

Newsletter



Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels

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Weekly Issue N° 14



Premiere of the film "Shattering Shadows" in Brussels, on the 2nd of December 2014

Dear Reader,

We are very pleased to send you this 14th edition of our Newsletter, which offers fresh news on Ethiopia, as well as insights on current activities of the Embassy.

As each year, the Embassy is organizing a celebration of the Ethiopian Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Day. It will take place on the 13th of December. The Ethiopians and persons of Ethiopian origins are cordially invited to participate. You can have more information by [clicking here](#).

Sincerely,

The Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels

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The National Electoral Board of Ethiopia conducted workshop for political parties



The National Electoral board of Ethiopia conducted workshop on “election violence and early warning” for political party leaders in Addis Ababa, Adama and Hawasa. The participants were from national and regional parties and of 75 parties invited, 66 attended the workshops. Each party was represented by two participants. While opening the workshop, the board chairperson, Professor Merga Bekana noted that the constitution of Ethiopia clearly stipulated that election is the only means to hold government power and thus multi-party democracy is the foundation of the political system in the country. And hence citizens are free to organize themselves to form political parties and through peaceful competition can hold government power if they win the elections. He also added that the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) was established by article 102 of the Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of

Ethiopia (FDRE) and the Electoral Law of Ethiopia Proclamation No. 532/2007. As an independent and autonomous organ, NEBE is the sole authority in charge of preparing and conducting elections, register, monitor and support political parties and capacitate political parties through trainings. The board chair extending his speech, acknowledged the role of political parties in the democratization and development process underway in the country. Political parties are expected to design appropriate policies which reflect the concrete realities of the country and international conditions and monitor the proper implementation of policies and strategies. While concluding his speech, professor Merga noted that political parties can play the role vested on them, only when they reflect the concrete problems of the people and continuously check their own internal party democracy. Finally he remarked that to shoulder the responsibilities vested on political parties to expedite the development process in the country, they are expected to work day and night. In the workshop, two senior experts from University and house of people’s representatives presented papers. The participants discussed the papers and finally demanded that similar workshops would be organized in the future.

Ethiopians observe 9th Nations, Nationalities and Peoples’ Day



Nations, Nationalities and Peoples’s Day celebration in Benishangul Gumuz Regional State. Photo: Foreign Ministry.

Addis Ababa, 8 December 2014 (WIC) – The 9th Ethiopian Nations, Nationalities and Peoples’ Day of was colorfully marked in Benishangul Gumuz Regional State today. The celebration was graced by the presence of President

of Sudan, Omar al-Bashir, President Ismail Omar Guelleh of Djibouti and other high-ranking government officials, including Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn. Prime Minister Hailemariam of the occasion called on nations

and nationalities of Ethiopia to scale up their support for the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD). He said the economic growth registered during the past years is the result of the joint efforts and collaborations of all nations and nationalities of the country. He said that the adoption of the Constitution has laid the foundation for Ethiopians to exercise their right as well as benefit from development gains. He finally called on nations and nationalities of Ethiopia to play their part in the efforts to make the upcoming election fair, democratic and peaceful. Speaker of the House of Federation (HoF) Kassa Teklebrhan on his part said the day marks the constitutionally guaranteed rights of nations, nationalities and peoples of Ethiopia to benefit from development. He added that the Constitution is the foundation of Ethiopia's renaissance and is creating a generation of development patriots. In the past 20 years, Ethiopian nations, nationalities and peoples have contributed a great deal to eradicate poverty, ignorance and backwardness. He further called on Ethiopians and the Ethiopian Diaspora to intensify their

efforts in developing Ethiopia. Guest of Honor, President of Sudan, Omar al-Bashir also expressed his profound joy to take part in the event. He said his government will continue to enhance people-to-people as well as government-to-government cooperation between the two countries. Ismail Omar Guelleh, President of Djibouti and the other Guest of Honor at the event, said this year's celebration is unique in that it is being marked in the 20th anniversary of the ratification of Ethiopian Constitution. Chief Administrator of Benishangul Gumuze Regional State, Ahmed Nasir, said the regional state has registered tangible results in the infrastructure, social and economic sector following the adoption of the constitution. Over 4,000 participants drawn from all nations, nationalities and peoples of Ethiopia, ambassadors and invited guests attended the event. The Gambella Regional State was chosen to host the next Ethiopian Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Day.

