

# Newsletter

Embassy of Ethiopia, Brussels



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Sunset on the rising city: Addis Ababa. Picture by Jean Rebiffé

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# POLITICAL ISSUES

## The Ethiopian Prime Minister addressed 70th Session of the UN General Assembly and hold sideline talks

On 28 September 2015, the general debate of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly was opened by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon. The Secretary-General

its towering achievement, urging them to do more by coming to a robust agreement on climate change. Confronted with the risk of temperatures rising above the 2°C threshold,



**H.E. Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn addressing the 70th General Assembly of the UN on 28 September 2015 in New York**

told the Assembly that with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the international community was poised to reach higher, broader, and deeper. He said: “You, the world’s leaders, have committed to leave no one behind,” and praised the Assembly for

the international community must, he said, work in synergy and get the Green Climate Fund up and running. General Assembly President Mogens Lykketoft of Denmark said that the United Nations had proved its value with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda

which he described as “epic in its analysis and revolutionary in its ambition”. The current session of the Assembly, he said, would focus on the strong linkages between development, peace and security, and respect for human rights.

In its address to the General Assembly, Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn saw the political will and commitment demonstrated in adopting the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the 2030 Agenda gave hope and optimism that a new globally binding climate agreement could be secured under the auspices of the United Nations during the Climate Change Conference in Paris in December. He emphasized that Ethiopia retained its confidence in multilateralism and was a staunch supporter of the principle of collective security. This was why Ethiopia actively contributed to the advancement of the UN’s principles and purposes, and was the second largest contributor to United Nations peacekeeping missions. He said the UN, despite its many failures, remained an organization that no one could afford to live without. It was the only organization that provided all nations, regardless of their size or wealth, a unique platform to advance common objectives and address the myriad of problems they collectively face. Nevertheless, it must be made more relevant and effective. Forging necessary compromises among the wider membership for reform could not be delayed further. It was not enough, he said, to adopt the next generation of Goals; the United Nations

must be made fit for the post-2015 era. The Prime Minister said comprehensive reform of the United Nations, and of the Security Council in particular, was imperative. Africa must have full representation in all of the Organization’s decision-making organs. The Prime Minister expressed gratitude to the United Nations for its support of Ethiopia’s development efforts, but said Ethiopia had been able to achieve remarkable progress because it took charge of its own destiny and made best use of its partnership with the United Nations. It will continue to work towards achieving middle-income status by 2023, based on carbon-neutral growth and a climate-resilient green economy strategy.

On the sidelines of the General Assembly, Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn holds bilateral talks with Egypt’s President El-Sisi on 29 September. The two Heads of States focused on the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam, Climate Change and the upcoming negotiation in Paris, the fight against terrorism and violent extremism. Prime Minister Hailemariam said that the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam is a symbol of cooperation between Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia and that the main goal of the dam is to combat poverty and thereby realize development and prosperity. The tripartite committee on the 6,000 MW grand dam is scheduled to meet again on 5 October 2015. The dam, scheduled to be completed in 2017, will be Africa’s largest hydroelectric power plant.

Source: MFA Ethiopia

## UN General Assembly sideline talks: Dr. Tedros met EU High Representative and European Foreign Ministers

On 28 September 2015, Foreign minister Dr.

Tedros met with Ms. Federica Mogherini, High

Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission in New York.

Their discussion covered regional political and security matters and ways to work together in managing irregular migration coming from the Horn of Africa region. Ms. Mogherini noted that the EU has recently allocated a Euro 1.8 billion trust fund for the Sahel, North Africa

causes of irregular migration”, she added.

Dr. Tedros emphasized the importance of cooperation, underlining that migration had become part of the serious global political agenda. Stopping the flow of irregular migration needed to address the root cause which, he said, “is mainly associated with poverty and addressing inequality through job creation.” He explained Ethiopia’s efforts to dismantle human trafficking networks



**Dr Tedros, Foreign Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia with Ms Frederica Mogherini, High Representative of the European Union on 28 September 2015 in New York**

and the Horn to promote economic and equal opportunities, security and development and address the root causes of migration from Africa. “We are refining methods and working on packages to cooperate with Ethiopia and countries of the region to address the root

stretching from the Horn of Africa to North Africa and Europe, and highlighted the need for strong cooperation to do away with these networks which were making billions of dollars by smuggling humans. Ethiopia, as part of its efforts to dismantle these criminal networks,

had recently detained over 200 suspects. He also explained about the awareness creation action undertaken by Ethiopia's National Council on Illegal Migration, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Demeke Mekonen.

Dr. Tedros also noted the efforts made in job creation and the results achieved in easing urban unemployment. Ethiopia, as a country

in Small and Medium Enterprises. Dr. Tedros detailed Ethiopia's flagged unique situation as a country of origin, of transit and of destination for migrants and refugees. Ethiopia, he said, is one of the main refugee host countries, with some 700,000 refugees in the country at the moment. He hoped that EU cooperation and support to Ethiopia would take all this into consideration.



