Atradius and PWC)

-Doing Business in Africa: Economic Diplomacy Ready at Hand! (proposed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands)

Ambassador Teshome Toga was invited at a panel discussion bringing together Netherlands ambassadors to African countries (Ethiopia, Zimbabwe), and ambassadors from South Africa, Lesotho and Rwanda, to Benelux countries. Ambassador Teshome Toga communicated on the policy of the Ethiopian government, which is, for an important part, focused on economic diplomacy. He stressed that the Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels and in other countries supports

the private and public actors on activities related to the following issues: investment, trade, tourism and technology transfer. Moreover, the Ambassador proposed that a geographical rotation takes place for the "Africa Works!" event, which is organized every two years. If this rotation is to happen, Ethiopia would be willing to host the next edition in 2016.

According to the representatives of the Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels, this event was very useful, most of all because of the numerous new connections initiated. During the networking events, they met many investors and business persons present in Ethiopia, as well as participants who showed interest to work with the Embassy and Ethiopia. With all of them, the representatives discussed opportunities and challenges while making business and investing in Ethiopia. The representatives were also happy to meet Ethiopians studying and working in the Netherlands, who attended the conference.

Ambassador Teshome Toga during the Ambassador's panel at the "Africa Works!" conference



Netherlands Ambassador to Ethiopia Lidi Rimmelzwaal with a diplomat from our Embassy and an Ethiopian participant during the "Africa Works!" conference

The Ethiopian Stand during the "Africa Works!" conference



Ethiopia in the News

"Ethiopië zet eerste stappen naar groene economie" (Ethiopia makes first steps towards green economy, Dutch) De Wereld Morgen, 17th of October. Read here: <http://ethio.be/1vNbY0o>

For an English version, see this article on this topic, see "Ethiopia Shows Developing World How to Make a Green Economy Prosper" on IPS News: ethio.be/1qYN6gz

Michiel Clercx wint prijsvraag Ethiopisch hotel (Michiel Clercx wins contest for Ethiopian hotel, Dutch) architectenweb.nl, 16th of October. Read here: ethio.be/1vNc7B4

About the Embassy

Working Hours

Consular Section: Monday-Friday 9am-1pm

Legalization and Power of Attorney: Monday-Thursday 9:15am-12:45am

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