

Newsletter

Embassy of Ethiopia, Brussels



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Ethiopia has been recognized as World Best tourist destination 2015 (see article below). This is a glimpse of the culture found in the country.

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POLITICAL ISSUES

The Third International Conference on Financing for Development opened in Addis Ababa



Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. Picture © UN

On 13 July 2015, the Third Financing for Development Conference opened in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn of Ethiopia was elected as President of the Conference. Ethiopian Foreign Minister Dr. Tedros Adhanom was elected as chairman

of the main committee that will discuss the outcome document over the course of the four-day event.

In his opening remarks, Prime Minister Hailemariam reminded that the Conference

had to achieve the objectives set in the Millennium Development Goals. “The development finance context has changed since [the 2002 conference in] Monterrey, he said, and urged to create a world free of poverty in all its forms, a world of inequality has to be eventually eliminated, and a natural safe operating space has to be promoted. “Climate finance is growing... [and] the private sector has emerged as a crucial engine for Foreign Direct Investments and remittances” the Prime Minister added and stressed the need to explore financing derived from domestic sources.

Reminding the mixed achievements in the Millennium Development Goals, he hoped the Conference will bring a new seriousness on meeting the promised target in Official Development Assistance (ODA). In this regard, he praised Denmark, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden and the U.K. for having met – and at times exceeded – their commitment to achieving the ODA target. Prime Minister Hailemariam called for urgent action to reverse the decline of ODA to developing countries.

This week’s conference, he said, would aim to set up “Technology Banks” in the world’s least developed countries, which will earmark 0.1 percent of their national income for the project.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said that 2015 should be a year “for global action.” “This conference is a starting point for cooperation and global action... towards sustainable development,” Ban asserted. “We want to leave no one behind.”

The new agenda, he added, would include concrete policy commitments, such as a social compact for policy improvement aimed at improved access to health, education, energy, water and sanitation. The agenda also includes packages for the least developed countries under which they can set up investment

promotion regimes by 2017.

The new agenda unveiled in Addis Ababa will also call for greater international cooperation on matters related to climate, taxation and gender equality. “All our actions need to be underpinned by our commitment to preserving our planet, our biodiversity and our climate” the Secretary general noted. “The real test will lie in implementation.”

Ban Ki-moon urged world leaders to agree on an outcome document commensurate with the new Sustainable Development Goals, stressing the need for compromise between various parties. “Let us send a clear signal that we are serious about supporting sustainable development” he said.

Secretary-general of the 69th UN General Assembly Sam Pohamba Kutessa on his part expressed his pleasure that the Financing for Development conference was taking place, for the first time, on the African continent. “We have lifted over one billion people out of poverty, improved access to water and sanitation, and worked for the empowerment of women,” he said. “Yet another one billion will continue to live in abject poverty.”

World Bank President Jim Yong Kim urged creativity and boldness in meeting the Sustainable Development Goals as we cannot continue with business as usual. He said the World Bank was ready to provide the needed development credit facilities. “We need to support the World Health Organization to become stronger so that it will be able to mitigate communicable diseases, such as Ebola,” he said, “as millions will die and USD 5 trillion will be lost if any communicable disease occurs.” World Trade Organization President Roberto Azevêdo, for his part, called on a new international partnership aimed at creating jobs and improving access to technology and

financing with a view to promoting sustainable development. “Some USD 245 billion will go to developing countries to improve trade,” he told conference attendees.

The conference which is open until 16 July 2015, seeks to find a negotiated and agreed outcome, which should constitute an

important contribution to the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda and to finance development at large. About 5,000 participants including 16 Heads of State and Government and 66 government ministers are taking part in the summit.

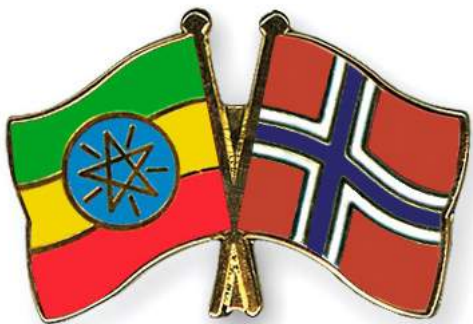
Ethiopian Foreign Minister sideline meetings with counterparts

On 13 June 2015, several high-level meetings were organized on the sidelines of the Third International Financing for Development conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, between Ethiopian and European counterparts.

