PM confirms airstrikes in Tigray

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) confirmed that the Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF) conducted airstrikes in various military sites in Mekelle and other parts of Tigray.

In a televised statement the Prime Minister gave followed by a press conference to the state media Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporate (EBC), he said that the Air Force conducted airstrikes on Thursday November 5, 2020 and Friday November 6, 2020. According to the PM, the air strikes targeted strategic military sites in Mekelle to annihilate heavy artillery that might otherwise be used by the TPLF. He also warned that more attacks will follow either at daytime or the night and advised the public not to gather in areas of military equipment depots, gas stations and sites where the perpetrators of the attacks on the military were said to have been located.

The sites the airstrike targeted hosted rockets and missiles with a range of up to 300 kilometers. Apart from this, he warned that there is intelligence that the TPLF is plotting to attack various places across the country including towns in the South like Hawassa and Arba Minch. He also indicated that Addis Ababa and other prominent towns are also targets of these attacks.

"This won’t be different from what we did in Somali Region, Guji and Wolega zones in Oromia," Abiy said.

In a related story, the commissioner for the Ethiopian Federal Police said that the Special Forces in Tigray attacked 22 entities that were being protected by the Federal Police.

In a press conference, the Ethiopian Federal Police Commissioner, Endeshaw Tassew gave along with Redwan Hussein (Amb.), the spokesperson for the newly established command post, on Friday November 6, 2020, it was pointed out that the

Expansion of Oromia President’s Office evicts residents

Thirty-seven households that reside around Greek School in the vicinities of Dembel City Center told The Reporter that they were told to vacate their residences to make way for the expansion of the Oromia President’s Office.

The residents complained that although they have lived in the area since its inception more than 60 years ago, they have now been told to vacate the area via notices posted on electric poles.

“We are not convinced by its appropriateness; so, we request for a quick solution from you,” the letter they wrote to the Prime Minister’s Office reads.

In a letter addressed to the deputy mayor of Addis Ababa, Adanech Abebie, PM Abiy Ahmed (PhD), and Deputy PM Demeke Mekonnen, they argue that their case should be addressed according to the “Expropriation of Landholdings for Public Purpose and Payment of Compensation Proclamation.”
The civil war presently raging in northern Ethiopia must come to an immediate stop before it lands the country in the rank of failed states like Syria, Libya and Yemen. In a country that has been beset with a set of interminable problems internecine strife cannot be a solution. Though numerous attempts have been made to amicably resolve the long-running tensions between the federal and Tigray regional state governments, it’s tragic that the two sides are now engaged in a full-scale war following the unexpected attack by Tigray Special Forces on the Northern Command of the national defense forces. Ethiopians need to demonstrate that they stand for peace as the safety and security of ordinary folks is threatened by bellicose elements that have turned their back on peaceful political rivalry. These elements should not need reminding that any conflict destabilizing the nation only benefits its historical adversaries and that as such it’s not too late for them to come back to their senses. There are no winners in a civil war for it only begets death and destruction.

Forces waging the kind of war which has long made life an ordeal for Ethiopians have to desist from any and all acts endangering national security. Particularly, warmongers inflaming conflicts after sending their children and close relatives to war zones need to realize that their acts are liable to get them charged with war crimes. Igniting the flames of war instead of developing a culture of constructive dialogue and improving the lot of citizens through good democratization processes that in no way helps move the country forward. A system on which the use of the opportunity that has been presented to cool off the antagonism between the federal and Tigray region governments to conduct a civilized conversation so as to bring the war to a swift conclusion.

Ethiopia’s survival must never be compromised no matter what. It’s not in Ethiopians’ nature to sacrifice the national interest on the altar of the narrow interests of certain individuals or groups. They know that any grievance or conflict. Ethiopia cannot become a land of peace, freedom and justice as long as warmongers continue to operate with impunity. If its people are to be extricated from the clutches of abject poverty and taste the benefits of prosperity insofar as social justice reigns, this may be achieved through a mindset valuing a civilized political engagement, not the outdated view that might is right. A system on which the foundations of an inclusive nation are laid requires the consent of the people which they give freely, not coerced. It’s a travesty to claim to stand for democracy while one still nurses a backward mentality that in no way helps move the democratization processes forward. So is beating the drums of war for the purpose of grabbing the reins of power while invoking the people’s name in vain. The naked attempt to accomplish sinister agendas by jeopardizing the lives and livelihoods of peace-loving citizens has to be thwarted. War has never been in the interest of anyone except those who profit from it. The escalation of the animosity between the federal and Tigray regional state governments into a full-blown war, the proliferation of crimes in different parts of the country, the continued slaughtering and displacement of defenseless people for their ethnicity, the implacable hostility among the nation’s political forces and the inadequacy of efforts to hold public confidence have undeniably rendered Ethiopia vulnerable to attacks by foes that have always sought to exercise hegemonic power over it. It’s being stabbed in the back at a time it’s facing an onslaught of debilitating security challenges. Ethiopia’s national security better think twice for it’s imperative to negotiate a cessation of hostilities with the warring sides and bring them to the negotiating table. Ethiopians have shown time and again it’s not beyond them to overcome temporary disputes and forge unity when they sit down and talk. Aside from an honest national dialogue between the relevant stakeholders, the media can play a vital role in turning the prevailing crisis into a wonderful opportunity by refraining from spreading false or inflammatory news. That is why it’s incumbent on each and every citizen to conduct a civilized conversation so as to bring the war to a swift conclusion.

Ethiopia’s survival must never be compromised no matter what. It’s not in Ethiopians’ nature to sacrifice the national interest on the altar of the narrow interests of certain individuals or groups. They know that any grievance or conflict. Ethiopia cannot become a land of peace, freedom and justice as long as warmongers continue to operate with impunity. If its people are to be extricated from the clutches of abject poverty and taste the benefits of prosperity insofar as social justice reigns, this may be achieved through a mindset valuing a civilized political engagement, not the outdated view that might is right. A system on which the foundations of an inclusive nation are laid requires the consent of the people which they give freely, not coerced. It’s a travesty to claim to stand for democracy while one still nurses a backward mentality that in no way helps move the democratization processes forward. So is beating the drums of war for the purpose of grabbing the reins of power while invoking the people’s name in vain. The naked attempt to accomplish sinister agendas by jeopardizing the lives and livelihoods of peace-loving citizens has to be thwarted. War has never been in the interest of anyone except those who profit from it. The escalation of the animosity between the federal and Tigray regional state governments into a full-blown war, the proliferation of crimes in different parts of the country, the continued slaughtering and displacement of defenseless people for their ethnicity, the implacable hostility among the nation’s political forces and the inadequacy of efforts to hold public confidence have undeniably rendered Ethiopia vulnerable to attacks by foes that have always sought to exercise hegemonic power over it. It’s being stabbed in the back at a time it’s facing an onslaught of debilitating security challenges. Ethiopia’s survival must never be compromised no matter what. It’s not in Ethiopians’ nature to sacrifice the national interest on the altar of the narrow interests of certain individuals or groups. They know that any grievance or conflict. Ethiopia cannot become a land of peace, freedom and justice as long as warmongers continue to operate with impunity. If its people are to be extricated from the clutches of abject poverty and taste the benefits of prosperity insofar as social justice reigns, this may be achieved through a mindset valuing a civilized political engagement, not the outdated view that might is right. A system on which the foundations of an inclusive nation are laid requires the consent of the people which they give freely, not coerced. It’s a travesty to claim to stand for democracy while one still nurses a backward mentality that in no way helps move the democratization processes forward. So is beating the drums of war for the purpose of grabbing the reins of power while invoking the people’s name in vain. The naked attempt to accomplish sinister agendas by jeopardizing the lives and livelihoods of peace-loving citizens has to be thwarted. War has never been in the interest of anyone except those who profit from it. The escalation of the animosity between the federal and Tigray regional state governments into a full-blown war, the proliferation of crimes in different parts of the country, the continued slaughtering and displacement of defenseless people for their ethnicity, the implacable hostility among the nation’s political forces and the inadequacy of efforts to hold public confidence have undeniably rendered Ethiopia vulnerable to attacks by foes that have always sought to exercise hegemonic power over it. It’s being stabbed in the back at a time it’s facing an onslaught of debilitating security challenges. Ethiopia’s survival must never be compromised no matter what. It’s not in Ethiopians’ nature to sacrifice the national interest on the altar of the narrow interests of certain individuals or groups. They know that any grievance or conflict. Ethiopia cannot become a land of peace, freedom and justice as long as warmongers continue to operate with impunity. If its people are to be extricated from the clutches of abject poverty and taste the benefits of prosperity insofar as social justice reigns, this may be achieved through a mindset valuing a civilized political engagement, not the outdated view that might is right. A system on which the foundations of an inclusive nation are laid requires the consent of the people which they give freely, not coerced. It’s a travesty to claim to stand for democracy while one still nurses a backward mentality that in no way helps move the democratization processes forward. So is beating the drums of war for the purpose of grabbing the reins of power while invoking the people’s name in vain. The naked attempt to accomplish sinister agendas by jeopardizing the lives and livelihoods of peace-loving citizens has to be thwarted. War has never been in the interest of anyone except those who profit from it.
Partners warn surge of humanitarian crisis in Ethiopia as war breaks out

By Yonas Abiye

As war breaks out in Tigray, international humanitarian organizations engaged in humanitarian activities in Ethiopia warned that the number of people in need of food and humanitarian assistance will rise.

The dire problems of the COVID-19 pandemic, massive flooding and a desert locust outbreak destroying crops coupled with the ongoing war in Tigray, the international humanitarian organizations project, will lead to a humanitarian crisis and increased food insecurity.

International partners engaged in humanitarian activities in the country, such as the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), the International Rescue Committee (IRC), and other partners called on both the Ethiopian and regional governments to prevent further crisis.

Accordingly, predicted the IRC, this year’s desert locust outbreak, the negative impact of climate change including widespread flooding and the COVID-19 outbreak continue to drive rising food insecurity worldwide on a historic scale, in need of food assistance. This number is expected to rise to more than 11 million people by January, Elinor Raikes, Vice President Crisis Response, Recovery and Development warned.

Furthermore, “Any Conflict will hit the most vulnerable the hardest, and they cannot afford to be neglected. All parties must commit to ensuring the safety of these populations and adhere to international law, which absolutely imperatives that escalating tensions and conflict do not prevent the delivery of humanitarian aid. The needs and safety of civilians, including refugees, and displaced persons, must be prioritized,” Elinor stated.

In a statement that The Reporter obtained on Thursday, Secretary General of NRC, Jan Egeland said that escalating tensions in Ethiopia threaten the “immediate” safety of hundreds of thousands of people and urged the Ethiopian government to manage the possible impact of military escalation which will intensify humanitarian crisis as the country is the host to hundreds of thousands of refugees.

“As any increase in violence would foreshadow further regional destabilization and humanitarian disaster,” he warned while the statement went on to urge all parties to deescalate tensions via dialogue and take all appropriate measures to end military action.

According to Egeland, there are currently 1.62 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) across Ethiopia, and a further 786,000 refugees seeking protection from other conflicts in the East Africa region. He further underlined that humanitarian needs are high and resources to meet them are scarce, especially during the pandemic.

The NRC is one of the international partners who are actively operating in Ethiopia, assisting millions of refugees. The host government under the UNHCR and Administration of Refugees and Returnees Authority (ARRA). It has provided assistance since 2011 assisting the refugee population in Ethiopia, which has been on the rise. Currently, Ethiopia is Africa’s second largest refugee hosting country with 793,150 refugees. They are mainly from neighboring South Sudan, Eritrea, Sudan and Somalia.

Tigray is one of the locations where refugees particularly from Eritrea are located. Hence, as the escalation intensifies, the safety of these refugees becomes jeopardized. Furthermore, since the federal and regional governments are already at war, it is uncertain how the federal governmental agency (ARRA) will manage the refugee crisis in the future.

The Reporter’s attempt to solicit information on this issue did not bear fruit as government officials declined requests to comment on the matter.

Another organization mainly operating in Tigray, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), for its part said that it is “extremely concerned” about escalating tensions and hostilities in Ethiopia’s Tigray region, where many refugees, displaced people and local communities are reeling from year of multiple humanitarian disasters.

The IRC is working in Tigray to support 90,000 refugees in four camps with a range of services, including providing clean water, sanitation, primary healthcare and education.

Since the escalation began on Tuesday, other regional and international agencies including the United Nations (UN) have been expressing their concerns regarding the existing conflict in Ethiopia while others urged both sides to refrain from further escalation.

Indonesian pharmaceutical and food processing companies to invest in Ethiopia

By Sisay Sahlu

At least two pharmaceuticals and one food processing Indonesian company have finalized their business assessment to invest in Ethiopia, the Indonesian Ambassador to Ethiopia Ali Basyra Basnar told The Reporter on November 5, 2020.

