BANKROLLING THE REFORM

World Bank reaffirms commitment to Ethiopia in spite of debt concerns

By Aarat Seyoum

Holding its second IDA19 replenishment meeting in Addis Ababa this week, the World Bank Group and one of its major lending arms dedicated to providing favorable credit facilities to middle and low income countries—the International Development Association—has reaffirmed commitment of support to Ethiopia’s ongoing market reform process, while recognizing the concern of rising external debt levels across half of IDA borrower countries.

Targeting an ambitious replenishment size of USD 80 billion for the nineteenth round of IDA stretching from 2021-2023, the Group’s Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Kristalina Georgieva, negotiated the replenishment of resources and the direction of IDA’s credit policy for the upcoming three years with over two hundred participants representing over half of IDA’s borrower countries.

Danilo Trugillo, Dangote Cement Ethiopia PLC Country Manager, told The Reporter that even though the construction of the cement manufacturing plant was completed in April 2018 the cement production line had been put on hold due to foreign currency shortage.

Dangote’s new PP bag factory unable to roll due to forex shortage

Cement production line put on hold

By Kaleyesus Bekele

The PP bag manufacturing plant built by Dangote Cement Ethiopia at a cost of USD 20 million is unable to start rolling due to shortage of foreign currency required to import raw materials.

The Dangote Cement Ethiopia built the cement PP bag manufacturing plant in front of the cement factory 80km west of Addis Ababa in Adaberga Weeresa. Originally, Dangote Cement Industries planned to build a PP bag manufacturing plant which can produce 120 million bags annually. The PP bag would be used to pack cement by Dangote and other local cement factories. However, the plant capacity was reduced to 60 million bags per year due to the shortage of foreign currency and electric power.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the World Bank, Kristalina Georgieva and Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD)
The road to perdition

As the old adage has it to err is human, to forgive divine. None of us are perfect; we make mistakes all the time. The important thing is not to repeat the same mistake. Present-day Ethiopia is no different; it’s witnessing a plethora of developments and errors that give rise to blunders, some of which are egregious. There abound fault finders who are bent on exaggerating the mistakes. As it leads a nation undergoing a transition the government is bound to err. However, it cannot shirk its duties for fear that it will be pilloried for getting things wrong. Although it is apt to slip up regardless of how informed its course of action may be the consequences will not rise to a level that put it in a knotty quandary. Uninformed decisions grounded in the end justifies the means mentality not only beget opprobrium, but also a debacle. Even as fear of being in the wrong can never justify inaction it also does absolve someone of the obligation to plan how to effectively discharge one’s responsibilities. Let’s dwell on some important matters in view of this.

One of the major steps taken in the political arena since Prime Minister Abiy came to power in April 2018 is the return home of insurgents and individuals who were driven overseas by insurgencies and individuals who were driven overseas by the -means mentality not only to city dwellers whose houses are demolished for redevelopment purposes many are suffering a lot in the search for a place they can call home. The government’s efforts to avail housing to these sections of society as well as the millions of youth graduating from higher learning institutions and become independent of their parents have not had the desired impact. The government’s willy-nilly foray into the construction and delivery of condos to home seekers despite lacking the necessary capacity has rendered the project unviable. It has been deaf to numerous suggestions to rectify the problem. The suspension of the transfer of condos to the winners of the draws held recently due to political pressure understandably exacerbates the problem further. If law and order is to prevail these shortcomings need to be addressed quickly. Otherwise, the ensuing toll will be too high.

The economic sphere is beset with a complex set of challenges as well. With dedication and hard work none of them is insurmountable. The foremost task incumbent on all stakeholders in terms of overcoming the challenges is to benchmark the best practices of this sickness and set both the country and the ongoing change. Inasmuch as bringing mistakes to light is instrumental to finding the appropriate solution harping on real or perceived deficiencies with the primary intention of delegitimizing the target is dead wrong. In particular social media has become a platform where naysayers paint a doomsday picture about Ethiopia. The problems blighting the country were not created yesterday and it’s been accumulating for eons. Compatriots enlisted on social media by elements harboring sinister motives are toiling day and night to erode the public’s trust in the government and undermine its authority. They are also fomenting intercommunal conflicts by inflaming the youth through lies and venomous rhetoric. Consequently, innocent lives are lost and the nation’s very survival is imperiled. It’s of the essence to cure Ethiopia of these ills and set both the country and the ongoing change on the right course. Ethiopians cannot afford to become inured to mistakes. If they do they will be treading on the road to perdition.
Coca-Cola to invest USD 300 mln in Ethiopia

New plant to produce 70,000 cases per day

By Birhanu Fikade

Stretching on 14.3 hectares of land, a new Coca-Cola Factory that requires an investment outlay of two billion birr or USD 70 million, said to be the largest plant for coca cola in the country, is set to be finalized early next year, The Reporter has learnt.

Joining the Ethiopian beverage market some 60 years ago, Coca-Cola and its shareholders have announced their intentions of investing USD 300 million in the coming five years. Burno Pietracci, general manager of the East and Central African Franchise, said that Coca-Cola has decided to expand its outlay and promote Ethiopia as a destination for other potential foreign investors.

After breaking ground on Thursday at the town of Sebeta, some 25 kilometers from Addis Ababa, the new plant will be the biggest bottler that it has built in Ethiopia so far. Coca-Cola has installed three plants, creating some 2,200 local jobs to date. The overall jobs created in Ethiopia under Coca-Cola will reach to 2,700 including the 500 newly expected jobs from the upcoming factory.

According to Daryl Wilson, managing director of East Africa Bottling Share Company (EABSC), the investment disbursement will further reach USD 150 million since one more plant is planned to be installed in Hawassa, capital of the Southern Regional State. The Sebeta plant will have a manufacturing capacity of 70,000 cases per day.

The first Coca-Cola bottling plant was set up in Addis Ababa in 1959 then followed by the second plant installed in Dire Dawa in 1966. The Addis Ababa plant alone has a capacity of bottling some 36,000 plastic bottles (PET) per hour. The most recent plant installed in Bahir Dar commenced its production in 2016.

According to reports, EABSC launched “vision 2020” where it will become energy self-sufficient; and during the same year, the company set plans to reach 100 million unit cases, that will put Ethiopia on par with Egypt and South Africa.
Floor Tiles Product
Size: 300x300 400x400 500x500 600x600

Wall Tiles Product
Size: 200x300 250x400 300x450 300x600

High Quality Fashion Sense
New Arrivals

Polished Tiles

Manufacturer: Di Yuan Ceramics PLC
TEL: +251 96 690 3669 +251 96 690 3668 +251 11 668 6278
Parliament passes resolution to insure gov’t accountability

By Yonas Abiye

The House of People’s Representatives (HPR) has passed a resolution which requires the accountability of Public Offices and Managements in relation to audit findings.

The resolution has come two weeks after the Federal Auditor General reported the 2017/18 audit findings which were carried out among 174 budget recipient offices, under the executive branch of the government.

The draft bill is believed to be one of the strongest resolutions the Executive has issued in recent times conveying strong messages to government offices under the executive branch, to be legally accountable over budget utilization as per the directions and recommendations issued to them by the Office of the Attorney General.

During the session, the Public Expenditure Administration and Supervision Standing Committee of the House presented a draft resolution before the House, demanding a strong legal and administrative action to be taken by the government in relation to the Auditor General’s Financial and Performance audit findings which include budget abuse, financial misuse, inappropriate expenditure, unsubstantiated expenses, and poor performances.

Presenting the draft resolution, Chairman of the Standing Committee, Mohammed Yesuf told the House that illegal procurement, failure to collect public revenues, repeating negligence to take corrective mechanisms, and misuse of public money are among the major problems that the audit findings reveals from year to year.

He further indicated it is because of the government’s recurrent negligence to take actions, made public offices reluctant to take corrections repeatedly.

Hence, according to the chairman, the latest resolution has been brought to the House in a bid to insure accountability.

After the house reached a consensus on the importance of the resolution, it was endorsed by a majority vote with two abstaining.

In the same session, nominated by the Prime Minister, the House has endorsed the seven-members for the new management board of the Ethiopian News Agency.

Lists of the appointees include, Tazer Gebregziabher, elected as Chairperson of the management board, while the remaining board members are Hiwote Hailu, Abinet Zerfu, Tamrat Haile, Mekuriya Mekasha (Asst. Prof.), Mesud Adem and Bekele Muleta.

Led by President of Supreme Court, Menza Ashenafi, the appointees were sworn in before the House.

INVITATION TO BID FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK

Welthungerhilfe (WHH)/German Agro Action (GAA) is one of the biggest private development organizations in Germany with development and relief aid projects in more than 40 countries. Non-profit-making, non-political and non-denominational, the organization works under the leadership of an honorary board and the patronage of the German Federal President. WHH runs a Regional Office for the Horn of Africa, based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and is successfully operating in the country since 1972.

German Agro Action (GAA) would like to invite potential contractors (Grade 6 and above) for Construction of Ventilated Improved Pit Latrines in Dire and Miyo Woredas, Borena Zone of Oromia Region.

A complete tender document is available at German Agro Action / Welthungerhilfe, of Yabello CIFa office and eligible contractor can purchase it upon payment of a non-refundable fee of 100.00 ETB (Hundred Birr only) in cash and upon submission of a written application together with copies of legal documents.

The Bidder shall seal the envelope and deliver it in person to German Agro Action / Welthungerhilfe, of Yabello CIFa office before July 5, 2019 at 10:00AM

Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidders’ or their legal representatives who choose to attend on Friday, July 5, 2019 at 11:00 AM.

German Agro Action (GAA) reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without fixing any reason thereof

ADDRESS
Welthungerhilfe (WHH) Tel: 0911807451/ 0911531873
Yabello, Ethiopia
Humanitarian faces ten years imprisonment

By Samuel Getachew

Peter Dalglish, an Order of Canada recipient has been found guilty of sexual abuse of children in Nepal, placing his time in Ethiopia under public scrutiny.

He started his humanitarian career in Ethiopia working with vulnerable children and is a celebrated advocate of children in war-torn nations through the UN Habitat and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Arrested a year ago and placed inside a crowded jail in Kathmandu, the 61 year old who left an exclusive legal career for charity after organizing an airlift of food and medical supplies for Ethiopia, and volunteering in drought affected regions as a wonder boy in his twenties, is expected to be sentenced next month and face a minimum of 10 years in prison.

“While Peter Dalglish’s guilty disposition to child sex abuse has serious implication for the humanitarian sector, humanitarians have steadfastly remained silent since his arrest in April 2018,” Lori Handrahan (PhD), a United Nations Anti-Trafficking Task Team told The Reporter adding “Dalglish’s crime is outrageous and reflects the fact that the #MeToo #AidToo movement has had almost no impact at all on the misogynistic, abusive and predatory culture in the international aid sector.”

Peter, a divorced father of one, was convicted of sexually assaulting two boys, aged 11 and 14 from a poor area after befriending them with gifts.

According to his official biography, he was said to have returned to Canada after his brief time in Ethiopia in the mid-1980’s and told his senior colleagues abruptly, “that he was giving up the profession to pursue a career alongside some of the world’s most vulnerable children.”

Some of his activities in Africa, including in Sudan, with vocational training schools for street kids was bankrolled by Sir Bob Geldof’s Band Aid through a charity he co-founded with another Canadian, Frank O’Dea, founder of Second Cup coffee chain and a former homeless person via Street Kids International that has since merged with Save the Children.

Ethiopia inauguates toll road linking with Djibouti

With the aim of easing its import-export trade logistics, Ethiopia on Monday officially inaugurates 220 km toll road that links eastern part of Ethiopia’s city – Dire Dawa with Dewale city bordering Djibouti.

The Dire Dawa with Dewale toll road, which has been partly operational early this year, is expected to facilitate the export import trade of Ethiopia, which depends on Port of Djibouti for over 80 percent of its import – export trade. The new road reduces driving time between the two towns to four hours from one day. Previously on gravel road truck drivers used to spend up to one day to reach Dire Dawa from Dewale or vice versa.

To use the road heavy truck drivers are supposed to pay 200 birr, while medium size trucks such as Isuzu, FSR and automobile drivers will pay 150 birr and 100 birr, respectively.

Built with 5.2 billion birr, the new express road is the second segment to be completed after the Addis Ababa – Adama Express road.

(MoFA)

(Walta)
WHO lauds Ethiopian parliament’s effort to ban tobacco

By Yonas Abiye

The World Health Organization (WHO) has presented an award recognizing Ethiopia’s House of People’s Representatives (HPR) legislative actions it passed to ban tobacco smoking indoors and in public places in Ethiopia.

It is to be recalled that in February 2019, the House endorsed the anti-tobacco law (Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation No. 1112/2019) as a step forward but needs to be complemented by higher taxes.

Four months after the endorsement, WHO officials presented the recognition to House Speaker, Tagesse Chaf, during the regular session of the House held on Tuesday.

The new law requires 100 percent smoke-free public and work places, bans tobacco adverts and promotions, restricts the sale of flavored tobacco products and mandates pictorial warning labels covering 70 percent of the front and back of all tobacco products.

The law also bans the sale of heated tobacco products, e-cigarettes, shisha, and prohibits tobacco sales to anyone under the age of 21. In addition, smoking and the use of any tobacco product is also prohibited in outdoor areas of schools and universities, government facilities, youth centers, and amusement parks, among other places.

Furthermore, it stipulates that anyone who seeks to smoke cigarettes, to smoke at least 10 meters further away from a door or window.

The law has designated penalties for anyone who violates the provision ranging from a three month imprisonment to financial punishments ranging from ETB 1000 to 10,000. The law similarly imposes strict rules on alcohol use and commercial advertisements as well.

The occasion was conducted in the presence of WHO representative Pali Maynuka (PhD) and Health Minister Amir Aman (MD).

Receiving the recognition, Tagesse said that this recognition is one testimony to the House’s efforts in enacting important legislatives that would benefit the people and the country.

After the recognition ceremony, a billboard which depicts smoking free areas were unveiled in the premises of the Parliament by the House Speaker and the WHO Representative.

According to Tobacco Atlas, every year, more than 16,800 Ethiopians are killed by tobacco-related diseases. Still, more than 18,000 children (10-14 years old) and over two million adults (15 years and above) continue to use tobacco each day.

According to a study done by the American Cancer Society, tobacco consumption in Africa excluding South Africa, increased by almost 70 percent between 1990 and 2010. The number of African smokers could grow by 40 percent by the year 2030, the study predicts.

Ethiopia is not the first country to impose a ban, but is one of the few to act on the law. Kenya’s capital Nairobi has designated smoking cabins, with smoking on the streets being illegal, although the rule is widely flouted.

Several African countries have a complete ban on smoking in public areas. Most recently, Uganda passed a law banning smoking within 50 meters (160 feet) of any public place — according to WHO, but such laws are rarely implemented.

**Ethiopia, UNDP sign USD 40 project document for upcoming elections**

Ethiopia and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) on Tuesday signed a project document to support the upcoming national elections.

The agreement was signed by Ahmed Shide, Minister of Finance, Birutu Mideksa, Chairperson of the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia, and Turhan Saleh Resident Representative of UNDP in Ethiopia.

