

Newsletter

Embassy of Ethiopia, Brussels



23 October 2015
Weekly Issue N° 59



40th Anniversary of Ethiopia-EU partnership celebrated by Ethiopian Foreign Minister Dr Tedros, European Union High Representative Federica Mogherini, Ethiopian Ambassador to the European Union Teshome Toga and EU Representative to Ethiopia Chantal Hebberecht.

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8TH NATIONAL FLAG DAY

Defeating poverty is imperative if Ethiopia is to keep holding its flag high



Ethiopian President, Mulatu Teshome (PhD)

President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Mulatu Teshome (PhD), said that Ethiopia has to defeat poverty to the needed level if it has to keep its flag hoisted high. Addressing attendants of the 8th National Flag Day celebration held at Addis Ababa Stadium on 19 October, he noted that the present generation is responsible to show its respect to the flag by ensuring Ethiopia's renaissance through relentless struggle against poverty.

"This generation should be determined enough to emancipate itself from the yoke of poverty once and for all. We have started this journey

to renaissance by embarking mega projects in hydropower, metro electric train Ethio-Djibouti railway and other developments in various sectors. These achievements shall help us to keep our flag respected and hoisted high," the President remarked.

President Mulatu reminded the huge responsibility the people have bestowed upon the government when they elected EPRDF during the last election. The government has renewed its commitment to advance good governance, equality of nations and

nationalities and democratic and good governance. He stressed to need to defeat poverty if the country is to keep holding its flag high. The country should exploit its full potential in the effort to stave off poverty.

As peace is a pre-condition for any development, Ethiopia remains resolute to promote peace in the continent and beyond and make its flag respected both within its border and beyond, he underscored. President Mulatu called up on all citizens to revitalize their commitment and dedication to hold the flag high as an

inspiration towards the renaissance of the country.

This year's National Flag Day celebration is held with the theme, "Ethiopia: a country that is persevering to hoist its flag high and ensure its renaissance through mass participation." The celebration has hosted military and police parades, dramas, music and other artistic works that are aimed at showcasing values of the national flag.

Source: Walta Information Centre

Athletes: The flag is epitome of our national identity



Haile Gebrselassie at the 2002 Beijing Olympic Games

Ethiopian athletes who hoisted their country's flag high in various international competitions said the flag is an embodiment of their national identity.

In an exclusive interview with WIC, athletes Haile Gebrselassie, Derartu Tulu, and Gebregziabher Gebremariam said the flag is a quintessence through which they express their

love for Ethiopia.

Athlete Haile noted that our flag is a national symbol of love and affection for the country to which many have sacrificed their lives to keep it hoisted high. Haile said the flag is a symbol honored beyond any other national symbol as a representation of our love for the country and its people.

“We have to voluntarily express our love for the flag. It deserves honor and prestige from all of us. I always remember how the athletes who represented a flag at an international competition became extremely hot tempered when they saw it stood over by somebody in the stadium. This is how it touches your inner feeling. They were very sad and even they cried.” Haile remarked. The world renowned athlete said one’s love for his flag is like the love that we feel to our mother.

Derartu Tulu on her part remarked that the flag is an epitome through which she expresses

her happiness and identity. It creates a deep feeling of honor and national pride when I see my country’s flag high at international competitions, she noted. “The flag is a symbol of our identity as people of Ethiopia. We have to respect it in all aspects,” Derartu underscored.

The other athlete, who had a brief interview with WIC, Gebregziabher Gebremariam, reiterated that he would be happy if the flag day is to be celebrated more than once in a year.

The flag is a symbol of identity for all people and their respective countries across the world and it deserves to be colorfully celebrated, he underlined.

“It creates an exhilarating feeling when I see my country’s flag hoisted high after I win in international competitions. We athletes have a very close belongingness to the flag,” Gebregziabher remarked.

POLITICAL ISSUES

Prime Minister Hailemariam underlines government responses to the drought

On 16 October 2015, Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn gave details of the Government’s response to the impact of the drought. He said the Government had so far spent about ETB 2 billion on relief and support, and it would continue to make every effort to provide assistance and help for those affected.