Already in the process of venturing into the Ethiopian economy when the Coronavirus pandemic struck, the companies are said to be waiting for the pandemic to subside.

The Indonesian Ambassador further stated that one of the pharmaceutical companies has leased land near Dukem to build an inventory, while the food processing company is discussing with local partners to form a joint venture.

“Indonesian businesses consider Ethiopia as one of the fast-growing countries in Africa,” said the ambassador, indicating that Ethiopia is the second largest Indonesian investment destination in Africa next to Nigeria.

Five Indonesian companies currently operate in Ethiopia, producing garment, instant noodles, and detergent products.

The Ambassador underscored that the potential for further economic collaboration is huge, especially between the two countries that have a quarter of a century of diplomatic relations between them.

Sources indicate that the total annual trade volume between the two countries is nearly $72 million US dollars.

The Indonesian Embassy organized an event held at the Sheraton Addis on November 5, 2020, to announce the Indonesian Annual Virtual Trade Expo and send an invitation for Ethiopian businesses to attend the expo from Nov.10 to Nov.18.

Speaking at the event, President of the Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce, Melaku Azezie (Dag) called on the Indonesian Ambassador to work on further investment cooperation in the areas of Agriculture and Manufacturing.

“Considering Ethiopia’s booming population and demand surge, it is very crucial to know how Indonesia is feeding the world’s fourth largest population,” remarked Melaku.

At least 22 Ethiopian businesses participated in the previous face-to-face edition of the expo held in Jakarta.
**Embassy of Sweden**

**Addis Abeba**

**Vacancy at the Embassy of Sweden in Addis Ababa**

**National Program Officer for Regional Development Cooperation in the fields of Gender Equality with a special focus on Human Security, and Democracy and Human Rights**

The Regional Section at the Swedish Embassy in Addis Ababa is looking for a well-qualified National Program Officer (NPO) in the fields of Gender Equality with a special focus on Human Security, and Democracy and Human Rights.

The Officer responsibilities would include:
- Management of contributions in accordance with procedures of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida);
- Support gender mainstreaming in the entire contribution portfolio;
- Engage in policy dialogue with the cooperation partners on gender equality;
- Participate in consultations and coordination with donor groups;
- Serve as a focal point for Gender Equality and coordinate the Embassy and Strategy-related follow-up and reporting regarding gender equality;
- Participate in all regular activities of the regional section and the Embassy;
- Work with Sida’s gender team and contribute to dissemination of knowledge and information on gender equality priorities;
- Organize capacity strengthening initiatives on gender mainstreaming;
- The tasks to be undertaken require a certain amount of travel, mainly within Africa.

**QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK EXPERIENCES**

**Required qualifications:**
- Documented academic degree, minimum at Master’s level, with direct relevance for the thematic areas covered;
- Fluency in English (both oral and written);
- Extensive experience of computer programs, applications and systems.

**Required work experience:**
- At least 5 years documented experience of work related to Gender Equality, Human Security, Democracy and Human Rights preferably in a regional context; and at least 3 years documented experience of managing donor-funded programs and projects in a development cooperation context.

**Additional qualifications considered as merits are:**
- Proven capacity to work independently, take leadership of processes, manage programs and budgets, create relevant professional networks and to conduct dialogue and negotiations with partners and colleagues;
- Good communication skills.

**For more information, please visit our website** [https://www.swedenabroad.se/en/embassies/ethiopia-addis-abeba/about-us/regional-development-cooperation](https://www.swedenabroad.se/en/embassies/ethiopia-addis-abeba/about-us/regional-development-cooperation)

**Salary:** Negotiable

Interested applicants who meet the above requirements are invited to submit their CV along with non-returnable credentials with 15 days from the date of this announcement to financial and administration office.

**Address:-** Hayahulet Behind Aweras Hotel

**P.O.Box 6071**

**E-mail:-** citrusethiopia@gmail.com

**Mobile:** +251903222222

**Vacancy Announcement**

**Citrus International Trading PLC** invites qualified applicants for the following vacant position.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Educational Qualification</th>
<th>Work experience</th>
<th>Additional skill</th>
<th>Req. No.</th>
<th>Place of work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>International business development Assistant</td>
<td>BA Degree in pharmacy</td>
<td>1 year of work experience</td>
<td>Proficient in all commands of English Excellent in MS-office applications and searching engines Good pharmacological knowledge of Drugs/supplies/medical equipment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Addis Ababa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Salary:** Negotiable

Interested applicants who meet the above requirements are invited to submit their CV along with non-returnable credentials with 15 days from the date of this announcement to financial and administration office.

**Address:-** Hayahulet Behind Aweras Hotel

**P.O.Box 6071**

**E-mail:-** citrusethiopia@gmail.com

**Mobile:** +251903222222
**Ethiopian-Americans win Council, Senate Seats**

By Samuel Getachew

As the United States Presidential election enters uncharted territory with a cliffhanger coupled with a divided Democratic House and a Republican Senate, two Americans with roots in Ethiopia have become a City Councilor and a State Senator, achieving an Ethiopian-American political milestone. The first was Tsegaye “Mike” Mekonnen, an Ethiopian American union activist, who was elected as councilor from Chelsea, Massachusetts. He died in 2011.

Oballa Oballa, a former Ethiopian refugee, was elected to a council seat in Austin, Minnesota, becoming the second Ethiopian elected to such office in the history of Ethiopian-American political journey. The first was Tsegaye “Mike” Mekonnen, an Ethiopian American union activist, who was elected as councilor from Chelsea, Massachusetts. He died in 2011.

Oballa, 27, a Gambella native, grew up in a UNHCR refugee camp in Kenya’s Dadaab Refugee Complex, where also the Somali born, now Congresswoman Ilhan Omar spent her youth. He became the first person of color elected to City Hall in Austin. He became an American citizen and moved to his adopted city in 2015.

Samra Brook, another Ethiopian native, was declared a winner in New York as a State Senator, becoming the first Ethiopian native elected to such office. She received 53 percent of the vote against a Republican candidate, winning the seat previously held by a Republican.

“The enthusiastic outpouring of support from the voters of the 35th Senate District has been overwhelming and humbling. With 98% of election districts reported, and a 2-to-1 Democratic advantage on returned absentee ballots, I can now declare victory in this State Senate,” she said on the morning after the election on Twitter. She joined the Peace Corps and travelled to Guatemala becoming an activist upon her return, working with young people and empowering them to be “social change advocates” and also fight in areas of inequalities in public schools.

**Amhara Bank keeps on selling shares**

Brook Abdu

After setting the record for an initial paid up capital for a new entrant bank in the Ethiopian banking industry, Amhara Bank keeps on selling shares to interested Ethiopians and foreigners of Ethiopian Origin. At a press conference held at the Hilton Hotel, the organizing committee members of the Bank indicated that it managed to garner 6.4 billion Birr in subscribed capital and 4.8 billion birr in paid up capital.

In a protected industry that is only allowed to Ethiopians who mostly start a bank with a capital of 500,000 birr, Amhara Bank comes giant from the beginning. This announced capital is not inclusive of share values sold to foreigners of Ethiopian origin who were very recently allowed to buy shares in Ethiopian banks.

Apart from the record it registered in terms of the paid-up capital, the Bank’s number of shareholders is highest in the industry with 155,000 shareholders.

This number of shareholders, coupled with the Coronavirus pandemic, is challenging to hold the founders’ conference at one place. Hence, the Bank is resorting to delegation attendance in which multiple shareholders can delegate their respective representatives to attend and vote on their behalf.

Until it places a framework for the delegations, the Bank has decided to continue selling shares until November 30, 2020.

Speaking at the press conference, chairman of the organizing committee, Melaku Fenta said that the bank will begin operation within this Ethiopian year which has nine more months to go.

Melaku also indicated at the press conference that their huge capital will help them avoid domination within a market where some have been operating 25 years.

“The time we took to launch the bank has helped us raise our capital,” he said.

Apart from this, the Bank has finalized preparations to float bids for Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) and e-banking systems.

Amhara Bank’s shares par value is 1,000 Birr and the minimum number of shares one can buy is 10 while the maximum is 100,000 shares.

The Ethiopian banking sector is one of the most profitable on the African continent where banks reap profits every year. Currently, there are 17 private sector banks operating in the country and two state owned banks.

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**Police arrest 24 individuals for plotting to incite violence in Gambella region**

The National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) of Ethiopia has announced the arrest of 24 individuals, who are accused of plotting to incite violence in Gambella regional state, located in Western Ethiopia.

Among the detainees include Tsegaye Mehretatu (Kahsay), Gebremariam Anania, Wastina Teshome (Jal Sena), Abhram Mehari, Col. Tesfaye (Balestra) and 19 other people who make up part of the destructive forces of the Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) and OLF-Shene group.

According to a statement NISS sent to Fana Broadcasting Corporation, police arrested them while they had been plotting to incite violence after failing to gain the support of the TPLF's supporters.

Similarly, some 22 individuals have also been arrested for planning to incite violence in Assosa and Kamashe zones of the Benishangul Gumuz regional state.

Police arrested them, including Yohannes Girmay and Risom Girmay, while they had been planning to make the areas centers of violence after taking mission from Abay Tsehaye, a member of the destructive group of TPLF, the statement indicated.

**Microalgae, COVID-19 research laboratories inaugurated**

National Microalgae Biotechnology and COVID-19 research laboratories were inaugurated today in the premises of the Ethiopian Biotechnology Institute.

The microalgae laboratory will serve for microalgae production and the COVID-19 research laboratory for testing and research.

Launching the laboratories at the institute, Innovation and Technology State Minister, Fozia Amin, said the laboratories are real-time problem solving.

The COVID-19 laboratory would support the current testing challenges of the pandemic and other diseases, while the National Microalgae Biotechnology Laboratory enables the untapped resources in the country to be exploited by educated human power, she said.

Ethiopian Biotechnology Institute Director-General, Kassahun Tesfaye said on the occasion that the semi-automated microalgae laboratory is the first of its kind in Ethiopia and will produce microalgae products and serve as a capacity building project.

According to him, the microalgae laboratory will use large-scale mass culture in the Ethiopian Rift Valley Lakes and produce 100 liters of microalgae seeds in 15 days, to help sustain nutrition and for export.
EHRC urges civilian protection, access to humanitarian assistance

By Yonas Abiye

The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) called on both the Federal and the Tigray regional armed forces to ensure the safety and security of civilians and respect human rights at all times.

In a statement released on Thursday, November 5, 2020, the Commission pointed out that it is gravely concerned and is closely monitoring the fast-developing security situation in Tigray region and other parts of the country.

EHRC Chief Commissioner, Daniel Bekele, said: “EHRC urges both federal and regional security forces to ensure the safety and security of civilians and respect human rights at all times.”

He added: “As Parliament convenes to discuss the approval of the State of Emergency declared in Tigray, it should in particular consider ensuring humanitarian access and support including for food, medicine and other essential civilian services, to avoid a complete blockade of communication and transport facilities.”

The commissioner reminded all parties that Tigray region is host to several thousands of refugees.

Other regional and international agencies have also joined the commissioner’s call for safety of civilians.

In the meantime, the Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF) group has committed treason by attacking the national army.

General Berhanu further told journalists that members of the army are helping wounded Tigray Special Force members by taking them to medical centers.

Oromia President’s . . .

The proclamation issued in 2019 states that people who would be evicted should be notified of the same at least before one year and if the matter is urgent it should be conducted in a manner that respects the dignity of the people.

Hence, they ask if the decision to expropriate them is appropriate, how the previously approved expansion on 2.6 hectares of land was raised to seven hectares and why the expansion is being implemented on a zigzag line that hurts some and benefits others.

Speaking to The Reporter, the Chief-Of-Staff of Oromia President’s Office, Getu Weyessa said that like any other person that asks for land for expansion projects, they have requested for land to do the expansion.

The intention to do the expansion is meant to bring all offices of Oromia that operate in rental offices to the same place in order to facilitate service provision.

“Residents who agreed to vacate their properties for the expansion are coming and receiving compensation and the President’s Office is responsible for paying the compensation for people that come with proper documentation,” Getu said.

The 37 households are desperate that they could not even get replies from any authority they complained to.

PM confirms . . .

The local firm Center for Accelerated Women’s Economic Empowerment (CAWEE) on Monday signed a virtual Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Arab Emirates (UAE)-based Evolvin’ Women, in a view to advance the capacity of Ethiopian female entrepreneurs.

In a statement issued after the signing, the Embassy said that through the MoU, the program will see the training and development of emerging female entrepreneurs who will be identified with the support of CAWEE. Evolvin’ Women will work with the entrepreneurs to help accelerate their business development and offer them an array of business support including training, services and resources to facilitate their financial success and freestanding.