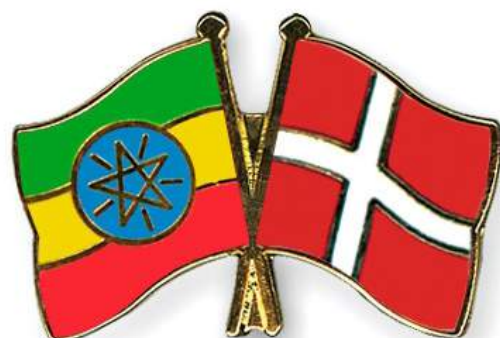
Ethiopian Foreign Minister Dr Tedros Adhanom met with his Norwegian counterpart, Borge

complete success. The Foreign Minister pointed out that the Norwegian parliament regarded Ethiopia as one of the six focus countries in the Norwegian development cooperation program. He also stressed the need to work on further development cooperation in the areas of energy, education and environment. Norway’s Ambassador to Ethiopia, indicating Ethiopia’s important role in regional and global issues, including, climate change, reiterated that his country enjoys a strategic partnership with Ethiopia.

Foreign Minister Dr Tedros Adhanom also conferred with Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Kristian Jensen. Foreign Minister



Brende, to discuss bilateral, regional and multilateral issues of common interest. The two Foreign Ministers discussed the developments in Somalia and the IGAD-led South Sudan peace negotiations. Dr Tedros briefed Foreign Minister Brende that Ethiopia had held peaceful and orderly parliamentary and regional elections on 24 May 2015. Foreign Minister Brende emphasized that Norway remains committed to extend support to Ethiopia with a view to make the outcome of this Conference a

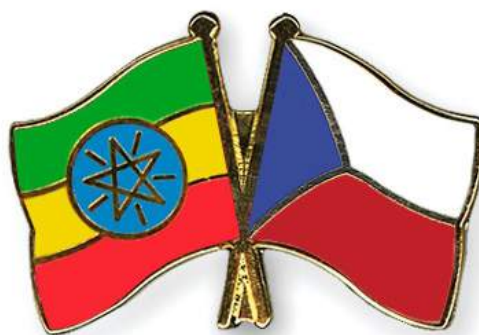


Kristian Jensen congratulated Dr Tedros Adhanom in hosting this historic conference in

Addis Ababa. The two Foreign Ministers agreed to work jointly on migration and human trafficking and agreed to comprehensively address the extensive human trafficking networks. Both sides further discussed the developments in Somalia and the IGAD-led South Sudan peace negotiations. Dr Tedros briefed his Danish counterpart, and explained that Ethiopia placed democracy and development as the footstone of its national policies and strategies. He also detailed that the Government is laying the foundation for the realization of the structural transformation of the country. Expanding infrastructure is at the center of this development, in a bid to transform the country, he added. The Foreign Minister said that this demonstration gave way for international rating companies to put Ethiopia's economy at B+.

On the same day, Ambassador Berhane Gebre-Christos, Ethiopian State Minister for foreign affairs held talks with Martin Tlapa, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. Ambassador Berhane, who noted that Ethiopia and the Czech Republic enjoy historic and excellent bilateral relations, said that upgrading these excellent ties will put both countries on the right path to score new achievements in mutually beneficial cooperation. He also called for a constant growth of bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade and investment. Martin Tlapa on his part said that his country has long-standing relations with Ethiopia, adding that Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn of Ethiopia is invited to visit the Czech Republic. The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs emphasized the importance of maintaining frequent high-level exchanges in order to plan for future growth of the bilateral relations of the two friendly countries. He also promised that the Government of the Czech Republic will help business persons to invest

