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NBE opens banking sector to foreign competitors while supporting domestic institutions

By our staff reporter

The National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE) has indicated that while the banking sector is reopening to international competitors, domestic banks will maintain a dominant position.

On Tuesday, December 17, 2024, Parliament made a significant decision to limit government financing from the NBE and to allow foreign firms back into the banking sector.

"After extensive discussions, processes, and debates, we have reached this point. With the amendment of the two proclamations, it marks a significant milestone for us," stated NBE Governor Mamo Esmelealem Mihretu.

He mentioned to Capital that the NBE founding proclamation is a vital piece of legislation that will tackle several past issues, as it will clarify NBE's mission and strategy.

"The new proclamation aligns the central

bank with other similar institutions in terms of governance, structure, vision, cooperation, and capital," Mamo added.

He described this development as a historic step for Ethiopia's financial industry, granting enhanced authority to effectively regulate the sector.

According to Mamo, the banking business

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Ethiopia to revitalize Alewro Dam after three decades of neglect

By our staff reporter

The government has decided to rehabilitate the Alewro Dam, one of the most significant mega dams, which has been abandoned for over thirty years. This initiative aims to enable both investors and smallholder farmers to utilize this vital resource.

The decision to revitalize the Alewro Dam, a popular project in the 1980s and early 1990s, has largely been sidelined since the government change in May 1991. While the dam and some essential facilities were completed at that time, the large-scale irrigation project, a joint venture between the Ethiopian government and the USSR, has essentially been neglected for over 33 years.

The Ministry of Irrigation and Lowland (MILLS) has now committed to reviving the dam to ensure its benefits for the Baro Akobo River Basin, specifically the Alwero River, located approximately 49 kilometers south of Gambella city, the capital of the Gambella region, and 777 kilometers west of Addis Ababa.

In a recently released Amharic book titled 'Yesidetegnaw Meri Tirekawoch' by Yitagesu Getinet, former President Mengistu Hailemariam (Col) noted that after USSR experts assessed the area's water catchment, his administration's powerful allies decided to invest in the project. "The catchment has the capacity to irrigate approximately one million hectares of land, according to the USSR study," stated the former head of state, who currently resides in Zimbabwe.

Mengistu also claimed that the group that overthrew his government had relocated some of the facility's equipment to Eritrea, suggesting that the project was nearly operational. Initially, the initiative aimed to cultivate 60,000 hectares of land, starting with the irrigation of 10,000 hectares, as noted by Fasika Sidelil, a senior leader and chief of economic and social affairs of the socialist governing

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Insecurity crisis and its economic toll

Ethiopia, once hailed for its remarkable economic growth, now finds itself at a critical juncture where security challenges are casting long shadows over its economic prospects. The country, which experienced one of Africa's fastest-growing economies until recently, is now grappling with a multifaceted insecurity landscape that threatens not just peace but also the economic fabric of the nation.

The roots of Ethiopia's current security issues are deeply entwined with ethnic tensions, regional conflicts, and environmental crises. The Tigray conflict, which erupted in November 2020 between the federal government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), has not only resulted in significant loss of life and displacement but has also led to a substantial economic downturn in the region. Despite a peace agreement in 2022, the ripple effects continue to be felt across the country, with insecurity persisting in various forms, including in the Amhara and Oromia regions where insurgencies have taken root.

These conflicts have direct implications on Ethiopia's economy. Firstly, the agricultural sector, which is the backbone of Ethiopia's economy, accounting for about 40% of the GDP and providing livelihoods to over 80% of the population, is severely impacted. The displacement of farmers, destruction of agricultural infrastructure, and the inability to access fields have led to reduced agricultural productivity, which in turn affects food security and increases reliance on costly imports.

Moreover, the insecurity has deterred both domestic and foreign investment. Investors, wary of the instability, are hesitant to commit resources to a region where the political situation remains volatile. This reluctance is exacerbated by Ethiopia's struggles with foreign exchange, making it challenging for businesses to import necessary materials or machinery. The lack of investment stunts economic growth, reduces job creation, and delays infrastructure projects that are crucial for long-term development.

The conflict also disrupts trade routes, particularly affecting Ethiopia's access to ports, which is vital for its landlocked status. Disruptions in logistics and transportation due to blockades or unsafe conditions increase operational costs for businesses, further straining an already fragile economy. Ethiopia's foreign exchange reserves have dwindled, partly due to these disruptions, which has led to a significant depreciation of the birr, fueling inflation and making imports, including essential goods like medicine and fuel, prohibitively expensive for the average citizen.

On the humanitarian front, the insecurity has led to one of the worst humanitarian crises in recent years, with millions facing acute food insecurity. The conflict in Tigray, combined with droughts in other regions, has pushed Ethiopia into a situation where over 20 million people are in need of food aid. This crisis not only strains government resources but also diverts funds from development projects to emergency relief, further hampering economic growth.

The economic implications are not just short-term. The ongoing insecurity has long-term effects on human capital development. Educational institutions have been damaged or closed, leading to a generation potentially missing out on education, which is a cornerstone of economic development. Health services have also been disrupted, increasing morbidity and reducing the workforce's productivity.

Furthermore, the government's focus on security has led to an increase in military expenditure, which, while necessary, diverts funds from other critical areas like infrastructure and social services. This reallocation of resources could have significant long-term implications for Ethiopia's economic trajectory, as it might delay or derail projects aimed at economic diversification and modernization.

The international community's response has been mixed. While there have been efforts to mediate peace, the economic sanctions or suspensions of aid from various countries due to human rights concerns have further strained the economy. However, there's also a recognition of Ethiopia's strategic importance, leading to some investments in infrastructure and negotiations for debt relief, which could offer a lifeline if peace stabilizes.

Ethiopia's security challenges are not merely a matter of regional disputes but a significant economic concern. The violence disrupts economic activities, scares away investors, diminishes agricultural output, and leads to a humanitarian crisis that saps the nation's resources. For Ethiopia to return to its path of economic prosperity, it is imperative that peace and stability are restored. This requires not just cessation of hostilities but also addressing the underlying ethnic, political, and environmental grievances that fuel the conflict. Only then can Ethiopia hope to leverage its vast human and natural resources to build a resilient economy that can withstand and recover from the current storm of insecurity.



■ By Kebour Ghenna

COMMENT

Ethiopia’s Banking Reforms and the Case for Strategic Opening

When Ethiopia announced its Banking Business Proclamation, the move was met with a mix of hope, skepticism, and confusion. For a nation balancing 30 private banks, a growing economy, and a hunger for foreign investment, the proclamation should have been a roadmap—a clear signal of where the country’s financial sector is heading. Instead, it feels like it’s neither here nor there: not quite closed, not fully open, and decidedly undecided.

As someone often mislabeled as being against foreign banks in Ethiopia, let me clear the air. I’m not against their entry. In fact, I believe foreign banks can play a transformative role—if their entry is handled strategically. The problem isn’t foreign banks. It’s a policy framework that lacks focus, clarity, and vision. The proclamation, instead of being a bold step forward, feels like it’s stuck in limbo, trying to appease everyone but satisfying no one.

The proclamation is riddled with contradictions. On one hand, it opens the door—albeit slightly—for foreign banks to enter the Ethiopian market. But then it imposes restrictive caps, heavy bureaucratic oversight, and unclear ownership rules. It’s as if Ethiopia is saying, “Come in, but don’t get too comfortable.” This hesitant approach risks alienating both local players and the very foreign investors the government hopes to attract.

Consider China and Vietnam. Both countries faced similar crossroads. They didn’t open their financial sectors blindly; they adopted clear, phased strategies. China capped foreign ownership and mandated technology transfers, ensuring local banks benefited from the influx of expertise. Vietnam allowed foreign banks to operate but maintained strong regulatory oversight to protect domestic interests. These were calculated moves, rooted in pragmatism. Ethiopia, by contrast, seems to be improvising.

An ideal proclamation would do three things:

1. Define the Role of Foreign Banks Clearly

Are they here to fill capital gaps? Transfer knowledge? Drive competition? The current proclamation doesn’t articulate this. Instead, it oscillates between protectionism and token liberalization. If Ethiopia wants foreign banks to help modernize its financial sector, it needs to spell out their role and align policy incentives accordingly.

2. Strengthen Local Banks First

Ethiopia has 30 private banks, most of which are small and undercapitalized. The proclamation should have included measures to prepare these banks for competition, such as incentivizing mergers, improving governance, and encouraging digital transformation. Instead, it leaves them vulnerable to being overshadowed by foreign players, should the gates eventually open wider.

3. Send a Clear Signal to Investors

Investors thrive on predictability. They need to know the rules of the game. The proclamation, with its half-measures and vague directives,

does the opposite. It raises more questions than it answers. Will foreign banks be allowed majority ownership in joint ventures? How will regulatory oversight be balanced with operational autonomy? Without clarity, Ethiopia risks scaring away the very investors it seeks to attract.

Ethiopia’s cautious approach might seem prudent, but it carries significant risks. By trying to strike a middle ground, the proclamation ends up pleasing no one. Local banks, already facing capacity constraints, see the potential entry of foreign banks as a threat rather than an opportunity. Foreign investors, meanwhile, are put off by the lack of a clear, welcoming framework. And consumers—women and youth entrepreneurs included—are left wondering when they’ll see the promised benefits of a more dynamic financial sector.

In economic terms, being “neither here nor there” means missing out on the best of both worlds. Ethiopia could emulate China by using foreign banks strategically to modernize its financial system while protecting local players. Or it could follow Vietnam’s path of gradual liberalization, allowing competition to drive innovation. Instead, the proclamation hovers awkwardly between these models, with no clear trajectory.

Why Open the Market at All? Some might ask, “Why does Ethiopia, a poor country with 30 private banks, need foreign banks at all?” The answer lies in scale, expertise, and integration. Local banks, while growing, cannot yet meet the demands of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) or finance large-scale infrastructure projects. Foreign banks bring global networks, advanced technology, and access to international capital—tools Ethiopia sorely needs.

But let’s not be naïve. Foreign banks aren’t charities. They’re profit-driven entities that prioritize lucrative markets and low risks. Ethiopia must engage them on its own terms, using policy to channel their resources into productive sectors like manufacturing, agriculture, and export financing. That requires a proclamation with teeth, vision, and coherence—qualities the current one lacks.

Ethiopia stands at a financial crossroads. The Banking Business Proclamation should have been a bold, clear step forward. Instead, it’s a hesitant shuffle sideways. It opens the door to foreign banks but doesn’t prepare local banks for competition. It invites investment but scares off investors with ambiguity. It’s neither here nor there.

To move forward, Ethiopia must learn from the likes of China and Vietnam. These nations didn’t just let the wind blow—they built windmills to harness it. Ethiopia, too, must decide: will it leverage foreign banks to build a stronger, more inclusive economy? Or will it keep building walls, isolating itself from the opportunities of globalization? As someone often mislabeled as being against foreign banks, I can only say this: let them in—but on Ethiopia’s terms, with a proclamation that’s clear, confident, and visionary. Anything less is just more wind.

Capital
THE PAPER THAT PROMOTES FREE ENTERPRISE

CAPITAL is a weekly business newspaper published and distributed every Sunday by CROWN PUBLISHING PLC.

CAPITAL is a registered newspaper with the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Ministry of Trade license number **14/673/21142/2004**.

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CROWN PUBLISHING is a private limited company registered with the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Broadcasting Authority under registration no. **34/2001** and with Addis Ababa City Administration Trade and Industry Development office under registration number **14/673/21142/2004**.

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CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTION
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CAPITAL is printed by **Berhanena Selam Printing Enterprise** since December 1998.
Address: Addis Ababa, Arada Sub-city Wereda 9 H.No. 984
Tel. 011 155 3233



Bunna Bank appoints first independent board members under new NBE mandate

By our staff reporter

In line with the newly implemented mandate from the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), Bunna Bank has become the first financial institution to appoint independent members to its board of directors.

The election of the board took place during Bunna Bank's general assembly held a week ago, where nine individuals were selected, including three independent directors, in accordance with the new governance rules.

As stipulated in the "SBB/91/2024 Bank Corporate Governance Directive," which takes effect on June 12, banks are required to ensure that one-third of their board members are independent individuals with no connections to the bank.

The directive defines an independent director as a non-executive director who does not have any first-degree familial relationships or business, professional, or commercial ties with the bank, and who is neither part of senior management nor involved in the daily operations.

