

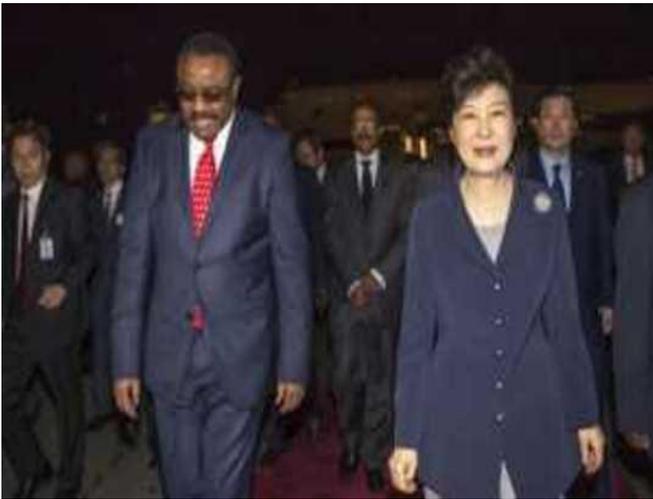


ETHIOPIA TODAY

Newsletter of the Embassy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in Canada

Vol. III No.2 May 2016

President Park Geun-hye of Korea Visits Ethiopia



The President of the Republic of Korea, President Park Geun-hye, was on a state visit to Ethiopia from May 25-28/2016. The visit had the aim of strengthening bilateral and multilateral ties with both Ethiopia and the African Union. President Park Geun-hye arrived in Addis Ababa on May 26/2016. During her four-day state visit to Ethiopia, President Park held talks with President Dr. Mulatu Teshome and met with Prime Minister Hailemariam Dessalegn. She also met with African Union Commission Chairperson, Dr. Dlamini-Zuma and discussed ways to strengthen cooperation between the AU and South Korea. On the 29th of May 2016, President Park also attended the Ethio-Korean Business Summit.

High level bilateral discussions between Ethiopia and Korea were held on May 27/2016 to discuss current relations, cooperation agreements and the way forward. During the meeting Prime Minister Hailemariam Dessalegn underlined that the long-standing and excellent relationship between the two countries demonstrated the depth of the ties between them. He said the relationship was not only historic but was also continuing to grow. The Prime Minister noted that Korea was one of the leading countries for the developmental state model and Ethiopia, he said, considered it a specific model for its own development.

President Park Geun-hye praised the warm welcome extended to the Korean delegation and said that she was pleased that her visit coincided with the celebration of Africa Day. She noted Ethiopia had been the only African nation that sent troops to Korea during the Korean War. President Park congratulated Ethiopia on the successes of the First Growth and Transformation Plan and noted that the relationship between Korea and Ethiopia was excellent, she also added that there was great potential to be tapped further. She said the wide range of cooperation agreements signed between the two countries would boost their bilateral and multilateral ties and establishing linkages between the institutions of the two countries would further enhance bilateral cooperation.

Ethiopia and Korea signed fourteen cooperation agreements and memorandum of understandings to boost their partnership in a wide range of areas on May 27/2016. One Memorandum of Understanding was to boost cooperation in the field of information and communication technology and was signed by Dr. Debretsion Gebremichael, Minister for Finance and Economic cluster and Minister of Communication and Information Technology with the rank of Deputy Prime Minister, and Yun Byung-se, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Korea. Other agreements covered a 500-million dollar loan framework agreement for the years 2016-2018, a 127-million dollar loan agreement for the Gore-Tepi road construction, and loans from the Economic Development Cooperation Fund for the Year 2016 through 2018; an agreement for air services between the respective territories; and MOUs on cooperation in the field of transport; on cooperation in Saemoul Undong; on cooperation and policy consultation; on textile technology; concerning defense; cooperation in the field of forestry and climate change, cooperation in agriculture and rural development; on grant aid programs; and on health care and medical sciences.

Ethiopia–Canada Trade and Investment Forum Held in Toronto



The Ethiopia-Canada Trade and Investment Forum, organized by Embassy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to Canada in collaboration with Wafa Marketing and Promotion and MINEAfrica inc. was held at Ramada Hotel in Toronto on 18 May 2016. Higher Government Officials from the Federal and Amhara Regional State and 35 Ethiopian Companies led by H.E Demeke Mekonnen, Deputy Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, attended the forum. There were also more than 85 Canadian companies who were in attendance at the forum.



The Forum was organized with a view to contributing to the ongoing efforts of showcasing the untapped trade and investment opportunities in various sectors of the Ethiopian economy to the Canadian business communities. It was also a platform for Ethiopian businessmen, federal and Amhara Regional State officials to promote the various investment opportunities and projects as well as Ethiopian export products to participants of the forum.