The project is going to be implemented by the National Election Board of Ethiopia for the coming three years with the resource mobilized through UNDP, according to the Ministry of Finance.

The total required fund for the project is USD 40 million, out of that USD 34.6 million is a pledge to be funded by various development partners, USD 2 million is secured by UNDP itself and USD 3.3 million is to be mobilized during the project period.

The development partners that contribute for the project are 11 bilateral countries, of which 8 of them have confirmed their support.

The main objectives of the project are to assist the electoral management capacity and to undertaking transparent and credible elections.
Ethiopia launches railway project with Eritrea

By Birhanu Fikade

While addressing the Ethio Italian Business Forum on Thursday, Ahmed Shide, Minister of Finance, told Italian officials and business delegates that Ethiopia is about to pursue a railway project that connects Ethiopia with port cities of Eritrea. According to the minister, a feasibility study has been launched and the World Bank Group is behind the project. Hence, when the project comes to life, the ports of Assab and Massawa will have a direct railway links with Bahir Dar, East and central parts of Ethiopia. So far, Ethiopia has rail and road or power connectivity to the southern parts of Ethiopia, three marks of Ethiopia. Sadly, they are under fragile conditions and central parts of Ethiopia. Hence, when the project comes to life, the ports of Assab and Massawa will have a direct railway links with Bahir Dar, East and central parts of Ethiopia. So far, Ethiopia has rail and road or power connectivity to the southern parts of Ethiopia.

Mr. Shide said that “It was a coincidence.” She also said that her government has recalculated the need to work in partnership with Ethiopia and to support its development. It is to be recalled that a few weeks ago, Italy pledged to provide assistance to the preservation and protection of the Aksum Monolithic Obelisks. With that connection, the Italian deputy minister of foreign affairs has visited the monuments in Aksum to learn about what will be required to maintain one of the ancient civilization hallmarks of Ethiopia. Sadly, they are under fragile conditions at the moment. One of the monuments of Aksum Obelisks was taken to Italy during the five-year occupation of Ethiopia from 1936 to 1941. It was returned from Rome to its original place in Aksum in 2006 and re-erected in 2008.

Mr. Shide told The Reporter that Italy has provided EUR 150 million to finance development projects. During the business forum which saw the attendances of high-level officials of both countries, with 40 major companies of Italy present, Ahmed, who is also in charge of the privatization and economic reform process, has briefed the delegates about the ongoing reform packages in Ethiopia. He recalled the partial privatization process that involves both Ethiopian Airlines Group and Ethiopia’s logistics sector, where state-owned enterprises had enjoyed monopoly power for ages. He further mentioned the process of privatizing Ethiopia Telecom, sugar plants and other significant assets. Financial and asset valuations are ongoing on these subsectors of the economy. Ahmed mentioned adding that all has got to do with the serious interests of the government to attract private investments into Ethiopia. The business forum was a success and to the Italian team, according to Carlo Ferro, President of Italian Trade Agency, the mission was concluded with satisfaction.

However, concerns of hard currency shortages and taxations were among the issues Italian firms have raised Ahmed. For instance, the Automotive Manufacturing Co. of Ethiopia (AMCE) – a joint venture between the Fabrika Italiana Automobili Torin (FIAT) and the government of Ethiopia (Ministry of Trade and Industry) with a 70/30 percentage share ownership – has raised the critical shortages of foreign currency shortages impacting its long established assembly plant in Ethiopia. Ahmed has vowed to provide solutions and made an agreement with the executives of AMCE.

According to Ferro, Italian businesses have invested EUR 590 million in Ethiopia and want to invest more and more as openings and opportunities are in the making in today’s Ethiopia. Recently, the likes of Calzedonia Group, a renowned Italian apparel maker have set foot in Ethiopia.

The Federal Transport Authority, on behalf of Ministry of Urban Development and Construction, invites eligible consulting firms (“Consultants”) to express their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlist criteria are:

a) Core business and years of experience in business (year of establishment for business)

b) Specific experiences of firm related to the assignment, and

c) Organizational structure and staffing

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank’s Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers January 2011 Revised July 2014 (“Consultant Guidelines”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality & Cost Based Selection method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 9:00 AM-12:00 AM and 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM from Monday to Thursday, and 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM on Friday at the Federal Transport Authority.

Expression of Interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below on or before 12:00 hours, 13 July 2019.

Federal Transport Authority (near the National Stadium) Transport Systems Improvement Project

Ms. Banchalem Addis, Project Implementation Unit, Head, 4th floor, Room # 411, Woreda 7, Kikirko Sub-Cty, P.O Box 2504
Tel: +251-1-18545745, +251-1-51-0244, Fax: +251-1-51-0715
Email: tranip.ta.banchi@gmail.com, banadd2007@gmail.com, fyume@gmail.com
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Nazrawit Abera to appear in court

By Samuel Getachew

Nazrawit Abera, the Ethiopian engineer who is facing drug trafficking charges, is set to make her first court appearance on Thursday.

This comes as public pressure for her release is growing and Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) is promising to advocate on her behalf, including raising her issue to the Chinese President Xi Jinping at the Second Belt and Road Summit in Beijing, earlier this year. Her online petition for clemency has also garnered thousands of signatories and stars such as Teddy Afro have spoken on her behalf.

“As for the updates, Naz is going to appear before a Chinese court on Thursday,” a family friend told The Reporter. “We want to request people pray for her.”

Her biological mother is said to have been partially paralyzed as a result and family or close friends have not been able to speak to her. However, Ethiopia’s ambassador to China, Teshome Toga confirmed to The Reporter that she was visited by diplomats several times and is receiving consular support.

In the meantime, the Chinese embassy in Addis Ababa has begun to issue documents and warnings of the seriousness of a drug offence in the country and deter them from deciding to carry someone else’s belongings.

The charges, if convicted, would likely lead to execution under China’s Article 347 of the Chinese Criminal Law.

The family of Nazrawit is adamant the drugs found in her belongings were not of hers, but she was carrying them on behalf of a childhood friend.
RES4Africa targets filling Africa’s energy gap

By Nardos Fekadu

Renewable Energy Solutions for Africa (RES4Africa) foundation has marked its seventh annual conference in Addis Ababa at Sheraton Hotel on July 19, 2019, making it the first time the conference is held in the African continent.

The session, titled “Overcoming Africa’s Energy Access Gap” was sponsored by Enel Green Power, Bonelli Erede and Terna, where 200 participants gathered to discuss and identify strategic priorities to scale-up renewable energy across Africa to overcome the energy access gaps.

Stated in its press release, the annual conference offers Africa a unique opportunity to consolidate and expand RES4Africa’s well-established dialogue with key public and private sector stakeholders, multilateral institutions and civil society organizations working on to accelerate access to clean energy as a foundation for an inclusive and sustainable development in Africa.

RES4Africa has set the scene for Africa a unique opportunity to diversify the Ethiopian energy generation mix. And now 97 percent of Ethiopia’s electricity is generated from renewable energy resources,” Seleshi told the participant.

“With less than a year, the project will be completed and will be ready to produce 100 MW,” Michele Bologna, Head of Global Renewable Energies Communication told The Reporter.

**HORN IN BRIEF**

**US blames China for harassing American troops in Djibouti**

The United States military on Thursday accused China of harassing troops stationed at its military base in the African nation of Djibouti and attempting to sneak into the facility, which Beijing firmly denied.

Rear Adm. Heidi Berg, director of intelligence at the US Africa Command (AFRICOM), told reporters during a phone briefing that China had taken “irresponsible actions” toward US troops stationed in Djibouti, according to the Washington Times.

Djibouti is home to Camp Lemonnier, Washington’s only permanent military outpost in Africa. The base, which supports roughly 4,000 troops, is a hub for the US intelligence-gathering and counter-terrorism operations in the region.

It sits just over 10 kilometers away from a Chinese military support base, set up in 2017 near a critical seaport which is partly controlled by China.

Rear Adm. Berg accused Chinese personnel of trying to “constrain international airspace” by barraging aircraft from flying over their base, beaming ground-based lasers at American pilots, and flying drones in a bid to hamper American flight operations.

**South Sudan lawmakers quit budget presentation over unpaid public salaries**

South Sudanesan lawmakers stormed out of a budget presentation by the finance minister on Thursday, with one citing frustrations over non-payment of salaries to civil servants and soldiers.

The disruption highlights the fragility of South Sudan’s government, months after the latest peace deal was signed to end a civil war often fought along ethnic lines. The conflict has killed 400,000 people, forced millions to flee their homes and crippled production of oil.

“Our army is cutting down trees to make a living, our foreign missions … it is now almost one year we are unable to pay them,” lawmaker Elizabeth Adut shouted in parliament before the presentation of the budget for financial year 2019/20 began.

“Our teachers are not being paid. What are we doing? We are now presenting a new budget while our salaries are not being paid,” lawmaker Elizabeth Adut shouted in parliament before the presentation of the budget for financial year 2019/20 began.

“With less than a year, the project will be completed and will be ready to produce 100 MW,” Michele Bologna, Head of Global Renewable Energies Communication told The Reporter.
Ethiopians, Germans collaborate to create ARADA

By Nardos Fekadu

Enter Africa, the creative African Network, has launched a location-based game named “ARADA - THE QUEST FOR OMNISCIENT,” on Thursday, June 21, 2019 at Goethe-Institute Addis Ababa.

A project by the Goethe-Institute “ARADA” is part of Enter Africa involving game designers and gamification experts from Germany and Ethiopia.

Dagmawi Bedilu, a software engineer and Game design Lead told The Reporter that the game was started three years ago, with an aim to build a new gaming experience which came-up with the name “ARADA”.

“Regarding the game, “ARADA” is defined as a mindset, a state of awakening, a state of omniscience, and an underground community. So, while playing the game, the player is not one character but tries to become omniscient which can only be achieved by combining the values and powers of different communities and generations represented by individual characters which we call it the ARADA experience,” Dagmawi said, adding “When you are playing the game you go around the city and you will be in the shoe of 13 characters so that players can only solve tasks by combining the strengths of the individual characters. Thus, the purpose of life, under the Arada Order, is to explore as many identities as possible in one’s lifetime.”

The game, which can be found on both the App Store and Google Play, involves two phases. First, the player engages with the city and goes to different locations to collect characters, each of which has a different special ability and in the second step, one has to solve tasks in five different sub-stories. A special feature of the game is the possibility to trade characters.

“If one does not want to play the game using a mobile phone, there are card games, print and play games so that everyone can enjoy it,” Dagmawi explained.

The message of Arada is to embrace differences and working together is the only way of becoming omniscient - which is not only relevant for Ethiopia but anywhere in the world.

Enter Africa which was founded in 2018, is a creative African network represented in 15 African countries which offers creative talents a platform to connect, showcase their work, network and interact. It offers investors a connection to African creators, customized insights about the African gaming market, and navigation support to deliver value.

It further offers cultural and social organizations access to credible cross-cultural and pan-African networks to realize social and cultural aims on the ground through a participatory approach.

Mastermind of Sudan deadly crackdown identified, says general

A top Sudanese general said Thursday that the mastermind behind a deadly crackdown on protesters has been identified, but refused to name him saying it would impact a probe into the raid.

Crowds of protesters were violently dispersed on June 3 by men in military uniforms, shooting and beating demonstrators who had participated in a weeks-long crackdown on protesters has been identified, but refused to name him saying it would impact a probe into the raid.

“Whoever it is, whether from regular forces or a civilian, will be brought to trial. The investigation will be transparent and the trial will be public.”

Arab Parliament ‘warns’ Kenya territory war with Somalia

The diplomatic standoff between Somalia and Kenya appears to have taken an interesting turn after the Arab Parliament cautioned the country against meddling with matters to do with Somalia.

The diplomatic standoff between Somalia and Kenya appears to have taken an interesting turn after the Arab Parliament cautioned the country against meddling with matters to do with Somalia.

Through the Somalia Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Arab Parliament said Kenya should keep off the territorial boundaries which have been the subject of a diplomatic standoff between the two countries for years.

The Arab Parliament accuses Kenya of trying to “pretentiously draw a new and unfounded map in efforts to win over the territorial grounds”.

“The Arab Parliament calls on Kenya to stop its hands on Somali territorial waters, which are an integral part of the Arab waters, and rejects its false pretensions to draw up a new, unfounded map while rejecting its threats to interfere in Somalia’s internal affairs,” read a tweet by the Somali Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

At the Arab League Summit of 2001-Amman, the Arab states agreed to create an Arab Parliament, and came up with a resolution to give Amr Moussa the Secretary General of the Arab.
The production of plastic in Ethiopia dates back to the time of Emperor Minilik II with the first firm launching the production of polyethylene plastics for packaging in Ethiopia as far back as early 1890s.

By Birhanu Fikade

It is not unusual to come across expressions like somebody or something is “plastic” in modern spoken English to connote an attribute which is highly “unoriginal” or “artificial” or in most cases “fake”. The etymology of the terms aside, single-use plastic bag, one of the most ubiquitous materials in the world today, is also one of the most important human inventions to date. Known to have emerged around 1800s, plastic is also one material that has evolved to become completely synthetic over the last century; although in the beginning it was a material which was synthesized from natural existing compounds found in oil, natural gas and coal and some plants.

Today, the bulk of plastic materials which are largely in use in the shopping industry around the world are polyethylene plastics made out mostly synthetic compounds whipped up in scientific laboratories. This perhaps appears to be most likely reason for the term plastic is so famously linked with a sense of unoriginality or fake.

The production of plastic in Ethiopia dates back to the time of Emperor Minilik II with the first firm launching the production of polyethylene plastics for packaging in Ethiopia as far back as early 1890s. Historical records indicate that Rain Proof was the name of the British-based company that established the first plastic producing plant in Ethiopia. Regrettably, the firm was forced to close down shop only after a short span of time in the country. Apparently, it was difficult for the company to win the hearts and minds of the then consumers. It failed to convince Ethiopians to use its plastic bags. That was the end of it.

Nearly a century after the departure of Rain Proof, life without plastics appears to be unbearable in Ethiopia. Consumables, household appliances, computers, cardboards, footwear and flip-flops, clothes, and the like have come to be under the heavy sway of plastics. In fact, this multibillion-dollar industry has taken over the whole world and concerns surrounding plastic is growing among the international community.

Accordingly, they have been introducing some stern laws to ban at least the use of single-use plastics: mostly
By the estimates of UN Environment, one million plastic bottles are purchased every one minute across the world and a total of five trillion single-use plastic bags are used every year.

Recent media reports showed photos of dead sperm whales due to kilos and tons of ingested plastic wastes. The death of deer, turtles and ducks as a result of plastic tangling and suffocations is now becoming an everyday incident. The toxicity and hazardousness of plastics are what many experts fear; for humans are exposed to heavy metals and perhaps cancer related deaths as a result of plastic uses. Hence, serious bans of plastic bags or single-use plastics are trending across Europe, Asia and now in Africa to help reduce the ugly impacts of plastics on humans and animals and the environment.

The European Union is currently considering introduction of a law that totally bans single-use plastics across its member countries. In Africa, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and a couple of others have banned single-use plastics, mainly shopping plastic bags.