An independent director is described as an experienced board member who is free from any undue influence—whether internal, external, political, or ownership-related—that could compromise their

ability to make objective judgments. Industry experts have noted that this type of governance is common in other countries and will contribute to greater transparency. "The NBE's decision is positive because independent directors without stakes in the bank tend to adhere more closely to professional principles," said a banking industry expert.

However, there are concerns about finding highly qualified specialists.

"It is challenging to attract qualified experts at the compensation levels offered by banks. Independent board members are often very expensive in other countries," one expert shared.

Sewale Abate, chairperson of the interim committee that oversaw the election, acknowledged the challenges posed by committee members who may not be familiar with NBE regulations or the industry.

"I attended the meeting as a shareholder and am not prepared to take full responsibility for the election process, but in accordance with the new law, we nominated candidates during the general assembly and were elected to manage the election," he explained.

Sewale, who previously served as board

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chair at Bunna Bank around three years ago and currently holds a position on the board of Zemen Bank, stated, "I am familiar with the process, even though I haven't participated in this specific type of election."

He noted that the previous board had submitted nine nominations to select three independent directors, while the remaining board members were nominated during the general assembly as per the NBE directive.

As a result, Meseret Woldemariam, Fikir Abere, and Mulugeta Asmare, a prominent figure in the financial

industry who led Goh Betoeh Bank until last February, were elected as the first independent board members under the new governance directive.

According to Article Seven of the directive, one-third of the directors must be independent, nominated by the existing board and elected by all shareholders.

Furthermore, it specifies that a third of the directors must be nominated and elected by non-influential shareholders, and that at least two board members must be female.

Independent directors will serve on various committees.

Lion Insurance achieves milestone with record premium revenue

By Eyasu Zekarias

Lion Insurance, a prominent player in Ethiopia's insurance industry for the past 17 years, has announced a historic achievement: for the first time, the company has raised over 1 billion birr in premiums revenue. This milestone positions Lion Insurance among the leading firms in the sector, reflecting a significant growth trajectory.

In a recent report, Lion Insurance revealed that its total premiums revenue reached 1.173 billion birr, marking a remarkable 41 percent increase from the previous year. This growth underscores the company's resilience and ability to adapt to the evolving insurance landscape in Ethiopia.

Abrham Gebreamlak, Chairperson of the Board of Directors at Lion Insurance, acknowledged the challenges facing the sector, particularly the shortage of skilled personnel. He noted that this lack of expertise has led to inadequate wages and benefits for employees, putting pressure on workforce stability. "We are actively working to build the professional capacity of our employees and develop future leaders within the organization," he stated.

The annual report also highlighted that Lion Insurance incurred total compensation costs of 42 million birr this fiscal year, with a compensation ratio of 63.8 percent. The company's net profit stood at 185 million birr, with an average dividend share of 57.6 percent.

Notably, the life insurance sector, which is still in its second fiscal year, collected premium revenue of 23.1 million birr—an impressive increase from 4.4 million birr recorded in the previous fiscal year. This growth has contributed to an increase in the company's market share to 1.2 percent.

By the end of the fiscal year, Lion Insurance's total assets increased by 32.2 percent from the previous year, reaching 65.7 billion birr. Total liabilities also rose by 33.3 percent to 43.4 billion birr, while total investments surged by 36.8 percent to reach 22.3 billion birr.

During its 17th General Meeting of Shareholders, Lion Insurance reported total compensation payments amounting to 421.9 million birr and a result from insurance

contract operations of 280.6 million birr—an increase of 126.8 million birr or 82.4 percent compared to the prior year.

Additionally, the company earned 143.9 million birr before tax from various investment sources, culminating in a total profit of 211.2 million birr for the fiscal year—a significant increase of 135.6 million birr or 179.3 percent compared to the previous fiscal year.

Lion Insurance has received approval from the National Bank of Ethiopia to offer inclusive Takaful insurance products to its customers and is preparing to launch this service soon. This initiative reflects the company's commitment to expanding its product offerings and meeting diverse customer needs.

AUCTION RESULT Thursday, November 28, 2024				The 11 th OMO auction result for Liquidity-Absorbing Open Market Operation			
Auction No.		OMO-Auction No.11		Total allotted amount (in Millions of Birr):		11,500	
Date of Auction		November 28/2024		Fixed Interest Rate		15%	
Type of Operations		2-Weeks-Deposit Taking Operation		Start date of the operations		November 28/2024	
Total amount of bids submitted by participants (in Millions of Birr)		11,500		Maturity date of the operations		December 12/2024	
Number of bidders		4		Settlement Date		November 28/2024	



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BANKS ASSET IN BILLION ETB AS OF JUNE 30, 2023

Goh Betocho Bank: ↑	Hibret Bank: ↑	Hijra Bank: ↑	Lion Int’l Bank: ↑	Nib Int’l Bank: ↑
2.6 (117.4%)	82.3 (22.5%)	6.2 (181%)	35.6 (7.9%)	77 (25.3%)

AeTrade Group and Cooperative Bank of Oromia Partner to Enhance Financial Inclusion in Ethiopia

By our staff reporter

AeTrade Group and the Cooperative Bank of Oromia (Coop Bank) have announced a strategic partnership aimed at transforming financial inclusion and economic empowerment across Ethiopia. This collaboration combines innovative digital financial tools with inclusive banking services to uplift underserved communities, particularly women, youth, and small businesses, while supporting Ethiopia's integration into the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). At a press conference announcing the partnership, AeTrade Group CEO Muluaem Syoum emphasized the transformative potential of this collaboration. "This partnership is a pivotal step toward a more inclusive economy. By introducing solutions like

AeTrust and integrated mobile wallets, we are enabling millions of Ethiopians to access financial services, empowering them to thrive in the digital economy," he stated. Coop Bank President Derebie Asfaw highlighted the bank's commitment to rural development and the empowerment of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). "Through this partnership, we are addressing the financial challenges faced by our communities. The Michu Digital Lending platform and cross-border payment solutions will help unlock new opportunities for Ethiopians, making trade more accessible and efficient." The partnership will leverage several key features to enhance financial services. The collaboration utilizes AeTrust and Coop Bank's platforms to deliver affordable

and secure services, including collateral-free loans, real-time payments, and multi-currency support for regional trade. Moreover small businesses trading on Sokokuu Marketplace will benefit from pre-approved credit lines and simplified financial management tools, ensuring seamless transactions and sustainable growth. Additionally businesses will gain access to resources that streamline cross-border payments, providing liquidity and enabling participation in continental trade. This partnership is projected to expand digital financial services to millions of Ethiopians within the next three years, with a particular focus on youth and women entrepreneurs. By strengthening Ethiopia's financial infrastructure, AeTrade Group and Coop Bank aim

to lay the groundwork for sustainable growth, job creation, and enhanced trade connectivity under AfCFTA. "This partnership is not just about financial services; it's about creating a future where no one is left behind," said Muluaem Syoum. Derebie Asfaw added, "Together, we are building a stronger Ethiopia that is fully integrated into Africa's economic future." The collaboration between AeTrade Group and the Cooperative Bank of Oromia symbolizes a united effort to empower communities, transform businesses, and position Ethiopia as a leader in regional trade. With innovative financial solutions at their disposal, both organizations are committed to fostering an inclusive economy that benefits all Ethiopians.

Amhara Bank announces plans for investment banking project

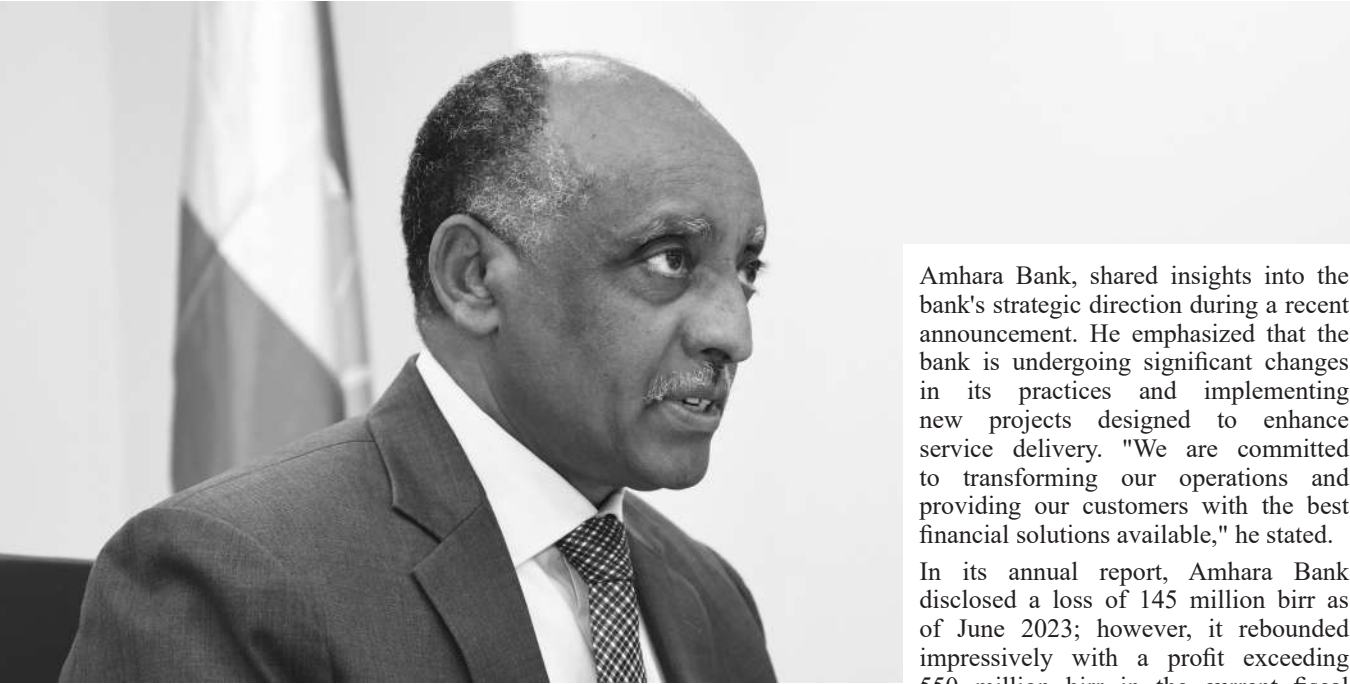


PHOTO: Anteneh Akilu

By Eyasu Zekarias

Amhara Bank, a key player in the Ethiopian banking sector with nearly three years of operation, has revealed plans to develop capital markets and

investment banking projects. The bank aims to create innovative financial solutions tailored to meet the evolving needs of its customers in light of current trends in the financial industry. Yohannes Ayalew, PhD, the CEO of

Amhara Bank, shared insights into the bank's strategic direction during a recent announcement. He emphasized that the bank is undergoing significant changes in its practices and implementing new projects designed to enhance service delivery. "We are committed to transforming our operations and providing our customers with the best financial solutions available," he stated. In its annual report, Amhara Bank disclosed a loss of 145 million birr as of June 2023; however, it rebounded impressively with a profit exceeding 550 million birr in the current fiscal year. Gashaw Debebe, Chairman of the Bank's Board of Directors, noted that the bank successfully raised deposits totaling more than 25.1 billion birr for the 2023/24 fiscal year, outperforming many of its peers in the industry.

Despite facing challenges such as foreign exchange shortages and security issues that have affected many banks in Ethiopia, Amhara Bank has managed to expand its customer base significantly. The bank currently serves over 1.8 million customers and boasts more than 570,000 mobile banking users. Amhara Bank reported an increase in profit per share, rising from -3.2% in the previous year to 8.3% this year. The total revenue for the fiscal year surged by an impressive 146%, reflecting the bank's robust recovery and growth trajectory. The bank's total assets reached 35.2 billion birr, with loans to customers amounting to 19.9 billion birr and total liabilities at 28.1 billion birr. The upward trend in profitability and asset growth underscores Amhara Bank's resilience and strategic focus on enhancing its financial capacity. Yohannes Ayalew reiterated the bank's commitment to investing heavily in strengthening its operational capacity despite external challenges. "We are dedicated to achieving our goals while supporting community development initiatives," he stated in his annual report. The introduction of capital markets and investment banking services is expected to further enhance Amhara Bank's role in Ethiopia's financial landscape. By expanding its offerings, the bank aims to provide more comprehensive financial solutions that cater to both individual and business needs.