The UAE Embassy in Addis Ababa is keen to support and encourage the goals of the two organizations to empower women by building their capacity.

Desert locust swarms no more a threat: Ministry

The desert locust swarms which invaded parts of Ethiopia are no longer threats to crops, as their spread diminished due to aerial and ground control operations, according to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Mandefro Negussie, State Minister of Agriculture, told ENA that the locusts that infested five regions and one city administration are now confined to one region.

“We only have desert locusts in Somali Region, despite some dispersed locusts that escaped control operations,” he added.

The country has increased the number of its aircraft and vehicles to intensify control operations against the locusts across the country.

“We have now seven aircraft sprayers, three navigation helicopters, and 116 vehicles that boosted our capacity to fight any current and possible future locust invasion,” Mandefro underscored.

The locust will no more be a threat to agricultural crops in Ethiopia because it will now go to naturally favorable areas to breed.

“It will not create a problem on crops in Ethiopia for now;” the state Minister noted.

Local firm signs MoU with Evolvin’ Women

Dubai

The local firm Center for Accelerated Women’s Economic Empowerment (CAWEE) on Monday signed a virtual Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Arab Emirates (UAE)-based Evolvin’ Women, in a view to advance the capacity of Ethiopian female entrepreneurs.

In a statement issued after the signing, the Embassy said that through the MoU, the program will see the training and development of emerging female entrepreneurs who will be identified with the support of CAWEE. Evolvin’ Women will work with the entrepreneurs to help accelerate their business development and offer them an array of business support including training, services and resources to facilitate their financial success and freestanding.

The UAE Embassy in Addis Ababa is keen to support and encourage the goals of the two organizations to empower women by building their capacity.

(ENA)

(HE)
House ratifies State of Emergency
By Yonas Abiye

The House of Peoples’ Representatives (HPR) on November 5, 2020, ratified a State of Emergency (SoE) in Tigray regional state for a period of six months.

Following measures by the government to take military action against the armed forces of the Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) on Wednesday, the Council of Ministers declared a state of emergency in the region.

During its 3rd regular session, the House debated on the provisions of the latest bill presented by Deputy Whip Mesfin Chemret. He told lawmakers that the government has been dragged into taking military action in Tigray due to actions taken by the Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF), the party administering the region.

He said: “The illegal actions of the TPLF elites are now beyond the containment of ordinary actions of rule of law. They passed the boundaries of law and order and cannot be controlled or prevented under routine law enforcement mechanisms.

He further raised the attacks by the armed forces of the TPLF on the Ethiopian Defense Forces Northern Command as an action that warrants immediate response from the federal government.

“There shall be no time to spend on this, we shall act on it as soon as possible,” he told the House demanding MPs vote the bill through without referring it to a Standing Committee for further revisions.

The aim of the State of Emergency is said to be protection of the constitution, the constitutional order as well as the wellbeing of the public.

MPs discussed the bill and stated their unified support to the State of Emergency. During the discussion, MPs voiced their opposition to the actions taken by the leaders of the TPLF whom the MPs accused of bearing the desire to regain the power they lost through illegal means.

The MPs denounced the reported attacks by the armed forces of the TPLF on the ENDF.

The MPs unanimously ratified the State of Emergency as Proclamation No. 1228/2013 in what they called “a unified decision.”

A taskforce led by General Adem Mohammed, Chief of Staff of the ENDF, and composed of representatives from pertinent institutions has been established to oversee the implementation of the State of Emergency, the council of Ministers disclosed in a statement it issued a day earlier. The taskforce is accountable to the Prime Minister.

In the meantime, the House approved the appointment of six members to the State of Emergency Inquiry Board, responsible for monitoring and supervising the implementation of the decree.

Accordingly, these members include: Lemma Tesema (appointed as Chairman of the Board), Jemberash Kinfe, Hawa Ali, Abebachew Lakew, Zerihun Petros, Askal Tillaabun and Wondimu Ginaw. After a few comments both in favor and against the appointees, the House ratified the nominations with six voting against them.

The State of Emergency will be implemented in Tigray Regional State but other areas might be included under the emergency as per the decision of the task force. The Attorney General, Gedion Timotiwos (PhD), told the media on Thursday that the State of Emergency could also be implemented outside the Tigray region, if the task force finds it necessary.

The military confrontation has come a few days after the horrific massacre of dozens of people in Western Oromia regional State, for which the TPLF officials stand accused of masterminding.

In a televised statement after the midnight of Wednesday, November 4, 2020, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) announced that the armed forces of the TPLF attached the ENDF’s Northern Command stationed in the Tigray region for more than two decades, attempting to rob artillery and military equipments.

HORN IN BRIEF
Sudan closes border with Ethiopia over clashes in restive region

Sudan closed its border on Thursday with Ethiopia over concerns that clashes in the northern region of the neighboring country may spread.

The action aimed at stopping fighters in Ethiopia’s Tigray region from crossing the frontier, the government of Sudan’s Kassala state said in a statement. Kassala’s governor plans to travel to the border areas to assess the security situation, it said.

Ethiopia’s military clashed with forces loyal to Tigray’s ruling party, Tigray People’s Liberation Front, for a second day on Thursday. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed ordered the incursion after accusing the region’s government of attacking a federal army camp.

Relations between Tigray and Abiy’s government have been strained since Abiy took office in 2018 and sidelined the TPLF, once the prominent power broker in Ethiopia. Last month, the federal parliament ordered the Treasury to halt direct budgetary support to the Tigrayan administration for defying an order to postpone regional elections.

Tigray’s leaders said the withholding of funds was unconstitutional and tantamount to a declaration of war.

Somali Minister survives landmine blast, 2 bodyguards hurt

A Somali Minister survived a landmine blast in Mogadishu on Thursday night but two of his bodyguards were injured, a government official confirmed on Friday.

Labor Minister Durran Ahmed Farah is safe after the explosion targeting his convoy at the KM4 intersection in Mogadishu’s Hodan district, said government spokesman Ismael Mukhtar Omar.

“The Minister is safe but two of his bodyguards were injured after the blast last night,” Omar told Xinhua over the phone.

Witnesses said the Minister’s vehicle was destroyed after being hit by the landmine, which was planted on the roadside.

No group has so far claimed responsibility for the latest attack in the restive capital, but al-Shabaab terror group usually stages such attacks in the Horn of Africa nation.

The Qaida-allied group, which was driven out of Mogadishu by Somali army and African Union forces in 2011, still carries out attacks in the capital and in rural areas in central and southern Somalia.

(Bloomberg)

(Xinhua)
Japan to honor Ethiopian former UN executive

By Samuel Getachew

The Government of Japan is set to honor Tegegnework Gettu (PhD), the former United Nations Under-secretary General and former UNDP Associate Administrator, with the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star for the year 2020.

The award, meant to honor foreigners for distinguished services in an array of services, will be given to Tegegnework for his efforts to help improve and enrich the Japan-Africa relationship via the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) process.

“During his distinguished career, Dr. Gettu made his significant contributions towards strengthening Japan-Africa relations through the TICAD process, including promotion of Japanese and African business linkages,” the statement from the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations said announcing the latest recipient of the award.

The statement further explains: “Under his leadership, many TICAD-UNDP flagship joint initiatives were launched and he paved the way to establishing several strategic partnerships, such as a tripartite partnership agreement among the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and UNDP, and a framework of partnership with Keizai Doyukai (the Japan Association of Corporate Executives). Both were signed on the margins of TICAD7 on 30th August 2019.”

Gettu, appointed as the United Nations Under-secretary in 2015 by former UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, previously served in various positions with the UNDP, most recently as the Regional Director and Assistant Secretary General in differing posts in New York, Nigeria, Liberal, Sierra Leone, among others.

He also served as an assistant Professor at Columbia University in New York.

“As a founding co-organizer of TICAD, UNDP has been an essential partner for Japan, sharing the same approaches for advancing human security and ending poverty and inequality with a view to achieving the Millennium Development Goals until 2015 and currently, in the pursuit of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” the statement from the Japan Missionary continued.

The award was started in 1975 in order to honor distinguished services in international relations. Previous recipients include the former Ethiopian Ambassador to Japan, Mahdi Ahmed, the former Addis Ababa mayor and the current Advisor to the Prime Minister, Arkebe Equbay and the late Newayechristos Gebreab, the Economic Advisor to the late Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi.

Japan and Ethiopia have had a rich relationship founded on economic empowerment, development and in the building of various infrastructures around the nation including support in the building of the old Bole Airport. Since 1906, both nations have had full Ambassadors in Addis and in Tokyo, respectively.

Two South Sudan aid groups suspend operations after workers killed

Two aid groups have suspended operations in parts of Eastern South Sudan after gunmen killed two of their workers late last week.

The suspension will make matters worse for thousands of citizens displaced by widespread flooding in Jonglei state.

Annette Hearns, deputy head of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) in Juba, said the killings not only affected aid delivery to vulnerable people but caused more suffering for the families of the deceased.

“We condemn this type of behavior. Our colleagues are attempting to support new mothers and children who are malnourished, and help them receive the support they need to live,” Hearns told VOA’s South Sudan in Focus.

An employee with Plan International was killed on October 29 in the Pibor Administrative Area, according to a UNOCHA statement released Monday.

After the attacks, both aid agencies suspended operations in the two areas, said Hearns.

Somaliland political leader endorses Somali electoral model

The Chairman of UCID party (Ururka Caddaasha iyo Daryeelka) of Somaliland, Faisal Ali Warabe, has endorsed the Somali elections due to take place in February 2021.

In a break with Somaliland Government policies that distance the self-proclaimed ‘Republic of Somaliland’ from the Somali political process, Faisal delivered a keynote speech for representatives from the Dir clan in a meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya.

Under the 4.5 power sharing formula, the UCID Chairman belongs to the Dir clan.

“One clans vie for the Presidency and the Prime Minister’s office. We have to play a role in the forthcoming elections.” Faisal told participants of the meeting.

Mohamed Adan Qabatyare, a former Somaliland Planning Minister, attended the meeting and said “We have to meet regularly and raise funds.”

Last month, the Government of Somaliland issued a statement in which it openly rejected the election of Somaliland MPs and Senators in Mogadishu for the 2021 elections.

The Nairobi meeting is likely to infuriate President Muse Bihi.

(The Taiwan Times)
The situation further escalated tensions between the two sides that started since the TPLF walked out of the merger of the Ethiopian Peoples’ Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) into Prosperity Party (PP). The two federal houses finally decided to cut ties and budgetary subsidies to Tigray region because of TPLF’s refusal to recognize them as legal entities after October 5, 2020, despite constitutional interpretations that extended their term.

The Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) has been repeatedly accused of taking part in these attacks along with the Oromo Liberation Front’s armed wing.

For about a year now, analysts, observers and institutions have been predicting that the political tensions between the federal government led by the Prosperity Party (PP) and Tigray Regional State government led by the TPLF would result in military confrontation.

Despite the decision by the House of Federation and the House of Peoples’ Representatives to postpone general elections on account of the Coronavirus pandemic, Tigray region went on to hold regional elections in defiance of the central government. TPLF won the election in landslide and elected Debretsion Gebremichael (PhD) to the regional Presidency.

The situation further escalated tensions between the two sides that started since the TPLF walked out of the merger of the Ethiopian Peoples’ Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) into Prosperity Party (PP). The two federal houses finally decided to cut ties and budgetary subsidies to Tigray region because of TPLF’s refusal to recognize them as legal entities after October 5, 2020, despite constitutional interpretations that extended their term.

The Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) has been repeatedly accused of taking part in these attacks along with the Oromo Liberation Front’s armed wing.

For about a year now, analysts, observers and institutions have been predicting that the political tensions between the federal government led by the Prosperity Party (PP) and Tigray Regional State government led by the TPLF would result in military confrontation.

Despite the decision by the House of Federation and the House of Peoples’ Representatives to postpone general elections on account of the Coronavirus pandemic, Tigray region went on to hold regional elections in defiance of the central government. TPLF won the election in landslide and elected Debretsion Gebremichael (PhD) to the regional Presidency.

The situation further escalated tensions between the two sides that started since the TPLF walked out of the merger of the Ethiopian Peoples’ Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) into Prosperity Party (PP). The two federal houses finally decided to cut ties and budgetary subsidies to Tigray region because of TPLF’s refusal to recognize them as legal entities after October 5, 2020, despite constitutional interpretations that extended their term.

The Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) has been repeatedly accused of taking part in these attacks along with the Oromo Liberation Front’s armed wing.

For about a year now, analysts, observers and institutions have been predicting that the political tensions between the federal government led by the Prosperity Party (PP) and Tigray Regional State government led by the TPLF would result in military confrontation.