Ethiopia, for long has been dragging its feet to ban plastic bagging until a few years ago where as many as 500 plastic manufacturing firms, that have acquired licenses to produce plastic materials were found to be violating laws.
“THIS CHANGE HAPPENED BECAUSE ETHIOPIANS DEMANDED IT”

Nicholas Barnett is the outgoing press officer at the US Embassy in Addis Ababa. He served in Addis Ababa for the past three years during which he met a lot of people, traveled across the country and learned much about the history, culture and people of Ethiopia. Brook Abdu of The Reporter sat with Barnett to discuss his stay in Addis where he reflects on issues ranging from the transition in Ethiopia to media freedom and the upcoming elections. Excerpts:

The Reporter: Let’s begin by discussing your expectation and your impression before and after coming to Ethiopia three years ago. Were there any disparities about what you expected to find and what you found here after arriving?

Nicholas Barnett: I decided I wanted to work in Africa after doing three assignments in former nations of the Soviet Union. So, prior to Ethiopia, I worked in Tajikistan, Russia and Azerbaijan. They were unique in their own ways, but I wanted something really different. I didn’t know a whole lot about Ethiopia, to be honest. When I was younger, my dad took me to an Ethiopian restaurant in Washington because he thought it would be different and that was my first exposure. But beyond that, I didn’t know a whole lot about Ethiopia’s history which you really only get a sense of it when you travel. I mean, from the pre-Christian civilization in Axum to the early Christian civilization, the history, and how they spread and not to mention providing safe haven to the early Muslims who fled the Middle East and then you know, you go to Abba Jifar’s palace in Jimma and you can see the influence of Indo Pacific Trade which somehow made it all the way to Jimma. It’s no where near the ocean but still you can recognize that architecture from anywhere. Learning about the kind of
The time you arrived here was a trying time for Ethiopia and there were very polarized thoughts whether the country would continue as a nation itself. What did you make of these views at the time of your arrival?

When I arrived, things were difficult. We had the first state of emergency a couple of months after I arrived here. Obviously, the embassy was following them very closely. But, how do you look into something from the hindsight? How do you look at the past and interpret it? The fact is that Ethiopians raise their voices and demanded something different and that message got through finally after many years. Look at where we are now.

It’s not that there aren’t challenges now. But there are many more opportunities for success than we could see three years ago. That’s what’s really exciting. That’s hard to believe. That’s hard to believe at a time when there’s so much possibility here and it’s just getting started. In the first 14 months under Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, we have seen incredible changes; things that we wanted, things that we advocated for but didn’t think they were going to happen anytime soon. So, that’s really been amazing.

And I probably, as much as I’ve been able to share with anybody from seeing this process and from talking to people. The US, we’re not interested in telling the people what policies should be or what direction it should go in. Certainly we think that our values are good values; democracy, market economics, that sort of things.

But, mostly right now what we’re trying to do is share out stories and share our experiences. And one of the main things that I want Ethiopians to understand is that having challenges doesn’t equal failure; having challenges is normal. I mean, we’re 240 years into our constitution and we still have plenty of challenges and there will be new ones. There will be challenges in the future we can’t even anticipate. The key with democracy, this is where the United states is really focused with Ethiopia, is building the capacity to address the challenges for people to be able to freely say this isn’t right, this isn’t what we want, we want something different and to have a responsive system of government institutions that can react to them.

And that’s how we did away with slavery. Yeah, we ultimately had a war but it started from people saying this isn’t right, we shouldn’t do this anymore. That’s how women got the right to vote. The women said why are we not being counted and they advocated until the change happened. It’s how we passed the civil rights movement in the 1960s and 60s because people had the freedom to raise their concerns and the institutions were accountable to the people to the extent that those concerns could lead to action. That’s what’s important for Ethiopia right now. It’s not that there should be no challenges but we need to build the institutions to address the challenges.

Let me take you back again to the time you arrived in Ethiopia. That was a time when the US made an administrative change with the presidency of Donald Trump. But there was no clear direction from the side of the new administration regarding its policy towards Africa. This was a center of debate in Africa at the time. How did this affect your activities in Ethiopia?

Certainly, we pay attention to the priorities whichever administration is in power in the US. That’s part of our own transitional process. But I think what you will see if you notice is that our policies will remain fairly stable and not just between the last two but even before that. American foreign policy in Ethiopia has long been about investing in democratic growth in economic prosperity to regional stability. Those things haven’t gone away.

What’s changes since I got here is the amount of opportunity we have to pursue. With the reform process, we have so much opportunity to engage, so much more ways that we can invest in the capacity of Ethiopia to succeed many of which were
AXUM: A NEGLECTED TOURIST ATTRACTION
The Reporter, June 22, 2019 Vol. 23 No. 1189

By Samuel Getachew

The city of Axum, in the Tigray Regional State with its magnificent obelisk overshadowing a city in need of direction and support, the historic city, despite its historical worth is still a hidden treasure of Ethiopia that has not received the respect it rightly deserves. A society rich with ancient sites, a population that is still young - Axum is a shock. The place has very few visible tourists coming to its shores.

“There is little infrastructure to host guests, let alone accommodate the local populations,” a young tourist guide tells The Reporter. “Shouldn’t there be proper investments done in order for others to want to come here and experience the area.”

It is easy to see the potential and shortcomings of the place, literally denying it to showcase its historical narrative to the world, despite being recognized by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as a world heritage site.

The massive ruins, dating from between the 1st and the 13th century AD, include monolithic obelisks, giant stelae, royal tombs and the ruins of ancient castles. Long after its political decline in the 10th century, Ethiopian emperors continued to be crowned in Axum.

Situated in the highlands of northern Ethiopia, Axum symbolizes the wealth and importance of the civilization of the ancient Aksumite kingdom, which lasted from the 1st to the 8th centuries AD. The kingdom was at the crossroads of the three continents: Africa, Arabia and the Greco-Roman World, and was the most powerful state between the Eastern Roman Empire and Persia. In command of the ivory trade with Sudan, its fleets controlled the Red Sea trade through the port of Adulis and the inland routes of north eastern Africa.

The ruins of the ancient Aksumite Civilization covered a wide area in the Tigray Plateau. The most impressive monuments are the monolithic obelisks, royal tombs and the palace ruins dating to the 6th and 7th centuries AD.

“I am excited to be in Africa, I learned much about historical facts of the nation and as a young activist, I helped fight the cause of returning the artifact to the rightful owner.”

To his Australian colleague, Axum is a memorable place and is happy to have visited it.

“This is my first time being in Africa,” she said. “With little cosmetic improvements, this place can be a destination for backpackers such as myself, but there needs to better and affordable hotels.”

At 5:00 am, as the darkness is turning blue and as young women are gathering for a bucket water from a nearby water station, where basic electricity is still a luxury, a chatty elderly man, Kiros Tadios, is a guide in the area and he knows its history well, having lived in Axum for more than five decades.

“There is much to discover here. With no infrastructures, even like decent public washrooms, the Obelisk treasure is crumbling down, why would anyone come here. It’s only the elders that are sticking around. Our tourism could have made our young people affluent but it has been a burden as very few are coming to visit us.”

Like Axum, in its outskirts, its historical artifacts are also as neglected and crying for help.

In the Dura Mountain, known as ‘Ethiopia’s Chapel in the Sky’ a 10km ride from the City, most of the once proud artifacts are either damaged or are on their way in to total destruction. The churches that once stood tall are in disarray.

There are no tourists coming in and the lone sign that recognized the area has aged and can barely be read.

For 21 year old, Yosef Abrah, a part time translator and tour operator with faded jeans and torn shirt showing the little he seems to earn from lack of tourism, that is a missed opportunity.

“If we were to invest a little in Dura and help explain its history, we can bring needed attention to it. However, no one wants to invest in it. We are sleeping on treasures and we are closer to losing them,” he said.

Back in Axum, a noted Christian city, the status of its Muslim population has been a wedge issue for most. No Muslims can be buried here nor be able to build a mosque. However, they have been allowed to pray in the open, every Friday.

For Mohamed Mohamed and his friends, they have been forced to pray inside an ordinary room in the heart of downtown. All his Muslim family members have been buried in nearby towns and it hurts him, he cannot be buried here.”

“I am a fourth generation person from Axum. The history of this place is still in my vain and I want to see it grow, prosper and have people appreciate its history and I hope its Muslim population would be valued and recognized” he told The Reporter.

“To me, beyond our shortcomings, that is what I want to pass to my own children. Axum is beyond a single individual but the treasure of Ethiopia,” he added.

With much potential and a growing grumbling to help the city reach its potential, last week, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed made a surprise visit to Axum, to announce his government’s commitment to invest in the Obelisk and it was followed by the Government of Italy to support the effort.

For many, the recent visit of the Premier was a belated endorsement of its historical worth and many hope the federal government would put in the resources to protect the obelisks.

“This is a testament to our historic civilizations and something that should worry, not just the government, but the people of Ethiopia”, Kiros told The Reporter.

“But, I hope, it will be sooner, than later. If not, we might lose it forever”, he warned.

Ed’s Note: Samuel was recently on a region wide tour of Tigray and this is the fourth part of a series of articles he would be writing on his experience.
Horn of Africa: Enchained by geopolitical and transnational veto players

By Leulseged Girma Haile

The Horn of Africa is increasingly turning into a space of rivalry and competition between rival external powers. There are perspectives that postulate this as auguring a new cold war involving military, economic and diplomatic preeminence with the key distinctions being that the current stand-off is more complex than the bipolar international system during the Cold War and the perceived absence of an ideological component. The situation in the Horn of Africa can be taken as a manifestation of the emergence of a multi-polar world order in which multiple powers compete to assert their interests and influence.

The imperatives and interests driving the engagement of external powers in the Horn of Africa are either explicitly stated or can be inferred from their actions and statements. Despite the recent political shifts in United States (US) politics exemplified by the Trump presidency and the much anticipated contraction in US international engagement, the reality is that US foreign policy engagement is still very much defined by its self-proclaimed role as the global guardian of the liberal world order, the ‘war on terror’ and increasingly a push-back against the perceived expansionism of powers such as China and Russia.

Although defined from civil war point of view, David E. Cunningham (2013) describes veto players as having the capability to unilaterally block settlement. He argues that the presence of many veto players prolongs conflicts as witnessed recently in the war in Syria. He also defines veto players as possessors of various kinds of resources such as better trained and equipped troops, technology, and more importantly funding sources. In the contemporary Horn veto players can be interpreted as the foreign actors who have the wherewithal to influence the Horn, either positively or negatively.

Synergies between the Peoples’ Republic of China and the Horn region

China’s engagement in the Horn is driven by its desire to see the fruition of its global project, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and moreover sees the Horn as a strategic gateway into Africa. Recent Russian engagement in the Horn can be interpreted as being animated by discomfort with the presence of the US and China in the region and an attempt to regain its influence that it lost three decades ago. The Gulf Arab monarchies, as emerging powers, are funneling resources to states of the Horn thereby ensuring their military, investment and preeminence interests. It seems that the Horn is emerging as an interesting test case of the implications of the emerging multi-polar world order.

Among these foreign powers, China takes the lion’s share of investment and developmental activities in the Horn. It is closely working with pivotal countries such as Ethiopia. China has transformed its relationship with Ethiopia into a strategic level taking into account the fact that Ethiopia is a critical entry point into Africa. Ethiopia has enjoyed a preeminent position in the Horn for decades due to its pivotal role in the foundation of Inter-Governmental Authority on Drought and Development (IGAD) in 1986 and its successor the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in 1996. Ethiopia’s history as a founder of the African Union (AU) and its international peacekeeping role by many international allies and the strategic association of China and other power centers to the country is not a surprise.

Having a population of more than 100,000,000 people, vast arable land, immense opportunities in the service and construction sectors and the prospects that may emerge with the liberalization of the financial sector, coupled with the fact that Addis Ababa is the political capital and diplomatic hub of Africa, Ethiopia has managed to attract international partnerships including the Chinese. Other countries in the Horn have also their own economic, political and cultural imperatives in attracting and attaching themselves with the powers.

China’s first overseas military base is situated in geopolitically significant Djibouti which hosts several foreign military bases and coincidentally is also the BRI entry point into Africa. China’s presence in the region and Djibouti in particular, is also a result of US suspicions. For America and some powers, the

Time for a “call of the motherland”

By Araya G. Tekleabh

I was a kid when the Derg government declared the “call of the motherland” to get the support of the people to fight against Somalia. Now, we don’t need war to declare a “call of the motherland”. Our country is currently found in a state of conundrum. It’s the time where peace and conflict, hope and desperation, love and hate, forgiveness and revenge, trust and mistrust... all sorts of contradictory assumptions are evident. This is indeed a challenging time for our people.

I am one of those Ethiopians who were absolutely happy with Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed’s (PhD) inaugural speech. It was a kind of speech that won the hearts of millions. That day was marked as the Renaissance. It was the day that even the words like “Ethiopia”, “Ethiopians” and “our country” were given the proper respect after twenty seven years of suppression. Apart from his oratory, his patriotism, humility, expression of love, forgiveness... etc. all have driven millions to stand with him. That day may be marked as the renaissance. It was indeed a turning point towards our country.

By the same token, ESAT’s recent ‘disintegration’ has become the center of news. Dumping blame on the other appears to be common. However, we don’t know exactly who is right or wrong to blame. Personally I don’t personally don’t have that inside information. However, I sense that there are political differences which are not strange among members of a certain media. I think, what is expected from media professionals is to be objective. So, political or other differences couldn’t result in disintegration. In the Ethiopian context, I always wonder how things change in a lightning speed; from favorable to the other, from agreement to disagreement, from disagreement into conflict and finally from conflict into hostility. Anyways, it has already happened. It’s not that easy to reverse these burning issues.

In addition, the government seems to be always ready to take action against those who are indulged in making invidious speeches and interventions. Anyways, we are free to do whatever they want in spite of the fact that the result is devastating. On the other hand, the renowned journalist Eskinder Nega is being deprived of equal treatment in promoting his ideas in a peaceful manner.

www.thereporterethiopia.com
INVITATION FOR BID

EFFORT Investment Center invites all interested and eligible international bidders for the preparation of a feasibility study on Metal and Engineering Industry Project.

Bidders shall collect Term of Reference (TOR) from the address stated below. Paying Birr 200.00.

Application Procedure and dead line

1. Bidders should submit their Technical and Financial proposal within 30 days starting from 24/06/2019
2. The closing date will be 23/07/2019 5:00 pm in the afternoon.
3. Bidders must prepare and submit their technical proposal and financial proposals in separate envelope to the following Address.

EFFORT Investment Center
Bole Road
Mega Building 2nd floor, Room Number 217/218
Addis Ababa

OR

EFFORT Investment Center
Hanedet Sub City
Guna Building
Mekelle

4. The Technical Proposal of bidders will be opened in Mekelle EFFORT office on 29/07/2019 9:00 am in the morning.
5. The Financial Proposal will be opened after technical evaluation is completed in the presence of the bidders.
6. EFFORT Investment reserves the right to accept or reject the bid as a whole or part of it at its own desecration.

