



# ETHIOPIA TODAY

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## Dr. Workneh attends the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS meeting held in Washington



The Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS was formed in September 2014 and the Coalition's 72 members are committed to tackling ISIS (Daesh) on all fronts, to dismantling its networks and countering its global ambitions. The Coalition is committed to the military campaign in Iraq and Syria, and also to tackling Daesh's financing and economic infrastructure; preventing the flow of foreign terrorist fighters across borders; supporting stabilisation and the restoration of essential public services to areas liberated from Daesh; and exposing Daesh's delusional narrative including its claims to statehood, military success and the group's false religious narrative. The Global Coalition meets regularly to coordinate

and enhance combined efforts to counter ISIS. The last meeting, of foreign ministers, took place in Washington, in March of this year.

From July 11 to 13/2017 the US has been hosting meetings of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS. On July 11/2017, the Coalition's Working Groups on Counter Finance, Foreign Terrorist Fighters, Stabilization Support, and Communications met to assess their progress and discuss ways to intensify pressure on ISIS in these critical areas. On July 12/2017, the full 72-member Coalition met for discussions on how to accelerate Coalition efforts to defeat ISIS in the remaining areas it holds in Iraq and Syria, and maximize pressure globally on its branches, affiliates, and networks. Then on July 13/2017, the Coalition's Small Group met to synthesize the previous days' meetings and discuss priorities to build on the progress in Mosul and Raqqa to set ISIS on an irreversible and lasting path to defeat. The Small Group invited representatives from a number of African countries, the African Union, and the Multi National Joint Task Force to attend a special session about the ISIS threat in the Lake Chad Basin region in West Africa.

Ethiopia's Foreign Minister Dr. Workneh Gebeyehu attended the meeting of the Coalition's Working Groups on Counter finance, Foreign Terrorist Fighters, Stabilization Support and Communications on July 11/2017. The Foreign minister also spoke on July 13th meeting, and members of the delegation also attended different cluster meetings. Now that Ethiopia has officially

*The Embassy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in Ottawa is located at  
1501 - 2 75 Slater Street, Ottawa, ON, Canada K1P 5H9. Tel: 613 565 6637 Fax: 613 565 9175*

*e-mail: [info@ethioembassyCanada.org](mailto:info@ethioembassyCanada.org), Website: [www.ethioembassyCanada.org](http://www.ethioembassyCanada.org)*

joined Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS, making the number African countries to ten.

Member states at the various meetings of the Global Coalition have firmly expressed their commitment to the goals of eliminating the threat the scourge of ISIS poses to global and regional peace. Members have already contributed to efforts to combat ISIS in every area. Areas of discussion include ways and means to sensitize member states on the military and non-military roles they can play and to consider the lessons from the latest developments in the defeat of ISIS in the Middle East. Meetings have also discussed the ways to intensify pressure on ISIS and its global affiliates and connections.

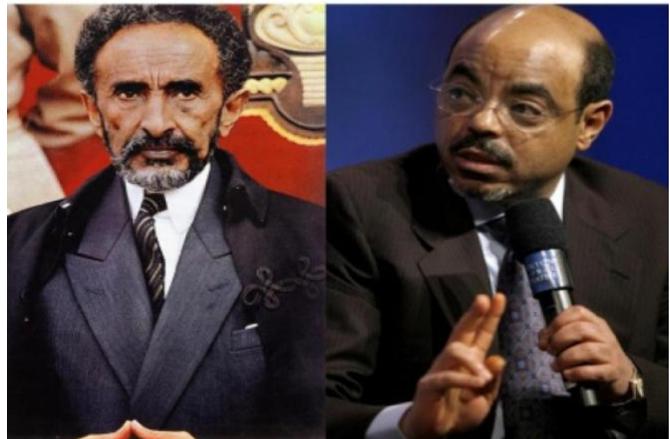
Ethiopia made the decision to join the Coalition because it also faces the threat of international and regional terrorism and extremism and it believes the Coalition can be a vital instrument in the pursuit of peace and global peace through collective security. Equally, Ethiopia has always been adamant about the need to fight terrorism in all its forms and shapes. This indeed has been the situation long before terrorism became a buzzword in the last few years. Since the early 1990s Ethiopia has been a target of terrorist elements such as Al-Islam Al-Itihaad, with building and transport links in Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa and other towns targeted, claiming lives of innocent people. Currently, the Al-Qaeda affiliated terrorist group in Somalia, Al-Shabaab, though now on the run, remains a challenge to peace and stability in the Horn of Africa.