in Ethiopia with a view to expedite economic and trade cooperation. He also emphasized that the Czech Republic remains committed to work with Ethiopia in addressing the global problems such as terrorism and migration. Ambassador Berhane Gebre-Christos, who agreed that exchanges of high-level visits is important to reinforce the relations of the two countries, reiterated that Ethiopia is ready to



cooperate with the Czech Republic so as to address issues like terrorism and migration. Ambassador Berhane pointed out that Africa is moving forward and said Ethiopia is at the heart of this growth narrative. Ethiopia's Growth and Transformation Plan II aims at making Ethiopia a Middle Income country by 2025 and improving business ties and sharing experiences with the Czech Republic will add a new vigor to the success of these goals.

President Obama to visit Ethiopia



The Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn meeting US President Barack Obama in Washington in September 2014. Picture © White House

US President Barack Obama will become the first sitting U.S. president to visit Ethiopia this July. Obama's trip to Ethiopia will be the second stop on a journey that will include a visit to Kenya, his father's home country, where he will participate in a global entrepreneurship summit. White House press secretary Josh Earnest said the President would travel late July to Ethiopia for bilateral meetings with the Ethiopian Government and the leadership of the African Union whose headquarters are in Addis Ababa. In a statement, the press secretary said the President's visit would build on the success of the August 2014 U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit "by strengthening ties

with our African partners and highlighting America's longstanding commitment to investing in Africa." The statement of the White House said "This will be the first visit of a sitting U.S. President to Ethiopia and to the African Union headquarters, underscoring our efforts to work with the countries and citizens of sub-Saharan Africa to accelerate economic growth, strengthen democratic institutions, and improve security." President Obama has previously visited Ghana, Egypt, Senegal, Tanzania, and South Africa.

ECONOMY

“Ethiopia Rising”: High level event held in Addis Ababa



President of the World Bank Dr. Jim Yong Kim, and Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn

On 14 July 2015, a high-level side event entitled “Ethiopia Rising: Determined to become a Carbon Neutral Middle Income Manufacturing Hubby 2025” was held at Sheraton Addis Hotel, in Addis Ababa. The High Level event was one of the most important events held on the sidelines of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and chaired by Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn. The High Level event was also attended by Dr. Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank. Private sector views from Mr. Zemedeneh Negatu, Ernst and Young Managing Partner for Ethiopia and Ms.

Bethelehem Tilahun, Founder and Executive Director of Sole Rebels were presented on the business opportunities and environments in Ethiopia.

Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn, opening the event, said that the government strongly believes that the private sector is a fundamental partner in the post-2015 development agenda. He calls for the business community, both national and international, to partner and play a central role in delivering the Sustainable Development Goals and in Ethiopia’s vision of becoming a middle-income economy in about a decade’s time. He said achieving and sustaining economic development will

fundamentally depend on the extent to which “we can effectively mobilize both domestic and external private sector investments.”

The Prime Minister who contrasted Ethiopia’s past history of war and instability with its current growth trajectory said “Ethiopia fits naturally into the Africa Rising narrative.” He said Ethiopia’s growth has been inclusive and enabled it to make significant progress in human development.

The Prime Minister reiterated the Government’s determination to do more in the years ahead as “Ethiopia has crafted a long-term vision of ensuring Ethiopian Renaissance, and a medium term vision of becoming a Carbon Neutral Middle-Income Manufacturing Hub by 2025.” Hence, he said, priority was given in the Second Growth and Transformation Plan to accelerate the process of industrialization and structural transformation, by focusing in particular on job creating manufacturing industries.

President of the World Bank, Dr. Jim Yong Kim, appreciating Ethiopia’s commitment for Climate action, and said it was leading the world for low-carbon and equitable growth. The President said Ethiopia’s Climate-Resilient Green Economy Strategy is a real

demonstration of its commitment and expressed his confidence that it continues its leadership in climate negotiations.

On the development achievements of Ethiopia, Dr. Jim Yong Kim noted that Ethiopia has achieved most of the Millennium Development Goals set by the UN 15 years ago. He commended these achievements saying: with the poverty rate in the country, no one has predicted 15 years ago that Ethiopia would achieve the MDGs. “It is an enormous achievement,” he said.