The latest figures suggest over eight million will need assistance for the next few months and possibly longer. The Prime Minister said the Government had begun to make efforts to mitigate the effect of the El Niño phenomenon, as soon as the alarm had been sounded by early warning systems. He emphasized strongly that

the Government continues to do everything possible to protect people from the effects of environment-related insecurity. The Prime Minister emphasized that the cause of the drought was not in any way man-made and had rather to do with global climatic change,

and the impact of the El Niño effect. This shows that the world was facing a very real threat of climate change, directly and indirectly placing a great burden on many Sub-Saharan countries including Ethiopia.

Joint Statement: 40 years Ethiopia-EU Relations

Joint statement by Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Tedros Adhanom of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and H.E. Federica Mogherini, High Representative and Vice President of the European Union.

We met today and confirmed the strategic relationship, 40 years strong, between the European Union and Ethiopia in promoting economic growth, enhancing peace and security in the region, managing migration and mobility and strengthening the foundations of democracy and inclusivity.

In this regard, we have agreed to elevate the level of our relations into a “Strategic Partnership”. We will start a regular dialogue at foreign minister level, steering political dialogues that will include new areas of common interest and more regular meetings at ministerial level.

We recognized that our strong development cooperation should be supported by more private sector engagement. The EU already being Ethiopia’s first trading partner, we are determined to enhance our economic relations by upgrading the existing EU-Ethiopia Business Forum and promoting investment from Europe into Ethiopia, creating more jobs and growth.

Migration is an issue that is of concern to the region, where Ethiopia is host to so many refugees, and for the European Union. We agreed on the principle of a Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility and have made considerable progress on its text that will guide our cooperation in this area. We agreed to work in particular together on tackling migrant smuggling and human trafficking, to support the reintegration of returned migrants, to support Ethiopia in its hospitality for refugees from neighboring countries and to strengthen resilience of most vulnerable communities. We look forward to presenting the Joint Declaration on a Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility at the upcoming Valletta Summit.

Ethiopia’s contribution to peace and security in the region, particularly the peace process in South Sudan and the state building in Somalia, was acknowledged. In this regard, we are determined to continue coordinating our efforts and to extend support through the African Union and the Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD).

Ethiopian Foreign Minister confers with EU Foreign Policy Chief

Foreign Minister, Dr Tedros Adhanom met with the High Representative of the European

Union, noting in particular the importance of putting in place a mechanism for high-level political dialogue. Discussing the current



Ethiopian Foreign Minister Dr Tedros and EU High Representative Federica Mogherini in Addis

Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Ms. Federica Mogherini on Tuesday (October 20). Ms. Mogherini is on a visit to Ethiopia as part of the occasion of the 40th anniversary of EU-Ethiopia relations. Ms. Mogherini noted that the EU and Ethiopia relations during this period had encompassed humanitarian, developmental, and political areas as well as peace and security. She stressed the EU's desire to further invest in its relationship with

humanitarian situation in drought-affected areas in Ethiopia, Ms. Mogherini noted the EU's readiness to support the efforts of the Ethiopian Government. In relation to business and economy, Ms. Mogherini noted that "EU is a top trade partner with Ethiopia and we wish to see it grow even more". She suggested hosting an Ethiopia-EU business forum. She also emphasized the EU's interest to work with Ethiopia on climate change for the upcoming Paris Climate Change Conference of Parties.

With regard to migration and mobility, Ms. Mogherni noted that EU firmly believed that the upcoming Valeta Conference would have an important role to define the structures and institutions of Africa and Europe and design effective intervention to tackle irregular migration. She also noted the EU's desire to work with Ethiopia on supporting returnees, dismantling human trafficking networks and providing awareness-creation programs. Dr Tedros thanked the EU for its support to Ethiopia's peace and security efforts in Somalia, in South Sudan and the region in general. He highlighted the strong trade partnership Ethiopia enjoyed with the EU, agreeing that, given the potential much needs could be done. He welcomed the idea of hosting a business forum. He thanked the EU for its

745 million Euro support and emphasized the need for EU to consider support for Ethiopia's major projects. He also discussed Ethiopia's challenges in regulating migration as it is a country of origin, transit and destination. He welcomed the EU's desire to support Ethiopia's efforts to address the root cause of migration, the fight against poverty. He also noted that Ethiopia's National Council against Human Trafficking was working on addressing attitudinal problems by creating awareness of the dangers of irregular migration. He pointed out that Ethiopia was pushing hard to create jobs through increasing productivity and small holder farmers, and boosting Small and Microfinance projects.