Despite the decision by the House of Federation and the House of Peoples’ Representatives to postpone general elections on account of the Coronavirus pandemic, Tigray region went on to hold regional elections in defiance of the central government. TPLF won the election in landslide and elected Debretsion Gebremichael (PhD) to the regional Presidency.

The situation further escalated tensions between the two sides that started since the TPLF walked out of the merger of the Ethiopian Peoples’ Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) into Prosperity Party (PP). The two federal houses finally decided to cut ties and budgetary subsidies to Tigray region because of TPLF’s refusal to recognize them as legal entities after October 5, 2020, despite constitutional interpretations that extended their term.

The Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) has been repeatedly accused of taking part in these attacks along with the Oromo Liberation Front’s armed wing.

For about a year now, analysts, observers and institutions have been predicting that the political tensions between the federal government led by the Prosperity Party (PP) and Tigray Regional State government led by the TPLF would result in military confrontation.

Despite the decision by the House of Federation and the House of Peoples’ Representatives to postpone general elections on account of the Coronavirus pandemic, Tigray region went on to hold regional elections in defiance of the central government. TPLF won the election in landslide and elected Debretsion Gebremichael (PhD) to the regional Presidency.

The situation further escalated tensions between the two sides that started since the TPLF walked out of the merger of the Ethiopian Peoples’ Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) into Prosperity Party (PP). The two federal houses finally decided to cut ties and budgetary subsidies to Tigray region because of TPLF’s refusal to recognize them as legal entities after October 5, 2020, despite constitutional interpretations that extended their term.

The Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) has been repeatedly accused of taking part in these attacks along with the Oromo Liberation Front’s armed wing.

For about a year now, analysts, observers and institutions have been predicting that the political tensions between the federal government led by the Prosperity Party (PP) and Tigray Regional State government led by the TPLF would result in military confrontation.

Despite the decision by the House of Federation and the House of Peoples’ Representatives to postpone general elections on account of the Coronavirus pandemic, Tigray region went on to hold regional elections in defiance of the central government. TPLF won the election in landslide and elected Debretsion Gebremichael (PhD) to the regional Presidency.

The situation further escalated tensions between the two sides that started since the TPLF walked out of the merger of the Ethiopian Peoples’ Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) into Prosperity Party (PP). The two federal houses finally decided to cut ties and budgetary subsidies to Tigray region because of TPLF’s refusal to recognize them as legal entities after October 5, 2020, despite constitutional interpretations that extended their term.
Crisis Group’s Africa Briefing titled “Toward an End to Ethiopia’s Federal Tigray Feud” released in August 2020, indicated that there is a possibility that the situation may escalate to military confrontation between the two sides and the international community needs to play its role in deescalating the tensions through negotiation.

ENDF has been spread across the region for years now, assisting neighboring states with their own tensions. Some troops may need to be pulled back. However, Ethiopia has a number of other tools of national power at its disposal including economic, social, diplomacy, information and its system of alliances - so these instruments of national power can also be leveraged to continue supporting peace and security across the region.

Within all this, however, she is optimistic that the clashes won’t have any impact on the future people to people relations as well as the strength of the military. She is of the view that the conflict does not concern the wider people but rather “differences between two political groups with an unnaturally wide gulf between their respective positions.”

Unlike other experts that recommended for the involvement of foreign mediators to resolve the issue between the two, Fitz-Gerald is rather unconvinced in involving any external forces in the resolution. “This is an Ethiopian issue and, to the greatest extent possible, should be left to Ethiopia to resolve, certainly at the first instance. The fact that Ethiopia has played a frontline role in stabilizing the wider conflict-ridden region of the Horn of Africa, and maintains culture-specific practices which drive persistence and commitment to resolving differences - should mean that, in time, should Tigray wish to remain part of Ethiopia, differences will be worked out,” she asserted.

She also adds that “This incident, and the ensuing violence that has followed, will continue until both sides agree to a ceasefire - but any eventual ceasefire agreement may also come with holding certain individuals to account. I don’t see any other scenario aside from Tigray voting to secede; independence which, I do believe, is an argument that a de facto situation would not provide a conducive foundation for dialogue once gestures of dialogue became extended.”

She stresses “As a result, those heightened tensions between the TPLF and the PP were inevitable. This would also not be conducive to a foundation for dialogue and would result in very wide starting points that would be difficult to reconcile. With little relationship with the federal government, and a highly securitized culture, it was also inevitable that any decisions concerning the defense reforms, the northern command, and talks with Eritrea would become highly sensitive and be interpreted as being targeted towards the TPLF. I also believe that there was perhaps a view from the TPLF that they had been singled out and that the government was doing little to address different forms of nationalism within other ethnic groups represented within the security sector.” She further noted that it seemed unreasonable that the TPLF did not recognize the Prime Minister’s proposal, and the Electoral Commission’s decision, to postpone the elections for a period of up to one year.

At the time, Ann Fitz-Gerald argues the Coronavirus was sweeping across Africa and no one knew the magnitude of its impact. Ethiopia was following precedent that had been set elsewhere around the world. Both Tigray’s geographic distance from the capital city and its reduced region-center interactions - which led to a low COVID-19 infection rate - would have further hardened its position on the need for a national election. But with high numbers elsewhere in Ethiopia and the rest of the world, and a debilitating impact being felt by countries worldwide, not to recognize the government after October 5 and to insist that the PM steps down before dialogue can be considered was not helpful.
Tell us a bit about yourself

I am passionate about aerospace engineering. I have a strong academic and technical background in aerospace engineering, and completed my Bachelor of Engineering (B.Eng.) in Aeronautical Engineering at Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics. It was during my 2nd and 3rd year of study that I gained valuable industry experience as an intern at Ethiopian Airlines. I gained further working experience as a researcher at the Space Engineering department of the Ethiopian Space Science and Technology Institute, where I was part of the team that developed the first micro satellite which was launched in December 2019.

During that time, I actively participated in and contributed to the development of Ethiopia’s First National Space policy. I also completed two highly competitive satellite training programs in China and Russia that greatly enhanced my knowledge in modern aerospace engineering.

On the education front, I am currently pursuing an online Master of Business Administration course with the University of South Wales, UK.

You are in a competitive profession that has...
relatively few women in it, but is slowly changing. How did you become an Aerospace Engineer?

As a woman, born and raised in a very conservative Ethiopian culture, I have had to overcome challenges and encounters that often undermined rather than build my confidence, resulting in many lost opportunities.

My time studying abroad in two different countries brought with it different challenges for me as a young woman, but also presented opportunities for me to grow in my field of interest. I was able to demonstrate my great commitment, passion and diligence in all my endeavors, resulting in me being one of the few successful women in a sector disproportionately represented by men.

I chose the aerospace engineering course to study as I have always been interested in an engineering course that would satisfy my curiosity about space, and I believed that I had the character and qualities necessary to forge a successful career in this area. I have been inspired, in pursuing my career path, by my high school director who believed in my potential to reach great heights and is the director of a successful school in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. I was given a scholarship at the age of 15 at the Cyprus International University to study energy system engineering; I have always been fascinated by the implementation of cutting-edge technologies in the aerospace industry. After careful consideration, I was able to transfer all my credits to Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics in China to study Aeronautical Engineering.

I remain passionately committed to developing myself professionally for continuing professional growth. I always try to take up opportunities to attend various trainings that I consider invaluable to me, and I believe would help me grow rapidly in the field of aerospace in Ethiopia and the region. I want to harness every opportunity I get to learn and share the knowledge I gain back in my home country, Ethiopia. Additionally, as a woman in STEM (Science, Technology Engineering and Math), I would like to lead by example and show my fellow women that this field is accessible to each and every one, regardless of where we come from.

Tell us about your project with the European Space Agency?

Recently, I got certified in drone technology from the first cohort of the African Drone and Data Academy, which is supported by UNICEF and run by Virginia Tech as the lead organization, becoming the first Ethiopian woman to receive this achievement. I am currently working on a project as a Child Technology officer for air UTM in partnership with a German company to build the first airUTM Unmanned Aerial Vehicles traffic Management system, as a solution for African skies. airUTM has been awarded a contract from the European Space Agency (ESA). This project is going to take place in Malawi in collaboration with UNICEF, GIZ, Wingcopter and DCA.

You were recently nominated one of the African Space Industry Top 10 under-30-Class of 2020. Tell us about that.

I am honored by the nomination which I believe is in recognition of my various achievements within the African Space Industry which include: being part of the team at the Space Engineering Department of the Ethiopian Space and Science Institute that developed the first micro satellite in Ethiopia, launched in December 2019. Contributing to the development of Ethiopia’s first National Space policy, and my successful participation in two highly competitive satellite training programs in China and Russia is something that has enriched me as a person.

I have also played various supporting roles in multiple projects, including in the development of Cube Satellites and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in Ethiopia. While my main responsibility was in designing the structural and communication systems of the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), I also provided project support in the design of the Altitude Control System of Cube Satellites. As a researcher, I recognized an opportunity in designing new materials and have published two journal articles relating to composite materials and structural analysis of satellites. We developed material made from recyclable banana fibers instead of the ordinary carbon fibers, and I was able to obtain higher strength material, making this suitable in the application of structural design of drones.

I believe that it is through these and other contributions to the Space Industry, both in my country and Africa, that I was nominated as one of the African Space Industry Top 10 under-30-Class of 2020.

What do you think needs to be done in Ethiopia, in fact in Africa, to encourage more women to enter the aerospace engineering field?

There are societies and centers that work in creating awareness about the aerospace industry, and some have been doing this for about 10 years now. I believe that in addition to raising awareness of the aerospace industry among women, we also need to offer support to those who are interested in studying the field, and demonstrate the many fields of application of the space technologies within our lives, communities and country to allay any fears around usefulness. The societies and centers could also consider raising funds for the development and implementation of technologies that present solutions to everyday problems. This may lead to job-creation for our youth with interest in the field while also demonstrating its practical usefulness and changing lives for the better in the developing countries of Africa like Ethiopia.

Furthermore, women like me who have been given great opportunities to grow in this industry need to find a way to bring the power of their knowledge, skills and experience to contribute to developing technology-based engineering solutions which, I believe, will go a long way to inspire, encourage and provide opportunities for more women interested in or within the field.

There also needs to be organizations which initiate different programs that work to address the various social and economic problems that disempower women in our societies, some of which include: financial aid to girls pursuing higher education and helping primary schools with further expansion of STEM.

How far do you think we have come to ensure that the local or perhaps the African aerospace field is moving in the right direction?

I believe that Ethiopia and Africa have come a long way in developing the aerospace field, but I also believe that we have a long way to go and need great leadership, creative, ambitious, determined and dedicated women and men in Africa to not only play a role in the aerospace field, but also make aerospace technologies relevant, appropriate and accessible in addressing Africa’s many challenges.

I personally believe studying the space above Africa, the stars and the moon, is something that is really exciting and fascinating and that is one of the reasons why I joined this field. But given, as I indicated, the social and economic development challenges and issues that our countries face, I would like to see us focus more on the cutting-edge technologies that could be implemented on the ground to change people’s lives.

They don’t need to start big; a cube satellite was developed in a university setting by a professor and few students but has been applied to address various problems throughout the world by different countries. Africa has the largest young population and amazing brain power to make aerospace technologies work for us and our communities. A consolidated effort from the African space industries could see the mobilization of resources to initiate and facilitate projects than make a difference on the continent; what is needed is the desire and action to harness aerospace engineering at the political, public and private sector levels.
COMFORTING AND HOPEFUL DEPICTIONS OF THE PANDEMIC
By Hiwot Abebe

Dispatches from Limbo, a group exhibition, opened this weekend at LeLa Gallery - one of the few contemporary art galleries to open doors after the COVID-19 pandemic induced shut down of businesses. Behailu Benabh, Dawit Abebe, Eyob Kitaba, Henok Melkamzer, Nahom Teklehaimanot, Tamrat Genneghe, and Tewodros Hago gathered to present an exhibition of works new and old.

Of course, Addis Fine Art has been open since September, presenting the talented Selene Muleta’s paintings and Fendika Art Gallery is preparing for a new exhibition opening this week but this will be the first show in Addis Ababa for all 7 artists.

“We are all, worldwide, in disbelief at the changes in our lives. As a pandemic sweeps the globe, millions dead, millions more infected, fears of death, thoughts of illness are paramount, and many of us exist in a state of limbo,” said Lilly Sahle, director of LeLa Gallery and curator of this exhibition, in her opening address. She added: “like many others, a form of paralysis set in, not knowing how to react - feeling dumbfounded as we all navigate this uncharted territory. I had to consider re-opening, and what that would mean. When I called the artists participating in this show I was uncertain how they would react, but everyone was eager to do something. Moving forwards, finding a new way to continue living, finding peace and beauty in the midst of disruption is our only path forwards.”