On the margins of the Global Coalition meetings, Dr. Workneh also met with various officials and members of Congress including Senator James M. Inhofe (Oklahoma), a true friend of Ethiopia in all seasons. Dr. Workneh also held successful discussions with Senator Bob Corker, Chairman of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee. They discussed bilateral and regional issues of common concern. Dr. Workneh gave Senator Corker an in-depth briefing on the on-going socio-economic development in Ethiopia. He emphasized that Government was exerting

unrelenting efforts to address the issues of democracy and good governance and the challenges it had encountered. Dr. Workneh expressed the government's unwavering commitment to overcome any impediment and challenges. He also briefed Senator Corker Bob on efforts to assist in stability in the Horn of Africa, especially Somalia and South Sudan, underscoring the need for the USA to play a leadership role in the region. Senator Corker, who praised Ethiopia as a true friend of the US, commended its positive developments over the past few years. He described Ethiopia as an anchor of peace in the Horn of Africa.

During his visit to Washington, Dr. Workneh also met and briefed Congress staffers and employees about the partnership of Ethiopia and USA. He emphasized that the current foreign policy of Ethiopia was different from the past in many aspects. He gave details of the country's sustained economic growth over the last decade and more. This he attributed to a refined Foreign Policy and National Security Strategy. He stressed that the alpha and omega of Ethiopia's foreign policy was fighting poverty and bringing about all-inclusive and sustainable development. As a result, Ethiopia was now becoming a major destination of foreign direct investment.

### **AU Recognizes Emperor Hailesellasie, PM Meles for Great Contribution**



African Union has recognized on July 05/2017 two former Ethiopian leaders for their great contribution to the work of Africa.

The leaders recognized by the African Union members countries for their contribution to the establishment and consolidation of the union were Emperor Haileselassie and Prime Minister Meles Zenawi.

This was disclosed at a press conference Prime Minister Hailemariam Dessalegn gave to the local media during the closing session of the 29th African Union Ordinary Summit.

African leaders have agreed to recognize the leaders for their contribution to the establishment of AU/OAU, he said.

According to Hailemariam, Ethiopia has been requesting for their recognition many times.

The PM stated that Ethiopians have been playing a vital role in voicing African issues at different arena and struggling day and night for their realization since the beginning of OAU and the emergence of AU.

The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was established on the 25th May 1963 in Addis Ababa by 32 signatory governments.

It evolved into the African Union (AU) on the 9th July 2002.

### ***The 6<sup>th</sup> Ethio-Czech Political Consultation Meeting***



The Sixth Political Consultation meeting between the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and

the Czech Republic was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia on July 25/2017. Ethiopia and the Czech Republic agreed in 2011 to hold political consultations on a yearly basis at state ministerial level. The annual consultation, which has been held regularly, has provided a most useful forum for continued political understanding between the two countries.

This year the delegations were led by Mrs. Hirut Zemene, State Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Mr. Martin Tlapa State Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. Discussions covered bilateral, regional and global issues.

Mrs. Hirut Zemene highlighted the historical relationship between Ethiopia and the former Czechoslovakia, underlining that this had pioneered agricultural and industrial development in Ethiopia in many ways. Ethiopia, she said, now attached great importance to its relations with Czech Republic both bilaterally and within the framework of its relations with the European Union. Mrs. Hirut encouraged the Czech Republic to continue its support both bilaterally and multilaterally. She suggested Czech businesses could engage in the agro processing, leather, pharmaceuticals, glass making and energy sectors in Ethiopia as well as partnership on education.

The State Minister stressed that Ethiopia and the Czech Republic were heading on the right track in strengthening their relationship. She hoped the political consultation would provide impetus for the leaders of the two nations to design a road map for further development of their relationship. In this regard, the two ministers agreed on the importance of exchanging high-level visits for further engagement.

Mr. Tlapa noted that the consultation would give an opportunity to enhance the relationship between the two countries. Taking into account the longstanding and historic relations between the two countries, he requested the Ethiopian

government to consider opening an Embassy in Prague. The State Minister noted that the Government of Czech Republic was keen to enhance the trade and investment partnership with Ethiopia. He said Ethiopia was a potential market for Czech-manufactured machinery, adding that as a case in point was the Czech company BGM that had the concession for providing and installing machinery for the Raya Brewery. He stressed it was in the best interests of the Czech Republic to enhance and expedite the economic relations between the two countries to higher level as soon as possible.