ECONOMY

Prime Minister Hailemariam details GTP II plans to development partners

On 19 and 20 October 2015, the Consultation Forum between the Government and developmental partners on the Second Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP II) were held at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. The Prime Minister Hailemariam addressed the Forum in the morning, responding to some of the issues raised by the donors the previous day. He pointed out that the gap between import costs and export earnings, between investment and savings, and between government expenditure and

income earning that had hampered full implementation of the GTP I. These gaps could be addressed through mobilization of domestic savings, effective and efficient implementation of the major projects, reformed and increased tax collection, improved administration and selective budget expenditure during the implementation phase of the GTP II.

On debt sustainability, the Prime Minister Hailemariam said that effective performance by public corporations and

enterprises could guarantee debt repayment. The GTP II is ambitious but it is based on transparent, accountable and extensive public

Prime Minister Hailemariam asserted that the GTP II would be able to effectively respond to any drought and rainfall shortage that might



Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn

participation at all levels. It is the result of consultations with different sectors of society. The Prime Minister noted that the government has set-up mechanisms to address practical and structural bottlenecks affecting higher agricultural growth and to encourage the transformation to industrial led development. Regional and international peace and security threats are major challenges to realization of the GTP II, the Prime Minister said, but the current world economic order favored Ethiopia's transformation agenda. Underlining the fact that Ethiopia is pursuing a green economy and environmental friendly growth,

affect the country.

He emphasized that the achievements of GTP I were the results of joint activity by the Ethiopian people and Government, and their development partners. The Prime Minister called all Ethiopia's development partners to extend cooperation with the Government in order to achieve implementation of GTP II. This will also support Ethiopia's efforts to reach lower middle income status by 2025.

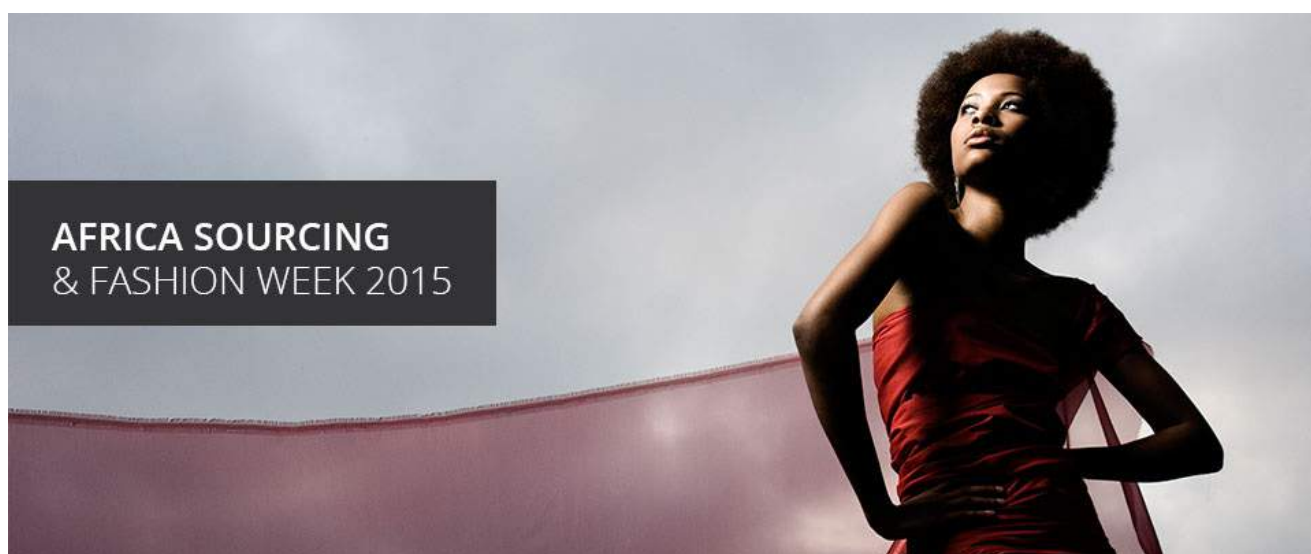
Areas of investment eligible for exemption of customs duty (applicable for investors)