Lilly has gathered big names in Ethiopian art to showcase their works and offer a reprieve from the past few months of stasis. The art scene got a well-deserved breath of fresh air as artists who haven’t seen each other in several months and those of us who have missed art exhibitions came together. As to why all the artists in this group show were men, Lilly answered, “We’ll do women next time. These artists seemed to work best together.”

Behailu Benabh previewed new works primarily motivated by the COVID-19 pandemic. One especially moving piece shows a man holding a lantern, guiding a mayhem of ambulances. He remarked: “My work is about our current situation. It is the truth. We’re all looking for a solution and that is where life is found. Everything that’s happening is not just about us, it’s a global phenomenon.”

According to Behailu, this painting was inspired by a particular incident near his home where an ambulance couldn’t locate the ailing person’s home at night and a man had to guide them with a torchlight. Behailu often chooses highly relevant moments, events, or ideas as entry points to explore the ways society is affected by subtle details and nuances. He has adopted a simple drawing technique and soft colors to capture and tame adrenaline-filled moments.

Behailu worked on these pieces during the stay at home. “It’s not an easy time. Your spirit must be free to work and be productive. Artists’ lives are not like they used to be.”

Dawit Abebe’s works in the exhibition are older pieces from 2004 and 2005 that serve as a reminder of his origins, the social criticism that gripped him early on and has rippled across his oeuvre. Henok Melkamzer’s highly intricate Telsem drawings made in painstaking detail are at once calming and mesmerizing, talismans of a more hopeful time. Nahom Teklehaimanot’s debut market scenes are expertly accurate depictions of life as we knew it. Tewodros Hago’s beautiful portraits in his signature style are familiar signals that remind one of the comfort art gives in troubled times.

Two pieces from Eyob Kitaba’s Consumption series are also included in this exhibition. Juxtaposing locally used products with globalization and capitalism and especially focusing on Chinese products and their proliferation across Africa, these mixed media pieces on metal are a study of power and identity, especially as global consumerism creates monolithic cultural elements. “We can see power is being exerted. The signs are all over the city. We sense something is happening. My work can be a way of questioning our existence, our identity as Ethiopians or as Africans,” he pointed out.

These pieces are part of a conversation about Ethiopian history, global capitalism and consumer culture. They were produced during the stay at home and Eyob says the COVID-19 pandemic gave him a lot to think about. “It gave me an opportunity to read a lot, to think, and work on these and other pieces. This pandemic has made me question, and hope, and worry about the ways we live,” he stated. Eyob’s previous work focused on urbanization and displacement.

Tamrat Genneghe’s Adornment in iconic style is another element of this group exhibition. Produced specifically for this exhibition, Adornment is a technicolour interpretation of body decorations. Adornments have historically been used as markers of beauty, or applied for healing and protection purposes. Tamrat’s depiction is, however, neon and futuristic. Contours seem to trace the landscape of the body as well as the physical terrain of the land.

Tamrat spent the pandemic stay at home working at the studio space he shares with two artists in Piassa and cycling around the city with the green bicycle from his 2017 show Waiting at LeLa Gallery. He also spent time painting and designing Fendika Cultural Center’s newly renovated interior performance space and outdoor area. “Of course we felt the initial panic when there were reports of new infections and deaths but eventually we adjusted. Fendika was a private place for us. It was not a bad time for me,” says Tamrat. He also had an exhibition in the Netherlands in August; so, it’s been a busy period for Tamrat.

Dispatches from Limbo doesn’t feel much like limbo. The artworks don’t carry a hint of the stress and confusion of the stay at home mandates and the artists were likely experiencing at some point during the pandemic. Viewing this exhibition feels comforting and hopeful, familiar in the best way.
SERVING SOCIETY THROUGH ART AS AN EXPRESSION OF ONESELF

Aron Yeshtila is a playwright and filmmaker now based in Switzerland. His new play The Possibilities ("Die Möglichkeiten") is currently on view in Zurich. He is also the screenwriter and director of the film Mizewochu. Aron studied theater at Addis Ababa University and is the co-founder of Gebrehanna Productions. His 2019 play Kings of Interest focused on neocolonialism of Ethiopia going back to the history of Western influence and exploring the pitfalls of capitalism to the present day. The Reporter’s Hiwot Abebe spoke to Aron about his new theater piece, his short film Dagu and using the arts to bring political issues to the front.

What is your play The Possibilities about? I read your current play has elements about race and the pandemic. Can you tell me a bit more about that?
The Possibilities is a discussion of three unfertilized eggs living in their mother’s womb. They don’t know their father yet; so, they did not develop any worldly identity and related interests. In this Sci-Fi situation, they are able to obtain information about the world through an artificial intelligent interface. Soon they realize the hierarchical and discriminatory nature of the world. They reflect on racism and sexism based on their body experience. They then engage in trying to forge an agreement that will create a fair situation for all in the world.

How was the production? How is the reception, especially with regard to the COVID-19 pandemic?
The theater was produced by our Gebrehanna Productions, in collaboration with two theater houses in the Swiss cities of Aarau and Zürich. The reception was quite good. The Possibilities was originally programmed to be premiered at the end of March 2020. Due to the lockdown, it had to be postponed to October 2020. The spike in COVID cases now again in autumn has obviously affected the amount of attendance. But the COVID-19 pandemic and Black lives matter movements have made our play more relevant and urgent. What these hierarchical relationships, manifested through racism and sexism, do is affect the distribution of resources and access to resources within a society and in the world at large. Besides its immediate danger to health, COVID-19 has exposed the problems faced by the socially and economically vulnerable part of society. People appreciated us for raising these issues and discussing more of its roots.

Your short film Dagu is a Sci-Fi story, a rarely explored genre in Ethiopian cinema. What made you choose to tell the story that way?
Dagu as you know is a traditional but highly efficient way of communication and socialization of the Afar people. The film Dagu is set in the...
The futuristic African Continent where an authoritarian regime blocks the internet and media from people. Dagu comes as a tool of resistance to exchange information in this difficult situation.

This application, for example, transforms the concept and image of Dagu from ‘a traditional practice of a pastoralist society’ to a dynamic and relevant modern concept. The blockbuster Black Panther applies the persona and concept of Dahomey (now Benin) all-female warriors of the 17th century to its elite Dora Milaje Warriors.

I think it all relates to Afroturism which is for me, among other things, this growing consciousness among some artists of African descent for an attempt to transform the image of an African from the stereotype of a fixed, tribal, or traditional to that of dynamic and visionary. It is also about imagining black experience in a futuristic and alternate reality.

In my case, it had also a practical reason. JJ, the Addis Ababa part of Dagu, was shot a few months before PM Abiy Ahmed came to power and it was a tense situation. Coming from abroad, I thought it would be easier for me to tell the authorities it’s just a Sci-Fi film. But I found the actors braver. They realized the film’s political nature and they liked it even better because of that. It was a humbling experience.

What has been the difference between working as a screenwriter and a playwright, especially when it comes to the production process and working in collaboration with other people?

The theater would be a preparation for one or two long camera takes for a movie. Both have their own challenges. In film, the camera moves and focuses, images are frequently juxtaposed. Theater makes everything at one place and time – mostly but not always. The theater could also move with scenes, with audiovisual aid, or even with a moving audience. In the case of site-specific theaters, for example, the audience would follow the performance moving through a park or industrial building ... The idea of theater has moved a lot to include different types of performative acts. Very generally speaking, I would say a random theater would have a lot more experimental elements than a random film.

How does your understanding of politics may be in the role art plays as a political tool as well as a form of resistance - inform the work you do?

Politics informs my work because of the amount of injustice faced by me and the society to which I belong. It preoccupies our mind; like in Ethiopia as an Ethiopian, in Europe as a black person. I remember Haile Gerima’s response when asked about where he gets the inspiration or how he chooses his topic; he said he always picks a topic that gives him stomach ache and what keeps him up at night. The work becoming a tool for resistance or education is a secondary thing for me. The purpose is to make meaning and recount these difficult experiences while at the same time imagining the future or the alternative. I choose the art to deal with the problems as a remedy and to deny their attempt to reduce me in any form, from being a free and emancipated human. The act of telling the true experience of the people, in a performative and public way, also counters the lies of the repressive system which are also interestingly told in a performative and public way. Thus, then, turns the work of art also to a tool of resistance.

What has been your experience working in Ethiopia versus in Europe, especially with regards to access to resources, education, audience, freedom of expression, ... whatever else you think is relevant.

It is difficult to compare. At the center of the difference, especially for independent theater and filmmakers, is the purpose. In Ethiopia, artists make theater and film expecting ticket sales to make a profit thereof. With this idea, they do anything they deem would attract the public. Access to knowledge and different forms of art is not available both to the artist and the audience. If there is production, therefore, it is more of repetition in all forms. In the West, there is an old and established understanding of the importance of art for the progress of society. Government, public and private institutions are set up to support these independent art groups and individuals at every phase of production. So, the concern of the artists is what kind of topic to choose or in what kind of fresh and authentic form to present it. They would rather choose to challenge the audience with an aesthetic or topic than to entertain or please. The audience also has a long experience and exposure to different forms of arts. They are ready and equipped to the challenge and to understand and appreciate the artistic works. But the situation in Ethiopia has the chance to be improved, I believe. Knowledge and training are now easily accessible via the internet. We have a lot of big companies that sponsor events of different kinds. Their awareness should be raised to support quality and innovation of works of art that may not be – let’s say - popular. To quote Haile Gerima again, ‘the society should have the right to get A, B and C level.’

You wrote in an article in 2011 about the Ethiopian film industry that ‘the value of the films in contributing to Ethiopian culture or representing it morally low’ and the filmmakers’ inability to discern between culture and tradition to become detrimental to their understanding of the Ethiopian context. Do you know how much access you have to newly produced films but do you think that assertion still holds true? Have local filmmakers and producers become aware of their responsibility in doing so?

I like to think of myself as an artist first. From me being an artist, I will benefit or serve myself or society better. A physician would be a physician first, a judge should be a judge, a judge and from that, society will really benefit. If you assume another responsibility other than being that, I believe it would be corrupting and it would not even serve the entity that was supposed to be served from the outset.

I have a problem with having another responsibility first than being an artist. That is why I believe this idea of promoting a nation through this and that ends up being a noisy cliché work. For me, the experience of an Ethiopian in Addis, or Harar or Gojam or Axum is all Ethiopian experience and worth telling. It should be told from the people’s experience, not from the leader or the past. The value of the experience of the past is very less than the present for me.

In my view, artists in Ethiopia try hard to appeal to people by showing their religiosity or being a fan of the kings of the past which has nothing to do with being an artist. It may look popular now but as the awareness of the people increases, these all go away. This is constantly telling the youth “there are past kings, the current leader . . . above you. You are less important, your role is to promote them and their ideas - whatever it is.” This puts the imagination of the youth in the rabbit hole and denies their capacity to make meaning out of their own lived experience and build upon that as a member of this ever-changing world. In short, when they start to express themselves and their environment in a truthful way, everybody benefits and goes forward.

Do you have plans of returning to Ethiopia and producing films or plays back there?

I always look for opportunities to present my works in Ethiopia. We were preparing to stage our play ‘Kings of Interest’ (shown in Switzerland in 2018, 2019) in Addis Ababa in collaboration with the National Theater. But the plan failed due to COVID-19.
Nonetheless, the progress made in actually improving the position of women and girls has been disappointing. Women and girls are little safer today than they were in 2000. There are more wars being fought, with devastating implications for civilians caught in the crossfire. Although there have been considerable progres in combating the use of sexual violence as a weapon and tactic of war, these atrocities continue to happen. New data published last year found record levels of political violence targeting women. And while the number of peace agreements making commitments to protect women or gender jumped in the years following the adoption of Resolution 1325, half of such agreements still do not mention women. Resolution 1325’s third pillar, participation, is arguably the most critical. Women must have a say in how peace is achieved and maintained, how people are protected, and how societies are rebuilt after a conflict. This is not a matter of gender equity for its own sake. Women and girls have unique interests and perspectives that must be considered, and they generally have very different experiences of insecurity and conflict compared to men and boys. For example, forced marriages are often connected to the role that they are more likely to happen during conflict and in its wake. Accordingly, female peacekeepers are more likely than their male counterparts to be trusted among these cohorts of conflict-affected populations. Moreover, studies of peace processes in the past 30 years suggest that when women have a say in negotiations, there is a much better chance of reaching a deal – and of achieving an enduring settlement. But progress overall has been underwhelming. Women were listed in only five of the 19 UN peace operations active as of mid-2020, and none of the 17 missions designated to help women, or gender jumped in the years following the adoption of Resolution 1325. Even if we can improve these headline numbers, real progress will be possible only if we can address underlying gender inequities, too. The fact that women experience conflict differently than men do, and are so often left out of peace processes, reflects unequal gender roles within societies. For example, conditions like environmental crises affect peace and security. In areas like the Horn of Africa, where the Sahel, protracted droughts have made fresh water, arable land, and pastures increasingly scarce, with direct effects on the livelihoods of families, particularly those affected by violent struggles for resources, on herding and rain-fed farming. These conditions give rise to violent struggles for resources, migration in search of more secure lives, and a widespread sense of desperation that local armed groups can exploit.