Mr. Zemedeneh Negatu, Ernst and Young Managing Partner for Ethiopia highlighted the ten most important reasons to invest in Ethiopia: its fast economy, demographic advantage, rapid urbanization, business environment to be the manufacturing hub of Africa, infrastructure development, huge untapped resources, agriculture, tourism, operating environment and its strategic location.

Ms. Bethelehem Tilahun, Founder and Executive Director of Sole Rebels presented her experience of building climate friendly industry based on local resources and called for foreign investors to use the opportunities in Ethiopia.

EDUCATION

Mass graduation from Addis Ababa University

Addis Ababa University graduated 10,218 students in various fields of study. Among those, 232 PhD, 3,173 Master Degree and 6,813

Bachelors Degree were awarded during the 64th graduation ceremony of the University. 25 percent of the total number of graduates (18

percent of PhD graduates) are female students. During the ceremony, Kassa Tekleberhan, Spokesperson of the House of Federation and Board Chairman of Addis Ababa University said that the government has exerted a significant effort to enhance education in the country. The expansion and diversification of programs in Addis Ababa University is the result of the special focus the government of Ethiopia gave to the education sector. The Spokesperson emphasized that the University has been executing its national duty since its foundation some 65 years ago. He urged the graduates to contribute a significant role in the fast and sustainable development of the country.

In addition, Dilla University graduated 2,685 students in undergraduate and post graduate

programmes in various fields of study. While Ethiopia had only two public Universities and 42,000 students by the end of the 1990s, today the country has more than 30 public universities and accommodates about



450,000 students. Moreover, the private higher education institutions are also rapidly expanding. In total, the gross admission for higher learning institutions both private and public have reached over 583,970.

TOURISM

PM Hailemariam consecrated as World Leader of Tourism

On 25 June 2015, the European Council for Tourism and Trade (ECTT) based in Bucharest, Romania, unanimously selected Ethiopia as the World Best Tourist Destination for 2015 and favorite cultural destination for 2015. The Office of the President of European Council on Tourism and Trade said Prime Minister of the Federal

Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Hailemariam Desalegn has also been consecrated as a World Leader of Tourism and a member of European Tourism Academy for his “recognition of the role and significance of tourism on the world stage”. The letter that emanated from the European Council on Tourism and Trade (ECTT)

encourages Ethiopia to continue on the road for development via tourism growth and for poverty reduction strategy.

On 9 July 2015, State Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Berhane Gebre-Christos warmly welcomed members of European Council on Tourism and Trade in Addis Ababa. Ambassador Berhane thanked the members of the Council for recognizing Ethiopia's effort in promoting culture and tourism and for electing Ethiopia as the winner of World Best Tourist Destination for 2015 and as for its identification as a Favorite Cultural Distinction for 2015.

The Council award will contribute to the promotion of the tourism potential of Ethiopia to Europe, he said, and could play significant role to help achieve Government plans to make Ethiopia among the five highest tourist destinations in Africa by 2020.

Professor Dr. Anton Caragea, President of the European Council on Tourism and Trade said members of the Council had been welcomed by excellent Ethiopian hospitality. He told the State Minister that the Council's award was a

good beginning for promotion of Ethiopian tourism and the Council would work closely to make Ethiopia known across the world. He said Ethiopia should exploit this opportunity to attract more tourists from Europe and encourage the establishment of Honorary Consulates where there were no embassies to inform tourists about tourism destinations in Ethiopia.