EEU IMPLEMENTS VAT ON ENERGY CONSUMPTION

By our staff reporter

The Ethiopian Electricity Utility (EEU) has announced the implementation of a Value Added Tax (VAT) on utility bills for customers who consume more than 200 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity. This new tax will also apply to various service charges incurred by customers, including the costs associated with connecting new customers to the grid. The VAT, which came into effect in November 2024, will be calculated and added to the monthly utility bills of customers whose consumption exceeds the 200 kWh threshold. Customers will

see this tax reflected in their bills starting from December, including back payments for the months of September to November. According to EEU officials, the introduction of VAT is part of a broader effort to enhance revenue generation and improve the financial sustainability of the utility. The move aims to align Ethiopia's energy sector with international standards and practices, ensuring that the utility can continue to provide reliable services to its customers. The implementation of VAT on electricity consumption is expected to affect a significant number of households and businesses across Ethiopia. While the

tax is intended to support the utility's operations, it may also lead to increased costs for consumers, particularly those who are already struggling with rising living expenses. Critics have raised concerns about the potential burden this tax may impose on low-income households, many of whom may already be facing financial challenges due to inflation and economic instability. The EEU has stated that it is committed to ensuring that electricity remains affordable for all Ethiopians, but the introduction of VAT could complicate this goal. The announcement has prompted mixed reactions from stakeholders. Some

consumer advocacy groups have called for greater transparency regarding how the additional revenue generated from VAT will be utilized by EEU. They are urging the government to ensure that funds are reinvested into improving infrastructure and expanding access to electricity in underserved areas. On the other hand, industry experts argue that implementing VAT is a necessary step towards achieving financial viability for EEU. They believe that without adequate funding, the utility may struggle to maintain and upgrade its services, which could ultimately affect service delivery and reliability.

INSURANCE: GROSS WRITTEN PREMIUM IN MILLION ETB AS OF JUNE 30, 2023

Abay Insurance: 177.1 (47%)	Africa Insurance: 55.6 (167%)	Awash Insurance: 550 (55%)	Berhan Insurance: 78.3 (46.4%)	Bunna Insurance: 59.4 (32%)
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Ethiopia calls for international support in combatting climate change at First Annual Climate Finance Summit

By Eyasu Zekarias

Ethiopia has convened its first annual climate finance summit, bringing together government officials, private sector leaders, financial institutions, and international partners to develop innovative solutions for climate finance and address pressing climate issues facing the nation. The summit aims to mobilize resources for climate action, identify financial gaps, and forge partnerships that promote sustainability amid the country’s ongoing struggles with erratic rainfall, drought, and rising temperatures.

During the summit, Ahmed Shide, Minister of Finance, emphasized the urgent need for international attention on Ethiopia’s efforts to reduce carbon emissions and restore land. He highlighted the significant challenges posed by climate change, stating that the impacts are being felt acutely by communities across the country. "The challenge we are facing in Ethiopia is clear and undeniable," said Hikmet Abdella, CEO of FSD Ethiopia. "From devastating droughts to rainfall disturbances, our communities are bearing the brunt of the climate crisis."

Despite these challenges, Ethiopia remains committed to transitioning to a green economy resilient to climate change by 2030. The summit served as a critical platform for

exploring financing mechanisms necessary to achieve the country's ambitious climate resilience goals.

One of the key highlights of the summit was Ethiopia's updated climate finance strategy, which includes a target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 68.8 percent by 2030 as outlined in its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The discussions at the summit underscored the importance of establishing new partnerships and formulating policy recommendations aimed at accelerating Ethiopia's transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy.

"This summit is an important opportunity for all stakeholders to come together and chart a clear path forward for climate finance in Ethiopia," Hikmet noted, emphasizing inclusivity and sustainability as central themes.

The one-day summit featured panel discussions with industry experts, government officials, financial leaders, and representatives from international organizations. Participants explored a wide range of issues related to innovative financial mechanisms and the role of the private sector in leading climate action.

The event also provided an opportunity for stakeholders to share insights on best practices and successful initiatives that can be replicated in Ethiopia to enhance its climate resilience efforts.

NBE opens banking . . .

proclamation has provided the regulatory body with additional jurisdiction and resolution authority, while also opening the financial sector to foreign companies.

"It has outlined the process for addressing crises at individual banks," he noted.

While the proclamation mentions the establishment of new banks, the governor indicated that a forthcoming directive will impose further licensing criteria.

"We believe that through cooperation, the new proclamation will strengthen domestic banks," he stated.

He also informed Capital that the banking business declaration, which will be supported by various rules and directives, aims to address merger and acquisition issues.

"It is true that unless foreign banks introduce new business practices and products, the Ethiopian financial industry will remain dominated by domestic institutions," Mamo asserted.

He emphasized that the main focus for both proclamations in the near future will be the implementation of supporting laws.

According to the new NBE establishment

proclamation, individuals who use cryptocurrency or other digital currencies for payments without NBE approval could face up to three years in prison.

Furthermore, the proclamation includes penalties for violators, with a maximum sentence of three years for those who fail to comply with the new laws.

Desalegn Wedajo, chair of the parliament's Plan, Budget, and Finance Standing Committee, explained that a new subarticle was introduced to penalize individuals who misapply laws related to the forex market.

A new transitional clause requiring the government to repay any loans received from the central bank was added to the proclamation.

The NBE is authorized to provide temporary overdraft facilities to the central government, which shall not exceed fifteen percent of the average annual domestic revenue of the general government from the previous three fiscal years.

Although this provision is not new, it was revoked in the 591 proclamation issued 17 years ago.

Ethiopia to revitalize . . .

Continued from page 1

Workers' Party of Ethiopia (Derg).

"The drive to initiate the Alwero Dam and similar projects, including Omo Ratti in Lower Omo, stemmed from the drought and hunger experienced in the mid-1980s," he told Capital, despite numerous studies advocating for irrigation agricultural practices.

According to Fasika, a corporation was intended to be established to manage the facility and support outgrower farmers, with plans to develop 10,000 hectares in the first phase.

Local farmers and resettled individuals were to serve as outgrowers and workers for the new joint corporation, as indicated by the chief economic official at the time.

"The plan was to employ local and resettled laborers to cultivate crops using the irrigation system for the industry that would be established in the area," he explained.

He further stated that the USSR and Ethiopian governments collaborated to finance the dam's construction, primarily for cotton cultivation.

"The Agriculture Corporation was responsible for its administration," Fasika recounted.

According to Abraham Belay, Minister of MILLS, the ministry is working to maximize the use of the facility, which is currently managed by the central government. A year and a half ago, the Office of the Federal Auditor General reported that the Alewro Dam, which cost 648 million birr to construct, was idle.

During a parliamentary session a week ago, Abraham addressed questions from members of parliament, stating that his ministry is implementing significant changes to rectify numerous ongoing disinfection projects, some of which have been in progress for over a decade.

"We are also conducting a study to revive some abandoned projects, such as Alwero, which have remained incomplete for decades," he continued.

Abraham informed Capital that the country stands to fully benefit from the facility that could expand to over 10,000 hectares and is currently assisting the local population in developing more than 3,000 hectares of land.

He stated, "We have completed the assessment needed for maintenance."

He explained to Capital that the ministry, responsible for overseeing the facility, is transforming it into a project to initiate the rehabilitation process and unlock its intended potential.

Abraham added that the facility will benefit not only the local population but also investors interested in agricultural ventures.

According to observers like journalist Wudineh Zenebe, who has closely monitored the dam's development for years, there are several private sector interests looking to utilize the dam for agricultural purposes, most of which have not been successful.

"Even though the government has granted them permission to use the public facility, I have noticed that investors are primarily focused on rain-fed agriculture," Wudineh told Capital.

Abraham noted that Alwero will soon undergo development.

MILLS Effort

The current administration has placed greater emphasis on expanding irrigation-based agricultural methods compared to previous administrations.

When the former MILLS minister addressed the house in the fourth quarter of the last fiscal year, lawmakers expressed their dissatisfaction with the ministry's handling of projects. They urged the government to take swift action to address the unfinished projects initiated by the previous administration.

During last week’s meeting, lawmakers reiterated their concerns, raising several issues related to existing projects and MILLS activities.

Abraham, who took on the role months ago, stated that significant changes are being implemented to redirect the previous course.

With assistance from the FAO, around 30 standards for design, construction, and procurement have been established to ensure project consistency. Prominent universities and the Ethiopian Standard Institute have also contributed to the development of these standards, which “will be fully implemented in the coming budget year.”

He pointed out that construction projects had been initiated without completing essential paperwork, such as pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, resulting in scope changes, delays, and increased project costs within the industry.

"We are quickly updating the designs of 21 active construction projects that cannot be halted or returned, but starting next year, we will initiate new projects in accordance with the new standards," the Minister stated.

The ministry is currently working on projects valued at 120 billion birr. While the actual budget allocation is eight billion birr, an estimated 40 billion birr is required to operate the projects for the current budget year alone.

Abraham, who appreciated the Ministry of Finance's efforts to maintain a strong cash flow through regular allocations, stated, "We prioritize completing projects that have faced delays for years over starting new projects, given our available resources."

He stated that, in addition to several instances of improper management, one of the main causes of the delays is the contractors' inability to effectively manage projects and contracts.

"We have evaluated the situation and made bold decisions regarding the termination of contracts on some major projects," he said.

"There are two key issues at the ministry: one is the lack of capacity to oversee projects, and the other is the absence of an administrative structure to regulate such large ongoing projects," he explained when discussing the gaps in his office.

With approval from the Federal Civil Service Commission, a new and unconventional structure for public institutions has been established to address some of the delayed projects.

According to Abraham, "a project management office has been created to closely monitor projects on-site, equipped with the necessary manpower and work practices, and it reports directly to the minister."

ICO Indicator prices (US cents/lb) 19-Dec-24				
I-CIP	Colombian Milds	Other Milds	Brazilian Naturals	Robusta
299.81	339.10	341.32	327.21	238.92
-3.74%	-4.26%	-4.38%	-4.85%	-1.59%
*1lb=0.45kg				

Ethiopia intensifies efforts to combat Mycetoma, a Neglected Tropical Disease

By our staff reporter

Ethiopia is stepping up its fight against mycetoma, a neglected tropical disease (NTD) that poses significant health challenges for many individuals, particularly in rural areas. Characterized by chronic deformities and tissue destruction, mycetoma has largely been overlooked in terms of research and treatment, leaving countless patients without the care they need.

Mycetoma, often referred to as "Madura foot," is caused by either bacterial or fungal infections, with the latter being more prevalent in Africa. The disease primarily affects populations engaged in agriculture and livestock herding, where exposure to contaminated soil and animal dung is common. It manifests as large, tumor-like swellings on the skin, typically on the feet, which can develop into chronic wounds and may ultimately require amputation.

Ethiopia lies within the "mycetoma belt," a region extending between latitudes 15° S and 30° N where the disease is endemic. Common pathogens include *Madurella mycetomatis* and various actinomycetes. Despite its serious consequences, basic epidemiological data on mycetoma remains scarce, leading to

an underestimation of its global burden.

The story of Meles, a patient from the Amhara Region diagnosed with mycetoma at the age of seven, illustrates the profound impact of this disease. After enduring over 20 years of suffering and multiple surgeries, Meles is now unable to support his family. His experience highlights not only the physical pain associated with mycetoma but also the significant social and economic burdens faced by patients.

One of the critical issues surrounding mycetoma in Ethiopia is its under-diagnosis. Many patients present late to healthcare facilities after years of suffering due to a lack of awareness and limited access to medical care. This delay can lead to severe complications, including chronic osteomyelitis, complicating treatment and recovery efforts. Diagnostic facilities capable of differentiating between bacterial and fungal origins are limited, resulting in many patients receiving inadequate treatment.

To effectively address the burden of mycetoma, experts advocate for a comprehensive national strategy that includes improved reporting, diagnosis, and management of the disease. Establishing

a routine program to document cases and developing clear treatment guidelines are crucial steps towards effective management. Additionally, systematic studies are needed to determine the exact prevalence and impact of mycetoma across Ethiopia.

Advocacy efforts have gained momentum since the World Health Organization recognized mycetoma as a neglected tropical disease in 2016. Collaborative initiatives led by organizations such as the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) aim to raise awareness and invest in research to develop safe and effective treatments that can prevent disability and improve patients' quality of life.

Recent clinical trials have shown promise in treating mycetoma with drugs like fosravuconazole and itraconazole. These findings could pave the way for more effective treatment regimens that are easier for patients to manage. Ongoing efforts to register these treatments in Ethiopia and expand access are vital for ensuring that patients receive necessary care.