In these agricultural communities, the structures of power and authority generally imply that women bear the responsibility of identifying and managing resources for their families. And yet it is generally the men who own the land, to be negotiating, and make the long-term plans and spending decisions. Thus, the challenge issued by Resolution 1325 is as much about changing laws and attitudes that exclude women as it is about recruiting more female peacekeepers and advisers.

All told, the 20-year report card for Resolution 1325 shows only limited achievements. How can we ensure that the one for 2030 is better? To borrow a line from the 2000 Agenda for Sustainable Development, this must be a decade of delivery. The first, easiest step is for governments, the UN, and international organizations that deploy peace operations to set numerical targets for women’s participation, and then to maintain these targets.

The second, bigger step is to make, or renew, action plans.

---

OXFORD – The COVID-19 pandemic underscores just how tightly interwoven humanity has become. A single infested animal somewhere in China set in motion a chain reaction with effects that, nearly a year later, are still reverberating in every corner of the planet. This should not be particularly surprising. The history of pandemics tracks our unification as a species. The Black Death traveled on new trade routes forged between Europe and Asia in the Middle Ages. Smallpox devastated the Americas. And the 1918 influenza pandemic reached six continents in just months, owing to technological advances in moving goods and people. Each time humanity takes bold steps toward deeper integration, disease follows.

We share not only our greatest knowledge and culture, but our greatest risks. We may go a decade without seeing one, but our activities have a shadow-cost in risk that eventually comes due. And it is not limited to pandemics. Our newfound ability to share information across the world, to develop and deploy new technologies – misinformation, warped ideologies, and hatred – to spread faster than any disease. These challenges of an interconnected world require new approaches to ethics – new ways of understanding our obligations, and coordinating our response. Ethics is normally viewed from the perspective of the individual: what should I do? But sometimes we step back to take in a broader perspective, and think in terms of the obligations borne by societies or countries. And in recent centuries, we have begun to adopt a global perspective, asking: how can the world ought to respond to a pressing concern. These new perspectives are demanded by a changing world. Before we had civilization, it would rarely have made sense to think of responsibilities beyond our immediate ties. Only when we came to make our own fate and started encountering truly global problems did we begin to consider our collective obligations to our planet and ourselves.

But our interconnectedness also brings profound costs. We live not only our own lives, but everyone else’s. Our decisions have consequences for everyone else in this world – and in the world we leave for the next generation. This seems an especially apt comparison, for like the adolescents who are reaching rapid developments in their strength, and humanity is just 200,000 years old, putting us in our adolescence. This seems a very appropriate time to think about the potential the future holds. Yet when it comes to risks, we can be impulsive and careless,
International Development Enterprises

Introduction

International Development Enterprises (IDE) (www.ideglobal.org) a 501(c) non-profit international development organization, headquartered in the USA (Colorado), has been transforming the lives of marginalized communities around the world through creating sustainable income and livelihood opportunities for rural families for the past 38 years. IDE has been registered & licensed by Charities & Societies Agency in 2007 with certificate no. 069 and re-registered by Agency for Civil Society Organization on May 16, 2019. IDE’s mission is to create income & livelihood opportunities for poor rural households.

IDE is currently looking for an eligible Audit Firm to audit the organisation’s accounts for the year 2020 with the possibility of extension for the other subsequent two years.

Objective of the Audit Work:

The objective of the audit of International Development Enterprises (IDE)’s financial statements are:

1. To enable the auditors to express an independent professional opinion on the financial position of IDE and to ensure that the funds utilised to IDE’s activities have been used for their intended purposes for the year ended December 31, 2020.
2. To help that the books of accounts of IDE provide the basis for preparation of IDE’s Financial Statements.
3. To prepare books of accounts as required by law that have been maintained by IDE and also maintain adequate internal controls and supporting documentation for the transactions.

Scope of the Audit

1. The audit will be carried out in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) & International Auditing Standards, and will include tests and verification procedures as the auditors deem necessary.
2. Verify all funds have been used in accordance with the established rules and regulations of IDE and only for the purposes for which the funds were provided.
3. Preparing supporting documents, records and books of accounts relating to all activities have been kept.
4. The financial statements have been prepared by IDE management in accordance with applicable International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and give a true and fair view of the financial position of IDE and of its receipts and expenditures for the period ended December 31, 2020.
5. Express an opinion as to reasonableness of the financial statements in all material respects and compliance with procedures designed to provide reasonable assurance of detecting misstatements due to errors or fraud.

Audit Fees

The audit fee will be determined by the following factors: (a) the complexity of the work involved; (b) the amount of time spent on the job; (c) any additional work required; and (d) the number of personnel required.

Audit Report

The audit report shall be submitted in duplicate to the following address:

International Development Enterprises (IDE)

P.O.Box 7892, Addis Ababa

Office Location: Kirkos Sub City, Kebele 08, House No. 429, Keru Bulgaria Mazazia opposite to Dashen Bank, Tel: +251-114-47 29 06/7/8

NATIONAL BANK OF ETHIOPIA

INVITATION FOR OPEN BID

1. National Bank of Ethiopia invites interested bidders for the supply of the following items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Bid Reference No.</th>
<th>Bid to be Submitted on/before</th>
<th>Bid close time</th>
<th>Bid Opening date &amp; time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Queue Management System</td>
<td>NBE/ NCB/S'01/2020/21</td>
<td>November 30, 2020</td>
<td>November 30, 2020; 10:00 a.m</td>
<td>November 30, 2020; 10:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Foreign Exchanges Monitoring System (FEMoS)</td>
<td>NBE/ NCB/S'02/2020/21</td>
<td>December 01, 2020</td>
<td>December 01, 2020; 10:00 am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Unified Communication System Deployment on turnkey basis (IP TELEPHONE SYSTEM)</td>
<td>NBE/ NCB/S'03/2020/21</td>
<td>December 02, 2020</td>
<td>December, 02 2020; 10:00 am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. A complete set of Bidding Document can be obtained from Procurement team office which is located in the National Bank of Ethiopia New building 5th floor upon deposit of non-refundable fee of Ethiopian Birr 100.00 (One hundred only) for each in the account No 7002010800001 of Payment and settlement Directorate found in NBE New building, sub-basement floor during office hours (Monday to Friday) 8:00-12:00 AM and 1:50:00 PM

3. Bids must be accompanied by bid security 2% of the Total Bid Price in the form of CPO or Bank Guarantee.


5. Bids shall be submitted in the Tender Box prepared for this purpose on/before the above indicated date and the closing is on the same date, time shows in the above table. The bid number should be indicated in the bid document.

6. Bid opening shall be held on the days and time indicated in the above table in the presence of bidders and/or their representatives who wish to attend

7. Failure to comply any of the conditions from (3) to (6) above shall result in automatic rejection.

8. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the office of Procurement team, Tel. No. 011-5-17-5004 /011-5-17-5016/ 011-5-17-7006, 011-5-17-5167

9. The Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids at any time.
Artificial intelligence has become very easy to access to the public, which has made it very popular. Artists all over are combining their skills and AI to create all kinds of edits. Even most apps have filters that use AI to make you look older, younger, or even a different gender.

This San Francisco-based graphics artist uses this new technology to see how famous paintings and cartoon characters would look if they were realistic, and how artificial intelligence recreates historical figures from paintings or portraits on money bills.

On his website, Nathan says: “I am a technical director, creative technologist, visual effects supervisor, and motion graphics artist with over a decade of experience. Currently exploring the intersection of art and AI.”

YouTube removes ads from, but won’t pull, ‘Trump Won’ video following backlash

This year’s presidential election has already proven to be a considerable test of the U.S. democratic system. It’s also been doing a fine job testing the systems behind leading social networks four years after a rather disinformation-ridden election. Twitter today has proven to be reasonably swift — if not entirely proactive — in its push to label problematic information.

Video, which is largely considered more difficult to police, has been another story on many of these sites. At issue are videos like One American News Network’s (OAN) “Trump Won.” Posted this morning, the report echoes the president’s earlier sentiment that he has both won the election and that states and/or the Democratic Party are attempting to “steal the election.” As of this writing, the election has, emphatically, not been decided.

YouTube parent Google had earlier outlined potential violations in the lead up to the election, noting that it would.
WhatsApp launches new disappearing messages option

WhatsApp is introducing a new disappearing messages option this month. The feature will allow WhatsApp users to enable disappearing messages on chat conversations between friends, to automatically delete messages after seven days. Anyone can enable the option in individual chats, and group admins will be able to enable disappearing messages in group chats.

“We’re starting with 7 days because we think it offers peace of mind that conversations aren’t permanent, while remaining practical so you don’t forget what you were chatting about,” says a WhatsApp spokesperson. “The shopping list or store address you received a few days ago will be there while you need it, and then disappear after you don’t.”

Photos and videos will also be deleted with disappearing messages. Disappearing messages will also wipe out photos and videos after seven days, and while messages will disappear for both parties it’s still possible to take screenshots or just simply copy messages before they’re automatically deleted.

#ThisWeekInHistory

On November 5, 1996 Bill Clinton wins his second term with a landslide victory and becomes the first Democrat to win back to back victories in 50 years.

#Zemach

Zemach (development through cooperation campaign) was an ideological community service campaign during the communist Derg regime.

Apple’s upcoming iPhone 12 Mini will charge slower over the company’s new MagSafe wireless charger than the other iPhone 12 models, according to a newly updated Apple support document. The iPhone 12, iPhone 12 Pro, and the forthcoming iPhone 12 Pro Max all get charging speeds of up to 15W over MagSafe, but the iPhone 12 mini is limited to charging speeds of up to 12W. While that maximum 12W power delivery might come as a disappointment, it’s still faster than the 7.5W of charging you would get if you dropped the iPhone 12 mini on a standard Qi wireless charger.

The iPhone 12 mini otherwise has the same specs as the iPhone 12, including Apple’s A14 Bionic chip, a dual-camera system, and support for 5G networks, but all packed into a smaller body with a 5.4-inch screen.

(The Verge)
NEW YORK – Europe’s progressive intelligentsia have come to scorn political “centrism.” A misguided focus on the middle ground, critics argue, precludes the formulation of political alternatives, leading to the rise of extremist parties on the left and right. Seen through this lens, the corollaries of centrism are simple: polarization, and ultimately growing distrust of democratic principles.

This analysis is not without merit. Democracy requires candid and controversial conversations about the best way forward. Closing the door to political alternatives by blindly embracing the status quo is a recipe for disaster. “Debate is never finished,” wrote the late Polish-born sociologist Zygmunt Bauman. “It can’t be, lest democracy be no longer democratic.”

But this does not mean that left-of-center political parties should turn their backs on pragmatism and moderation. In fact, evidence from some of the world’s current electoral hotspots suggests they should do the opposite. Despite increasing political polarization, in many countries, large numbers of voters seem considerably more comfortable with centrist positions than is often assumed.

Left-wing political parties keen on sharpening their ideological profile therefore face a dilemma. Whereas party activists frequently demand a more radical ideological recovery, voters are increasingly favoring pragmatism over purity. So, whereas the most promising course of action for progressive leaders is probably to combine a long-term ideological vision with the reality of incremental change.

Consider Joe Biden, the US Democratic Party’s presidential nominee. Although Biden’s platform is not only not for what it endorses but also for what it does not. On immigration, the former vice-president advocates humanitarian generosity but has not called for decriminalizing illegal border crossings. On climate change, while he champions carbon-neutral housing and is calling for the US power sector to be carbon-free by 2050, he has steered clear of fully embracing the Green New Deal favored by his party’s left wing. Likewise, Biden is shying away from calls to ban fracking, defend the police, and introduce universal single-payer health care.

Biden’s centrism is shared by his running mate, Senator Kamala Harris of California, who has faced criticism from within her own party for her allegedly weak progressive credentials. But Biden’s commanding lead over President Donald Trump in opinion polls suggests that the Democrats may have found a winning formula.

A similar story is unfolding in New Zealand, where Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern won convincingly in the country’s October 17 general election. In progressive circles, Ardern is widely heralded as a new political icon. She is only the second prime minister in modern times to have given significantly in office, is known for her open and honest communication, and most recently was a serious contender for this year’s Nobel Peace Prize.