At the opening ceremony of the forum, H. E Demeke Mekonnen, Deputy Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, welcomed participants of the forum and remarked that Ethiopia is mentioned as one of the fastest non-oil producing economies registering double-

digit growth over the last 12 years. It is also one of the largest destination of Foreign Direct Investment in Africa, and a country with the right development trajectory. Ethiopia today has a lot to offer for global trading and development partners. H.E Ambassador Birtukan Ayano, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the FDRE, remarked on her part that with a conducive business environment, political stability, sound economic policies, macro-economic stability, abundant natural resources, a large and trainable work force, low-cost energy, a sizeable and competitive market, and one of the cleanest business climates; Ethiopia is now looking for serious trade and investment relationships.”

Ms. Leslie Norton, Director General for Eastern and Southern Africa Division at Global Affairs Canada also noted that "This forum strengthens the Trade and Investment ties between the two countries” and called Canadian business communities to exploit the opportunities offered by Ethiopia as well as supports provided by EDC (Export Development Canada) and TFO (Trade Facilitation Office of Canada).

Excellent presentations on the second Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP2), Business climate in Ethiopia and Amhara regional state as well as business opportunities in the manufacturing sector in Amhara region were presented during the forum. Export Development Canada and Trade Facilitation Office of Canada also presented the support they give to Canadian and Ethiopian exporters respectively.

The presentations were followed by exhaustive discussions, questions and answers sessions. After comprehensive discussions and deliberations, participants subsequently made fruitful Business to Business and Business to Government meetings. In the Business to Business meetings, most of the participants of the forum got potential partners.

The Deputy Prime Minister also conducted side meetings with Yeni Energy, Circum Minerals, East Africa Metals, the Lionsrock, CPCS, HATCH and Belyea & Associates plc during the forum and on the 19th May 2016.



The Embassy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to Canada has similar Trade and Investment mission plan to Ethiopia from June 16 to 17, 2016 and all Canadian business communities are invited to join the mission. A number of participants showed interest in joining the trade and investment mission and see the advertised opportunities firsthand.

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Announces His Candidacy for WHO Director-General



Ethiopia's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Former Minister of Health, Dr. Tedros Adhanom, formally announced his candidacy for Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) at a press conference at the United Nations in Geneva on May 24/2016. Also present on the occasion were Ethiopia's current Minister of Health Dr. Kesenbirhan Admasu, African Union Commission Chairperson, Dr. Dlamini-Zuma, and Algeria's Health Minister, Mr. Abdelmalek Boudiaf. Dr. Tedros, who has received the unanimous endorsement of the African Union to be the next Director-General of WHO, is recognized worldwide as an experienced, collaborative, and diplomatic figure whose reform programs within Ethiopia and at the head of global health organizations, had achieved significant impact.

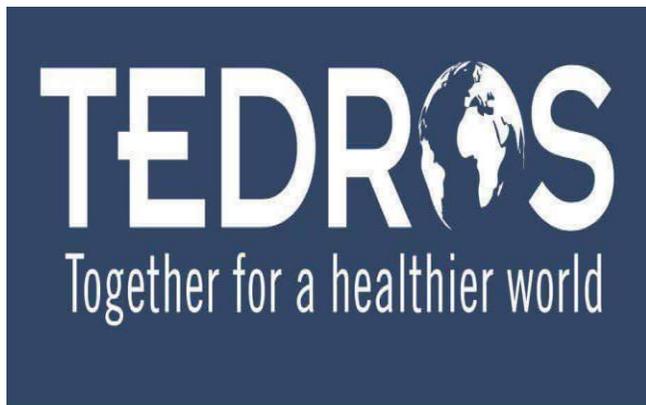
In announcing his candidature, Dr. Tedros said this was an "amazing time" in global health, emphasizing that huge progress had been made in improving health outcomes and making significant health advances in people's lives. In part this was certainly to be attributed to the diligent work of those at WHO and of health officials across the globe. Equally, there were also health challenges and some of these extended to WHO. But, he added, "I am here to tell you these are not challenges. These are opportunities for us to work together for a healthier world. Leveraging opportunities to create impactful change is what I have always been about, and what I have achieved throughout my career. And this is what I will bring with me as Director-General of WHO."

Dr. Tedros outlined the key steps he had taken as Ethiopia's Health Minister including taking a pragmatic look at the country's state of health care system, putting together a realistic plan rooted in research and data, building the partnerships needed to carry out a series of ambitious goals, and prioritizing the areas that would have the most substantial impact on people.