Moreover, initiatives like the Mycetoma Open Source project (MycetOS) aim to foster collaborative research efforts globally, focusing on discovering new

treatments for mycetoma. By engaging researchers from various backgrounds, this project seeks to accelerate drug discovery and provide innovative solutions to combat this neglected disease.

Mycetoma remains a significant public health challenge in Ethiopia, affecting countless lives and communities. Addressing this disease requires concerted efforts from healthcare providers, policymakers, and researchers to develop effective strategies for diagnosis, treatment, and awareness. By shedding light on mycetoma and advocating for those affected, Ethiopia can take critical steps toward alleviating the burden of this devastating disease and improving the lives of its patients.

As Ethiopia continues its proactive approach to tackling mycetoma through comprehensive strategies and collaborative initiatives, there is hope for better treatment options and support systems for individuals living with this debilitating condition. The commitment to addressing this neglected tropical disease reflects a growing recognition of the need for improved healthcare infrastructure and resources dedicated to public health challenges in the region.



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The city where shopkeepers fear their CCTV could get them killed

Shop owners in Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, are caught between a rock and a hard place over a government directive that they install CCTV cameras outside their businesses to intensify surveillance of Islamist insurgents who have a strong presence in the city. The businessmen say if they put up the cameras they risk being gunned down by the al-Shabab insurgents, and if they do not, they could be arrested by the police...The government issued a directive last year to shopkeepers to install CCTV cameras - at their own cost - to deter attacks by al-Shabab...The government has now ordered residents to install the cameras outside homes and apartment blocks, raising fears among many people that al-Shabab could bring its war into their homes. Since October, al-Shabab has killed four businessmen in 10 attacks related to the installation of CCTV cameras, according to a leading violence monitoring group, Armed Conflict Location & Event Data (Acled).

(BBC)

Sudan Clashes Intensify amid Mounting Civilian Toll

Sudan's civil war shows no signs of abating, with intense fighting reported across multiple fronts over the past 72 hours. Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) warplanes carried out airstrikes

targeting paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) positions in scattered areas, while the RSF launched drone attacks and ground offensives against SAF strongholds...El Fasher, the capital of North Darfur, remains a flashpoint. SAF forces reported destroying 13 RSF combat vehicles and killing dozens of fighters during artillery strikes and air raids, on Sunday. An RSF infiltration attempt on the city's southeastern outskirts was repelled after prolonged skirmishes.

(Dabanga)

Erdogan to Visit Ethiopia, Somalia in Early 2025 after Brokering Deal

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan will visit Ethiopia and Somalia early next year after brokering a deal to end tensions between the two Horn of Africa neighbors, he said on X Sunday...The pair agreed to end their nearly yearlong bitter dispute after hours of talks brokered by Erdogan...The dispute began in January when landlocked Ethiopia struck a deal with Somalia's breakaway region Somaliland to lease a stretch of coastline for a port and military base. In return, Somaliland — which declared independence from Somalia in 1991 in a move not recognized by Mogadishu — said Ethiopia would give it formal recognition... Turkey stepped in to mediate in July, holding three previous rounds of talks — two in Ankara and one in New York — before last week's breakthrough, which won praise from the African Union, Washington and Brussels.

(AFP)

Syrian Refugees in Somalia Hope to Return Home

Since the Syrian civil war broke out more than a decade ago, Syrians have fled to countries in the Middle East and Europe, as well as to African countries that have been grappling with instability. Many Syrian refugees found themselves in Somalia, a war-torn nation in the Horn of Africa that has faced terrorist attacks, piracy and humanitarian crises...There is no official data on the number of Syrian refugees living in Somalia, but officials estimate it to be in the thousands. Syrians who found refuge in Somalia said the two countries' history of amicable relations drove them. The Syrians say Somalis' friendliness toward refugees and Somalia's lack of visa restrictions also drew them to Mogadishu and other major cities in the country. In return, the Syrian refugees, which include doctors, nurses, engineers, chefs, technicians, and teachers among their ranks, have enriched Somalia culturally and economically because of the knowledge and skillsets they brought with them.

– (VOA)

Pirates Demand \$10 Million in Ransom after Hijacking Chinese-owned Fishing Vessel with 18 Captives

The pirates who hijacked a Chinese-

owned fishing vessel with 18 crew off the northeastern coast of Somalia last month are demanding \$10 million in ransom, according to a Somali official. The hijackers also shared photos on social media of their captives surrounded by armed men on the ship's deck. The vessel was hijacked in late November and taken to Xaafuun district in the semi-autonomous state of Puntland, where it is being held along with the captives. The ship's security guards later joined forces with the armed men from the coastal region. A Somali government official said the vessel was issued with a fishing license by Puntland in 2020, but the license had expired...The hijacking underscores the persistent challenges of maritime security in Somalia's waters.

– (AP)

Term _____ of the Day

INFERIOR GOOD

» Definition

An inferior good is an economic term that describes a good whose demand drops when people's incomes rise. These goods fall out of favor as incomes and the economy improve as consumers begin buying more costly substitutes instead.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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Required Document	<div><div></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ A detailed profile/CV➤ Renewed trade license for the current fiscal year➤ Certificate of competence issued by the Accounting and Auditing Board of Ethiopia (AABE)➤ Clear audit fee proposal, specifying whether VAT is included or not➤ Proposed timeline for completing the audit and preparing IPSAS-based financial statements➤ Demonstrated experience in auditing international and local NGOs, as well as other developmental organizations➤ Proven expertise in preparing IPSAS-based financial statements, with a minimum of three years of experience working with international and local NGOs.</div></div>
Minimum Years of Experience	<div><div></div><div>➤ 3 Years</div></div>
Application Deadline	<div><div></div><div>➤ December 27, 2024</div></div>

➤ Salary:	As per the company scale	requirements are invited to apply to the following email Msahid27@gmail.com . For more information about our organization, please contact Mr. Mohammed Sahid, General Manager Mobile +251-945-423-539
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INVITATION FOR COMPETITIVE BIDDING

<p>Bid Number: BID-2024-25-004</p> <p>Hibret Insurance invites eligible and interested bidders for the provision of Digital Media Management Services through an open competitive bidding process.</p> <p>1. Eligibility Criteria:</p> <p>Interested bidders must be legally licensed to provide digital media management and related services. Bidders should submit a valid and renewed business license, Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), and VAT registration certificates.</p> <p>2. Bidding Process:</p> <p>Bidding will be conducted on a competitive basis and is open to all eligible bidders who express interest in participating.</p> <p>3. Bid Documents:</p> <p>A complete set of bidding documents can be obtained from the Procurement and Property Administration office located at Churchill Road, Tewodros Square, Hibret Insurance Headquarters Building, 9th Floor.</p> <p>Interested and eligible bidders must submit both technical and financial proposals in sealed separate envelopes, including an electronic copy of the technical proposal on CD.</p> <p>4. Submission Details:</p> <p>4.1. Bidders must submit one original and one copy of their technical and financial proposals.</p> <p>4.2. All envelopes must be sealed and clearly marked as "Bid for Digital</p>	<p>Media Management Services for Hibret Insurance" and must include the full contact details of the bidder.</p> <p>5. Bid Submission Deadline:</p> <p>All proposals must be submitted to the address provided above by 06 January 2025 (until 10:00 am). The technical proposals will be opened on the same day at 10:30 am at the same location in the presence of bidders or their representatives who wish to attend. Late submissions will not be accepted.</p> <p>6. Bid Security:</p> <p>The bid must be accompanied by a bid security of Birr 50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Birr) in the form of a CPO (Cash Payment Order), Bank Guarantee, or Bid Bond.</p> <p>7. Additional Information:</p> <p>For any further inquiries, bidders may contact the Procurement and Property Administration office at +251 111 263434, Ext. 190 before the closing date of the bid.</p> <p>8. Right to Reject:</p> <p>Hibret Insurance reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in part or in full.</p> <p>Hibret Insurance Churchill Road, Tewodros Square, 9th Floor Telephone: +251 111 263434, Ext. 190 Website: www.hibretinsurance.com</p>
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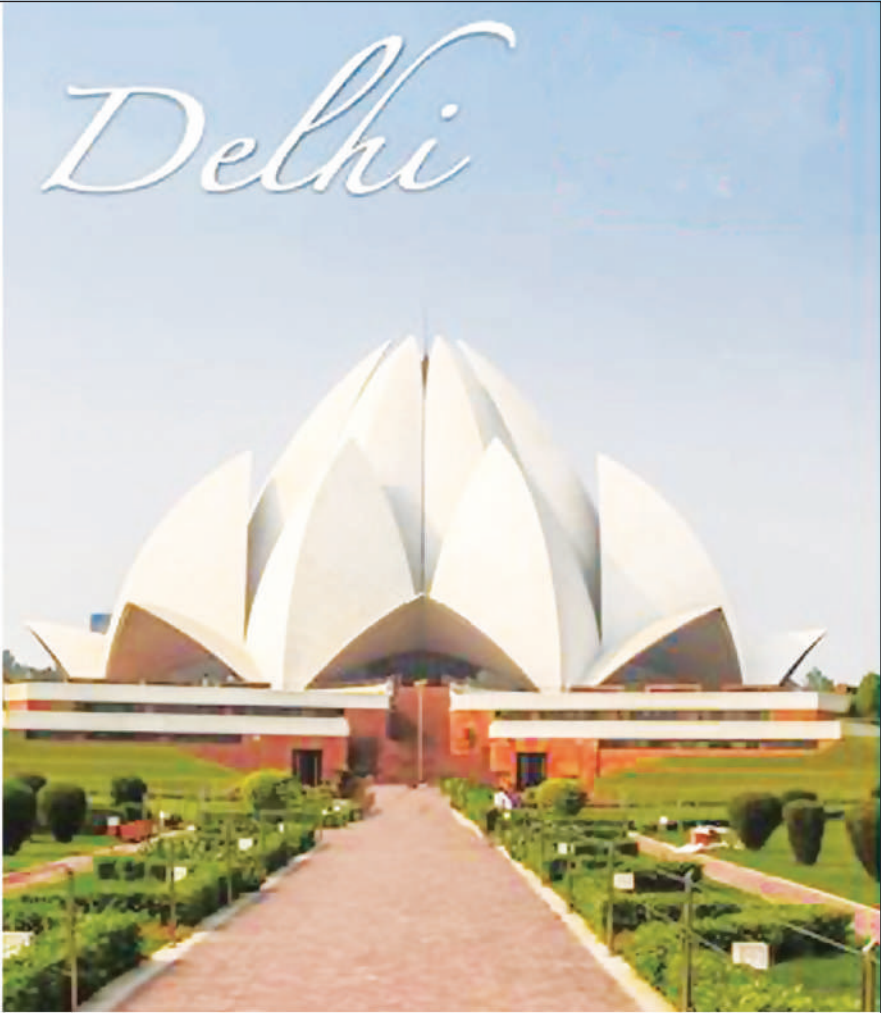
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I N T E R V I E W



Tulu Kapi's Impact on Ethiopia's Mining Future

In this interview, we have the opportunity to speak with Harry Anagnostaras-Adams, the Executive Chairman of KEFI Gold and Copper. With a wealth of experience in the mining sector and a strong background in finance, Harry has been instrumental in driving the development of the Tulu Kapi Gold Project in Ethiopia. As we dig into the details of KEFI's operations, Harry will share insights on the significance of Tulu Kapi within Ethiopia's mining landscape, the company's recent initiatives to raise funds through share issuance, and the strategies in place to ensure community engagement and environmental sustainability. Join us as we explore Harry's vision for the future of mining in Ethiopia and the potential impact of KEFI's work on local communities and the broader economy.

Capital: Can you provide an overview of Tulu Kapi Gold Mines (Tulu Kapi) and its significance in the Ethiopian mining sector?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: Tulu Kapi is one of Ethiopia's first industrial scale minerals development projects designed to the highest 21st century standards technically, socially, environmentally and financially.