For future information please call 0344417234/0911252717

---

DASHEN BANK S.C
CALL FOR TENDER

Open Tender NO. DB/002/OT/2019/20

1. Dashen Bank S.C invites all interested and eligible bidders for the supply of the under listed items.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.N</th>
<th>Descriptions</th>
<th>UM</th>
<th>Qty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lot - I</td>
<td>Indoor dome IP cameras with its management software</td>
<td>Pcs</td>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot - II</td>
<td>Supply and Installation of Local Area Network in Addis Ababa and upcountry branches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot - III</td>
<td>Supply and fix Vertical Blind in Addis Ababa and upcountry branches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Interested and eligible bidders are invited to purchase the bid document starting from June 24, 2019 from Supply Chain Management Department, Dashen Bank New Head Quarter Building located in front of National Bank of Ethiopia 14th floor having deposited non-refundable fee of Birr 100 for each lot at any Dashen Bank Branches deposited as account Number 180020002 & Present copy of credit advice ticket during the office hours (Monday to Friday 8:00-12:00 AM, 1:00-5:00 PM and Saturday 8:00-12:00 AM).

3. Copy of renewed Trade License, VAT Registration Certificate and TIN Certificate are required while submitting the bid document.

4. Bids shall be accompanied by a bid bond of Birr 50,000.00/ Fifty Thousand Birr / through Unconditional Bank guarantee or cashier’s payment order (CPO) at least valid for 90 days upon submission of offer.

5. The sealed bid document shall be placed in the box prepared for this purpose on or before July 9, 2019 5:00 PM at the place mentioned under No. 2 above.

6. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders’ or their representatives at the address stated above at 9:30 AM on July 10, 2019.

7. Failure to comply with any of the conditions stated above from No. 2 to 5 shall result in automatic rejection.

8. The Bank reserves the right to accept or reject the bid either partially or fully.

NB. For any information you can contact with Tel no. +251 0115 1830 80,115 183152/54 or +2519 10276439/+251915948105
AUCTION ANNOUNCEMENT

The Development Bank of Ethiopia intends to sell the collateralized properties shown in the table below, acquired from a defaulted borrower - AYKA Addis Textile and Investment Group plc pursuant to the power vested to it under Proclamation No. 97/98 and 98/98.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the borrower</th>
<th>Type of property</th>
<th>Factory Plot size</th>
<th>property Location</th>
<th>Auction floor Price (In Bir)</th>
<th>Level of Auction</th>
<th>Date and Time Auction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ayka Addis Textile and Investment Group PLC</td>
<td>An integrated Textile Factory building, machineries, Equipment &amp; furniture, vehicles, Auxiliary tools, various spare parts, Raw Materials/inputs, Work-in-progress, finished products/fabrics, and some other related items</td>
<td>205,000 m²</td>
<td>Sebeta Town administration, Kebele 08</td>
<td>1,824,653,419.32 (One Billion Eight Hundred Twenty Four Million Six Hundred Fifty Three Thousand Four Hundred Nineteen Birr and Thirty Two Cents)</td>
<td>First</td>
<td>July 23/2019 From 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Instructions:

1. Bidders shall submit 25% (twenty five percent) of the floor price only in CPO as an earnest.
2. The winner shall pay the total auction price within 15 (Fifteen) calendar days. Failure to pay within the specified time period shall be the cause for the loss of the earnest price and cancellation of the award. Besides, the winner shall also be held responsible for the shortfall that may occur during the re-auctioning of the property.
3. Only the borrower or his legal representative, bidders or their legal representative and concerned government organs will be allowed to attend the auction process that takes place at the premises of Ayka Addis Textile Factory located at Sebeta town administration Kebele 08, on the date & time specified in the table above.
4. The winner shall pay 15% Value Added Tax and all other legal and administrative fees and charges that are associated with the sale of the property.
5. This auction is undertaken while the factory is running its normal operations. As a result, inventory items (i.e. Raw Materials/inputs, Work-in-progress, finished products/fabrics, spare parts and other related items) which constitute the auction floor price indicated above, are duly expected to increase. Thus, the winner, on top of the winning price, is required to pay in cash/partial credit the value of increments in the inventory items and goods in transit which shall be determined at the time of handing over the property or else the Bank reserves the right to vacate those inventory items, in whichever ways convenient to it, and having sufficient and cost-free period of time, to do so.
6. The winner, on top of the winning price, is also required to pay in cash/partial credit the value of bottleneck machinery caused that might have been purchased after the publication of this announcement, the value of which shall be determined at the time of handing over the property.
7. In the event that there may be a pending export order for which the factory signed an agreement but not delivered yet, the Bank reserves the right to delay the process of transferring the factory to the buyer until such a time that all pending export orders are duly delivered as per the agreement.
8. Such component of the property like plant machineries, vehicles etc., have been imported under duty free privileges. Thus, the winner needs to either have matching customs duty exemption privilege or duty bound to pay the outstanding duties.
9. The winner who is interested to purchase the project on credit basis is required to submit, to the bank, documents that confirm he/she/it, under his/her/its name and/or a company in which he/she/it holds 10%(Ten percent) or above share/s, is clear from any statutory or other liabilities, including unsettled payment claims.
10. Interested and eligible Participants may obtain more information from the Development Bank of Ethiopia Project Rehabilitation and Loan Recovery Directorate-II 2nd Tower 3rd Floor or through telephone 011-524-53-73 or can be accessed on the web site of the Bank. www.dbe.com.et. The Bank can arrange a pre-scheduled visit for interested Participants.
11. The Bank reserves the right to cancel the auction partially or fully.
# FIRST AUCTION ANNOUNCEMENT

The Development Bank of Ethiopia intends to sell at a public auction the finished garments and waste stock listed in the table below acquired from a defaulted borrower, Ayka Addis Textile and Investment Group PLC, Pursuant to Proclamation No. 97/98 and 98/98.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Description (Item)</th>
<th>Total Initial auction rice (Birr)</th>
<th>Date and Time of the auction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOT-I (Garment vestel store)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>kids Cloths</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>T-shirt</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jacket</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Long T-shirt (devided)</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pyjamas</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Blot</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>2 leggings</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>3 tops</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>bed cover</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>bottom pyjama</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Dress</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Dress (Multi style)</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Dress (nights)</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Duvet set</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>fitted sheet</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>1 skirt</td>
<td>25,203,684.66</td>
<td>July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOT-II (Garment vestel store)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Jersey Dress</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Jump suit pijama</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Legging</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Men Pyjama</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Men T-shirt (white)</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Mix Pyjama</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Nursing Pyjama</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Packout</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Pant (kids)</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Pants</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Pillow cases</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Collection</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Bed Sheet</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Wende</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Rousers</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Shirt</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Garment West in Kg</td>
<td>18,513,611.48</td>
<td>July 10, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOT-III (Garment Depo store)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>T-Shirt</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Tayit</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Trousers</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Pyjamas</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Shirt</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Fitted sheet</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Legging</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Duvet set</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Dress</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Pillow case</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Bed covers</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Top</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>jacket</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Packout</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Collection</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Kid Legging</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Bed sheet</td>
<td>88,230,357.30</td>
<td>July 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Instructions:**

1. Bidders shall submit 25% (twenty five percent) of the total initial price of the respective lots separately, only in CPO as an earnest.
2. Only the borrower or his legal representative, bidders or their legal representative and concerned government organs will be allowed to attend the auction process that takes place at the premises of Ayka Addis Textile factory located at Sebeta town administration Kebele 08, on the date & time specified in the table above.
3. Bidders shall bid for all the items under each lot and partial bidding for some items in a lot is not allowed. However, interested and able bidders can contend (bid) for more than one lot.
4. The winners shall pay the total bid price within 15(fifteen) calendar days. Failure to pay in the specified period shall be the cause for the loss of the earnest price and rejection of the award. The winner shall also be held responsible for the shortfall that may occur during re-auctooning. And for non-winner contenders their CPO shall be returned back right away.
5. A Bidder who wins the auction is expected to pay 15% VAT (Fifteen Percent Value Added Tax) on top of the winning price.
6. The Bank shall sell the items only in cash.
7. The winners must clear off the item(s), at their own expense, within 10(ten) days following the date the winning price is paid to the Bank in full.
8. Interested and eligible bidders may obtain information from Development Bank of Ethiopia Project Rehabilitation and Loan Recovery Directorate II, 2nd Tower 3rd floor or through Telephone 011 524373 and the Bank could arrange pre-scheduled visit for interested bidders.
9. The Bank reserves the right to revoke the auction partially or fully.
Reality defying buildings

In a surprising fusion of art, architecture, theatre, and engineering, British sculptor Alex Chinneck produces contextually responsive interventions that animate the urban landscape in which they stand. A house that melts, a mansion that levitates or an upside-down tower of 37 meters are some of the amazing creations by Alex Chinnek who transforms the landscape of cities with great humor, creativity, and talent!

“I try to make the everyday world that surrounds us momentarily extraordinary, weaving fantasy into familiarity. My work attempts to playfully challenge perceptions of possibility, refusing to let physics get in the way of imagination. I found it liberating to leave art school because my work discovered a freedom and confidence to roam across different disciplines. Architecture, engineering, construction and theatre design all feature in my practice and it is through collaboration with hundreds of practitioners across these fields that my ambitions become reality.

The hardest trick is making something look easy. We take highly complex paths to create simple, playful, accessible, and hopefully, magical moments that reject intellectual elitism and welcome engagement from any audience member. In an increasingly digital world, sculptural practice and the creation of physically immersive experiences has never been so important. My sculptures are therefore real and not renders,” Chinneck, who is a graduate of Chelsea College of Art and a member of the Royal British Society of Sculptors, told Bored Panda.

His work has been featured extensively by international media.

On the right are some of his works.

Instagram begins testing new procedures to help users regain access to hacked accounts

Instagram says today that it is testing new features that might make it easier for people to regain access to accounts that hackers have overtaken Motherboard reports. The news follows reports from users about losing access to their valuable accounts, as well as a separate Motherboard story about how some of these victims turned to white-hat (or well-meaning) hackers for help. Attackers often trick Instagram users into clicking a phishing link that requires them to enter their login credentials, which gives them access to the account. Once they’re in control, the hacker will change the account’s associated email address and phone number, which can make regaining access a nightmare.

Today, Instagram’s rolling out a test that will ask users to enter the email address or phone number linked to their account, or the ones they used when they initially signed up for the platform. Instagram will then send a six-digit code that’ll allow them to regain access. If a hacker has control over their email and phone number, too, an Instagram spokesperson tells Motherboard that, “When you re-gain access to your account, we will take additional measures to ensure a hacker cannot use codes sent to your email address [or] phone number to access your account from a different device.”

This same process would protect people whose usernames were changed.

(The Verge)
Twitter is bringing back its Mac desktop app

A little over a year after discontinuing its Mac desktop app, Twitter says that it is bringing the program back after Apple unveiled Project Catalyst for macOS 10.15 Catalina. It explained why it decided to drop the app last year.

Twitter, the social networking application company, made the announcement during Apple’s WWDC conference last week, saying that the app would launch with Catalina this fall, and that this new version will have a variety of features like dark mode, keyboard shortcuts, multiple windows, and notifications.

In February last year Twitter pulled the application from Apple’s App Store after a history of sporadic updates, and recommended that people simply use the web version. In its post yesterday, it also provides a bit more of an explanation for why the original Mac app was discontinued: while it originated with the iPhone app, the Mac app “diverged as Twitter increasingly focused on its mobile apps,” and the company simply could not maintain the two.

Twitter says that with Project Catalyst, they’ll be able to use their existing iOS codebase and will add on features for desktops “while keeping our maintenance efficient as we continue to improve this shared codebase in the years to come.”

Microsoft is considering a dedicated Office key for keyboards

Microsoft is considering adding a dedicated Office key to keyboards. The new key would provide additional keyboard shortcuts for Office apps, including the ability to quickly share documents and files. Microsoft has been conducting a survey with testers of the Office key, spotted by WalkingCat, and is getting feedback on how the dedicated key operates.

Microsoft appears to suggest the key will replace the secondary Windows key on the right-hand side of a keyboard, or the dedicated menu key. Microsoft’s survey, which requires a work or school Microsoft account to access, includes questions around Office key shortcuts, and asks whether testers would like to see this dedicated key on laptops. Microsoft appears to be testing the concept with its latest Windows 10 May 2019 Update.

Microsoft has had dedicated Windows keys on its range of keyboards for 25 years now, since the introduction of the Microsoft Natural keyboard in 1994. Most keyboards that have adopted the 104 / 105-key layout include these two Windows keys and the additional menu key, as Microsoft will not certify keyboards for Windows use without the Windows flag keys.

The Verge has reached out to Microsoft for comment on the dedicated Office key, and reported that they will update users accordingly.

On June 19, 1953, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were executed by electrocution at Sing Sing Prison in New York. They had been found guilty of providing vital information on the atomic bomb to the Soviet Union during 1944-45. They were the first US civilians to be sentenced to death for espionage and were also the only married couple ever executed together in the US.

Street vendors selling spices in the then largest African open market, Mercato, in the early 1970s.
Call for Consultancy Service

Formative Research for At-Home SRH Service

Marie Stopes believes that every woman and girl should be able to have children by choice, not chance. In Ethiopia and around the world, we work every day to provide family planning and reproductive health services to millions of low-income and under-served women and men. For the last 27 years, we have been working closely with the Government of Ethiopia and other partners to help reduce maternal mortality rates by increasing access to quality sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services.

With aim of expanding choices for women and couples, we provide SRH services through a network of centres, which includes 20 SRH and 4 maternal and child health clinics, more than 350 socially franchised private BlueStar clinics, and 9 outreach teams. We also support 38 public health facilities to strengthen the existing family planning and comprehensive abortion care services. We work with 22 rural employers to provide reproductive health services to their employees through our ‘Fit-For-Work’ project.

Our service delivery channels are designed to reach women and couples most in need with comprehensive, safe and affordable SRH services; operating in all regions except Somali, Benishangul Gumuz and Harari. Our work also contributes to the Government of Ethiopia’s Health Sector Transformation Plan (HSTP) aim of halving maternal and child mortality by 2020 through building sustainable platforms to bring lasting impact on the health status of Ethiopians.

To better serve the needs of ‘wealthy’ women in Addis and ensure financial sustainability for its commercial services wing, MSI Ethiopia has the idea of providing at-home reproductive health services at a premium price point. For this purpose MSIE wanted to conduct a study to determine how successful to provide at home SRH services will be to the wealthiest women and behaviors regarding contraceptive method use and service delivery point preferences.

Therefore, for this study MSIE would like to hire a qualified consultancy firm to conduct a formative research for At-Home SRH services.

Interested, qualified and eligible bidders are invited to collect the detailed terms of reference (TOR) from the Marie Stopes International Ethiopia head office located at Wello sefer, Ethio–China road in front of Tebaber Berta Building, from the reception desk during working hours starting from the date of first announcement.

Bidders must submit a technical and financial proposal. Proposal submission date is on or before July 8, 2019, 10am to the following address:

Procurement Division
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
P.O. Box 5775
Telephone no. 0115509251, 0115509307 or 0115152157
Addis Ababa

Bidding documents must be signed and bidders are also required to submit company profile, renewed business license, tax identification and value added tax registration certificates. Bidders are also required to provide soft copy of the technical proposal on a CD.

Marie Stopes International Ethiopia reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

MSIE is not bound to accept the lowest offer or any offer.