State Minister, Mrs. Hirut Zemene also briefed Mr. Tlapa on regional peace and security issues and the role Ethiopia is playing towards the

promotion of international peace and security in general and in the region in particular. In conclusion, the two State Ministers deliberated on the status of the various agreements that have been signed between the two countries at various times and agreed to expedite their implementation for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries.

During their visit to Ethiopia, Mr. Tlapa and the Czech delegation also met and held discussions with President Dr. Mulatu Teshome. They attended the Ethio-Czech Business Forum held on July 24/2017 at the Intercontinental Hotel and had meetings with officials from the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and the Metals and Engineering Corporation (METEC).

# Business and Economy

## Ethiopia Inaugurated Two more Industrial Parks



The aim of the second Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP II) is to raise the contribution of the manufacturing sector to GDP to 25% from the current 5%. A central element in this is developing the agricultural sector and integrating it with industry through the expansion of agro-industrial development to improve the productivity of the majority of the population in rural areas who rely on agriculture. One effect of this has already been seen in moving the economy

from virtually low economic growth to a double-digit growth for more than a decade and in sparking off significant agro-industry development.

Another central factor in this is the plan to expand industrial activity by building a number of large-scale industrial parks. These are largely designed to boost export and are therefore designed mainly for textile, manufacture, garment production and agro-industries. The parks are being built as a central part of the government's plans to expand industrial development to play its role in realizing the country's aspiration to become a manufacturing hub for the continent. A sign of the progress being made was visible on July 08 and 09/2017, with the inauguration of two industrial parks in the northern part of the country, Kombolcha Industrial Park on July 08/2017 and Mekelle Industrial Park on the 9th of July 2107.

The CEO of the Industrial Parks Development Corporation, Sisay Gemechu, said that companies occupying the nine factory spaces constructed in the first phase of the Park would provide jobs for

more than 20,000 individuals. He said companies from the U.S., Korea and Italy had requested facilities in the Park. Among those which have expressed interest are Carvico S.p.A, an Italian company known for its knitted fabrics used in swimwear and sportswear; Trybus, a US-company engaged in the production of men's suits and Pungkook Corporation, a South Korean company engaged in the manufacturing of bags. The site of the Kombolcha Industrial Park was selected for its proximity and its access to the port of Djibouti for export, the availability of infrastructure and the hospitality of the people to investors. It is expected to attract the attention of many global anchor companies.

Dr. Arkebe Oqubay, Board Chairman of the Industrial Parks Development Corporation, said the construction of the first phase of the industrial park had been completed within an impressive nine months. Built on 75 hectares of land, Kombolcha Industrial Park has 13 industrial sheds and will create jobs for 20,000 people. In the future, Dr. Arkebe said, expansion projects will be carried out on up to 1,000 hectares of land, and the second phase of the park will include other zonal areas, including the nearby Dessie town. Dr. Arkebe also noted that there were plans to finalize the construction of three other parks in the Amhara Regional State, at Bahr Dar next April, and at Arerti and Debre Berhan in June 2018.

The following day, the Prime Minister attended the inauguration of the Mekelle Industrial Park further to the north in Tigray Regional State. Built with an outlay of US\$100 million USD. The park is located five kms outside the regional state capital of Mekelle. The Prime Minister again underlined the importance of the industrial parks for paving the way for the renaissance of the country. The parks, he said, were already becoming the engine of the country's economic transformation. When fully developed, the parks would enable Ethiopia to become one of the world's top textile and garment producing countries. The Prime Minister emphasized that in addition to ensuring the park was fitted with the

necessary infrastructure, the government would provide the necessary support to address any bottlenecks in the manufacturing and export sectors.

The parks are laying a significant foundation for industrial development. The concentration on textiles and garment production in several of the parks is already attracting a variety of celebrated international firms. With the government's efforts to create an enabling environment to maximize the influx of investors there is little doubt that the sector will soon become a centre for industrial development. In the first eleven months of the last fiscal year, the textile sector secured hard currency revenue of US\$81 million. Overall, the textile industry is beginning to witness rapid growth, with a growing number of multinational firms as well as domestic companies becoming engaged in production of textile, garments and apparel for domestic and global markets. So far, there are some 194 medium and high-level textile and apparel manufacturers operational in the country, employing a total of around 90,000. The numbers can be expected to increase rapidly in the next few years. Ethiopia's ambitions to be a textile and garment-manufacturing hub earning the country US\$1 billion in exports by 2020 and providing ample employment opportunities is on track.