**Foreign Minister Dr Tedros meeting Mr. Grzegorz Schetyna, Foreign Minister of Poland**

of origin of migrants, over the last year alone, he said, had managed to create 2.6 million jobs

The EU-Ethiopia development partnership formally started when Ethiopia signed the

Lomé Convention in 1975, and the European Commission opened its Delegation's office in Addis Ababa the same year. Since then, the Commission has played a significant role in supporting Ethiopia's economic development both financially and technically. According to H.E. Teshome Toga, Ethiopian Ambassador to the EU, Benelux and Baltic states, the Ethio-EU relationship is based on mutual benefits and on strategic principles. Besides its aid, the EU is also the destination for 30 percent of Ethiopia's coffee, leather, horticultural and floricultural exports, while more than 300 European investors are doing business in Ethiopia, totaling more than 60 billion of dollars of foreign investments. Moreover, the European

On the sideline of the UN General Assembly, Ethiopian Foreign Minister Dr Tedros also met his Swedish and Polish counterparts. On 28 September, Swedish Foreign Minister Margot Wallström congratulated Dr Tedros on the South-South award Ethiopia had just received for its impressive results in poverty reduction, noting that Ethiopia's single-minded approach to tackling poverty was paying off, lifting millions out of poverty. The two ministers exchanged views on the current refugee crisis in Europe and discussed ways to address the problem.

On the same day, Dr. Tedros Adhanom also hold talks with his Polish counterpart, Mr. Grzegorz



**Foreign Ministe Dr Tedros meeting Swedish Foreign Minister Margot Wallström**

Investment Bank also offers significant lines of credit to Ethiopia for telecommunications, aviation and energy projects.

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Schetyna, who expressed his satisfaction on the Ethio-Polish relations: "We are happy that polish-Ethiopia relations are growing year to year." He further noted that Poland has a policy

geared towards encouraging increased flow of Polish investment towards Africa and Ethiopia in particular. He noted Polish companies' interest in investing in Ethiopia's sugar industries. Dr. Tedros hailed the Ethio-Polish relations as strong and solid partnership: "As we are beginning with the second Growth and Transformation plan, increasing flow of FDI is critical to attain ambitious goals that the country aims to attain... We highly encourage Polish companies to take advantage of Ethiopia's conducive investment opportunities." He also praised Polish companies' interest

to invest in sugar industries and assured full support from the Ethiopian Government in all their endeavors to engage in the sugar development. The two sides agreed to open economic mission to Addis Ababa and hasten the signing of agreements on avoidance of double taxation and investment protection. The two sides also exchanged views on current political and security situation in the Horn of Africa. Poland is currently supporting Ethiopian Sugar sector development mainly through availing finance and technology transfer.

Source: MFA Ethiopia

## Report: Ethiopia's successful delivery on its ambitious development agenda

At the beginning of last week, the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), the UK's leading independent think-tank on international development, released a report on Ethiopia: "One foot on the ground: one foot in the air". The report, part of a four-year research project - Development Progress -, funded by the Gates Foundation to measure, understand and communicate progress in development. Highlighting a number of significant developments including massive agricultural investment, and the Government's commitment to pro-poor spending, it explores the progress achieved poverty reduction and key contributions to material well-being including education and employment. It states:

"Ethiopia's stability and consequent ability to make long-term plans and investments in education, agriculture and infrastructure over the past 20 years has allowed the country to make great strides in development." It suggests Ethiopia is on course to become the world's fastest growing economy with an economy that will significantly accelerate in the next three years. It also notes that "Ethiopia stands out as one of the few countries in Africa on track to meet most of the Millennium Development Goals", adding that this is "an impressive achievement for a country that started out with some of the lowest levels of human development in the world leading up to 2000."

Read the full report: <http://ethio.be/1JG5zXt>



# ECONOMY

## Ethiopia, Djibouti Agree on Blackstone-Backed Fuel Pipeline

On 29 September 2015, Ethiopia and Djibouti signed an agreement for a fuel pipeline constructed by Mining, Oil & Gas Services and Blackstone Group LP-backed by Black Rhino Group. The two Horn of Africa countries signed framework agreements for construction of the 550-kilometer line to transport diesel, gasoline and jet fuel from port access in Djibouti to central Ethiopia, for a total cost of USD 1.55 billion. Financial close is expected in 2016, with construction scheduled for completion two years later.

According to Black Rhino, "the pipeline will increase energy security, aid economic development and reduce harmful emissions".

The project, known as the Horn of Africa Pipeline, includes an import facility and 950,000 barrels of storage capacity in Damerjog, Djibouti, linked to a storage terminal in Awash, Ethiopia. The 51-centimeter line is capable of transporting 240,000 barrels a day of fuel. The concession period after commercial operations start is 30 years.

Growth in Ethiopia has surpassed every other sub-Saharan country over the past decade, and is expected to accelerate even further, increasing demand in energy supply. In the last years, the government has boosted spending to expand infrastructure.