Marie Stopes International Ethiopia
Bankrolling the . . .

IDA donor countries a.k.a. Deputies and IDA borrowers (beneficiaries) from June 17 to 20, 2019, in Addis Ababa.

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD), who lost his father this week and attending his funeral ceremony on Wednesday, made it in time to speak briefly at the closing of the IDA meeting with Finance Minister, Ahmed Shide, and Chief Trade negotiator and policy advisor to the PM, Mamo Mihiret, on his side. Reassuring the participants of the real and material gains of IDA’s support to Ethiopia by recounting economic and social improvements his country has registered in the past 15 years, Abiy stated that most of the development that happened in Ethiopia would not have been possible if it was not for the support of development partners like IDA.

“I would like to tell you that IDA is effective, innovative and transformative,” Abiy told the gathering adding that Ethiopia is a clear case study that shows “IDA indeed delivers”. The Prime Minister who also held a brief sideline consultation with the CEO was mindful of his country’s debt and macroeconomic challenges. In that, Abiy acknowledged rising indebtedness in sub-Saharan Africa including Ethiopia and conceded to the fact that the responsibility of controlling rising debt levels lies squarely on the borrowing countries. Nevertheless, Abiy argued that huge gap in development financing in these countries cannot go without reliable and affordable development assistance from donors like IDA. “We are still counting on you,” he underscored.

On the economic front, Abiy revealed to IDA Deputies and borrowers that his administration has embarked up on a major market reform process that involves the opening up of key service sectors like telecom, energy, logistic and the like. As Ethiopia moves out of a growth logistic and the like. As Ethiopia moves out of a growth paradigm which is “driven by public investment” and into an approach that “emphasizes productivity and job creation”, Abiy said, the introduction of competition to sectors which remained closed to private capital in the past will be the primary policy objective.

“We recognize the reforms are very bold and that they do take time,” PM said, while also admitting that the process is “politically complex and costly” to the country. Nevertheless, “it [the reform] promises big paybacks for tomorrow although it appears costly today.”

The Group’s CEO also agrees that the reform is a critical factor in the economic prospect of Ethiopia. “Really, the scale of the reform conceived is remarkable,” she said in an exclusive interview with The Reporter. And that introducing competition to sectors like telecom, power and logistic will contribute to overall growth and development of the country by bringing the price of these useful services down and inducing quality improvement, Georgieva argued.

Unlike the other World Bank lending branch the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), which provides credit to mostly middle income nations at reasonable interest rates that are still below market rates, IDA, which provides lending facilities to low-income countries at zero or near to zero interest rates, needs periodical replenishment of its lending resources from donor countries to continue its funding.

In addition to discussing the needed replenishment of funds, IDA meetings would also host debates about the lending policy framework that needs to be adopted for the upcoming IDA cycle. Accordingly, the overall rising external debt levels in 34 out of 68 IDA borrower countries was the highlight of this year’s debate. It is not only about the overall debt levels, Group’s CEO underscores, but the Bank has also noticed a subtle shift in the composition of the debt portfolio of borrowers to more non-concessional credits.

Drawing on Ethiopia’s experience, Abiy also noted that rising debt levels in the IDA beneficiary countries has also played its role to restrict this nation’s access to non-concessional financing in the global financial markets. As part of the debt conversation that the Bank is having with Ethiopian authorities, recent moves to restrict non-concessional borrowing is taken as a move to the right direction, according to Georgieva, and says that the Bank remains bullish to the reform direction Ethiopia is heading.

According to World Bank’s International Debt Statistic 2019, as of 2017, Ethiopia’s external debt stock stood at USD 26.56 billion with IDA contributing USD 7.098 billion over the years. This entailed a total debt servicing cost of USD 1.38 billion in the specific year (2017), with 946.1 million principal and 442 million interest dues. Furthermore, Ethiopia’s external debt profile shows that it is in high external debt stress level with external debt to export ratio of 291.6 percent. On the positive side, around 81 percent of the nation’s debt stock is composed of concessional loans, and in which IDA’s credit is significant, and hence having an average interest rate and maturity date of 2.3 percent and 23.9 years, respectively.
Why so many newborns and mothers still die

By Senna Spanier

Wash hands? Check. Monitor heart rate? Check. Prepare essential supplies? Check. These might seem like obvious steps for medical professionals to take while delivering a child. But lapses in care remain one of the leading causes of preventable patient deaths in low- and middle-income countries, and initiatives aimed at addressing the problem are not working.

One such initiative focuses on creating a checklist for birth attendants to consult. But in a multyear, multimillion-dollar randomized controlled trial conducted in northern India in 2017, the use of the World Health Organization’s Safe Childbirth Checklist, together with coaching on its implementation, did not improve outcomes for babies or their mothers.

Even if a childbirth checklist has some potential benefits, it amounts to an insufficient basis for efforts to address the scourge of high infant and maternal mortality. And yet, as a report in the British medical journal The Lancet shows, micro-level interventions alone can even be detrimental, as such measures consume limited time and resources.

To improve quality of care before, during, and after childbirth, the global health community must develop new, evidenced-backed interventions that address the underlying — often hidden — reasons why health care providers fail to take the necessary steps. The first step is to identify what those reasons are.

One answer that can immediately be ruled out is that more training is all providers need. Existing survey data indicate that, in general, transferring relevant knowledge and skills to nurses and other health-care providers is not enough. Even when more nurses become aware that they must monitor blood pressure, for example, they don’t always do it, or the effects do not last.

The imperative, then, is to explain the gap between providers’ knowledge and behavior. That is what my colleagues and I have aimed to do in Uttar Pradesh, India’s poorest states, where mothers and newborns are ten times more likely to die during or shortly after childbirth than in the United States.

After observing more than 20 clinics and conducting in-depth interviews with dozens of nurses and other staff, we developed several hypotheses to explain providers’ failure to take the necessary actions. We then tested those hypotheses using a series of novel decision-making games designed to elucidate the factors driving nurses’ choices.

The factors we identified fall into two categories: perceptual drivers (health workers’ fears, beliefs, motivations, biases, and perceptions) and contextual drivers (demands from patients and their families, attitudes of doctors, hospital infrastructure, and processes).

The two categories are closely interconnected.

Nurses in Uttar Pradesh, our research showed, have little support from the doctors with whom they work, but tend to be blamed — and punished — when something goes wrong. Moreover, families do not always respect nurses, and often will resist a nurse’s recommendation to refer a woman to a bigger hospital.

As a result, nurses are under constant stress and live in fear of risks to themselves, which end up taking precedence over the risks faced by patients. Given this, many nurses focus on those tasks for which they are solely responsible, such as the delivery itself, while letting less acute tasks related to that process fall by the wayside.

I witnessed such a dynamic firsthand during our field research. A nurse was sitting at her desk when I heard voices coming from the room behind her. A young woman had just delivered a baby and was lying on the floor, very thin and obviously exhausted. In that moment, someone should have been encouraging the mother to move and, otherwise, ensure that after delivery is vital to build the child’s immunity. But when I pointed this out, the nurse told me that it was not her job.

In truth, it was the nurse’s job. But once the baby had been safely delivered, she had disengaged — not least, in that particular case, to avoid dealing with the baby’s grandmother. As a result, both

The world is running out of time

By Bertrand Badré

In 2015, the international community launched a renewed effort to tackle collective global challenges under the auspices of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21). But after an initial flurry of activity, the focus that has been made toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and tackling climate change has tapered off. Around the world, many seem to have developed an allergy to increasingly stark warnings from the UN and other bodies about accelerating species extinctions, ecosystem collapse, and global warming.

Now is not the time to debate whether progress toward global goals is a matter of the glass being half-full or half-empty. Soon, there will no longer even be a glass to worry about. Despite global news coverage of civic and political action to address our mounting crises, the underlying trends are extremely frightening. In recent months, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has marshaled overwhelming evidence to show that the effects of global warming in excess of 1.5°C above preindustrial levels will be devastating for billions of people around the world.

A recent report from the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services serves as yet another wake-up call. Human activities, the report concludes, have put an unprecedented one million species at risk of extinction. The oceans that supply food and livelihoods to more than four billion people are under threat. If we do not take immediate action to reverse these trends, the challenges of playing catch-up later will probably be insurmountable.

For decades, most of the major economies have relied on a form of capitalism that delivered considerable benefits. But we are now witnessing the implications of the Nobel laureate economist Milton Friedman’s famous mantra: “the social responsibility of business is to increase its profits.”

A corporate-governance model based on maximizing shareholder value has long dominated our global economic system, shaping our accounting frameworks, tax regimes, and business-school curricula.

But we have now reached a point where leading economic thinkers are questioning the fundamentals of the prevailing system. Paul Collier’s The Future of Capitalism, Joseph E. Stiglitz’s The People, Power, and Profits, and Raghuram G. Rajan’s The Third Pillar all offer comprehensive assessments of the problem. A capitalist system that is disconnected from most people and unmoored from the territories in which it operates is no longer acceptable. Systems that do not work in isolation. Eventually, reality asserts itself:

global trade tensions reemerge; populist nationalists win power; and natural disasters grow in frequency and intensity.

Simply put, our approach to capitalism has exacerbated previously manageable social and environmental problems and sowed deep social divisions.

The explosion of inequality and the logic of the short-term earnings are just two symptoms of a broken system.

To maintain a well-functioning market economy that supports all stakeholders’ interests requires us to shift our focus to the long term. In some ways, this is already happening. But we need to channel the positive efforts underway into a concerted campaign to push systemic reforms past the tipping point. Only then will we have achieved a feedback loop that rewards long-term, sustainable approaches to business.

Most important, we must not succumb to complacency. Short-term economic and other issues will inevitably capture the attention of people and governments. But to permit the latest headlines to distract us from the looming crises is both real and terrifying, but repeated
The growing risk of a 2020 recession and crisis

By Nouriel Roubini

Last summer, my colleague Brunello Rosa and I identified ten potential downside risks that could trigger a US and global recession in 2020. Nine of them are still in play today.

Many involve the United States. Trade wars with China and other countries, along with restrictions on migration, foreign direct investment, and technology transfers, could have profound implications for global supply chains, raising the threat of stagflation (slowing growth alongside rising inflation). And the risk of a US growth slowdown has become more acute now that the stimulus from the 2017 tax legislation has run its course.

Meanwhile, US equity markets have remained frothy since our initial commentary. And there are added risks associated with the rise of newer forms of debt, including in many emerging markets, where much borrowing is denominated in foreign currencies. With central banks’ ability to serve as lenders of last resort increasingly constrained, illiquid financial markets are more likely to trigger a "flash crashes" and other disruptions. One such disruption could come from US President Donald Trump, who may be tempted to create a foreign policy crisis ("wag the dog") with a country like Iran. That might bolster his domestic poll numbers, but it could also trigger an oil shock.

Beyond the US, the fragility of growth in debt-ridden China and some other emerging markets remains a concern, as do economic, policy, financial, and political risks in Europe. Worse, across the advanced economies, the policy toolbox for responding to a crisis remains limited. The monetary and fiscal interventions and private-sector backstops used after the 2008 financial crisis simply cannot be deployed to the same extent today.

The tenth factor that we considered was the US Federal Reserve’s interest-rate policy. After hiking rates in response to the Trump administration’s pro-cyclical fiscal stimulus, the Fed reversed course in January. Looking ahead, the Fed and other major central banks are more likely to cut rates to manage various shocks to the global economy.

While trade wars and potential oil spikes constitute a supply-side risk, they also threaten aggregate demand and thus consumption growth, because tariffs and higher fuel prices reduce disposable income. With so much uncertainty, companies will likely opt to reduce capital spending and investment.

Under these conditions, a severe enough shock could usher in a global recession, even if central banks respond rapidly. After all, in 2007-2009, the Fed and other central banks reacted aggressively to the shocks that triggered the global financial crisis, but they did not avert the "Great Recession." Today, the Fed is starting with a benchmark policy rate of 2.25-2.5 percent, compared to 5.25 percent in September 2007. In Europe and Japan, central banks are already in negative-rate territory, and will face limits on how much further below the zero bound they can go. And with blotted balance sheets and near-insolvent banks, companies will be intolerae in countries with resurgent populist movements and near-involatile governments.

Among the risks that could trigger a recession in 2020, the Sino-American trade and technology war deserves special attention. The conflict could escalate further in several ways. The Trump administration could decide to extend tariffs to the USD 300 billion worth of Chinese exports not yet affected, or prohibiting Huawei and other Chinese tech firms from using US components could trigger a full-scale process of "deglobalization," as companies scramble to secure their supply chains. Were that to happen, China would have several similar constraints if they were to return to large-scale asset purchases.

On the fiscal side, most advanced economies have even higher deficits and more public debt today than before the global financial crisis, leaving little room for stimulus spending. And, as Rosa and I argued last year, "Man-made risks will be intolerable in countries with resurgent populist movements and near-involatile governments." The GCM’s implementation is being overseen by the IOM.

Making migration work for everyone

By Shahidul Haque

In a globalized world, migration is a fact of life that should be governed accordingly. To that end, it is time to establish what I call "Migration Order 3.0," a new framework that would make migration work for everyone.

Until World War II, transnational human mobility was subject to Migration Order 1.0: immigration controls were established solely at the national level by governments. After the war, international institutions such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) were created to manage refugee and migrant flows, primarily from and within Europe. During this era of Migration Order 2.0, the movement of people across national borders was governed by mutually agreed norms, standards, and practices.

Large-scale cross-border movements of people, however, have exposed fault lines in that post-war framework. We now know that Migration Order 2.0 is inadequate to the task at hand. According to the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, most migrants tend to move within their own continent, and not necessarily toward the destinations that one would assume.

Moreover, interconnected global forces are ushering in a new phase of migration, defined by different dynamics than in the past. A global shift in the balance of power has created new geopolitical tensions, and governance failures have led to armed conflicts and civil wars, violent extremist movements, and the rise of ultra-nationalism and populism in many countries. The world is experiencing a violent backlash against globalization, rising inequality, and sudden labor-market disruptions.

Social inequities, humanitarian crises, demographic changes, and identity politics all pose a challenge to a development paradigm that was supposed to leave no one behind. At the same time, climate change and biodiversity loss are threatening to displace entire populations from vulnerable locations around the world.

In the past, the movement of people tended to follow four broad patterns: migration for work, education, and family; irregular migration, mostly due to human trafficking; cross-border displacements caused by conflicts and natural disasters; and refugees fleeing persecution. But the cycle of four categories has increasingly begun to overlap, which places strain on a system that was designed to manage each type separately.

Today’s mixed migratory patterns demand a more cohesive yet differentiated approach. The costs of maintaining the status quo in response to disorderly migration cannot be ignored. Growing anxieties among host populations are causing an unwarranted backlash, with far-reaching negative implications for economic and political systems. There is also a moral dimension to consider: migrants in all categories are increasingly vulnerable to abuse, owing to lack of access to resources and power.

Fortunately, there are realistic options for improving migration governance. With little information about migration and its consequences, we can dispel popular misperceptions and reduce social tensions. We can also design and implement policies that will secure the many benefits of migration. Investment in empowering migrants is a win-win proposition for everyone. Protecting native-born citizens’ interests, and ensuring national security. And it doesn’t help that the capacity and resources for governing migration effectively are often in short supply.