### ***State Minister Hirut Addresses the LDC/LLDC Event on Industrialization in New York***



State Minister, Mrs. Hirut Zemene, addressed the “Accelerating Inclusive and Sustainable Development in Landlocked Developing Countries Through Structural Transformation: Pursuing Policy at the Nexus of Infrastructure and Industrialization” event in New York on July 19/2017. Congratulating the new High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (*UN-OHRLLS*), Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa Utoikamanu, she underlined Ethiopia’s commitment and readiness to work with her Office and the importance Ethiopia attached to the work the UN-OHRLLS did to promote the implementation of the Vienna Program of Action.

Mrs. Hirut said inclusive and sustainable industrialization was crucial for poverty reduction, economic growth, job creation and structural transformation. Building a resilient infrastructure could also contribute to accelerate an industrialization process as well as enhancing productive capacity. She said the Sustainable Development Goal 9 (to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation) was one of the SDGs given priority in Ethiopia. Both as a Least Developed Country and as a Landlocked Developing Country, implementing SDG 9 was critical to address Ethiopia’s specific economic vulnerabilities, including geographic remoteness and participation in global value chains.

Mrs. Hirut shared Ethiopia’s experience in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, pointing out the country had been pursuing an integrated industrial development strategy with a clear vision of becoming an African manufacturing hub by 2025. She said: “We have fully integrating SDG 9 in our current national development plan, the Growth and Transformation Plan II (2015-2020),” and given special attention for labour intensive and light manufacturing sectors, including agro-processing, leather and textiles. This would enable

Ethiopia to enhance global competitiveness by adding value to primary products, but also create jobs and earn foreign currency by increasing exports as well as facilitate transfer of appropriate technology and knowledge. Alongside this were the efforts to create an enabling business environment for foreign and local investment in the manufacturing sector. One significant instrument for this was building world-class eco-friendly industrial parks. These provide access to land, eliminate challenges in logistics and custom service, and create linkages between middle and large-scale industries to promote the development of Small and Medium Enterprises. Two of these were inaugurated on July 08 and 09/2017; two more will be launched in September. The Ethiopian government is fully committed to redouble its efforts to accelerate its industrial development agenda in close cooperation with partners. The target is to increase the annual average growth rate of the manufacturing sector to 20%.

Mrs. Hirut expressed appreciation for the continued support of bilateral and multilateral development partners, especially UNIDO, which has provided very valuable technical assistance in agro-processing, leather and textile sectors. Ethiopia is also, of course, one of the pilot countries for the Inclusive and Sustainable Development Program of UNIDO whose Country Partnership Program is aligned with Ethiopia’s Industrial Development Strategy.

The State Minister also noted that without infrastructure it would be impossible to realize industrial development. The government had been making massive public investment in building the country’s infrastructure, in order to enhance productive capacity and to promote regional integration. It had achieved encouraging progress in expanding road, railway and air transport services and in the renewable energy sector in line with Ethiopia’s Green Economy Climate Resilient Strategy. It intends to raise the current power generation capacity of 4270 MW to 17,000 MW

by 2020. To achieve all this and overcome the challenges posed by lack of funding and capacity, Ethiopia advocates public and private partnerships and Foreign Direct Investment in line with the priorities. The State minister said the Sustainable Development Goals were ambitious, and so were Ethiopia's own targets. Governments, she said, needed to have ambitious and transformative targets, inclusive and sustainable agendas. They also, she concluded, needed a global partnership that equally gave due consideration to the specific challenges of vulnerable countries, if the SDGs were to be achieved by 2030.

### **Ethiopia Won't Rely on Others to Launch Satellite says PM**

Prime Minister Hailemariam Dessalegn said Ethiopia will not rely on any country to launch its own satellite, which would be instrumental in speeding up the overall economic growth.

Hailemariam said at the first ordinary meeting of the Ethiopian Space Science Technology Council on July 13/2017, satellite launching programs of the country need to be considered differently when it comes to financial assistance.