Of the total \$500 million financing package from its discovery through to production, the largest single piece is \$240 million from leading African development banks. These institutions impose very demanding standards. Tulu Kapi is therefore a showcase project, the success of which could allow Ethiopia to win a more significant share of the \$180 billion invested annually globally in development within the minerals sector. For any country

to win a good share of that capital allocation, it needs to show good examples of world class projects with transparency and compliance with the most stringent international standards. I believe this will happen and within 5 years, Ethiopian gold exports alone can grow to be triple that of today's largest export sector – coffee

Capital: KEFI Gold and Copper has recently issued its shares to raise funds. What prompted this decision, and how do you see it impacting the future?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: Actually the company merely expanded its number of shares to raise funds from its shareholders. This is exactly in accordance with standard practice and the business model of all explorer-

developers pending the launch of their first production operation. It has always been planned for shareholders' funds to be injected as the company meets milestones along its journey starting with minerals exploration, through development and into production and cash flow generation.

KEFI is one of thousands of explorer/developers around the world who are funded in this manner pending the commencement of production. In fact, the explorer/developers make the vast majority of discoveries in the world and the industry would not continue to progress without them.

The Ethiopia Stock Exchange may well encourage companies like this to form locally, as a means to encourage exploration. If there is no exploration then it

follows that there will be no discovery. If there is no discovery then of course there can be no development or production.

Capital: Explain KEFI reporting a loss of approximately \$6.1 million over the last fiscal year. How does this reflect on the Company’s performance?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: KEFI has made successful discoveries and acquisitions, the value of which far exceeds the amounts recognized in our accounting reports. This is because KEFI’s accounting policy is to write off all exploration expenditure until we commit to development of a project. This is a conservative policy and, if we capitalized onto our books the market value of our projects, then we would not be reporting accounting losses.

Capital: The issuance of 1.9 billion additional shares is significant. How do you plan to use the funds raised from this issuance?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: The funds total approximately \$15 million and are to pay for costs already incurred and more being incurred to complete of the Early Works at Tulu Kapi. Early Works include the preparation of security systems and preparations of the community for compensation and resettlement. Unlike many other comparable projects, Tulu Kapi cannot commence Major Works until the community is first properly and smoothly resettled to agreed new locations.

Capital: What is the current timeline for launching major works at the Tulu Kapi project? Are there any specific conditions that need to be met before construction can commence?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: The Government and the major banks have agreed to complete their essential approval formalities during this month. That will allow us to then confirm final costings for the fixed price lump sum commitments on construction and on community, get independent certification of safety and community readiness in accordance with the relevant standards referred to earlier, complete any other regulatory or legal formalities and then we commence Major Works. This is all in planned for early 2025

Capital: Given past security issues that have affected operations, what measures are being implemented to ensure the safety of your staff and the project site?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: As a matter of historical record, in the 20 years of having an exploration and development base at Tulu Kapi, the company has never incurred a serious injury on any employee. This safety record results from a strict adherence to comprehensive policies of ensuring safety. Our safety systems include that we treat the Tulu Kapi district as a high-risk “red zone” and In addition the Government provides security protection

Capital: Is it true that the Oromia regional administration has issued a final warning regarding development, capital or any other requirements?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: No. We have no idea what this refers to. The company has received no such warning nor any correspondence relating to this or any other regulatory matter. As regards compliance, we are in continual communication with all relevant government agencies and maintain a very close working relationship on all matters.

Capital: How does Tulu Kapi plan to engage with local communities in Wollega? What initiatives are in place to ensure that local populations benefit from the mining activities?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: We have developed policies and procedures based on compliance with all Ethiopian laws and also World Bank IFC Performance Standards. We have already provided a school to year 12, local water supply and local employment at our camp and community liaison officers. You have established the Tulu Kapi Charitable Endowment for social development programs which has recently provided malaria relief to the local community.

Capital: Mining operations often raise environmental concerns. What steps are you taking to minimize its environmental impact and promote sustainable practices?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: Our independent base line studies established ground conditions before we commenced project work. We will monitor regularly and report transparently so that there are no concerns due to lack of information. Our processes are designed to contain and re-circulate within the system any industrial reagents used and to avoid any contamination

Capital: Beyond Tulu Kapi, KEFI is looking into additional concessions for lithium, tantalum, and rare earth metals in Ethiopia. Can you elaborate on these plans and their potential benefits?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: Ethiopia is blessed with many minerals required for modern society’s existence. Electrification of the world is almost a revolutionary phase throughout the world’s economies. Copper, nickel, cobalt, tantalum, lithium are in heavy demand. Ethiopia has indications of world class potential in these minerals but is under explored.

The comparison with similar geological terrain in Western Australia suggest that the Ethiopia minerals sector could be expanded to exports of \$40 billion per annum. Yet there has been negligible modern exploration. It is easy to imagine material benefits to Ethiopia if the minerals and minerals processing sectors provided even a fraction of the hypothetically potential \$40 billion per annum export revenues, in comparison with 2023 total Ethiopian exports of \$6 bill from all sectors combined. Imagine the benefits of exports significantly exceeding imports!

Capital: How do you envision the future of mining in Ethiopia, particularly in light of KEFI’s operations? What challenges and opportunities do you foresee in the coming years?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: The gold industry, the potash industry and certain other sectors can be significant contributors within just a few years. Ethiopia produces efficient renewable or “green” electricity. One can easily imagine many value-adding activities by processing here the mineral products that sustain modern society. Society needs materials for its existence and Ethiopia has a competitive advantage for supply of some of these required materials both in a semi-processed and a refined value-added state.

KEFI is ambitious and wants to make a contribution. At the same time, we want to continue to Ethiopianise by emphasizing alliances with strong local shareholders in both the government and private sectors. And we want our personnel to reach minimum 95% Ethiopian as soon as practically possible. Eventually we should become 100% Ethiopian staffed of we achieve our long-term objectives.

Capital: With recent financial challenges of the international mining sector, how do you plan to maintain investor confidence? What message would you like to convey to current and potential investors?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: There are thousands of explorer/developers in the minerals sector and the many do not succeed. It is a very challenging and high-risk business. KEFI itself has made discoveries and acquisitions during a very weak past decade in the capital markets for the minerals sector. This is a cyclical phenomenon and metal prices have recently turned around. Plus we have used the past decade to get development-ready. The next decade will be much easier than the past decade.

As you can hear, we are very proud that KEFI has made discoveries and turned around troubled development opportunities in the frontier markets for the modern minerals sector of Saudi Arabia and Ethiopia. And we are very proud to now have attracted to Ethiopia’s Tulu Kapi international and local investors of highest standing achieved against a backdrop of quite challenging local market conditions in Ethiopia. But we are the first to say...this is a challenging business. It is a very high value add and needs investors who understand the challenges and rely on professional technical work for success?

Capital: What is your long-term vision for Tulu Kapi and KEFI Gold and Copper? How do you plan to position the company within the competitive landscape of mining in Africa?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: KEFI is focused o the Arabian Nubian Shield geology for the time being and developing Tulu Kapi is our next major milestone. Based on analogous projects elsewhere in the world, we are confident that Tulu Kapi will extend its resources and reserves and produce gold for a decade or two. The Tulu Kapi work force will be trained to the highest industry standards and there will be many opportunities for advancement within the company and within other companies that join us in the Ethiopian industry. The local suppliers of the multitude of inputs for the operation will have the opportunity to develop long term sustainable businesses far beyond the 10-20 year life of Tulu Kapi.

We are ambitious people. We did not come here just to build and operate Tulu Kapi. As Ethiopia opens up more opportunities for exploration and development, we will do our best to make a contribution to the highest standards of integrity and social responsibility.

Capital: As a leader in this sector, what advice would you give to emerging mining companies looking to establish themselves in Ethiopia or similar markets?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: Be focused, work hard and do not compromise the standards one should apply

Capital: Is there anything else you would like to share about Tulu Kapi or KEFI Gold and Copper that we haven’t covered in this interview?

Harry Anagnostaras-Adams: Mining is a long game, but also delivers a long future. Our products and services are at the heart of modern society and therefore our processes and practices need to advance with society’s standards and expectations in all respects in order to serve its role properly and responsibly.

We feel very confident about the industry’s future in Ethiopia and we will do our best to contribute wherever we can properly do so.





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EMIRATES BUSINESS





ለግሎባል ባንክ ኢትዮጵያ አ.ማ. ባለአክሲዮኖች የተደረገ የጠቅላላ ጉባኤ ጥሪ

የግሎባል ባንክ ኢትዮጵያ አ.ማ. ባለአክሲዮኖች 11ኛ እና 12ኛ መደበኛ ጠቅላላ ጉባኤዎች በኢትዮጵያ የንግድ ሕግ አንቀጽ 366(1)፣367፣370፣371(1)፤ እና 393 እንዲሁም በባንኩ መመስረቻ ጽሁፍ አንቀጽ 20 እና 21 መሠረት ቅዳሜ ታኅሣሥ 19 ቀን 2017 ዓ.ም ከጠዋቱ 2:00 ሰዓት ጀምሮ ፒያሳ በሚገኘው የዓድዋ ድል መታሰቢያ አደራሽ ይካሄዳሉ፡፡ ስለሆነም የተከበራችሁ የባንኩ ባለአክሲዮኖች በአካል ወይም በሕጋዊ ወኪሎቻችሁ አማካይነት በተጠቀሰው ቀን እና ቦታ በጉባኤው ላይ እንድትገኙ የባንኩ የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ በአክብሮት ጥሪውን ያቀርባል፡፡

1. ስለ ባንኩ መግለጫ

- 1.1. የማህበሩ አድራሻ :- አዲስ አበባ ከተማ፣ ቂርቆስ ክ/ከተማ ፣ ወረዳ 07
- 1.2. የዋና ንግድ ምዝገባ ቁጥር:- KK/AA/3/005948/206
- 1.3. የባንክ ሥራ ፍቃድ ቁጥር:- ለለበ/018/20112
- 1.4. ይህ መግለጫ እስከተዘጋጀበት ድረስ የባንኩ የተፈረመ ካፒታል:- 3,155,501,000.00
- 1.5. ይህ መግለጫ እስከተዘጋጀበት ድረስ የባንኩ የተከፈለ ካፒታል:- 2,515,464,614.66
- 1.6. የባንኩ ድረ ገጽ:- <https://www.globalbankethiopia.com>

2. የ11 ኛ መደበኛ ጠቅላላ ጉባኤ አጀንዳዎች

- 2.1. የጉባኤውን አጀንዳ ማጽደቅ፤
- 2.2. እ.ኤ.አ በ2022/23 የተከናወኑ የአክሲዮን ዝውውሮችንና አዳዲስ አክሲዮኖች ሽያጭ ማሳወቅ፤
- 2.3. እ.ኤ.አ የ2022/23 የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ ሪፖርት ማድመጥ፤
- 2.4. እ.ኤ.አ የ2022/23 የውጭ አዲተሮችን ሪፖርት ማድመጥ፤
- 2.5. በተራ ቁጥር 2.3 ላይ በቀረበው የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ ሪፖርት ላይ ተወያይቶ ማፅደቅ፤
- 2.6. በተራ ቁጥር 2.4 ላይ በቀረበው የውጭ አዲተሮች ሪፖርት ላይ ተወያይቶ ማፅደቅ፤
- 2.7. እ.ኤ.አ የ2022/23 የተጣራ ትርፍ ድልድል ላይ ተወያይቶ ማፅደቅ፤
- 2.8. በብሔራዊ ባንክ መመሪያ ቁጥር SBB/86/2023 መሠረት የውጭ አዲተሮችን ሹመት እንደገና ማጽደቅ፤
- 2.9. የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ አባላትን ዓመታዊ የስራ ዋጋና ወርሃዊ አበል ክፍያ መወሰን፤
- 2.10. የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ ጥቆማና ምርጫ አፈፃፀም መመሪያን ማፅደቅ፤
- 2.11. ጊዜያዊ አስመራጭ ኮሚቴን ማቋቋምና የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ አባላትን ምርጫ ማካሄድ፤
- 2.12. የጉባኤውን ቃለጉባኤ ማጽደቅ ናቸው፡፡