Nonetheless, the international community is making progress toward overcoming these challenges. The UN Sustainable Development Agenda includes a specific target (Target 10.7) for optimizing migration movements and improving the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM) provides a non-binding framework to guide countries and other stakeholders toward a more comprehensive approach.

The GCM’s implementation is being overseen by the IOM.
“THIS CHANGE... CONT’D FROM PAGE 15

Eventually Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn did what we still consider to be a very bold move which is to say I am going to step down because that’s the best way to move these reforms forward. That’s incredible. I don’t think there has been another example of that in Ethiopia and you know at that point, we were very much watching to see what way is Ethiopia going to go. Is Ethiopia going to double down on its repression and say we’re going to go in a different place so the government going to say, okay, it’s time.

And, we issued a very firm statement very shortly after the imposition of the second state of emergency because we felt that that was the wrong direction. We felt that it was time to be clear where the United States stood. So, we said we strongly disagree. What Ethiopia needs is more freedom, not less. That was our position and we said it because we felt that the decision was still being made. The second state of emergency, not withstanding, there has not been decision within the ruling party who would lead the government moving forward. So, we felt that we need to say, this is your chance Ethiopia, this is your chance to do something different and they did. It was clear from day one that the Prime Minister was a different choice and to us, that was a recognition by the EPRDF that the time was here and we agreed.

The rapid changes that that came in after that, I mean the release of political prisoners, including journalists, the welcoming back of exiled political parties, was kind of head spinning; just breathtaking. You can think of all sorts of words to describe how tremendous it is. The announcements about increasing private investment in sectors previously controlled by the government, the rapprochement with Eritreans. [These are] really consequential changes.

As we get past the first year and start looking at the path ahead, it’s important to remember how much has already been done. That is important because the first thing that had to happen was to create the space for discussion about where Ethiopia should go. That’s is what has opened these opportunities, by making those first steps. That’s what’s been done in the United States and other partners – the change to rethink the way that we engage and invest in Ethiopia. And we’re doing that.

At the same time, any transition is going to have its challenges, any transition is going to have concerns – true to the US as well. The point here is that Ethiopia has the opportunity the chance to do things differently. So, as these challenges come up, we need the space, we need Ethiopians using the space to speak constructively with each other and with their government about where they want to go. It is not about universal agreement. It does not mean that everyone has to be on the same page. It is about finding common ground where you can and talking about how you get there. The US isn’t perfect. We’ve never claimed to be. But the reason that we continue to grow and succeed is because we have the ability to talk about our challenges and to address them.

You mentioned about the statement you issued during the second state of emergency. But that wasn’t welcomed by the Ethiopian government. You were even called for an explanation of it. What happened then?

I can’t speak for the Ethiopian government and how they felt about it. What I can say is we did what we felt we needed to do. And we stood by that and if you remember, Secretary Rex Tillerson came to Ethiopia not too long after that and he said the same thing. That was US policy and we stood by it. I think, in the hindsight, it was the right move. We’re not going to take credit for what Ethiopians did for themselves in terms of advocating for the change and making the ultimate decision but, I do think, it was important that we sent a message publicly where we stood.

We made out views very clear and we’re very pleased that Ethiopia is on a path that offers the opportunity for really meaningful lasting change.

The US has been supportive of the change process and the transition in Ethiopia that happened a year ago. But the US is also said to have played significant roles in the transition and there are even some that say it even engineered the change process. To what extent was US’s engagement in the change itself and its process?

That’s very ridiculous. I will be very blunt about it because bluntness is the best answer. What we did is what you saw. We have engaged for so many years both publicly and privately encouraging all kinds of reforms trying to explain why we think it’s in
Ethiopia’s best interest - for the country to be more inclusive politically to work on broad-based prosperity, not just core economic growth and how those things are important for lasting stability.

None of that’s new. But, frankly, since those have always been our policies, if it was in our power to make the decision, why wait? The fact is it’s not, it’s not how it works. It’s never that simple. So, what’s important to know is, this change happened because Ethiopians demanded it. That’s the point. We supported where we could, we shared our experiences, we shared our values both with the government and with the public. And we’re very excited about the opportunities of the current moment. But any idea that there was more to it than that is ridiculous.

One of the reasons for this claim is the unusual very frequent visit from US diplomats, including Secretary Tillerson which you mentioned. So, doesn’t this ring any bell?

No, I don’t think so at all. I mean, certainly. For one thing, when the head of the Department of State comes to a country, that usually is planned fairly far in advance. So, trying to link it to current events is not the right thing. Certainly, Ethiopia is an important partner. Remember that Secretary Tillerson was still relatively new in his job at that time. So, he was making his first trip to Africa. And, of course, Ethiopia is going to be on the list for that. So, you know I don’t think there’s a need to read much into it. Again, Secretary Tillerson was clear in public where the US stood on the transition for Ethiopia; more freedom not less. But, no, that’s not how it works.

Let’s move to another issue and very soon since the leadership change in Ethiopia, there happened one major event on the Horn of Africa region – that is the rapprochement with Eritrea. While Ethiopia was romantic about it, the US was very cautious of the process, especially when it comes to the lifting of the sanction on Eritrea. Why was the US so much reserved when it came to lifting the sanction?

I think at the time, we said we were very pleased with the opportunity that the rapprochement offered and we still feel that way. I think, the main concern is that, there are other concerns involving Eritrea and as a spokesperson of the Embassy in Ethiopia, I’m not going to go beyond that. But the idea is that we have to look at the whole picture. So, again, we welcomed Prime Minister Abiy’s outreach and the rapprochement and the opportunities it offered for the broader region. We continue to be hopeful that this will continue to lead to offer benefits for both countries and the region more broadly. But again, yeah, there’s still concerns there.

Let’s talk a little about the US presence in Ethiopia. Your programs range from education to agriculture, governance and women empowerment. But some say that they lack focus and are dispersed in terms of attention and financing. What do you say about this?

When you talk about a billion dollar a year, we can manage to do more than one thing at a time and still be impactful. Certainly, when you look at areas like education where our programs are providing reading materials in mother tongue languages for seven million children, that I wouldn’t call unfocused. Also, look at the progress we’ve made on healthcare through things like PEPFAR and other investments. And Ethiopia is one of the few countries on the cusp of achieving control of epidemic. That’s incredible.

And, that’s partly because of our great cooperation with Ethiopia, but also, we’ve very focused and targeted approach to dealing with the challenges there.

When it comes to governance, a lot of that’s new opportunity, but we are very strongly focused on kind of the institution building that needs to have ahead of the elections. Again, the point is for Ethiopians to walk out of the polls and wait the results feeling confident that their voices are heard.

The issue is that, I think, it’s sometimes hard to see a scope that large and nobody else is doing anything comparable to that but absolutely our work is making tremendous changes. We are changing lives in this country and in a very important and transformational way.

As you mentioned, one area of your support is for the electoral process. How is the US supporting the upcoming election in the country and what challenges do you see in holding the elections?

I don’t get too far ahead but I think we’ll have some new announcements fairly soon and how we’re supporting the transition. Elections are one of the few countries on the cusp of achieving control of epidemic. That’s incredible. How do we help develop a particular great environment for political and even with the freedom? It’s a challenge to be financially independent and sustainable. So, we’re looking at how can we help improve the environment for successful private media. I don’t want to criticize because we have to be honest. There’s a reason that the media has so many challenges. It’s because of decades of repression. So, asking the media to suddenly turn on the switch is not appropriate at the same time.

You served in Ethiopia for the past three years and you have travelled across the country and met a lot of people. What do you say would have helped you better understand what you had known before coming to Addis? Any regrets?

I don’t think I would change anything. It’s always hard to figure out if you change something, what would have been the outcome. May be things would be worse if I did something differently. I think it was good. We always try to prepare for our assignments to have some knowledge of the country and I definitely had that. But I think it’s also good not to come with too many hard opinions. To be open to be challenged and to learning, I definitely learned a lot here. That’s incredibly valuable. And if I came in too convinced by what I knew, it would have made me less flexible and less able to adopt to the changing situation. So, I’m happy that I came with an open mind. I definitely have benefitted by learning.

I feel fortunate as I said at the beginning for the chance to explore this country about its history, diversity and cultures. It is the first to move. Part of the idea is that, we move regularly so that new ideas can come in and I have an excellent team here who will make sure the continuity during out transition as I said before.

I am a little sad to leave before the elections; it’s like putting to a book down before you finish reading it. I don’t know what the outcome is going to be. I’m optimistic I think Ethiopia can do this. I will be watching and keeping an eye out for what happens here. But, yeah, it’s a little bit sad to leave just when there’s so much potential. I would be calling it a regret. Because as I said all things must come to an end, but definitely a little sad to say I’m not going to be here for the elections.
Money from abroad

Remittances sent from abroad significantly contribute to the replenishment of the much-depleted foreign currency reserves of the country. In times where foreign currency shortage is threatening even the import of medicines into the country, remittances are like gifts sent from heaven. So, whenever a national holiday is approaching, advertisements of the number of ways the Ethiopian diaspora can send their much-needed dollars and euros should be very much welcomed. Actually these advertisements are not very much seen in other times of the year, indicating that remittances are mainly made during these national holidays.

What I find sad though is that the households that are advertised to receive the money are mostly people who live in very decent houses but who are not necessarily economically fortunate. And it makes me wonder, why would an economically fortunate household expect to receive money from abroad to celebrate their holidays? What are these ads really encouraging? In a way, these ads would pressure the Ethiopian diaspora to save money that they should send to their families back home whenever holidays come. I tell you, based on my experience, Ethiopians who live abroad do not always find it easy to send even a small amount of cash to their families back home. There is this tendency to believe that anyone who has managed to put his feet on civilized lands is just full of money.

And besides, my understanding is that most of the remittances being sent to Ethiopia is not put in productive uses but rather spent on consumables. Also, it is not so often that you hear TV channels, radio channels or newspapers advertising cash transfers from abroad for the purpose of investments that would benefit the person making the transfer. In this regard, I appreciate some of the moves that are recently being made to encourage the diaspora to transfer money to make real estate investments in the country and therefore benefit themselves.

These people work really hard to earn their money and I am sure that many will choose to stay in their country if they had good opportunities for economic growth. So why should they be made to support families here by who the way use their money to afford an early retirement? I understand when people send money to support their poor families. But what I am having a problem with is that the money sent from abroad is mostly spent on luxuries such as clothing, entertainment and household items that have no productive uses.

I remember back in college abroad the pressure that Ethiopian students had to take even a piece of clothing to their families back home. Most of these students generally had large families, and they struggled to manage their money to make sure that they buy at least one item to each member and still be able to avoid bankruptcy. There were even students who worried about buying at least one item to their neighbors and previous office mates! I find that just crazy! So you find them roaming all the cheap stores available and chasing all the discounts they can manage to find. Why this pressure? It’s simple. People back in Ethiopia expect them to bring something, even if that thing may be a pair of socks! Some of the diaspora (not students) even extend their visits back home because they have not saved enough money with which they can buy goods for their families back home!

I think this culture of dependency, and in particular the mentality that everyone who lives abroad has money should change! We should let the diaspora members support their own lives, be able to invest whatever they have earned abroad on themselves, and thus make their stays away from home a worthy one.

Ed’s Note: Tsion Taye is a researcher in the field of Agricultural Economics. She is a graduate of Wageningen university from which she obtained her Masters and PhD degrees. Her passions include reading books and reflecting on life experiences with whomever shares this passion. She can be reached for comments at tsimoute@gmail.com.

Horn of Africa

The growing risk . . .

CONT’D FROM PAGE 27

options for retaliating against the US. The US is playing its market to US multinationals like Apple.2

Under such a scenario, the shock to markets around the world will be transmitted from a global crisis, regardless of what the major central banks do. With the current tensions already denting business, consumer, and investor confidence and slowing growth, further escalation would tip the world into a recession. And, given the scale of private and public debt, another financial crisis would likely follow from that.

Both Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping know that the world’s interest to avoid a global crisis, so they have an incentive to find a compromise in the next few months. Yet both sides are still ratcheting up nationalist rhetoric and pursuing tit-for-tar measures. Trump and Xi each seem to think that his country’s long-term economic and national security may depend on his not blinking in the face of a new cold war. And if each would be sufficient to bring on a blink first, the risk of a ruinous clash is high indeed.

It is possible that Trump and Xi will meet for talks during the G20 summit on June 28-29 in Osaka. But even if they do agree to restart negotiations, a comprehensive deal to settle their many points of contention would be a long way off. As the space for compromise is shrinking, and the risk of a global recession and crisis in an already fragile global economy is rising.

Ed’s Note: Nouriel Roubini, a professor at NYU’s Stern School of Business and CEO of Roubini Macro Associates, was Senior Economist for International Economic Advisers during the Clinton Administration. He has worked for the International Monetary Fund, the US Federal Reserve, and the World Bank. The article was provided to The Reporter by Project Syndicate - one of the world’s pre-eminent source of original op-ed commentaries. Project Syndicate offers distinctive perspectives in our changing world by those who are shaping its politics, economics, science and culture. TR’s decision to not necessarily reflect the views of The Reporter in this article do not necessarily reflect the views of The Reporter.

Horn of Africa is a strategic staging point for anti-piracy, anti-terror and anti-Iran operations. Poor economic performance, internal governance and identity related conflicts of the Horn countries and conflicts among the Horn countries provide entry points for foreign powers to project their influence across the region. But China is now surpassing all other countries through facilitating a very large free trade area in Djibouti.

China’s economic and military influence and has been accused of turning the US and partly explain recent shifts in US foreign policy priorities where “countering China’s influence” has assumed greater importance. In articulating US’s Africa strategy, in November 2018, President Trump’s national security advisor John Bolton declared that the strategy will be implemented through advancing trade, anti-terrorism, and influence related economic and military engagements, and provision of efficient and effective aid. Bolton in his statement stated that China (and Russia) are gaining competitive advantages through promoting infrastructure projects, investment and development as an instrument that makes countries submissive to China. Fighting against corruption is a pillar for US’s foreign policy but China grants it much less significance.

China’s BRI that embraces the Horn countries and beyond may be perceived as a threat for the superpowers as it’s gradually accompanied by military influences. China’s move to support its Horn and external powers must be analyzed in terms of their political and economic conditions and security of the region and states.

The pattern of opportunistic and transactional engagement with external actors is exemplified by the involvement of several Horn states in the war in Yemen. The Saudi-led coalition has used Ethiopia’s land, air and naval bases in its war with the Ansar-Allah movement (more commonly known as the Houthis). Sudan, Djibouti and Somalia too are also engaged in the Yemen war. Financially, Djibouti is a member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are exerting a marked influence in the Horn. The GCC countries are the direct support of the US. The GCC countries are also key sources of financial aid and military equipment. This transactional behavior of the Horn countries is
of togetherness or, if not possible, peacefully resolve the existing crises. I believe that blaming or inciting some other show to be stopped and investigations should follow by an independent body or individuals who earn trust by both sides. Then, it’s better to reveal the truth from its inception. Otherwise, hearing individual version before such an independent inquiry is nothing other than leading us into confusion, bias and being sidered.