Ethiopia participates in the 100th Session of the ACP Council of Ministers held in Brussels

This week, the Delegation of Ethiopia headed by the State Minister for Finance and Economic Development, H.E Mr. Ahmed Shide took part in the 100th Session of the Council of Ministers of ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) group. During the occasion, 79 ACP Ministers of Finance/ Foreign Affairs and representatives met in Brussels from December 9-12 and deliberated on various issues that are relevant to the group. The major issues include the nomination of the next Secretary General of the ACP Secretariat, discussion on the Future Perspective of the ACP Group after 2020, finalizing the preparation of the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan of the Secretariat, the

reinforcement of Intra-ACP Cooperation, programming of the 11th European Development Fund among others.

At the closing of the 100th session, the Council of Ministers passed Resolutions on the Ebola Virus outbreak in West Africa and on the volcanic eruption in Cape Verde. The Council has also made the decision taken to appoint Dr. Patrick Gomes, the current Ambassador of Guyana to Belgium, as the General Secretary Designate of the ACP group for the 2015-2020 period.

Meeting between the State Minister of Finance and Economic Development of Ethiopia and the Director General of UNIDO

A brief meeting between the State Minister of Ethiopian Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) took place on December 10/2014 in Brussels at the backdrop of the 100th Session of the Council of Ministers of the African,

Caribbean and Pacific Group (ACP), which was held from December 9-12 at the ACP House.

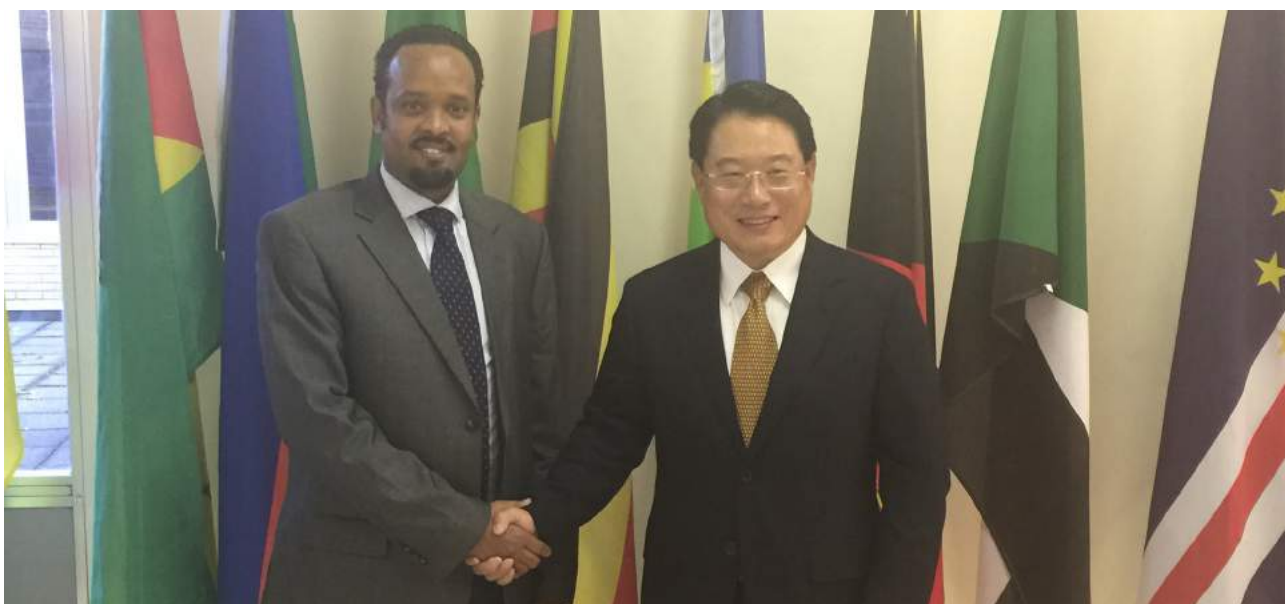
The State Minister, H.E Mr. Ahmed Shide met the Director General of UNIDO, Mr. Li Yong and exchanged views with him on issues that are of mutual interest for Ethiopia and UNIDO. In this occasion, Mr Li commended the