3. የ12ኛ መደበኛ ጠቅላላ ጉባኤ አጀንዳዎች

- 3.1. የጉባኤውን አጀንዳ ማጽደቅ፤
- 3.2. እ.ኤ.አ በ2023/24 የተከናወኑ የአክሲዮን ዝውውሮችንና አዳዲስ አክሲዮኖች ሽያጭ ማሳወቅ፤
- 3.3. እ.ኤ.አ የ2023/24 የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ ዓመታዊ ሪፖርት ማድመጥ፤
- 3.4. እ.ኤ.አ የ2023/24 የውጭ አዲተሮችን ዓመታዊ ሪፖርት ማድመጥ፤
- 3.5. በተራ ቁጥር 3.3 ላይ በቀረበው የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ ሪፖርት ላይ ተወያይቶ ማፅደቅ፤
- 3.6. በተራ ቁጥር 3.4 ላይ በቀረበው የውጭ አዲተሮች ሪፖርት ላይ ተወያይቶ ማፅደቅ፤
- 3.7. እ.ኤ.አ የ2023/24 የተጣራ ትርፍ ድልድል እና አከፋፈል ላይ ተወያይቶ ማፅደቅ፤
- 3.8. በብሔራዊ ባንክ መመሪያ ቁጥር SBB/86/2023 መሠረት የውጭ አዲተሮችን ሹመት እንደገና ማጽደቅ፤
- 3.9. የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ አባላትን ወርሃዊ አበል እና ዓመታዊ ክፍያ መወሰን፤
- 3.10. የጉባኤውን ቃለጉባኤ ማጽደቅ ናቸው፡፡

4. ማሳሰቢያ:-

- 4.1. በጉባኤው ላይ በአካል መገኘት የማይችሉ ባለአክሲዮኖች ይህ የጥሪ ማስታወቂያ ከወጣበት ቀን ጀምሮ እስከ ታኅሣሥ18 ቀን 2017 ዓ.ም ከቀኑ 10:00 ሰዓት ድረስ ከኢትዮጵያ ሆቴል በስተጀርባ ናሽናል ታወር ከሚገኘው የባንኩ ዋና መስሪያ ቤት 9ኛ ፎቅ ፋይናንስና አካውንቲንግ መምሪያ አክሲዮን (ሼር) ክፍል በመገኘት የወክልና ቅጽ በመሙላት ወይም ውል ለማዋዋል ሥልጣን ካለው አካል በጉባኤው ላይ ለመገኘት እና ድምጽ ለመስጠት የሚያስችል የተሰጠ የውክልና ማስረጃ ዋናውንና አንድ ቅጅ ይዞ በመምጣት በጉባኤው ላይ መሳተፍ የሚችሉ መሆኑን በአክብሮት እየገለፅን የባንኩ የአክሲዮን ባለቤቶች እራሳቸው መጥተው በጉባኤው ላይ እንዲሳተፉ እናበረታታለን፡፡
- 4.2. በጉባኤው ላይ በአካል የምትገኙ ባለአክሲዮኖችም ሆናችሁ ወኪሎች የባለአክሲዮኖች ኢትዮጵያዊነት የሚያረጋግጥ የታደሰ የቀበሌ መታወቂያ፤ ፓስፖርት ወይም መንጃ ፍቃድ ይዛችሁ እንድትቀርቡ፤ እንዲሁም ትውልደ ኢትዮጵያውያን የውጭ ዜግነት ያላቸው የባንኩ ባለአክሲዮኖች ይህንኑ የሚያረጋግጥ ቀኑ ያላለፈበት መታወቂያ (ቢጫ ካርድ) ይዘው መቅረብ እንዳለባቸው እናሳውቃለን፡፡
- 4.3. በተጨማሪም የድርጅት ተወካዮች፤ የድርጅቱ ሥራ አስኪያጅ ወይም ተመሳሳይ የሃላፊነት ደረጃ ላይ ያሉ መሆናቸውን የሚያረጋግጥ ማስረጃ ወይም ድርጅቱን ወክለው እንዲገኙ የሚያረጋግጥ የተመዘገበ ቃለጉባኤ ወይም ውል ለማዋዋል ሥልጣን ካለው አካል የተሰጠ የውክልና ሰነድ ይዘው መቅረብ ያለባቸው መሆኑን እንገልጻለን፡፡
- 4.4. በኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ባንክ መመሪያ ቁጥር SBB/91/2024 አንቀጽ 20(3) መሠረት የባንኩ የቦርድ አባላት እና ሠራተኞች በየትኛውም የባለአክሲዮኖች ጉባኤ ላይ ማንኛውንም ባለአክሲዮን ወክለው መሳተፍ አይችሉም፡፡

የግሎባል ባንክ ኢትዮጵያ አ.ማ.
የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ



ግሎባል ባንክ ኢትዮጵያ አ.ማ. ባለአክሲዮኖች በሙሉ

የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ አባላት ጥቆማና ምርጫ መስፈርት ለማሳወቅ የወጣ ማስታወቂያ

ግሎባል ባንክ ኢትዮጵያ አ.ማ. ታህሳስ 19 ቀን 2017 ዓ.ም ፒያሳ በሚገኘው የዓድዋ ድል መታሰቢያ የስብሰባ አዳራሽ በሚያካሂደው 11ኛ የባለአክሲዮኖች መደበኛ ጠቅላላ ጉባኤ ላይ የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ አባላት ምርጫን ያካሂዳል።

በመሆኑም በኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ባንክ መመሪያ ቁጥር SBB/91/2024 አንቀጽ 9(3) መሠረት የጥቆማና ምርጫ መስፈርት ምርጫው ከሚካሄድበት ቀን አንድ ወር በፊት ባለአክሲዮኖች መገለጽ እንዳለበት በሚደነግገው አግባብ የሚከተሉትን መስፈርቶች የሚያሟሉ ዕጩዎችን በስብሰባው ዕለት መጠቀምና መምረጥ እንድትችሉ ለመላው የባንክችን ባለአክሲዮኖች ጥሪያችንን እናቀርባለን።

የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ አባል ሆኖ ለመመረጥ ዕጩዎች ማሟላት ያለባቸው መስፈርቶች

1. የቦርድ አባላት ምርጫ ከሚደረግበት ዕለት ሁለት ዓመታት በፊት የባንኩ ባለአክሲዮን የሆነ፤
2. የቦርድ አባል ሆኖ ለመሥራት ሙሉ ፍቃደኛ የሆነና ኃላፊነቱን በአግባቡ ለመወጣት በቂ ጊዜ ያለው፤
3. ቢያንስ የመጀመሪያ ዲግሪ ያለው ወይም ተመጣጣኝ የትምህርት ደረጃ እውቅና ካለው ከፍተኛ የትምህርት ተቋም ያገኘ፤
4. ከባንክ ሥራ ጋር ተዛማጅነት ባላቸው መስኮች ማለትም በባንኪንግ፣ በፋይናንስ፣ በሪስክ ማጥፋት፣ በአካውንቲንግ፣ በማኔጅመንት፣ በኢኮኖሚክስ፣ በሕግ፣ በቢዝነስ አድሚኒስትሬሽን፣ በኦዲት፣ በኢንፎርሜሽን ቴክኖሎጂ፣ በኢንቨስትመንት ማጥፋት፣ በማህበራዊና አካባቢ ጥበቃ፣ በዘላቂነት (Sustainability) እና በተዛማጅ የሙያ ዘርፍ ቢያንስ 7 (ሰባት) ዓመት የሥራ ልምድ ያለው፤
5. ከዳይሬክተር የሚፈለጉ ግዴታዎችን ለመወጣት ከጥቅም ግጭቶች ነጻና ገለልተኛ በመሆን ከሌሎች የቦርድ አባላት ጋር በአብሮነት መሥራት የሚችል እና ጥሩ ተግባራት ያለው፤
6. ዕድሜው 30 ዓመትና ከዚያ በላይ የሆነ፤
7. ሃቀኛ፣ ታማኝ እና መልካም ዝና ያለው፣ በተለይም በማጭበርበር፣ እምነት በማጉደል፣ ትክክለኛ ያልሆነ የሂሳብ መግለጫ በማቅረብና በመሳሰሉት ተከሶ በፍ/ቤት የጥፋተኝነት ውሳኔ ተሰጥቶበት የማያውቅ፤
8. በሌላ የፋይናንስ ተቋም የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ አባል ወይም ዋና ሥራ አስፈጻሚ ወይም ሠራተኛ ያልሆነ፤
9. በራሱ ወይም በሚመራው ወይም ዳይሬክተር በሆነበት ድርጅት ላይ የመክሰር ክስ ያልቀረበበት ወይም የኪሳራ ውሳኔ ያልተሰጠበት፤
10. ከአራት በላይ በሆኑ ተቋማት ውስጥ በቦርድ ዳይሬክተርነት እየሰራ ያልሆነ፤
11. በኪሳራ ምክንያት ንብረቱ ለዕዳ ማቻቻነት ያልዋለበት፤
12. የባንክ ብድር ባለመክፈል ምክንያት ንብረቱ በሐራጅ ያልተሸጠ፣ ተከሶ ያልተፈረደበት ወይም እሱ የሚመራው ወይም ዳይሬክተር የሆነበት ድርጅት ከገንዘብ ተቋማት የተበደረውን ገንዘብ ባለመክፈል ብድሩ ወደ ጤናማ ያልሆነ የብድር ደረጃ ያልዞረበት/ያልገባበት፤
13. በቂ ስንቅ/ገንዘብ ሳይኖር ችክ ሰጥቶ ሂሳቡ ያልተዘጋበት፤
14. ግብር ባለመክፈል ተከሶ ጥፋተኛ ያልተባለ፤
15. በስብሰባው ዕለት የሚመረጠው ጊዜያዊ የቦርድ አስመራጭ ኮሚቴ አባል ያልሆነ፤
16. በኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ባንክ የወጡ መመሪያዎች ላይ የተገለጹት ሌሎች መመዘኛዎችን የሚያሟላ መሆን አለበት።

ማሳሰቢያ

- በተሻሻለው የባንኩ መመስረቻ ጽሑፍ መሠረት በአጠቃላይ የሚመረጡት የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ አባላት ቁጥር 9 ሲሆን፤ የምርጫው አፈጻጸምን በተመለከተ፡
 - 1/3ኛ የቦርድ አባላት ተፅዕኖ ፈጣሪ ባልሆኑ ባለአክሲዮኖች ተጠቁመው በእነዚሁ ባለአክሲዮኖች የሚመረጡ፤
 - 1/3ኛ የቦርድ አባላት በሁሉም ባለአክሲዮኖች ተጠቁመው በሁሉም ባለአክሲዮኖች የሚመረጡ፤
 - እንዲሁም 1/3ኛ የቦርድ አባላት በነባር ቦርድ ተጠቁመው በሁሉም ባለአክሲዮኖች የሚመረጡ ገለልተኛ ዳይሬክተሮችን (Independent Directors) በመምረጥ የሚከናወን ይሆናል።
- የገለልተኛ ቦርድ አባላት (Independent Directors) ዕጩዎች ጥቆማን ሳይጨምር የሁሉም ቦርድ አባላት ጥቆማና ምርጫ የሚካሄደው በመደበኛ ጠቅላላ ጉባኤው ዕለት ነው።
- በዕለቱ በመጀመሪያ የምርጫ ፖሊሲና ደንብ ከጸደቀ በኋላ አስመራጭ ኮሚቴ ይመረጣል።
- ባለአክሲዮኖች ጥቆማ ሲሰጡ ስለዕጩው የትምህርት ብቃትና የሥራ ልምድ፤ እንዲሁም የጠቋሚውን ማንነትና ያለውን የአክሲዮን መጠን በተመለከተ አጭር ማብራሪያ መስጠት አለባቸው።
- አንድ ባለአክሲዮን ራሱን በእጩነት መጠቀም ይችላል።
- አሁን ያሉ ዳይሬክተሮች ሕጉ በሚፈቅደው መሠረት በድጋሚ ሊመረጡ ይችላሉ።
- ከአጠቃላይ የቦርድ አባላት ውስጥ ቢያንስ ሁለት ሴቶች በቦርድ አባልነት መመረጥ አለባቸው።
- ቦርዱ በቂ የፆታ፣ የትምህርት ዝግጅትና የሥራ ልምድ ስብጥር ያለው ሊሆን ይገባል።
- ሁለት የባንኩ ሠራተኞች የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ አባል ሆነው ሊመረጡ ይችላሉ፤ ይህ ግን የማህበሩን ፀሐፊ አያካትትም።
- በወንድ ፆታ የተገለፀው ለሴት ፆታም ያገለግላል።

የማህበሩ ፀሐፊ

ግሎባል ባንክ ኢትዮጵያ አ.ማ.