Source: Bloomberg

## Ethiopian Airlines goes online

One of the most successful airlines in the continent, Ethiopian airlines, has started providing an online check-in service for all its flights. The online check-in system is said to avoid the lengthy lines passengers used to make on international flights by checking the web system from 48 hours to 2 hours before departure. The Airlines also announced

that seat can also be changed and baggage registered for checking in. The online check-in service is temporarily unavailable from some airports in Africa, Seychelles International Airport and London's Heathrow Airport. Check [www.ethiopianairlines.com/AA/EN/book/booking/web-checkin](http://www.ethiopianairlines.com/AA/EN/book/booking/web-checkin) for details.

Source: MFA Ethiopia

# CULTURE

## Gondar University perseveres to revamp tourism

Gondar University says it is making unreserved effort to contribute its own part to improve the tourism sector side by side with the task of education.

President of the University, Dr Mengesha Admassu, said the university is undertaking efforts to tap tourism potential of Gondar, which is home of various historical heritages of the medieval period and with other tremendous sites of tourist attraction. According to Dr Mengesha, the University is using technology

to improve touristic tracks in Gondar and this technology is playing a significant role in building positive image of the country.

Gondar University, a prominent higher learning institution in health science training, is teaching over 28,000 students in undergraduate and post graduate programs. The university also focus on teachers training. Moreover, it is providing free legal service for communities in 15 local municipalities in the Amhara region.



# AGENDA & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Invitation for Bid From Development Bank of Ethiopia

Four invitations for bid (Amharic and English) from the Development Bank of Ethiopia have been published on the website of the Ethiopian Investment Commission. The bids concern the sectors of tannery, food, agro-processing and

cotton farm.

Link to the invitations: <http://www.investethiopia.gov.et/information-center/announcements>

## Belgian multisectoral economic mission to Ethiopia

This economic multisectoral mission is organized by AWEX, BIE, FIT and the CBL-ACP Chamber of Commerce with the support of the Belgian Embassies in Rwanda, Ethiopia and Kenya and the Embassies of Rwanda, Ethiopia and Kenya in Belgium.

Rwanda, Ethiopia and Kenya are fast growing economies. Exchanges with Belgium have been increasing and business opportunities lie in many segments.

The mission will focus on contacts with the business community of each country, with officials in specific sectors, with Chambers of

Commerce and international institutions such as World Bank, AFDB, EU delegation, etc.

Sectors include energy, water, Infrastructure, banking, ICT, agro-processing, health sector.

Specific requests can be addressed to the Belgian Embassy in Addis Ababa or to the Embassy of Ethiopia in Brussels

[info@ethiopianembassy.be](mailto:info@ethiopianembassy.be)

You are kindly invited to express your interest for all or part of the mission as early as possible.

# Invitation to Flag Day Ceremony



የኢትዮጵያ ፌዴራላዊ ዲሞክራሲያዊ ሪፑብሊክ ኤምባሲ ብራሰልስ  
Embassy of The Federal Democratic  
Republic of Ethiopia – Brussels

ቀን: 20/10/2015  
Date: 20/10/2015  
ቁጥር:  
Ref. No: BE/COPT/12/35/08



## የጥሪ ደብዳቤ በቤኔሉክስ ሀገራት ለምትገኙ ኢትዮጵያውያንና ትውልደ ኢትዮጵያውያን በሙሉ፤

በብራሰልስ የሚገኘው የኢ.ፌ.ዲ.ሪ ኤምባሲ እ.ኤ.አ እክቶበር 24/2015 ቅዳሜ አለት ከቀን 14:00 ሰአት ጀምሮ የሰንደቅ ዓላማ ቀን እንዲሁም በቤኔሉክስ ሀገራት ከሚገኙ ኢትዮጵያውያን ጋር በመሆን ለመጀመሪያ ጊዜ የዳያስፖራ ቀን በዓልን ያከብራል።

በመሆኑም እርስዎ በበዓሉ ላይ በመገኘት በሀገራችን ወቅታዊ ሁኔታዎች ላይ እንዲሁም በዳያስፖራ ተሳትፎ ጉዳዮች ላይ ውይይት ስለሚደረግ በበዓሉ ላይ በመገኘት ተሳታፊ እንዲሆኑ ኤምባሲው ግብዣውን ያቀርባል።

ኢ.ፌ.ዲ.ሪ ኤምባሲ  
ብራሰልስ



\* በበለሉ ወቅት ባህላዊ ምግብና መጠጥ እንዲሁም የመዝናኛ ፕሮግራም ይኖራል።

አድራሻ፡-  
Venue- Avenue Charles Thielemans 93, 1150 Woluwe-Saint-Pierre, Brussels  
Date: Saturday 24 October 2015  
Time: 14:00-20:00hrs.  
Please confirm your participation via: 0032 2 771 32 94; or  
By e-mail: [info@ethiopianembassy.be](mailto:info@ethiopianembassy.be) or <https://twitter.com/EthiopiaEU> or  
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### 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