strong partnership that has been established between his organization and Ethiopia. The Director General informed the State Minister that Ethiopia is one of the two pilot countries selected by UNIDO to implement the new comprehensive industrialization development strategy of the organization. Mr Li further admired the strong commitment of the leadership of the country towards industrialization. He also commended the allocation of resources to the key sectors of infrastructure and industrial park development in Ethiopia. The Director General expressed his readiness to further deepen and strengthen the existing partnership.

The State Minister on his part thanked the Director General for organizing the meeting and for the support UNIDO has been providing to Ethiopia. Mr Ahmed specially thanked the Director General for selecting Ethiopia as one of the two pilot countries to implement

UNIDO's newly formulated industrialization program. The State Minister briefed the Director General about Ethiopia's national development undertakings in the past 10 years, including the implementation of the first Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP - I) of the country. H.E. Mr. Ahmed summarized Ethiopia's development strategy as one that focuses on institution building, infrastructure development and human capacity building. The State Minister brought to the attention of the Director General that Ethiopia would like to benefit from UNIDO's vast experience and accumulated technical knowledge on industrialization in the form of technical and analytical support, resource mobilization, skill development and leveraging of learning from other countries.

Mr. Ahmed underscored that Ethiopia cherishes its partnership with UNIDO and that the government is



Ethiopian State Minister for Finance and Economic Development Ahmed Shide and the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Li Yong. Picture : Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels

committed to this strong partnership and looks forward to work with UNIDO to develop its industrial sector. The state Minister also stated the fact that the selection of Ethiopia as a pilot country came at the right time as Ethiopia is preparing GTP II that will be focusing more on infrastructure and industrial development.

Mr Li expressed that his organization is interested to learn from the industrialization process of the country by bringing other countries to Ethiopia to share this experience, particularly in the area of establishing industrial parks. He further noted that in his experience as the Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Finance of the People's Republic of China, the Director General explained that he

has witnessed first-hand the decisive and positive role industrialization and infrastructure development played in the country development process.

Finally, the Director General of UNIDO underscored that his organization is more than ever ready to work with countries like Ethiopia to accelerate their pace of industrialization by bringing new development partners like the Kuwait and Saudi Development Funds, Islamic Development Bank, BADEA and the like. With this remark the meeting was concluded.

9th Nations, Nationalities and Peoples’ day of Ethiopia to be celebrated by the Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels

The Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels invited members of the Ethiopian Diaspora living in Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg to jointly celebrate the 9th Nations, Nationalities and Peoples’ Day on Saturday the 13th of December 2014 in the cultural Centre “W:halll” in Woluwe-saint-Pierre, near Brussels. Hundreds of Ethiopians living in the Benelux are expected to participate in this colorful celebration, which will include tradition music from different nations and nationalities of Ethiopia. During the event, community members are expected to get a thorough briefing about the current socio-economic and political



development of Ethiopia. Moreover, they will enjoy typical national food and drinks from Ethiopia.

Agenda

Diaspora Reception organized by the Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels
Saturday, December 13th, 2014, Brussels. [To know more, click here.](#)

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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