But, in contrast to her global image, Ardern’s domestic success has resulted from contrast flexibility and pragmatic transformative ambition. Heading a three-party coalition in her first term, she has been unable to implement her most far-reaching policy proposals, in particular, solving New Zealand’s housing crisis. But she benefited from her effective management of the COVID-19 pandemic, and her compassionate and determined response to the 2019 Christchurch massacre in which 51 Muslim worshippers were killed.

In its recent election campaign, Ardern’s Labour Party focused on moderate reform proposals that appealed to centrist voters. These included limited increases in the minimum wage and slightly higher taxes for the wealthier as part of a responsible balanced approach as well as law-and-order policies such as increasing, not reducing, the number of police officers serving their communities.

The United Kingdom’s Labour Party, meanwhile, is currently in the process of reinventing itself as a more centrist political force following its disastrous defeat in the December 2019 general election. In which it forced party leader Jeremy Corbyn to step down.

Starrmer’s successor, Keir Starmer, used Labour’s (virtual) annual conference in September to announce a comprehensive break with Corbyn’s legacy. Starmer’s “new leadership” entails redirecting Labour toward family values, with a focus on safety and economic prudence.

In his conference speech, he declared that Labour was returning to the notion of left-wing patriotism and that the era of the “defund the police, and introduce a clear break with Labour’s past as a socially liberal, internationalist and centrist party.”

Starmer’s stated objective is to regain the confidence of working-class voters who abandoned the party under Corbyn. So far, the plan seems to be working. Although the UK’s next general election is still months away, Labour has already moved up in the polls, with its leader, now in second place behind the Conservatives. But, even if he wins the next election, Starmer will face a dilemma. Whereas party activists are pushing for a more radical ideological recovery, voters seem considerably more comfortable with centrist positions than is often assumed.

But this does not mean that left-of-center political parties should turn their backs on pragmatism and moderation. In fact, evidence from some of the world’s current electoral hotspots suggests they should do the opposite. Despite increasing political polarization, in many countries, large numbers of voters seem considerably more comfortable with centrist positions than is often assumed.

Left-wing political parties keen on sharpening their ideological profile therefore face a dilemma. Whereas party activists frequently demand a more radical ideological recovery, voters are increasingly favoring pragmatism over purity. So, whereas the most promising course of action for progressive leaders is probably to combine a long-term ideological vision with the reality of incremental change.

Consider Joe Biden, the US Democratic Party’s presidential nominee. Although Biden’s platform is not only not for what it endorses but also for what it does not. On immigration, the former vice-president advocates humanitarian generosity but has not called for decriminalizing illegal border crossings. On climate change, while he champions carbon-neutral housing and is calling for the US power sector to be carbon-free by 2050, he has steered clear of fully embracing the Green New Deal favored by his party’s left wing. Likewise, Biden is shying away from calls to ban fracking, defend the police, and introduce universal single-payer health care.

Biden’s centrism is shared by his running mate, Senator Kamala Harris of California, who has faced criticism from within her own party for her allegedly weak progressive credentials. But Biden’s commanding lead over President Donald Trump in opinion polls suggests that the Democrats may have found a winning formula.

A similar story is unfolding in New Zealand, where Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern won convincingly in the country’s October 17 general election. In progressive circles, Ardern is widely heralded as a new political icon. She is only the second prime minister in modern times to have given significantly in office, is known for her open and honest communication, and most recently was a serious contender for this year’s Nobel Peace Prize.

But, in contrast to her global image, Ardern’s domestic success has resulted from contrast flexibility and pragmatic transformative ambition. Heading a three-party coalition in her first term, she has been unable to implement her most far-reaching policy proposals, in particular, solving New Zealand’s housing crisis. But she benefited from her effective management of the COVID-19 pandemic, and her compassionate and determined response to the 2019 Christchurch massacre in which 51 Muslim worshippers were killed.

In its recent election campaign, Ardern’s Labour Party focused on moderate reform proposals that appealed to centrist voters. These included limited increases in the minimum wage and slightly higher taxes for the wealthier as part of a responsible balanced approach as well as law-and-order policies such as increasing, not reducing, the number of police officers serving their communities.

The United Kingdom’s Labour Party, meanwhile, is currently in the process of reinventing itself as a more centrist political force following its disastrous defeat in the December 2019 general election. In which it forced party leader Jeremy Corbyn to step down.

Starrmer’s successor, Keir Starmer, used Labour’s (virtual) annual conference in September to announce a comprehensive break with Corbyn’s legacy. Starmer’s “new leadership” entails redirecting Labour toward family values, with a focus on safety and economic prudence.

In his conference speech, he declared that Labour was returning to the notion of left-wing patriotism and that the era of the “defund the police, and introduce a clear break with Labour’s past as a socially liberal, internationalist and centrist party.”

Starmer’s stated objective is to regain the confidence of working-class voters who abandoned the party under Corbyn. So far, the plan seems to be working. Although the UK’s next general election is still months away, Labour has already moved up in the polls, with its leader, now in second place behind the Conservatives. But, even if he wins the next election, Starmer will face a dilemma. Whereas party activists are pushing for a more radical ideological recovery, voters seem considerably more comfortable with centrist positions than is often assumed.

But this does not mean that left-of-center political parties should turn their backs on pragmatism and moderation. In fact, evidence from some of the world’s current electoral hotspots suggests they should do the opposite. Despite increasing political polarization, in many countries, large numbers of voters seem considerably more comfortable with centrist positions than is often assumed.

Left-wing political parties keen on sharpening their ideological profile therefore face a dilemma. Whereas party activists frequently demand a more radical ideological recovery, voters are increasingly favoring pragmatism over purity. So, whereas the most promising course of action for progressive leaders is probably to combine a long-term ideological vision with the reality of incremental change.

Consider Joe Biden, the US Democratic Party’s presidential nominee. Although Biden’s platform is not only not for what it endorses but also for what it does not. On immigration, the former vice-president advocates humanitarian generosity but has not called for decriminalizing illegal border crossings. On climate change, while he champions carbon-neutral housing and is calling for the US power sector to be carbon-free by 2050, he has steered clear of fully embracing the Green New Deal favored by his party’s left wing. Likewise, Biden is shying away from calls to ban fracking, defend the police, and introduce universal single-payer health care.

Biden’s centrism is shared by his running mate, Senator Kamala Harris of California, who has faced criticism from within her own party for her allegedly weak progressive credentials. But Biden’s commanding lead over President Donald Trump in opinion polls suggests that the Democrats may have found a winning formula.

A similar story is unfolding in New Zealand, where Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern won convincingly in the country’s October 17 general election. In progressive circles, Ardern is widely heralded as a new political icon. She is only the second prime minister in modern times to have given significantly in office, is known for her open and honest communication, and most recently was a serious contender for this year’s Nobel Peace Prize.

But, in contrast to her global image, Ardern’s domestic success has resulted from contrast flexibility and pragmatic transformative ambition. Heading a three-party coalition in her first term, she has been unable to implement her most far-reaching policy proposals, in particular, solving New Zealand’s housing crisis. But she benefited from her effective management of the COVID-19 pandemic, and her compassionate and determined response to the 2019 Christchurch massacre in which 51 Muslim worshippers were killed.

In its recent election campaign, Ardern’s Labour Party focused on moderate reform proposals that appealed to centrist voters. These included limited increases in the minimum wage and slightly higher taxes for the wealthier as part of a responsible balanced approach as well as law-and-order policies such as increasing, not reducing, the number of police officers serving their communities.

The United Kingdom’s Labour Party, meanwhile, is currently in the process of reinventing itself as a more centrist political force following its disastrous defeat in the December 2019 general election. In which it forced party leader Jeremy Corbyn to step down.

Starrmer’s successor, Keir Starmer, used Labour’s (virtual) annual conference in September to announce a comprehensive break with Corbyn’s legacy. Starmer’s “new leadership” entails redirecting Labour toward family values, with a focus on safety and economic prudence.

In his conference speech, he declared that Labour was returning to the notion of left-wing patriotism and that the era of the “defund the police, and introduce a clear break with Labour’s past as a socially liberal, internationalist and centrist party.”

Starmer’s stated objective is to regain the confidence of working-class voters who abandoned the party under Corbyn. So far, the plan seems to be working. Although the UK’s next general election is still months away, Labour has already moved up in the polls, with its leader, now in second place behind the Conservatives. But, even if he wins the next election, Starmer will face a dilemma. Whereas party activists are pushing for a more radical ideological recovery, voters seem considerably more comfortable with centrist positions than is often assumed.
The COVID-19 induced Social positives in Addis

By Mesay Zenabe

The virus has also affected countries economically. Ethiopia has a very difficult issue back then and now. The poorest residents were being pushed into destitution. Many people have not been able to continue their jobs due to mandatory closing after the outbreak of the virus, essentially being pushed into destitution. The COVID-19 induced Social positives in Addis

Mr. Donald Trump, ignorance is a curse!

Mulugeta Eteleff (PhD)

Does Donald Trump do what he does because of ignorance or because of his other vices including racism, xenophobia and narcissism? The answer would require thorough evaluation of his activities and statements. During the 1996 Presidential Campaign with Hillary Clinton, I submitted to Addis Ababa University Press a revised version of a book entitled “The Bitter Honey” in which I stated that “Donald Trump seems uninformed and ignorant of most issues facing America and the world at large. Without sufficient knowledge and information about problems at hand, you cannot solve them. “His recommendation to blow up the Woreda three and ask Birkenesh Terfe, a single mother in which I stated that “Donald Trump is boundless and it is hard to believe that the leader of the free world and the commander-in-chief of the armed forces of America can be that ignorant. His anti-Ethiopia stand should not surprise anyone. We should only remember what he has been saying to the leaders of Sudan and Egypt. His menthion above that Donald Trump’s criticism of Barack Obama was based on who he is rather than what he does. Almost every time he speaks, he tries to find opportunity to condemn Barack Obama. I will not be surprised if one of these days he blames Barack Obama for causing floods and other disasters. Donald Trump talks about the low IQ of immigrants, however, his own should be measured. English. During the debate with former Vice President Joe Biden, he is the least racist in the room. He definitely wanted to say that he is not racist. However, his statement would only mean that all the persons in the room are racist, but he is the least racist of them all. According to his own statement, he took the concept of IQ and his entrance examination on his exams, which means he cheated in order to be admitted to college. How many times he had cheated since then, only God knows. These things do not reflect positively on his IQ. His ignorance, lies and unfeetioned statements about many things made him a laughing stock both in the United States and internationally. In the past, statements of American Presidents were taken seriously, but with Donald Trump, it is different. But the damage he can cause cannot be underestimated. Ethiopia will never accept unfair and unjust threats and intimidation from anyone at anytime. Donald Trump has to learn our heroic and proud history including the battle of Gute Dili against the mahdists and the battle of Adesa against the Italians as well as our struggles thereafter. I had the opportunity to watch a video clip of Mussolini awkwardly marching here and there on a balcony in Addis Ababa. How he has changed. Mussolini was not a racist, but later on he was hanged upside down because of what he did to Ethiopians and Italians. Trump’s verbal and non-verbal communication is very similar to that of Mussolini except that he was awkwardly sitting in a chair. We can wish
For implementing Resolution 1325. To date, only 86 countries – well under half of UN member states – have made national plans, and some of these are overlapping. New action plans should seek to boost women’s participation in all aspects of peace and security. Why? Because if women and girls are safer and accepted in decision-making roles under normal circumstances are seized the short-term benefits but neglecting the long-term costs.

Within individual societies, we resolve these tensions by giving young enough space to grow and flourish, while at the same time steering them away from dangers that they do not yet understand. Only gradually do we grant them the freedoms of adulthood, hoping that we’ve given them enough time and guidance to make wise choices. It is important to recognize that with freedom comes responsibility. Unfortunately, humanity does not have the luxury of a caring guardian. We are alone and will have to grow up fast.

The current momentum enjoyed by political progressives who are consciously addressing the political center holds important lessons for struggling counterparts elsewhere.

Ed.’s Note: Tsion Taye is a researcher in the field of Adult Education and Extension and accredited Ambassador of Education for All. She has a passion for writing and the article is his impression of the social positives that followed the advent of the Coronavirus pandemic. The views expressed in the article do not necessarily reflect the views of The Reporter.
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL and FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The USAID-funded CATALYZE: Market Systems for Growth (CATALYZE: MS4G) Activity is designed to strengthen the Ethiopian economy, create jobs, and expand exports using blended finance. As implementer of the CATALYZE: MS4G Activity, Palladium invites you to:

- **Youth Job Placement in Ethiopia.** The objective of this Funding Opportunity Notice is to prepare and place 2,000 youth in decent jobs in the formal sector in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and/or secondary cities in the Tigray, Oromia and Amhara regions of Ethiopia. **Deadline for submitting concept papers:** 11:59 PM (East Africa Time) November 20, 2020.