Hailemariam, who is the Chairperson of the Council, said Ethiopia will develop and launch its own satellite technology by itself.

The Council that discussed on the proposed 12-year plan for the area, agreed on the need first to formulate policy and strategy that would guide the development of space science technology in Ethiopia.

In the previous sessions, the Council has agreed for the establishment of a technical committee to monitor the progress.

Members of the Council have also agreed on having work guideline and reached a consensus to regularly meet every year.

Similarly, the 8th regular meeting of the National Science and Technology Innovation Council was held on July 13/2017.

The meeting, chaired by PM Hailemariam has emphasized the need to prioritize massive human resource development which has been a hurdle to the development of the sector.

Noting that far less of the expected outcome was performed in industry-university linkage in taking large number of internships on the basis of mutual benefits, the premier urged the Council to come up with a legal framework to enhance it.

In this regard, the Ministry of Science and Technology has finalized preparations to open a school for talented and gifted students with exceptional intelligence in science and technology as part of human development.

After discussing on the proposal on the implementation of collaborative research to maximize foreign fund for researchers in the area, Hailemariam emphasized the need to focus on local resources to fund science and technology innovations.

As collaborative researches tends to focus on donor driven projects, they will fail to address social problems and force researchers to focus on interests of donor that may not tally with the basic development needs of the country, Hailemariam indicated.

“To date the fund allotted for research has grown from 5 to 179 million USD and if that is not sufficient we can raise it up to one or two billion, but that is not the real problem as we must ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the researches in alleviating social problems in the country,” the premier stressed.

The council has also come up with a roadmap with some 20 priority areas, which are crucial in minimizing duplication of efforts and loss of resource, with specific focuses on cement, railway, textile and other areas.

After evaluating activities carried out in science and technology in universities, the Council has appreciated the preparation of launching 65kg Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite, the progress of Assembling Integrating and Testing (AIT), and

# *Tourism and Culture*

## **The World Heritage Committee Considers Two Sites in Ethiopia**



The World Heritage Committee is a body that decides on sites to be listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and it is also responsible for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention of 1972 which provides for identification, protection and preservation of the world's outstanding cultural and natural heritage sites for the international communities and future generations. The Committee meets annually to consider the practical application of the Convention. This year it convened its 41st Session in the historic city of Krakow in Poland, from July 1–12, to take decisions relating to the World Heritage List as well as to review and evaluate protection of already inscribed sites.

Ethiopia has 7 tangible heritage sites and 3 intangible heritages inscribed on the World Heritage List. Two of these, the Lower Valley of Omo World Heritage Site and the Simien Mountains' National Park were on the agenda this month as items on the 'State of Conservation of World Heritage Sites' and 'State of Conservation of World Heritage Sites in danger' lists respectively. An Ethiopian delegation led by Mrs. Hirut Zemene, State Minister of Foreign Affairs, including delegates from the Authority for Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritage, the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, the Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Electricity, and the Ministry of

Forest, Environment and Climate Change, participated in the meeting.

The Simien Mountains' National Park was inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 1978 and was placed on the list of heritage sites in danger in 1996 because of problems of human encroachment and environmental damage. Ever since then, Ethiopia has been engaged in conservation measures targeted to meet the benchmarks set by the Committee and has held a series of discussions with the advisory body, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), as part of efforts at adopting the recommendations made for conservation of the Park. On the State of Conservation of the World Heritage site of the Lower Valley of Omo, the Committee had prepared a draft decision in March 2017, ready to be adopted at the 41st session. But, the draft did not show the commitment and efforts of Ethiopia to conserve and protect the site. It also proposed the Lower Valley of Omo should be covered by the Strategic Environmental Assessment study of the Lake Turkana National Parks. Ethiopia made clear that this would be unsatisfactory, mixing two different inscriptions covering different locations under two separate State Parties (Ethiopia and Kenya) with different attributes of outstanding universal values and different criteria.

Speaking at the meeting, State Minister Mrs. Hirut Zemene emphasized that Ethiopia would continue to strengthen its efforts to protect heritage sites and discharge its responsibility in caring for world heritage sites by working in partnership with UNESCO. With the aid of the Republic of Angola, Ethiopia's case was presented to the session. While reiterating a request to the Ethiopia to provide additional information, Committee members accepted Ethiopia's amendment and decided to replace the Strategic Environmental Assessment by an environmental assessment impact study.