Beyond what has been accussed today of its association with Global or its current policy, I believe ESAT has made a success and popularity that should not be attached to individuals. Its role of fighting the Tigrayan People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) by creating awareness, unveiling the sabotages and crimes shouldn’t be forgotten or given little attention. Rest assured, individuals play a great role in the image of an institution be it in the negative or positive sense. Taking the positive aspect only, no one should be turned into himself as an indispensable animal. It is the scrutiny that makes us greater or bring us closer. The point is not undermining the role of individuals. However, nothing must be done out of our hands, it is not an easy task to do.

The struggle is not completed. There should be greater sensitivity to the resources being provided by external powers. The loans and grants may align with current immediate economic needs or more long-term developmental strategies but also impose a burden on future generations. There must be a concerted effort to deal with any kind of development provision including an effort to get debt and aid out of ESAT now looks like. Horn countries score the lowest in global indices on peace, democracy, human development, ease of doing business, etc. They are fragile and precarious, must be preserved and protected. The Horn should be preserved from being entangled in quagmires generated by external rivalries. The Horn of Africa regional security complex has become more intertwined with tensions as numerous geopolitical interests are being promoted by the Western and regional veto players with diverse positions and impact. The strategic significance of the region and the reactive nature of the Horn countries foreign policy engagements has exacerbated these dynamics. China, the US, Russia, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Turkey are among the main veto players on the Horn’s security pattern. These players provide TPLF from the scene of political and varied alliances and this in turn allowed the region to evolve into a complex and potentially conflict-prone security configuration.

The interaction of the incompatible interests of the Horn countries, regional and global veto players, is acting like a security complex in which Horn must be able to develop a capacity in striking a balance between their development agendas and the costs imposed by external powers. There must be a balance between the veto players’ discretionary power and the development of the region as a regional security complex.

Ed.’s Note: Leulseged Girma Haile is a researcher and head of Program and Planning at the Ethiopian Foreign Relations Strategic Studies Institute (EFPSSI). His research interests include geopolitics, development, foreign policy and regional integration. The article originally appeared on the website of the Life and Peace Institute, lifepeace.org. The views expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect the views of The Reporter. He can be reached at leulsegedy@yahoo.com.

Making migration . . .

Austere observers will note that the GCM’s provisions are perfectly aligned with the principles and objectives that governments have already embraced under the Sustainable Development Agenda and the GCM’s Migration Governance Framework. It does not offer a silver bullet, but it will serve as the blueprint and building a workable Migration Order 3.0.

The final text of the GCM was agreed only last year. As always, mastering a comprehensive, multilateral effort will take political will. But the GCM promises to make migration work for everyone. The only question is how long it will take governments and other stakeholders to recognize it as a powerful tool for addressing the geopolitical dimensions of migration and unite around realizing its potential.

Ed.’s Note: Md. Shahidul Haque, former Chair of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, is Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh. The article was provided to The Reporter by Project Syndicate: the world’s pre-eminent source of original op-ed commentaries. Project Syndicate provides incisive perspectives in our changing world by those who are shaping its politics, economics, science and culture. The views expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect the views of The Reporter.

Why so many . . .

mother and baby missed out on critical care, a lapse that could have devastating consequences.

The point is not to cast more blame onto nurses; on the contrary, our research makes clear that nurses need better working conditions to do their jobs well. To this end, hospitals should offer supportive, rather than punitive, supervision. A culture free from blame or competition should be fostered. Hospital managers should be held accountable for health outcomes. Efforts to manage community expectations, so that patients and their families know what to expect and how to interact with providers, would also help. What will not help is another checklist.

Of course, the main factors that drive health-care providers’ decision-making are not exactly the same everywhere. More localized research is needed to enable us to tailor solutions to each context. But by asking why providers behave as they do, global health programs can save millions of dollars – and many more lives.

Ed.’s Note: Sema Saper, an assistant professor at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, is Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Surgo Foundation. The article was provided to The Reporter by Project Syndicate: the world’s pre-eminent source of original op-ed commentaries. Project Syndicate provides incisive perspectives in our changing world by those who are shaping its politics, economics, science and culture. The views expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect the views of The Reporter.

Why so many . . .

The world is . . .

The struggle is not completed. There should be greater sensitivity to the resources being provided by external powers. The loans and grants may align with current immediate economic needs or more long-term developmental strategies but also impose a burden on future generations. There must be a concerted effort to deal with any kind of development provision including an effort to get debt and aid out of ESAT now looks like. Horn countries score the lowest in global indices on peace, democracy, human development, ease of doing business, etc. They are fragile and precarious, must be preserved and protected. The Horn should be preserved from being entangled in quagmires generated by external rivalries. The Horn of Africa regional security complex has become more intertwined with tensions as numerous geopolitical interests are being promoted by the Western and regional veto players with diverse positions and impact. The strategic significance of the region and the reactive nature of the Horn countries foreign policy engagements has exacerbated these dynamics. China, the US, Russia, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Turkey are among the main veto players on the Horn’s security pattern. These players provide TPLF from the scene of political and varied alliances and this in turn allowed the region to evolve into a complex and potentially conflict-prone security configuration.

The interaction of the incompatible interests of the Horn countries, regional and global veto players, is acting like a security complex in which Horn must be able to develop a capacity in striking a balance between their development agendas and the costs imposed by external powers. There must be a balance between the veto players’ discretionary power and the development of the region as a regional security complex.

Ed.’s Note: Leulseged Girma Haile is a researcher and head of Program and Planning at the Ethiopian Foreign Relations Strategic Studies Institute (EFPSSI). His research interests include geopolitics, development, foreign policy and regional integration. The article originally appeared on the website of the Life and Peace Institute, lifepeace.org. The views expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect the views of The Reporter. He can be reached at leulsegedy@yahoo.com.

Making migration . . .

Austere observers will note that the GCM’s provisions are perfectly aligned with the principles and objectives that governments have already embraced under the Sustainable Development Agenda and the GCM’s Migration Governance Framework. It does not offer a silver bullet, but it will serve as the blueprint and building a workable Migration Order 3.0.

The final text of the GCM was agreed only last year. As always, mastering a comprehensive, multilateral effort will take political will. But the GCM promises to make migration work for everyone. The only question is how long it will take governments and other stakeholders to recognize it as a powerful tool for addressing the geopolitical dimensions of migration and unite around realizing its potential.

Ed.’s Note: Md. Shahidul Haque, former Chair of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, is Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh. The article was provided to The Reporter by Project Syndicate: the world’s pre-eminent source of original op-ed commentaries. Project Syndicate provides incisive perspectives in our changing world by those who are shaping its politics, economics, science and culture. The views expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect the views of The Reporter.
Ethiopia has the potential for tremendous economic growth and social change. An emerging economy, Ethiopia has a vast population, and a competitive advantage needed to achieve the goals of economic growth, social-economic stability, and cultural development. Ethiopia can play a fundamental role in fostering and supporting the development of emerging economies. Woetzel et al. (2019) define the competitive advantage at a global scale. Everything has its roots in fair and favorable climate for world-class companies. Favorable climate for world-class companies means the presence and rapid expansion of large businesses and entrepreneurial diversity, along with sustainability and socio-economic stability, and cultural creativity, and demand. To begin with, Ethiopia is an emerging economy. Vora (2019) defines emerging economies as “countries with relatively low levels of GDP yet high GDP growth” (p. 2). These are the countries where aggregate GDP levels are lower than in the developed world, but annual GDP increases exceed the most ambitious expectations. Woetzel et al. (2018) list the most rapidly growing economies, and Ethiopia makes up the list of recent outperformers. Other recent outperformers include Myanmar, India, Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia. The rates of annual GDP growth in these countries are even higher than the growth rates of long-term outperformers, including Hong Kong, China, and Malaysia. As such, these emerging economies become particularly attractive to foreign investors. However, they should work hard to sustain their recent achievements in the long run.

One of the best ways for Ethiopia and other emerging economies is to build and encourage the advancement of world-class companies. Large businesses and entrepreneurial giants drive economic growth in a long-term perspective. Many emerging economies in India and China have seen the rise of world-class companies, which reshape global markets and provide a competitive advantage in their home countries. Khamna and Palepu (2006) list Teva Pharmaceuticals in India; Huawei Technologies in China and Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories in India as the most prominent world-class companies flourishing in emerging economies. These businesses have emerged in a highly uncertain and volatile context, but they have managed to become globally competitive against all the odds. In fact, the presence and rapid expansion of world-class companies suggest that emerging economies are fertile ground for business growth and success. Woolert et al. (2018) confirm that the pro-growth agenda of the world-class firms is driven by their ability to establish and maintain a climate of fair competition. In essence, it means that the government retreats from competitive markets and encourages companies to compete with each other, investing their resources in product development, knowledge and learning, innovation, and growth. Ethiopian authorities can provide support when companies are in the development and offering incentives to boost productivity and economies of scale. For example, tax cuts could be helpful, allowing companies to invest their resources in growth and innovation. Rule of law, access to credit and government-funded training and development programs for entrepreneurs could facilitate the creation and expansion of local enterprises into venture giants. In Ethiopia, companies can well transform into world-class giants, as they have enough incentives and opportunities for growth. Local companies can be valid competitors of large multinational providers, since they are deeply embedded into local markets and understand the nature and complexity of the local institutions and business environment. World-class companies grow from a profound understanding of the local market and their competitive advantage. Ethiopia, where legal, institutional, and cultural barriers may complicate the entry of multinational enterprises, local entrepreneurs can easily take their niche and grow rapidly to provide affordable products, which are unique needs and expectations of local customers.

In fact, emerging economies have witnessed numerous examples of local brands turning into world-class companies simply because they were eager to offer products and services that satisfied their customers. Khamna and Palepu (2006) speak about Haier, a Chinese giant that successfully competed with Whirlpool simply because it was better than its international rival at creating products tailored to the needs of local consumers. Haier has redefined its products to meet the needs of rural customers who used washing machines to clean vegetables. Likewise,卷心菜 in Ethiopia could go a step further to explore their market potentials, identify market and product gaps, and offer affordable alternatives to boost consumer demand. Any such activity would launch a chain reaction, creating new jobs, achieving economies of scale, and increasing tax revenues to support the struggling economy. All in all, Ethiopia has the potential to be an excellent place for creating and growing world-class companies. However, the success of this initiative will depend on effective collaboration among Ethiopian authorities, regulatory bodies, business, and entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders. On the one hand, pro-growth policies should be in place to promote fair competition and encourage companies to expand. On the other hand, pro-growth policies should review and identify the existing market gaps to leverage their potentials and boost consumer demand. World-class companies in Ethiopia can seek to leverage their expertise and experience in other emerging economies could help, their stories could create the groundworks for increasing the number of world-class companies in Ethiopia.

The company had planned undertake an expansion project. The company was contemplating to build a second cement production line with an annual capacity of USD 400 million. The second line would have an installed production capacity of 2.5 million tons of cement per year. Dangote Industries signed an agreement with a Chinese contractor, Sinoma International, for the construction of the second phase. However, the company suspended the expansion project due to some challenges it has faced.

According to Trugillo, if the PP bag plant can get one million dollar for the import of PP bag, it can save 1.4 million every month on the import of PP bag. He said the plant does not only save foreign currency but it also will create job employment opportunity for local products, which are unique needs and expectations of local customers.

The Chemical and Construction Inputs Development Institute has been cooperative to us but the government did not consider it as a priority area,” he added.

The company has decided to suspend the project due to shortage of foreign currency and electric power the country is facing. “Dangote Cement is unable to repatriate the profit it has been making to its parent company in Lagos, Nigeria. Repatriation is one of the challenges that we are facing. If we cannot send money to our parent company and service our debt that used to build the first plant how can we invest on the second line,” he said.

Erratic electric power supply is the second issue. “While we are not able to get enough power for our existing cement plant, we cannot build the second plant,” Trugillo said.

I reviewed the project proposal and we recently deliberated on the matter in our recent board meeting. The expansion project is not scrapped but it has been put on hold because of the prevailing situations,” he said. “If the business environment improves the project would be reactivated,” he added.

There is also security concern in the area. Former Country Manager of Dangote Cement Ethiopia, Oromo, was shot dead on May 16, 2018 a year ago on their way back to Addis Ababa after a field visit to the cement plant. The culprits have not been arrested and brought to justice. The late Kamara was trying to manage labor disputes.

The Adabanegra Wereda Administrator, Moti Gemedo told The Reporter that the relationship between the labor and management has improved since the arrival of the new country manager in July 2018. “Previously there were problems with the management of Dangote and Social and Labor Bureau in solving labor grievances. The situation has improved significantly,” Moti said.

According to Moti, the assissants who murdered the employees of Dangote have not been identified. “The search is still on by security forces. The local administration is working closely with all security forces and all other relevant authorities not to neglect similar incidents, he said.

Trugillo shares Moti’s view. “It is fair to say that the labor management relation has improved. We now have open communication with the workers. My office is open to everybody. We are closely working with the labor union, Wereda administration and the community leaders. There are some residual issues from the past that we are trying to resolve through dialogues,” Trugillo said. “But since I came last July the situation is peaceful. Peace and stability is a national concern. It is not a peculiar problem to our company,” he concluded.

How can we build world-class companies in Ethiopia?

By Samuel Alemu

Ethiopia has the potential for tremendous economic growth and social change. An emerging economy, Ethiopia has a vast population, and a competitive advantage needed to achieve the goals of economic growth, social-economic stability, and cultural development. Ethiopia can play a fundamental role in fostering and supporting the development of emerging economies. Emerging economies like Ethiopia could benefit from creating a cohort of world-class companies that would perhaps increase the country’s productivity, innovativeness, creativity, and demand.

To begin with, Ethiopia is an emerging economy. Vora (2019) defines emerging economies as “countries with relatively low levels of GDP yet high GDP growth” (p. 2). These are the countries where aggregate GDP levels are lower than in the developed world, but annual GDP increases exceed the most ambitious expectations. Woetzel et al. (2018) list the most rapidly growing economies, and Ethiopia makes up the list of recent outperformers. Other recent outperformers include Myanmar, India, Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia. The rates of annual GDP growth in these countries are even higher than the growth rates of long-term outperformers, including Hong Kong, China, and Malaysia. As such, these emerging economies become particularly attractive to foreign investors. However, they should work hard to sustain their recent achievements in the long run.

One of the best ways for Ethiopia and other emerging economies is to build and encourage the advancement of world-class companies. Large businesses and entrepreneurial giants drive economic growth in a long-term perspective. Many emerging economies in India and China have seen the rise of world-class companies, which reshape global markets and provide a competitive advantage in their home countries. Khamna and Palepu (2006) list Teva Pharmaceuticals in India; Huawei Technologies in China and Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories in India as the most prominent world-class companies flourishing in emerging economies. These businesses have emerged in a highly uncertain and volatile context, but they have managed to become globally competitive against all the odds. In fact, the presence and rapid expansion of world-class companies suggest that emerging economies are fertile ground for business growth and success.

According to Moti, the assissants who murdered the employees of Dangote have not been identified. “The search is still on by security forces. The local administration is working closely with all security forces and all other relevant authorities not to neglect similar incidents, he said.