For more information on the scope of work and instructions for submissions, visit our website at:

www.CATALYZE-Procurement.com
Oromia Culture and Tourism Bureau celebrated the World Tourism day in five tourist attraction areas of Oromia region. The five tourist routes meander through South Oromia, incorporating some of the scenic places in the Great Rift Valley amidst a chain of lakes and fantastic lodges, the Abiyata Shala national park, Lake Langano, the breath taking Bale Mountains and Sof-Omar Cave. These tourist attractions were closed for the last nine months due to COVID-19. Now, the Oromia Culture and Tourism Bureau has officially announced that they are open for local and international tourists.
not feel, its small economy could sustainably support.”

To convince both sides reach a ceasefire negotiation, she recommends the involvement of traditional and religious leaders to play roles. Also saying that the Ministry of Peace has an important role in this as it has been working on “foundations and approaches for constructive dialogue,” the African Union and the International Community should play a role in encouraging both sides not only on the development of a ceasefire agreement but also in observing and implementing its provisions.

“Following the clashes, an immediate ceasefire is needed and an agreement to end hostilities,” she stated. Although not much is known about what is going on at the battlefield where the Ethiopian National Defense Forces along with the Amhara Region Special Forces are fighting the Special Forces in Tigray, the sides do not seem ready for dialogue and both sides speak of getting rid of the other.

Temesgen Turuneh, President of Ahmara region, said that they will work to get rid of “Amhara’s arch enemies” once and for all. On the other hand, Tigray’s President Debrtisien repeatedly said that Tigray would be a place for burial for anyone who would fight them and undermine their right to self-determination.

Many international as well as local human rights groups are calling for the protection of civilians in the conflict.

A statement the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission sent to The Reporter on November 5, 2020, said that “it is gravely concerned and closely monitoring the fast-developing security situation in Tigray region and other parts of the country.” It quoted EHRC Chief Commissioner, Daniel Bekele (PhD), as saying “[the] EHRC urges both federal and regional security forces to ensure the safety and security of civilians and respect human rights at all times.”

He also called for all concerned forces to consider that Tigray hosts thousands of refugees.

Berhamsu Jula (Gen.), the Deputy Chief of Staff of the ENDF, in a press conference held on Thursday November 5, 2020, stated that forces are being mobilized to go to the front in the North.

---

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**JOB TITLE:** Sales Person

**LOCATION:** Addis Ababa

**REQUIRED NUMBER:** 10

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** To plan and carry out all sales activities on assigned accounts or areas. Responsible for ensuring customer satisfaction and managing quality of product and service delivery.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**
- source and develop client referrals
- prepare sales action plans and strategies
- schedule sales activity
- develop and maintain a customer database
- keep and maintain sales and promotion materials
- make sales calls to new and existing clients
- develop and make presentations of company products and services to current and potential clients
- negotiate with clients
- conduct product training
- maintain sales activity records and prepare sales reports

- respond to sales inquiries and concerns by phone, electronically or in person
- ensure customer service satisfaction and good client relationships
- perform quality checks on product and service delivery
- monitor and report on sales activities and follow up for management
- participate in sales events

**JOB REQUIREMENT**
- BA or Diploma in Sales or another related field
- Experience is not required
- persuasion and negotiation skills
- verbal and written communication
- stress tolerance
- Multilingual and English speakers are highly encouraged to apply

**HOW TO APPLY**
Interested and qualified applicants can send their CV to rainbowba@gmail.com within 10 days of this post or can apply in person at our head office between AU and Kero on Bulgaria Road behind Noc Gas Station Keste Damena
Tel: 0114705070 / +251 96367108

---

**CALL FOR JOB APPLICATIONS**

Palladium seeks to hire professionals in multiple categories for the CATALYZE: Market Systems for Growth (MS4G) project.

Palladium is a global leader in the design, development and delivery of Positive Impact – the intentional creation of enduring social and economic value. We work with foundations, investors, governments, corporations, communities and civil society to formulate strategies and implement solutions that generate lasting social, environmental and financial benefits.

Palladium is a child-safe organization, and screens applicants for suitability to work with children. We also provide equal employment to all participants and employees without regard to race, color, religion, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, veteran or marital status.

CATALYZE: Market Systems for Growth (MS4G) will drive private enterprise expansion to catalyze Ethiopia’s future economic growth and prosperity. MS4G aims to foster enterprise-driven growth, especially among private enterprises that have high growth potential and the capacity to catalyze job creation throughout market systems. MS4G will address systemic challenges, including building business development services, capacity, creating a more conducive business environment, building the financial sector infrastructure and capability within private finance providers, and expanding the digital economy. MS4G will catalyze private sector growth by improving access to finance and facilitating transactions through targeted interventions across market systems (demand, supply, and enabling environment). Expanded access to finance will also drive change across the market system by increasing business revenue and necessitating job creation.

Several job opportunities are available, please visit the link for a full list of opportunities and to apply: https://bit.ly/366V9oR
Yedesta Buna Trading PLC

The best is yet to come.

Yedesta Buna trading Plc is now looking for experience export officer to join our team.

This is a unique opportunity to establish your experience as export officer. Thanks to your analytical, organizational ability together with your strategic thinking and good work ethic, you will contribute to further growth of Yedesta Buna Trading Plc.

Yedesta Buna Trading Plc is a high end green coffee exporter working in the premium sector. Our clients are small and medium size roasters mainly in Europe, US and Asia. We are now looking for energetic, driven goal oriented Export officer to our office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

As export officer for Yedesta Buna Trading Plc you need to keep good relationships with the government agencies. Be able to plan and coordinate all our export shipments independently. You may negotiate with a variety of stakeholders, such as shippers, agents and vendors. You are expected to have excellent service skills in dealing with multiple tasks at the same time.

General responsibilities

As an Export officer, you are the spider in the net who has control over all flows, processes and details of our shipments. Responsible for setting up and systematizing everything from contracts, export documents, handling communication with government authorities, shipping lines and various vendors. As export officer you will be like a communication hub for all our shipping.

Have excellent skill in and understanding of international coffee contracts. Manage communication with export authorities, banks and shipping lines for all required documents for our exports. Produced all required documents for each shipment and monitored shipments to guarantee on-time delivery, identified logistics areas for process improvement and cost and time savings to ensure expectations are met. Create reports of all ongoing shipments to be presented on weekly.

Requirements

- Higher education, minimum bachelor degree (preferably economic)
- Minimum 3 years' experience of systematic export documentation.
- Experienced in staff management.
- Language: Advanced English written and spoken & Amharic.
- Technical skills: IT, Advanced Excel & word.

Please send your application no later than first of December 2020. Email: job@yedesta.com

Office Address:
Lidia Building first floor, Bole, Woreda 3 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Phone +251-912399968
Email: seife@seifes.com / job@yedesta.com

Development Bank of Ethiopia

AUCTION ANNOUNCEMENT

The Development Bank of Ethiopia intends to sell the collateralized properties shown in the table below, repossessed from a defaulted borrower - Seka Agro Processing 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>Property location</th>
<th>Type of property</th>
<th>Plot size</th>
<th>Auction floor Price (in Birr)</th>
<th>Level of auction</th>
<th>Date &amp; time auction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seka Agro Processing plc</td>
<td>South Nations Nationalities &amp; Peoples Regional State, Benj Shiko Zone, Guraferda Woreda, Guja kebele</td>
<td>Mango plant farm and rice processing factory with building, machinery, equipment &amp; furniture, vehicles, auxiliary tools, various spare parts, and some other related items</td>
<td>27.14 hectares of farm area and 4.62 hectares of rice processing factory</td>
<td>197,374,460.19 (One Hundred Ninety Nine Million Three Hundred Seventy Four Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Birr and Nineteen Cents)</td>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Dec. 16, 2020 From 10:00 am to 12:00 am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Instructions:

1. Bidders shall submit 25% (twenty five percent) of the floor price only in COP 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. COP of non-winner bidders will be returned back.
4. 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 farm site located at Benj Shiko zone, Guraferda Woreda, Guja kebele, on the date & time specified in the table above.
5. 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.
6. As the farm is in operation, the winner, on top of the winning price, is also required to pay in cash/partial credit the value of items 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, if an agreement cannot be reached, the Bank reserves the right to take over the items.
7. Some of the Properties Such like vehicles, Farm machines, etc. have been procured under due free privileges. Thus, the winner needs to either have matching customs duty exemption privilege or shall pay the outstanding duties.
8. The winner can apply for a loan facility for the unpaid balance as per the Bank’s Credit Policy and Procedure. However, a winner who is interested to purchase the farm on credit basis is required to submit, to the bank, documents that confirm he/she/it, under his/her 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.
9. Interested and eligible Participants may obtain more information from the Development Bank of Ethiopia Project Rehabilitation and Loan Recovery Directorate-4th Tower 3rd Floor or through telephone 011-524-53-73 or can be accessed on the website of the Bank. www.dbe.com.et. The Bank can arrange a pre-scheduled visit for interested Participants.
10. The Bank reserves the right to cancel the auction partially or fully.

www.thereporterethiopia.com
ACROSS
Ethiopian athletes nominated for World Athlete of the year award

By Dawit Tolesa

World Athletics, the international organization replacing the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), announced that two Ethiopian athletes were nominated for the World Athlete of the year 2020.

Ethiopian duo Letesenbet Gidey and Ababel Yeshaneh are among the 20 nominees for the World Athletics Award 2020. Eight of the 20 nominees are from Africa.

The two Ethiopian athletes had outstanding performances in 2020, as they both won titles and broke world records. Letesenbet Gidey set a world record of 14:06.62 over 5,000 meters, beating her fellow countrywoman Tirunesh Dibaba’s 12 years record. She also came in second in the Monaco Diamond League over 3,000m. The other nominee, Ababel Yeshaneh, also broke a world record in the half marathon race clocking in at 1:04:31. She also finished fifth in the World Athletics Half Marathon Championships.

Along with the Ethiopian duo, Kenyan Hellen Obiri, Faith Kipyegon and Peres Jepchirchir have also been nominated. Peres Jepchirchir won the World half marathon title, breaking the world half marathon record for women twice clocking in at 1:05:34 and 1:05:16. Her compatriot Faith Kipyegon is also undefeated in five races over all distance races.

Apart from the African nominees, Ethiopian-born Sifan Hassan of the Netherlands is also on the list of nominees. Hassan set a European record of 28:36.67 over 10,000m, the fourth fastest performance in history.

A three-way voting process will determine the finalists with World Athletics, the World Athletics Family and public participating in the process. Posts and retweets by fans of the individual graphics for each nominee that has been posted on facebook, twitter and Instagram will count as one vote.

The World Athletics Council’s vote will count for 50 percent of the result, while the World Athletics Family’s votes and the public’s votes will each count for 25 percent of the final result.

Voting for the World Athletes of the Year closes at midnight on Sunday, November 15, 2020. At the conclusion of the voting process, five men and five women finalists will be announced by World Athletics.

The male and female World Athletes of the Year will be announced live at the World Athletics Awards 2020 on Saturday, December 5, 2020.

It is to be recalled that Ethiopia’s Almaz Ayana was named Female World Athlete of the year at the IAAF Awards in 2016. Almaz became the third Ethiopian woman to win the award, following Genzebe Dibaba in 2015 and Meseret Defar in 2007.

Loza signs for CBE

By Dawit Tolesa

Ethiopian women’s football national team striker and the first Ethiopian woman to play professional football in a foreign league, Loza Abera, joined Commercial Bank of Ethiopia Football club. During her signing, Loza remarked: “This is a big day for me. I am very happy to sign for this club and to play with the strongest players in Ethiopia.”

Loza Abera will receive a monthly stipend of 50,000 birr and a monthly allowance of 25,000 birr from the club. Furthermore, she will receive 100,000 birr in bonuses, based on performance related achievements such as winning a trophy, and becoming the league’s player of the year.

The former Dedebit and Adama City player, Loza, has been playing in the Maltese Premier League last year with the Maltese premier league side Birkirkara FC, helping the team end the season as champions. Loza Abera won the Maltese Women’s League, finishing as the top goal scorer and best player of the year. She joined Birkirkara on a one year contract from Adama City.

Loza was in Sweden for trials in 2020 to sign with a team there; however, things did not go according to plan.

Former Dedebit and Adama City midfielder Senait Bogale also signed for Commercial Bank of Ethiopia Football Club. Senait won ERC’s best woman footballer of the year award for 2018/19.

The club has also signed 14 new players for the upcoming 2020/21 Women Ethiopian Premier League season.