Established in 2006 and based in Bucharest (Romania), the European Council on Tourism and Trade is a leading world and regional tourism organization, representing a market of 800 million customers from all around Europe with members and delegations in 28 countries. The award is expected to promote Ethiopia's tourism destination on the European stage and enhance the government's effort of lifting up the country to the top five tourist destination in Africa. In the Second Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP II), the government aspires to collect USD 6 billion from 2 million tourists. In the performance of the GTP I, the number of influxing tourists was 770,000 and USD 2.9 billion revenue has been generated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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በፌስቲቫሉ ላይ ለመገኘት ፍላጎት ካልዎት ብራሰልስ በሚገኘው የኢትዮጵያ ኤምባሲ በመመዘገብ ለኢትዮጵያ አየር መንገድ ከኤምባሲው የሚጻፈውን የትብብር በድብዳቤ

መውሰድዎን አይዘንጉ። በዕድሉ ተጠቅመውም በፌስቲቫሉ ላይ በመሳተፍ የክልልዎን የልማት እንቅስቃሴ ይመልከቱ።
ለበለጠ መረጃ ብራሰልስ በሚገኘው የኢትዮጵያ ኤምባሲ የዳያስፖራ ዘርፍ በግንባር በቅረብ ወይም በሚከተለው አድራሻ በመገልገል

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ድረ-ገጽ www.ethiopianembassy.be

ታላቅ የኢትዮጵያ ዳያስፖራ ቀን በአዲስ አበባ

ለመጀመሪያ ጊዜ የኢትዮጵያ የዳያስፖራ ቀን በዓል እ.ኤ.አ ከኦገስት 12-16/2015 በአዲስ አበባ በደማቅ ስነ-ስርዓት ይከበራል። በበዓሉ ላይ ለመገኘት ፍላጎት ካልዎት ብራሰልስ በሚገኘው የኢትዮጵያ ኤምባሲ መመዘንብ ይቻላል።

ለበዓሉ የኢትዮጵያ አዋር መንገድ 10% የአዋር ቲኬት ቅናሽ የያዷረገ አድርጓል። በመሆኑም በዕድሉ ተጠቅመው የዕረፍት ጊዜዎን በበዓሉ ላይ በመገኘት በሚወዷት ሀገርዎ ያሳልፉ።

Ethiopian Diaspora Day / Oromia Diaspora Festival

The Ethiopian Diaspora day will be celebrated in Addis Ababa from 12 to 16 August 2015 as well as the Oromia Diaspora Festival from 3 to 10 August 2015. The diaspora members who are interested to attend should register at the Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels (contacts below). Participants of the Addis Ababa Diaspora

Festival can secure a 10 percent discount via a support letter from the Embassy.

Phone - 003227713294
Mail - info@ethiopianembassy.be
Website - www.ethiopianembassy.be

8th Ethio-Chamber International Trade Fair

The Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Associations (ECCSA) is organizing the 8th Ethio-Chamber International Trade Fair from 5 to 9 November 2015 at the Addis Ababa Exhibition Center & Market Development Enterprise. The overall objective is to contribute to the development of competitive industry and business sector mainly through the promotion of products and services.

The Trade Fair is expected to bring together large number of manufacturers, importers, exporters, local and foreign companies supplying raw materials and technological inputs to local manufacturers, service giving enterprises and prospective buyers to one spot. It is a good opportunity to create new business linkage and strengthen existing partnership. Furthermore, investment opportunities of the country will



be introduced to stakeholders and prospective investors, therefore, it avails a chance to introduce your products and services, and promote your business in a country that has a population of more than 90 million.

What makes the 8th Ethio-Chamber International Trade Fair so unique is that it promotes the use of appropriate technology and provides an opportunity for exchange of knowledge and experience. Latest technologies in various sectors of development will be staged in a separate setup. Moreover, to strengthen partnership between the academia/researchers/innovators and the industry/business sector, selected innovative ideas and products that are recognized by the Ministry of Science and Technology will be introduced.

You are cordially invited to participate in

this Grand International Trade Fair. You can download a booklet (<http://ethio.be/1HPzK42>) containing relevant information as well as registration and sponsorship forms. We would appreciate it very much if you could kindly confirm your participation as soon as possible. To confirm your participation, please complete, sign and seal the registration form and forward it preferably through e-mail or fax if not by hand delivery or mail to the Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Associations address indicated in the booklet. If you have any enquiry, please do not hesitate to contact us by clicking here: http://ethio-tradefair.ethiopianchamber.com/?page_id=87

Download the booklet:

<http://ethio.be/1HPzK42>

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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