Trugillo shares Moti’s view. “It is fair to say that the labor management relation has improved. We now have open communication with the workers. My office is open to everybody. We are closely working with the labor union, Wereda administration and the community leaders. There are some residual issues from the past that we are trying to resolve through dialogues,” Trugillo said. “But since I came last July the situation is peaceful. Peace and stability is a national concern. It is not a peculiar problem to our company,” he concluded.
**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

**Recruitment of Individual Consultants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Brief Consultancy</th>
<th>Contract Type</th>
<th>Procurement/Recruitment Ref. No.</th>
<th>Web-link to download Proposal Submission</th>
<th>Submission deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Recruitment of National Consultant for the study of economic contribution of Ethiopia’s Biodiversity and Ecosystems to the National Economy</td>
<td>IC*</td>
<td>ETHRA37</td>
<td><a href="http://procurement-notices.undp.org/view_notice.cfm?notice_id=56784">http://procurement-notices.undp.org/view_notice.cfm?notice_id=56784</a></td>
<td>July 3, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Important information on UNDP employment modalities:

* Individual Contractor (IC): a procurement modality for individual consultancy service. Please note that it not Firm Level Service.

**Fixed Term Appointment (FTA)** is a modality of hiring individuals under a staff contract for a period of one year or more.

The use of UNDP’s name and logo without UNDP consent is inappropriate. UNDP strongly recommends that people who receive solicitations to apply for positions or engage in procurement processes exercise caution to ensure authenticity. UNDP advises the public that:

- UNDP does not charge a fee at any stage of its recruitment or procurement process. All information related to these processes is published on the national or global UNDP websites.
- UNDP does not request or issue personal bank checks, Money Grams, Western Union or any other type of money transfer at any stage of its procurement or recruitment processes.
- UNDP does not request any information related to bank accounts or other private information prior to formal registration as a vendor.
- UNDP does not offer prizes, awards, funds, certificates, scholarships or conduct lotteries through telephone, e-mail, mail or fax.

Related queries can be sent through scam.alert@undp.org.

---

**TM GEO THERMAL OPERATIONS PLC**

**INTERNAL/EXTERNAL VACANCY**

**Steam System Specialists**

**Vacancy no: VA/005/2019**

**About Us**

TM Geothermal Operations Plc (TMGO), is wholly owned by TM SAS, a Paris registered company, which in turn is owned by the Shareholders Reykjavik Geothermal Ltd (RG), an Icelandic based Geothermal developing company, and Meridiam, a French based global investor and asset managing company, for the development of a geothermal power project in the area of Tulu Moye in Ethiopia, which has signed a Power Purchase Agreement and Implementation Agreement with EEP and the Government of Ethiopia for the project in December 2017. Tulu Moye is located approximately 120 km south-east from Addis Ababa, relatively close to major markets for electricity. The intention is to develop a 520 MW geothermal power plant over four phases, with this first phase being a 50 MW Plant. Overall the development program is 7 year 9 months in duration with Phase 2 being for an additional 100 MW, Phase 3 being 100 MW and Phase 4 being 270 MW (the “Project”).

**About the Position**

These Employees, Steam system specialists, are to be a part of the future operation team running the power plant in the most efficient way possible. The Employees will be trained working with geothermal steam system, they are to follow in detail when a geothermal well is drilled and formally take over the responsibility of the well once the drilling rig and contractor has left the well. All testing of the well that is the responsibility of TMGO/RG specialists while all physical work on the well will follow up will be done by the System Specialists.

**Key Responsibilities:**

- Daily operation, monitoring and maintenance of geothermal steam wells and steam utilities in Tulu Moye power plant.
- Systematic work to increase the operational security of the steam supply system and efficiency in the operation of the power plant is of high importance.
- Good skills in communications is of great importance due to cooperation with drilling companies, construction companies, geologists and other specialists.
- Care and maintenance of machinery, equipment and tools that are part of the steam service, as well as various other projects.
- Periodic measurements of geothermal wells.

**Number of Position:** Two (2)

**Duty Station:** Beya, Arsi Region

**Reporting to:** Deputy/ Chief Technical Officer

**Remuneration:** Commensurate with experience and market Qualities we like:

- **Qualification and Experience**
  - Diplomate Mechanic/Metal industry, Mechanical Engineering or related fields.
  - Experience in Construction, Maintenance or Metal industry.
  - Experience in Geothermal related work is an advantage.

**Additional Attributes**

- Knowledge of written and spoken English
- Knowledge of written and spoken Afaan Oromifa
- Basic computer work skills
- Strong Health and Safety culture
- Warm personality with and people attitude
- Good communicator and customer service
- Delivering tasks on time
- Commitment to working efficiently and accurately
- Ability to multitask and remain motivated and positive

**How to Apply**

The closing date for this application is on July 4, 2019 before 5:00 PM. All interested and eligible candidates are invited to apply and send their updated relevant Curriculum Vitae (CV) and original certificates through email address: rafese@tmgeothermal.com Or in person to our office located at Beya Town Nur Café building 1st floor.

**TMGO** is an equal opportunity employer, and all staff will receive fair treatment without regard to age, race, colour, national origin, disability status, gender, religion, marital or veteran status, condition of pregnancy, genetic information, or any other legally protected characteristic. This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including recruiting, hiring, placement, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, transfer, leaves of absence, compensation and training.

**TMGO** encourage both women and men to apply for the job.

---

Closing date for application is on July 4, 2019 before 5:00 PM.
GOING BIG IN ETHIOPIA

Coca-Cola Ethiopia, under its major shareholder – the East African Bottling Share Company (EABSC) – has launched the construction of its largest plant in Ethiopia which will have the capacity of producing 70,000 cases per day. Ahmed Tusa, Deputy President of the Oromia Regional State and Berhanu Bekele, mayor of Sebeta town laid the foundation for the new plant together with Coca-Cola executives.
Aries

Today you should not be lazy. Try to carry out each of your planned tasks in a quality manner, and then proceed to your leisure time. Special benefits for the body will bring sports, cycling, water treatments and trips in the countryside. In personal affairs is not welcome drastic approach.

Taurus

Do not bother with household chores. Do not forget what the weekend is for. The most correct alignment for today is a long sleep, a small cleaning and rest spent outside the house. You can visit the close family members, take a walk in the park, or lie back and relax somewhere on the shore of the reservoir. Those who have problems with pressure should be careful when under the scorching sun.

Gemini

Gemini, the negative mood of someone close can become the only trouble of this day. It is strictly forbidden to respond to negative aggression. Think better about how to help a person who has lost harmony. It is also recommended to enrich your inner world by reading good literature or watching masterpieces of world cinema.

Can you spot the 12 differences between the two pictures?

SOLUTION

Aries

Today you should not be lazy. Try to carry out each of your planned tasks in a quality manner, and then proceed to your leisure time. Special benefits for the body will bring sports, cycling, water treatments and trips in the countryside. In personal affairs is not welcome drastic approach.

Taurus

Do not bother with household chores. Do not forget what the weekend is for. The most correct alignment for today is a long sleep, a small cleaning and rest spent outside the house. You can visit the close family members, take a walk in the park, or lie back and relax somewhere on the shore of the reservoir. Those who have problems with pressure should be careful when under the scorching sun.

Gemini

Gemini, the negative mood of someone close can become the only trouble of this day. It is strictly forbidden to respond to negative aggression. Think better about how to help a person who has lost harmony. It is also recommended to enrich your inner world by reading good literature or watching masterpieces of world cinema.

Can you spot the 12 differences between the two pictures?

SOLUTION

Aries

Today you should not be lazy. Try to carry out each of your planned tasks in a quality manner, and then proceed to your leisure time. Special benefits for the body will bring sports, cycling, water treatments and trips in the countryside. In personal affairs is not welcome drastic approach.

Taurus

Do not bother with household chores. Do not forget what the weekend is for. The most correct alignment for today is a long sleep, a small cleaning and rest spent outside the house. You can visit the close family members, take a walk in the park, or lie back and relax somewhere on the shore of the reservoir. Those who have problems with pressure should be careful when under the scorching sun.

Gemini

Gemini, the negative mood of someone close can become the only trouble of this day. It is strictly forbidden to respond to negative aggression. Think better about how to help a person who has lost harmony. It is also recommended to enrich your inner world by reading good literature or watching masterpieces of world cinema.

Can you spot the 12 differences between the two pictures?

SOLUTION
Biggest Medical Tourism Exhibition

Top Premier Hospitals Coming from India...

International Exhibition & Convention Center
Addis Ababa

29th & 30th June 2019

2nd Edition in Ethiopia

Timings: 10:00 AM - 05:30PM

www.imtdlive.com

www.thereporterethiopia.com
According to a monitoring mission undertaken in collaboration with the Climate Change Commission and the Addis Ababa Environmental Authority, since 2015, there were at least 486 plastic manufacturers in Addis Ababa with a registered amount of 10 billion birr as capital. However, out of the 21 manufacturers that were supervised and inspected; 14 were found to be violating the law. These had manufactured plastic bags with thickness below 0.03 millimeters and they received warnings. Two years ago again, 11 factories were inspected and some have failed to comply. In addition to that, there are some 80 water bottling companies most of them are liable to the wide sparrow littered bottles in and out of the capital. Millions of bottles are thrown away on any open environ, these days.

Pursuant to the outcomes of monitoring and inspections, now the government seems to be considering the introduction of a total ban on manufactured or imported single-use plastics in Ethiopia. Girma Gemechu, director of solid and hazardous waste compliance monitoring directorate, with the Climate Change Commission, told *The Reporter* that a new law is about to be ratified by the nation’s lawmaking body. Series of public hearings and consultations with manufacturers have been conducted and probably early next year, House of Peoples Representatives (HPR) is expected to sanction the proposed law to take effect.

Sisay Kifle, a chemist and plastic technology development consultant, begs to differ with the idea of banning single-use plastics. He argues that banning plastics is not a well-thought-out solution. “It’s just idealistic”, Sisay said. However, he is not a skeptic alone. He acknowledges the adverse impacts of plastic waste to human health, to the ecosystems and to the animal world. According to Sisay, the government, the plastic manufacturers and the consumers are equally responsible for mismanaging and irresponsibly disposing plastic waste. Back in 2017, Sisay wrote a guidebook regarding plastic waste and how it should be handled and how used plastics as he refers to them as “trash-to-cash” systems could be sources of income and jobs. However, that did not happen; “the government has to enforce the laws properly. The law that requires the production of plastics with greater than 0.03 millimeter thickness has not been enforced well,” Sisay criticized. He also lamented plastic bags manufacturers for manipulating worldwide standards at least the UK based International Plastics Federation has standardizations.

Each plastic product has its own designated numbering and classification system and that is how plastic products are uniquely identified across the global structure. Local manufacturers are also challenged for violating such codes of standardizations. Sisay criticizes the fact that there is no clear cut solution and contents biodegradables are decomposable and much preferable. He refutes, Ethiopia couldn’t afford biodegradables since such materials are costly and at times require the utilization of grains, mostly corn. He further defies the blurrily hypothesized quicker decomposition of biodegradables compared to plastics. “Who could tell you certainly that biodegradables are easily decomposed in a certain period of time in a certain temperate or tropical zones?”

Though Sisay and many of the pro-plastic experts argue how useful plastics are, a tremendous pressure has been exerted against the use of at least use and throw plastics and the management of plastic wastes across countries and in the UN system.
Abraham joins 2019 AFCON technical directors group

By: Dawit Tolesa

Ethiopian National Team Coach, Abraham Mebrahatu, has joined the 2019 African Cup of Nations (AFCON) matches' technical directors' team to evaluate specific games. The African football governing body, the Confederation of African Football (CAF), has unveiled the technical teams that will evaluate their respective groups they are assigned to.

Following the start of the 32nd AFCON competition, which commenced on June 20, 2019 in Egypt, the matches will be examined by several football experts. The 15 technical study groups will analyze particular matches and Abraham was named in a team that will analyze Group B national teams in collaboration with other colleagues. The teams include Nigeria, Guinea, Burundi and Madagascar. Abraham will stay until the semi-final stage to examine Group B national teams.

The Technical Study Groups will be responsible for deciding award winners for the top goal scorer, best goalkeeper, best young player, and fair-play award during the competition and will evaluate the general performances of the teams.

After the conclusion of the 2019 AFCON tournament, the technical directors will produce a report and present their findings to the groups.

Furthermore, international referee Beamlak Tessema and assistant referee Temesgen Samuel were also chosen to take part in the competition.

---

FIFA to assess CAF

By Dawit Tolesa

The proposal made by the President of the Confederation of African Football (CAF), Ahmad Ahmad to the Executive Committee has unanimously been approved by the Executive Committee of CAF.

The proposal seeks FIFA's expertise to assess the current situation in the African governing body and help to conclusively accelerate the implementation of the ongoing reform process that ensures CAF functions with transparency and efficiency while abiding to the highest governance standards.

As part of this process, it was also agreed that FIFA and CAF will undertake, as soon as possible, a full forensic audit of CAF.

Ahmad, was recently detained by authorities in France, and is also being investigated by FIFA over allegations that he unduly influenced a CAF decision to buy sportswear at an inflated price through a French company rather than directly buy from manufacturers.

CAF and FIFA have agreed to appoint FIFA Secretary General Fatma Samoura as “FIFA General Delegate for FIFA to assess CAF Africa” for a six month period starting from August 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020, renewable with the agreement of both organizations.

Samoura will be assisted by a group of experts who will work in a spirit of partnership with President Ahmad and his team in several areas, which include amongst others, to oversee operational management of CAF, including governance and administrative procedures; to ensure the efficient and professional organization of all CAF competitions and to support the growth and development of football in all countries and regions of CAF.

During this period, Fatma Samoura will stay as Secretary General of FIFA and will delegate her functions within the FIFA administration in accordance with the relevant internal regulations. The Bureau of the FIFA Council has also approved this exceptional and temporary measure.

FIFA and CAF aim to work closely together in order to best serve all African Member Associations to bring stability, serenity, professionalism and effective football development on the African continent where the passion for football is prevalent.

Sebata, Hadiya, Welkite earn EPL promotion

By Dawit Tolesa

After a tough campaign, Sebeta City, Hadiya Hossana and Welkite City have secured a promotion and joining the Ethiopian Premier League (EPL).

Sebeta City, relegated in the 2010/11 season, makes a return to the EPL after an eight year absence. They top their group with 45 points after playing 21 matches.

Hadiya Hossana, although beaten by Arba Minch City 3-2, managed to secure their promotion with 45 points, winning 13, drawing six and losing just two matches. Hossana’s appearance in the EPL comes after a three year absence.

Welkite City FC, based in southern Gurage zone are promoted and joining the league for the first time in their history, leading their campaign with 46 points. Unlike previous season’s playoff rules, the three top placed teams from the groups were promoted directly to the EPL.

Welkite City coach Dereje Belay, was responsible to get Sebeta City promoted (11 years back), Jimma Aba Bonna, and now Welkite City for the first time.

www.thereporterethiopia.com
The Right Place To Find Your New Job

Connecting People with Job Opportunities

Reporter Jobs

Find Us On Facebook
facebook.com/reporterjobs

www.ethiopianreporterjobs.com

Design & Publisher Media & Communications Centre (MCC)
Printed by Berhanena Selam Printing Enterprise
www.thereporterethiopia.com