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Customer Care 8966



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PROVISION OF SITE SUPERVISION AND ACCEPTANCE SERVICE

1. Introduction and Background		5.History of Non-Performing Contracts	- Supplier to declare whether non-performance of a contract did not occur as a result of Supplier default for the last 5 years.
Safaricom Ethiopia PLC is an incorporated company in Ethiopia, providing integrated telecommunications services. To support its ongoing expansion, Safaricom seeks to engage with prequalified, reputable suppliers who can demonstrate expertise in site rollout supervision and acceptance services. As such, Safaricom is inviting Expressions of Interest (EOI) from qualified suppliers interested in participating in this opportunity.		6.Litigation History	- Supplier to disclose any consistent history of court/arbitral award decisions against the Supplier for the last 3 years.
2. The EOI		7.Previous Experience	- Experience and Expertise Requirements: The Supplier must demonstrate at least 3 years of independent experience in building construction, power installation, telecommunication installation, site supervision, and acceptance. They should also provide evidence of their experience in managing the rollout of Greenfield GSM sites, FTK services, and services for multiple RAN OEM vendors (e.g., Ericsson, Huawei, Nokia, ZTE) covering design, planning, installation, integration, commissioning, and acceptance for multiple technologies (2G/3G/4G/5G). - Business and Client Evidence: The Supplier should list their principal place of business, countries where they have provided supervision and acceptance services, and relevant client references for similar services (including current projects) within the past 3 years.
This Expression of Interest (EOI) aims to identify reputable and qualified suppliers to assist Safaricom with site supervision and acceptance service following a new site build, change, expansion, colocation or upgrade by the Full Turnkey Vendor's or third-party vendor. Comprehensive details bid documents will be shared in a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, which will be issued to bidders who have been shortlisted (prequalified) through this EOI approach.			
3. Basic respondents (bidders) requirements			
1.Legal Status	- Supplier is a legally registered entity. (Commercial registration Certificate/Business Licence)	8.Financial Standing	- The supplier shall provide audited financial reports for the last three (3) years.
2. Eligibility	- Supplier to confirm that they are not suspended, nor debarred, nor otherwise identified as ineligible by any UN Organization or the World Bank Group or any other international Organization in accordance with definition.		(For JV/Consortium/Association, all Parties cumulatively should meet this requirement).
3. Supplier Certificates and Licenses (provide a Copy of the valid Certificate)	- The Supplier must have a local registered Private Limited Company, as registered through the applicable Ministry of Trade and/or Company Registrar in Ethiopia. If the Supplier is a foreign investor partnering with a local investor or Supplier, they must have submitted documentation to the Ethiopian Investment Agency (EIA) and obtained an investment permit to obtain a business license, as issued by the EIA. - The supplier must have a valid Business License in a relevant field of work including but not limited to building construction, power installation, telecommunication installation	4. Technical Requirements Interested suppliers should submit their responses based on the above detailed basic requirements .	
4. All Company Documents	- Company Profile, not exceeding twenty-five (25) pages for the relevant services. - Business Registration and/or Certificate of Incorporation - Tax Registration/ Payment Certificate issued by the Internal Revenue Authority evidencing that the Supplier is up to date with its tax payment obligations, or Certificate of Tax exemption, if any such privilege is enjoyed by the Supplier - Trade name registration papers, if applicable - VAT Certificate - Quality Certificate (e.g., ISO, etc.) and/or other similar certificates, accreditations, awards citations and certificates of competency received by the Supplier, if any - Environmental Compliance Certificates, Accreditations (e.g. ISO 14001, 14064) and other evidence of the Supplier's practices which contributes to the ecological sustainability and reduction of adverse environmental impact in its business practices - Local Government permit to locate and operate in Ethiopia - JV, Consortium or Association Agreement, if Supplier is submitting the expression of interest on behalf of another entity located in Ethiopia or outside the country.	5. Submission of Responses Interested suppliers should submit their responses to this EOI in soft copy addressed to bids@safaricom.et to reach out not later than December 26, 2024.	
		6. Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none">Review of submitted Expressions of Interest.Prequalification of shortlisted suppliers.Issuing of tender to prequalified suppliers.Awarding the successful bidder and signing a contract.	
		NOTE: <ol style="list-style-type: none">Only the suppliers who pass the prequalification will be considered for further RFP process.No prices should be provided with this EOI.Safaricom Telecommunications Ethiopia reserves, at its sole discretion, the right to select or reject, either in totality or partially, any or all proposals made in the context of this EOI. Any such decisions made will be final and no correspondence will be engaged, other than for the purpose of informing the bidders of the outcome of the process.Any costs associated with preparing and submitting the response to the EOI shall be borne by the respondent.	





DOCUMENTARY SHOW CELEBRATES THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MAITRE ARTIST AFEWERK TEKLE



A special documentary event honoring the life and legacy of Ethiopia's iconic artist, Maitre Artist Afewerk Tekle, took place on December 20, 2024, at the Alle School of Fine Arts and Design in Addis Ababa. This event was organized in collaboration with the Alle School of Fine Arts and Design and the Selamawi Rotary Ethiopia Peace Center, showcasing a commitment to celebrating Ethiopian heritage through art.

The documentary pays tribute to Afewerk Tekle, whose extraordinary contributions to Ethiopian art have left an indelible mark on the nation's cultural landscape.

Known for his vibrant paintings and murals that reflect Ethiopia's rich history, Afewerk is celebrated not only as an artist but also as a source of inspiration for generations. The event aimed to highlight his profound impact on Ethiopian culture while inspiring future artists to embrace their creative potential.

The event was particularly significant for the newly formed Rotaract Club of Alle, established just three months ago. With 42 passionate members from Ethiopia's creative industry, the club is dedicated to peace-building and community service through art and innovation. Their mission is to reshape the image of Rotary Ethiopia by leveraging creativity and action to make a lasting impact.

"This celebration is not just about honoring Afewerk Tekle; it's about recognizing the transformative power of art in our communities," said a member of the Rotaract Club. "We believe that creativity can foster dialogue, unity, and hope among diverse populations."

During the event, organizers emphasized their commitment to using art as a means of promoting peace and creativity as essential pillars for community development. By spotlighting Afewerk Tekle's legacy, they aim to inspire future generations to view art as a force for positive change.

"Through this celebration, we hope to honor Ethiopian heritage while also encouraging young artists to pursue their passions," said one of the event organizers.

The documentary not only showcased Afewerk's artistic achievements but also served as a platform for dialogue about the role of art in contemporary society. Attendees were encouraged to reflect on how creativity can be harnessed to address pressing social challenges and promote community cohesion.



4TH EHRC FILM FESTIVAL KICKS OFF IN 11 CITIES

The fourth edition of the Human Rights Film Festival, organized by the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC), officially commenced on December 13, 2024, in celebration of International Human Rights Day, observed annually on December 10. This year's festival will run until the end of December and is set to take place in 11 cities, including Addis Ababa, Adama, Arba Minch, Assossa, Bahir Dar, Gambella, Hawassa, Jigjiga, Jimma, Mekele, and Samara.

In previous years, the festival showcased a variety of films and documentaries addressing human rights issues. This year marks a significant expansion of the festival's scope with the introduction of photography, short literature, and painting competitions. These additions aim to broaden the artistic disciplines represented at the event and engage a wider audience in discussions about human rights.

The competition officially opened on October 11, 2024, and concluded on November 16, 2024. Participants submitted a total of 96 photographs for the photography contest themed around "the right to adequate food and water," along with 83 paintings and 55 short literary pieces focusing on "Right to Life (Women's Life)."

Highlighting this year's festival is the theatrical production "Come Back," created by the Department of Theatre Arts at Addis Ababa University. This performance aims to further enrich the festival experience by integrating live art into the celebration of human rights.

The primary goal of the annual Human Rights Film Festival is to commemorate International Human Rights Day while strengthening the connection between art and human rights advocacy. By promoting awareness of these issues through various artistic expressions, the EHRC aims to foster a culture where human rights are prioritized and respected in Ethiopia.

H O T M U S I C T A B L E

HOTTEST ARTISTS DECEMBER 12 - DECEMBER 18, 2024 HOTTEST TRACKS

RANK	ARTIST	RADIO	TV	TOTAL PLAY
1	Dawit Tsige	84	34	118
2	Rahel Getu	30	15	45
3	Veronica Adane	26	17	43
4	Michael Belayneh	24	4	28
5	Madingo Afework	20	3	23
6	Abdu Kiar	21	1	22
7	Neway Debebe	21	0	21
8	Rophnan	15	5	20
9	Salemia	4	15	19
9	Orah Dawit (Dawit Alemayehu)	11	8	19
10	Leul Sisay	14	3	17

RANK	TRACK	ARTIST	RADIO	TV	TOTAL PLAY
1	Dar Dar	Dawit Tsige	43	18	61
2	Wuddie	Rahel Getu	28	14	42
3	Min Meseleh	Hanna Girma	11	11	22
4	Bilillee	Andualem Gosa	6	14	20
5	Malkulish	Mulualem Takele	10	9	19
5	Tefashina	Orah Dawit (Dawit Alemayehu)	11	8	19
5	Alem Bire	Salemia	4	15	19
6	Sewedelat	Madingo Afework	12	3	15
6	Yegle Nesh	Dawit Tsige	6	9	15
6	Demama	Dawit Tsige	10	5	15
7	And Qal	Michael Belayneh	10	4	14
8	Kante Lela	Veronica Adane	5	8	13
8	Gelagay	Yohana	10	3	13
9	Bantelay	Hana Girma	7	5	12

THIS DATA IS GATHERED BY A 24/7 AUTOMATED RECORDING & ANALYZING AI SYSTEM FROM 35 TV & RADIO STATIONS. THERE WERE MORETHAN 3,213 TOTAL MUSIC PLAYS ACROSS THE BROADCAST MEDIUM FOR THIS WEEK.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY - OMNIMEDIA ETHIOPIA

Society

An Economic Freedom Party for Ethiopia

By Samuel Estefanous

Just about everyone except PP cadres and their greedy commercial agents is being impoverished at an alarming rate. Towns are shining bright, with the latest Toyota V-8, Nissan V-8, and Infiniti vehicles competing for parking space in front of super luxurious apartment complexes occupied by the cadres and their associates. In this respect, there is indeed significant growth, and it is pointless to deny the obvious. However, one does not need to be a Nobel Laureate to understand that inflation is partly driven by unchecked government spending on mega-projects and corruption.

To grasp how speculation in urban land and mega construction contracts has created Ethiopia's multimillionaires—who enjoy substantial kickbacks—you certainly need to read an EPRDF or PP insider like Ato Bereket. It's no wonder city officials are focused on raising lucrative "symbolic" city gate arches and domes at staggering costs—running into the hundreds of millions—in regions where civil servants have been going AWOL after salary payments were frozen. It's no surprise that much of society is enraged. The leadership, isolated and indulging in excess, seems no longer capable of confronting the truth. It makes one wonder: how do they sleep at night?

What's worse, in blatant disregard for public opinion, the incumbent continues to provoke the public. When citizens timidly protest that cronyism is rampant in most public enterprises, the government takes offense and rotates family members into ministerial positions. They prepare the usual brief in defense of the indefensible—"even America, the ultimate beacon of democracy, does it." They reference President Kennedy appointing his younger brother as Federal Attorney General, conveniently neglecting to mention how JFK tarnished his legacy by making that choice at the behest of his manipulative father. Besides, the end of Camelot is hardly an enviable outcome.

We may have been systematically disenfranchised and relegated to second-class citizens, but we don't want the entire justice administration system to collapse. Despite not feeling represented in the House, we dislike seeing it disrespected, as when a corrupt agency's director dismissed it with contempt.

If you want to learn from American examples, consider what happened to Trump's former Chief Strategist and Counsel, Steve Bannon, who publicly ignored a Congressional subpoena and failed to appear before a House Select Committee. He was sent to prison. In our case, the worst the Committee could do is plead with the culprit not to repeat such misconduct. Why? Because they are friends and have a long history in service to the TPLF; one cannot press too hard without risking counter-accusations.

Unlike the politicians, we are here to stay; we don't have a foreign country to escape to. I would be surprised if they don't have a backup plan for when they are forced to flee. The Premier seemed to recognize this at one point, attempting to suspend foreign travel, only to withdraw the executive decree. I would very much like to know why. It seems he isn't calling all the shots.

The symptoms are all too familiar, aren't they? Before it collapsed into dishonor and became a living symbol of a gutted Party, TPLF was already rotting from within. Any resident of Addis can attest to this; the stench was unbearable. In the company of EPRDFites, the public resembled Hugo Chavez at the UN General Assembly, lamenting the intolerable sulfur smell in the hall. Transitioning from a selfless Front of freedom fighters, dedicated almost religiously, to becoming the butt of jokes is truly pathetic. If you're not aware, talented comedians in Mekelle are now making fun of the old guard TPLFites, performing unflattering impressions that are hilarious and have absolutely riveting punchlines.