The following areas of investment are eligible for exemption of capital goods and construction materials from customs duty.

1. **Manufacturing**
 - a. Food industry
 - b. Beverage industry
 - c. Textiles and textiles products industry
 - d. Leather and leather products industry
 - e. Wood products industry
 - f. Paper and paper products industry
 - g. Chemical and chemical products industry
 - h. Basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations industry
 - i. Rubber and plastics products industry
 - j. Other non-metallic mineral products industry
 - k. Basic metal industry
 - l. Fabricated metal products industry
 - m. Computer, electronic and optical products industry
 - n. Electrical products industry
 - o. Machinery and equipment industry
 - p. Integrated manufacturing with agriculture
 - q. Vehicles, trailers, and semi trailer industry
 - r. Manufacturing of office and household furniture
 - s. Manufacturing of other equipment
2. **Agriculture**
 - a. Crop production
 - b. Animal production
 - c. Mixed (crop and animal) farming
 - d. Forestry
3. **ICT**
4. **Generation, transmission and supply of electrical energy**
5. **Hotel and tourism**
 - a. Star designated hotel and resort, motel, lodges and restaurant
 - b. Tour operation grade one
6. **Construction contracting**
Construction contracting, water well and mineral exploration drilling grade one
7. **Education and training**
 - a. Secondary and higher education by constructing own building
 - b. Technical and vocational training service including sport
8. **Health services**
 - a. Hospital service by constructing own building
9. **Architectural and engineering works and related technical services, technical testing and analysis**
10. **Import trade**
 - a. Importation of LPG and bitumen

CULTURE & FASHION

Origin Africa 2015 opens at the Millennium Hall



On 21 October, “Origin Africa 2015” opened at Addis Ababa’s Millennium Hall. It is a three day event for the Lifestyle and Fashion industry, showcasing textiles, cottons, home textiles, decorative materials, fashion accessories and other associated products.

Origin Africa 2015 highlights the creativity and innovation of the African cotton, textile and clothing industries and the event has a specific focus on business, trade and investment, both regional and international, capturing the spirit, style and innovation of modern Africa. The event, organized by the African Cotton and Textile Industries Federation, together with Trade and Fairs East Africa, also includes the Africa Sourcing and Fashion Week.

At the official opening, President Dr. Mulatu Teshome told participants that Africa was still a continent with abundant resources available

for conversion to value added products and services. He noted Ethiopia’s efforts to expand the manufacturing sector and pointed out it aimed to become a leading country in light manufacturing industry in Africa. The textile industry offered, he said, value-addition, generation of foreign currency, job opportunities and technology transfer. The President noted that specific institutions had also been established in the textile and leather industries, as well as in other areas, to provide support to the private sector in assist in the provision of skilled human resources, R&D and technology transfer. Direct linkages were also being established as appropriate between universities, technical institutes and the industrial sector. The President emphasized that the exhibition allowed for manufactures, buyers, sector specialists and policy makers to come together at a single venue and consider

investment potential and promote Africa's textile industry. The occasions would also strengthen existing market links and create new investment and market opportunities, encouraging the combined efforts of the

private sector and Governments to lift production to a critical level to take advantages of the opportunities that exist in Africa and the rest of the world.