Dr. Tedros is currently serving as Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. He served as Ethiopia's Minister of Health, from October 2005 to November 2013 and previously held a number of expert and leadership positions in both federal and regional government, including the post of State Minister in the Ministry of Health and Head of the Tigray Regional Health Bureau.

He has had extensive experience in global health initiatives and diplomacy. During his tenure as Minister of Health of Ethiopia, he chaired the Boards of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Coordinating Board of UNAIDS and Co-Chaired the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health. He also served on the Boards of GAVI, the Vaccination Alliance and the Stop TB Partnership. In Ethiopia, his health sector reforms and the introduction of the Health Extension Program led the country to achieve most of the Millennium Development Goals health targets.

Dr. Tedros holds a Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) in Community Health from the University of Nottingham and a Master of Science (MSc) degree in Immunology of Infectious Diseases from the University of London (UK). He has co-authored numerous articles on prominent scientific journals including Nature, Lancet and the British Medical Journal. He has also received several awards and recognitions including being the first non-American recipient of the "Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award" in 2011. Dr. Tedros was listed among "50 people who will change the world" by the UK Wired Magazine in January 2012; and the leading African magazine, New African, chose him as one of the 100 most influential Africans for the year 2015.



WMO Opens its Africa Office in Addis Ababa

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has opened its regional office for Africa in Addis Ababa.

Speaking at the Management Group Meeting held in Addis Ababa, the Secretary-General stated that the regional office would have huge significance to give immediate forecasts to prevent climate catastrophes the continent is facing.

"Many African countries including Ethiopia have been affected by el Niño induced drought. Such climate shock should be minimized through collaborated forecasting works. I hope the regional office will have very important role for the future," he said at the event.

Minister of Water, Irrigation and Electricity Motuma Mekasa on his part urged African nations to strengthen their cooperation in the fields of meteorology and hydrology for the benefit of their people.

"This cooperation and collaboration is well supported in WMO framework through the various regional and international initiatives. Cooperation in this sector is vital as atmospheric phenomenon is not respectful of political boundaries," the minister noted.

He indicated that the regional office employs qualified professionals with valuable experience on weather and water resources.

WMO's regional office in Addis Ababa will serve the 54 African countries through providing invaluable meteorological information.

The Ethiopian government will give every necessary support for the efficient functioning of the regional office, Motuma pledged.

President Mulatu Congratulates Nation on Ginbot 20



Ginbot 20 is a historic day that enabled Ethiopia to register huge political and economic gains, President Mulatu Teshome said.

In his celebratory speech to the Ethiopian people, the president said it is the day which heralded a democratic order, social and political development as well as lasting peace to the Ethiopian people.

The president noted that the nation has been registering 11 percent economic growth on average for the past 13 years through the implementation of appropriate policies and strategies that emanated from the glorious victory.

The steady economic growth of the country has also been attracting investors who eye Ethiopia as their investment destination, he further pointed out.

The president finally called on citizens to act in a sense of urgency and work in close cooperation to sustain the growth registered in every sector and realize the Growth and Transformation Plan.

Business and Economy

UK's High-Level Trade and Investment Mission visited Ethiopia

A High-Level Trade and Investment Mission from the UK visited Ethiopia from May 10 to 12/2016, meeting with officials from Prime Minister's cabinet, officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finance, Water, Irrigation and Electricity, and a small, select group of business leaders during its three day visit. The Trade Mission was led by Prime Minister David Cameron's newly appointed Trade Envoy to Ethiopia, Richard Benyon, who stated in advance that the aim of the visit was to boost trade relations between the UK and Ethiopia and provide opportunities for UK businesses to strengthen their knowledge of the growing commercial possibilities in Ethiopia. The visit was a follow-up to the highly successful UK-Ethiopia Trade and Investment Forum organized in London last year on 21st October 2015. Attended by Ethiopia's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Tedros Adhanom, it attracted over 400 participants to hear about the investment potential that Ethiopia had to offer.

At the time, Dr. Tedros noted that the Forum was the country's highest profile investment outreach on the international stage. For potential investors, the Forum was certainly a unique opportunity to engage directly with the government and senior decision-makers in one of the most topical investment destinations in the world.

The visit of the delegation from the UK focused on opportunities in infrastructure, extractives and manufacturing. It offered possibilities for participants to deepen relationships in Ethiopia and secure new investments in one of Africa's fastest growing economies.

Richard Benyon said he was delighted to have been appointed UK's Trade Envoy to Ethiopia, and he was "excited to be in Ethiopia and see firsthand the opportunities Ethiopia offers for UK businesses." I look forward to building a lasting trade relationship with Ethiopia that brings benefits to both our countries." Investment opportunities and prospects in the country were discussed at an economic briefing session given by Josephine Ngune, Resident Representative of the African Development Bank and Melanie Robinson, Country Head of the UK's DfID.

Later the High Level Trade and Investment Mission met with State Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Taye Atske-Selassie. Ambassador Taye briefed the mission on the parameters that had made Ethiopia one of the fastest-growing economies in Africa, underlining the participation of private sector in the economy and the importance of foreign investment.

The State Minister said there were opportunities available in the country which he said would be an asset for a productive partnership with Ethiopia. Ambassador Taye added that the visit of the mission would allow it to see and obtain first-hand information on the various areas of investment potential in a country which was one of Africa's most emerging economies. He believed the visit would encourage new investment.

The High Level Trade and Investment Mission also held a series of bilateral meetings and business-to-business discussions with Ethiopian business representatives to explore opportunities in other areas as well as investigate the ease of doing business in the country and look at building foundations for future commercial activities.

UK businesses are investing in a range of sectors in Ethiopia, including education, leather, mining, oil and gas, and food processing. British companies are actively involved in the transfer of knowledge, management skills and in creating local employment, all of which contribute to

building the economy. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom Trade and Investment and the Government of Ethiopia facilitated the visit of the UK Trade and Investment Mission.

Tourism and Culture

Ethiopian Wins African Airline of the Year 2016 Award



Ethiopian Airlines has won the African Airline of the Year 2016 Award. The award was presented to the airline on May 11 at the 25th Air Finance Africa Conference & Exhibition and African Aviation Summit held in Johannesburg, South Africa. According to the press release of the airline, Ethiopian was presented the award in recognition of its financial performance, fleet modernization, route network expansion, in-flight service, overall customer care and outstanding contribution to aviation development in Africa. While presenting the award, African Aviation CEO Nick Fadugba said Ethiopian Airlines continues to set the pace through its tangible achievements and is a source of great pride to Africa. He noted that the airline has also excelled in the provision of technical services to African and non-African airlines and has made an enormous contribution to the development of Aviation Human Resources for the African

continent, particularly in the fields of aircraft maintenance, pilot and cabin crew training.

Ethiopian Airlines Chief Operating Officer, Mesfin Tassew said the award is recognition of the visionary leadership of Ethiopian management and the hard work of thousands of Ethiopian employees who work hard to keep airline shining in the skies.

Ottawa Race Weekend Marathon Won by Ethiopia's Dino Sefir and Koren Jelela



The fact the city is nicknamed Hottawa didn't stop close to 47,000 people from running in this year's annual Ottawa Race Weekend.

Ethiopia's Dino Sefir ran the full marathon in the fastest time, finishing the 42.2-kilometre trek with a time of 2:08:14. The top Canadian man, Kip Kangogo of Lethbridge, Alta., finished in 2:21:22.



The fastest woman to finish the marathon was Koren Jeleda from Ethiopia. She crossed the finish line after 2:27:06.

Tarah Korir was the top Canadian woman in the marathon, finishing in 2:35:44.



Other Ethiopian Athletes, Mamitu Daska and Yitayal Atnafu got Silver Medal for Ethiopia in the 10 Kilometer Tamarack Ottawa Race both on women and Men Races. (Source: CBC).

Ethiopia Honors Nat'l Committee for Return of Axum Obelisk



The 250 member committee for the return of the Axum Obelisk has received nationwide recognition at an event organized at the National Palace. The recognition will encourage the new generation to follow suit in bringing back other valued Ethiopian heritages to their homeland, remarked President Dr. Mulatu Teshome while delivering speech at the event.

The late Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, Dr. Richard Pankhurst, Sheik Mohammed Al Amoudi, Engineer Tadele Bitul, Liketiguanh Astatkie Abate and Fitawurari Amede Lema were among the recognized personalities. The late Meles Zenawi was awarded a special honorary prize for his initiation and intelligent negotiation with the government of Italy, it was indicated. Minister of Culture and Tourism Engineer Aisha Mohammed on her part said encouraged by the successful efforts made to return the Axum Obelisk, the government in collaboration with the new generation is keen to return other Ethiopian heritages. Awards of recognition considered contributions each of the members of the committee made for the return of the obelisk. The 24-metre high obelisk was taken in 1937 on the orders of Mussolini and returned 68 years after it was looted. The Axum obelisk is regarded as an outstanding example of architecture from Ethiopia's ancient city of Axum.