AGENDA & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amharic language courses start in Leuven

This academic year 2015-2016, GROUP

Learning a language is more than just communicating. It is above all getting acquainted with a new culture. It is exploring new traditions and habits, conducts and attitudes, and developing your cultural insights and understandings. In addition, learning a new language broadens your mentality and sharpens your skills to be more successful in the development of your international undertakings whether these comprise entrepreneurship ambitions, outbound study mobility or



T – International Engineering Academy – University of Leuven (GROUP T – Academy) launches a new International Language & Culture Programme focussing among others on Amharic.

GROUP T - International Engineering Academy – KU Leuven (Group T-Academy) connects university partners of different continents and with different cultures to foster cross-fertilization and enhance each other's development.

professional trips.

AT KU Leuven Campus Group T, Faculty of Engineering Technology with its approximately 300 international students you will for sure get a chance to practice this new language and discover and fully taste these new cultures.

The courses run at Campus GROUP T on Thursday evenings from 18:30 until 21:00. The course program holds 3 modules of which each module comprises 25 course hours spread over 10 evenings. Each course lasts 2,5hours.

Are you interested in doing business in Ethiopia and want to develop your entrepreneurial skills on the ground?

Enjoy and experience a new culture and its language.

For questions and registration, please send an email to mimi.deprez@group-t.academy or call +32472 32 42 52.

Ethio-Netherlands Business Event

“A Growing Investment Opportunity”

Together with the Ethiopian Embassy in Brussels and the Netherlands Embassy in Addis Ababa, NABC will be organizing the first Ethio-Netherlands business event in the Netherlands on 5 and 6 November 2015. Are you interested in investing in Ethiopia and looking for the right information and people to discuss the opportunities? This is the right place to get informed on investing in Ethiopia.

Ethiopia, as a country with a population of approximately 95 million, double-digit growth, availability of land and an attractive and diverse climate, has become a main destination for investments. The Dutch private sector is already involved extensively in Ethiopia (via horticulture, agriculture). Despite the increasing number of investments by Dutch companies, opportunities available in Ethiopia are not fully optimized. 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.

During the Ethio-Netherlands business event, officials from Ethiopia and experts from the field will advise on the business opportunities and steps to take when investing. Specific focus will be on the investment potential in seven sectors, following from the Dutch development cooperation program and being in line with Ethiopian priorities: seeds (tomatoes, potatoes), oilseeds, poultry, dairy, spices,

textiles and logistics/construction. Based on business opportunity reports and business cases for each sector, we will provide you with the right know-how and the introduction to a network to get started.

The event consists of two days, of which the first day will compose of the following elements:

Day 1:

- A) General plenary session on investing in Ethiopia with testimonies from the Dutch private sector in Ethiopia;
- B) Seven separate workshops on the specific sectors based on the business opportunities reports and business cases;
- C) Matchmaking session between Dutch companies and Ethiopian and Dutch authorities (B2G); between Ethiopian and Dutch potential business partners (B2B) and between Dutch companies to establish cooperation (B2B).
- D) A working dinner.

Day 2

The second day will consist of company visits by separate groups within the seven sectors. Another registration page will be opened to register for the company visits.

Contact

Email info@ethiopianembassy.be

Registration and practical information:

http://ethio.be/NL_Ethio_Business

Invitation: 8th National Flag Day and Diaspora Festival in Brussels



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Embassy of The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia – Brussels

ቀን: 20/10/2015
Date: 20/10/2015
ቁጥር: BE/Cort/12/35108
Ref. No: BE/Cort/12/35108



የጥሪ ደብዳቤ በቤኔሉ-ክስ ሀገራት ለምትገኙ ኢትዮጵያውያንና ትውልደ ኢትዮጵያውያን በሙሉ፤

በብራሰልስ የሚገኘው የኢ.ፌ.ዲ.ሪ ኤምባሲ እ.ኤ.አ ኦክቶበር 24/2015 ቅዳሜ እለት ከቀኑ 14:00 ሰአት ጀምሮ የሰንደቅ ዓላማ ቀን እንዲሁም በቤኔሉ-ክስ 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 ወይይት ስለሚደረግ በበዓሉ ላይ በመገኘት ተሳታፊ እንዲሆኑ ኤምባሲው ግብዣውን ያቀርባል።

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ብራሰልስ



* በበለጠ 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 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

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