A few years ago, the children of old guard party members were so unruly that they could shut down sections of the city and issue orders to anyone they disliked. Ill-gotten wealth consumes one alive. Those born with silver spoons in their mouths were beyond the reach of law enforcement, but their self-inflicted wounds ran deep. They were involved in all sorts of illicit activities, some of which were a disgrace to humanity. In all honesty, they heralded the downfall of TPLF's empire. Unless PP takes heed, it is destined for the same dustbin of history.

I know populist political groups and activists have become anathema, leaving the public with little stamina to indulge in their hate-driven rhetoric. I understand that those fixated on shallow and narrow ethnic persuasions have run their course and have become unapologetically vocal. However, there is one populist agenda we haven't yet attempted to advance: an Economic Freedom Organization inspired by Julius Malema's South Africa.

Trust me, the realities on the ground warrant this. There is no room for sophistication, slickness, or slackers; we need to confront the deserving with raw, upfront accountability.

The Premier himself has admitted this. The challenges of corruption, nepotism, favoritism, and cronyism that PP faces stem largely from the ethnic foundation of the Party's organizational structure. Ethnic politics is a thick den of thieves, protecting its members like a mafia boss. Consider the 15 million PPs; half of them were drafted into the ranks for 'protection.' The Chief himself has acknowledged this, yet he surrounds himself with weak-willed yes-men.

PP has failed to break free from the long-established network; it merely revised the personnel, replaced the actors, but maintained the same system. Toward the end of his tenure and life, Ato Meles grew increasingly disillusioned with EPRDFites and sought to reach out to honest, non-EPRDF Ethiopians. Bereket notes that Meles candidly remarked that they had assumed they were sweet nectar, but ultimately attracted horrible, nasty gutter flies.

That is why, despite its downsides, we need a bold and brash Economic Freedom Party to dismantle the network and hold both the foot soldiers and the higher echelons of the Dominant Party hierarchy accountable.

God Bless

The writer can be reached via estefanoussamuel@yahoo.com

Opera Night

Addis Art Songs and Arias in English, French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish



Featuring Megnot Toggia, an Ethiopian Soprano with a Masters degree in voice performance from Temple University. She has performed in various well known productions in the USA. This is her first performance in Ethiopia.



Accompanied by Sirapat Jittapirom, A Thai-American pianist based in Philadelphia. Sirapat is a collaborative pianist at Temple Universty, Universty of Delaware, and the Commonwealth youth Choir.

የኦፔራ ምሽት በታዋቂዋ ምጃት ቶጊያ - ኢትዮጵያዊት የቴምፕል ዩኒቨርሲቲ የሙዚቃ ጥበብ ምሩቅ


Date: 28 December, 2024 / ታህሳስ 19 ቀን 2017 ዓ.ም

Place: Teferi Mekonnen School (TMS) /ተፈሪ መኮንን ትምህርት ቤት ግቢ

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 pm /ከምሽት 12:30 – 2:30

Entrance: 4,000 Birr /አራት ሺህ ብር

Tickets are available at Wabi Shebele Hotel, Juventus Club & Teferi Mekonnen School



Koreans who have not forgotten to come to Ethiopia, a wave of emotions

On the 10th, the warm steps of Koreans visiting Ethiopia impressed all over Ethiopia. Signed

Their visit was a meaningful occasion to express deep appreciation and respect for Ethiopia's courage and dedication during the 1950 Korean War, and to help veterans who are currently in distress.

Infresh, a Korean Company, was at the heart of this assistance.

They sponsor rice to 59 surviving families of veterans,

They expressed hope and comfort in their hard lives.

The sincerity in a grain of rice goes beyond just material support,

The message was "Korea still remembers you."

The veteran, who received rice support on this day, could not hide his emotion, "It is so touching that you remember how we fought for Korea. I will never forget this love and respect for Korea," he said.

In response, an Infresh official said, "We just did what we were supposed to do. It is our mission to thank and support veterans of 16 countries including Ethiopia, and we will step up at any time."

In 2023, Infresh worked with the Korean War Memorial Association to provide free eye checkups and surgeries to veterans and their families who could not even be treated for mild eye diseases, showing deep gratitude and respect for the participating countries.

The appearance of Koreans who do not forget and continue their relationship with respect after 70 years have passed since the outbreak of the Korean War will remain a deep symbol of friendship and respect beyond the years.

Procurement Assistant - G6/1 level

Job Opening ID:	248785
Job Network:	Logistics, Transportation and Supply Chain
Job Family:	Procurement
Category and Level:	Consultants, CON
Duty Station:	ADDIS ABABA
Department/Office:	Economic Commission for Africa
Date Posted:	Dec 20, 2024
Deadline:	Dec 26, 2024

Result of Service

The Procurement Assistant is expected to assist requisitioning units on the full range of Procurement issues, providing support and guidance at all stage of the procurement cycle. Prepare and distributed solicitations and managed all aspects of the process until the case file is duly closed, including payments for Goods and Services delivered.

Work Location

ECA

Expected duration

9 months

Duties and Responsibilities

Responsibilities: Under the direct supervision of the Chief of Procurement and the overall direction of the Chief of Section, the incumbent will be responsible for the following duties: • Reviews, records and prioritizes complex purchasing requests and obtains additional information/documentation as required; provides assistance to requisitioners in preparing scope of work and specifications of goods and services; proposes product substitutions consistent with requirements to achieve cost savings; determines the availability of funding sources. • Identifies and recommends sources of procurement; interview potential suppliers; produces tender documents (e.g. Invitations to Bids, Requests for Proposals and Requests for Quotation) based on the nature of requirements and cost of procurement involved and ensure inclusion of all the pertinent factors as submitted by requisitioners and as per the procurement manual. • Prepares abstracts of offers and compiles data contained in quotations, proposals and bids to determine which supplier can deliver the required goods/services at the best terms and lowest costs possible with due consideration to quality, delivery time, prompt payment and other discounts, transportation costs, etc. • Enters into negotiation of terms and conditions of orders under the guidance of Procurement Officers; obtains credit and other information on proposed suppliers. • Analyzes the potential of suppliers vis-à-vis pre-evaluation criteria set

by the organization and advice the Chief Procurement Officer accordingly. • Prepares draft contracts/agreements in consultations with requisitioners, Chief Procurement Officer, Chief, Supply Chain Management Section as well as Office of Legal Affairs and if required, prepares submission to the Contracts Committee for review and subsequent approval by the authorized official. • Assists in raising Purchase Orders and ensures that the funds are obligated. • Maintains relevant internal databases and files; keeps track of any contractual agreements, direct provisioning contracts, etc. and informs affected users of contractual rights and obligations. • Researches, retrieves and presents information from a variety of internal and external sources on sources of supply, vendors by commodity, etc., as well as obtain specifications for new products and equipment on the market. • Drafts a variety of correspondence. • Resolves issues/problems related to delivered goods, including discrepancies between purchase orders and items/quantities shipped or received; prepares and signs Return to Vendor forms for unacceptable and/or damaged goods received. • Performs other duties as assigned by the Chief Procurement Officer and Chief of the Section.

Qualifications/special skills

High School Diploma is required. Degree in the field of Procurement/Business Administration/Accounting is an asset. Additional training in the area of IPSAS & Umoja on procurement and logistics front is an advantage. At least seven years of progressively responsible experience in the field of procurement/ business administration/ accounting or IT is required. Use of procurement-related software and database management is desirable. Experience in the application of UN's internal procurement policies, processes and procedures in relation to the purchase of wide range of supplies and services would be an asset.

Languages

English and French are the working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. For the post advertised, fluency in oral and written English is required. Excellent English writing ability is a must. Knowledge of French or another official United Nations language is an advantage.

Additional Information

Not available.

No Fee

THE UNITED NATIONS DOES NOT CHARGE A FEE AT ANY STAGE OF THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS (APPLICATION, INTERVIEW MEETING, PROCESSING, OR TRAINING). THE UNITED NATIONS DOES NOT CONCERN ITSELF WITH INFORMATION ON APPLICANTS' BANK ACCOUNTS.

Realistic business planning

A business plan summarizes a project in a way that makes it understandable and attractive to potential financiers, business partners or employees. Keep in mind that the first review of a business plan is an elimination process, rather than a selection process. The challenge is to stimulate readers' curiosity and allow them to read the plan easily. The plan should clearly identify the problem the business is going to address, not only the solution. A good understanding of a particular problem or need will lead to success. First confirm the need, then build the product. Show you understand the problem and your solution will be more convincing. Next, be focussed. Define the target market and provide a relevant description, with figures that show the size of the market. For readers to reach your conclusions, rather than their own, you need to guide them. It is not enough to describe facts as different readers may draw different conclusions. Show evidence of market acceptance, in particular with a new product or concept. Consumer behaviour is hard to predict. A common pitfall is to assume that customers will behave in the way you expect. Reality is different and common sense is the least accurate way to predict consumer behaviour.

Now describe the implementation approach. A good idea is unlikely to be unique. If it is good, expect a few other people to be thinking about it. If it's really good, you may find others working on it already. The difference is in implementation. This is the real challenge. Even if the idea is not unique, you can make a difference in the way you carry it out. And that is what investors are looking for.

Be coherent with figures. There will never be accurate figures until the business is underway and even then, some pieces may be missing. It is always possible however to use comparisons, benchmarks and reference points. Use them to estimate market size, market share and profit margins. Readers of your business plan will in the first instance not be able to double check the figures. They would rather look at the coherence of figures and check that they are consistent with the strategy.

Sometimes financiers provide a format for the business plan. If not, use an easy to read format. Remember that complicated documents are irritating and flat text with long paragraphs is boring. Think about the way people read a newspaper: they check the headlines first and focus on interesting stories. Readers of business plans are no different. Don't use small type and don't exceed 30 pages. If readers want more, they will ask. Remember that large files are also difficult to send by email, particularly in our situation in Ethiopia.

Use simple style, common vocabulary and avoid abbreviations. Describe the business in a way that makes it easy to understand. Describe the need to be addressed and the market opportunity.

Then explain how this need will be met. Draw the organization chart as it should be at maturity, not to fit the current team. Highlight the team's capabilities and don't hesitate to identify gaps, showing awareness of future trends.

It is a mistake not to include a thorough analysis of potential competition. If there is no competition, that is not necessary a positive point. In fact, it may be very negative because there could be no market for the idea. Once competition has been covered, show the differentiating points. Avoid statements saying that your business will be "better" or "cheaper" or "faster".

Marketing and sales are strategic components of any business. Focus on how this will be done and remember that the marketing approach may provide competitive advantage.

The most important determinant for success is the ability to execute. Implementation is the real differentiator. This includes all aspects, from the choice of technology to customer service.

Always include a section analyzing the risks that may affect the business. An accurate assessment of risks will help convince investors that you are fully aware of the threats the business may face. It will also show that you are prepared and capable of responding to the challenge. This reminds us of the current electricity and telecommunications problems we are facing currently. I have spoken to several business owners running different kinds of businesses and they are all seriously affected by the current state of affairs. Production time is reduced, production costs are rising, essential information and opportunities are missed, and a lot of business and money is lost. I wonder how many of us were prepared for infrastructural risks of this magnitude. Those who were and had earlier invested in alternative sources of energy are now at an advantage. Not much can be done though about the telecommunications interruptions as this sector is in the hands of the states monopoly, making all businesses dependent on one service provider and not allowing for alternatives. Businesses that depend on internet connections like travel agents for example are seriously crippled as a result.

Going back to our business plan, don't forget to state clearly what is expected from the target readers. The conclusion should include your funding request.

In conclusion:

- Use the business plan as a communication tool.
- Be simple, realistic and use common sense.
- Don't look for funding but for raising interest.
- Be ready to support any statement with detailed information.

Ton Haverkort



Entrepreneur PROFILE:

RESUME

Name: Woynishet Kostre

Education: Diploma

Company name: Woynishet Kostre private enterprise

Title: Manager

Founded in: 2014

What it does: Leather products

Hq: 4Kilo, Genfile Textile Center

Number of Employees: 11



STARTUP CAPITAL
65,000 birr

CURRENT CAPITAL
800,000 birr

BIG PICTURE

Reason for starting the Business: Delivery of gallant shoes to the user

Biggest perk of ownership: Being able to do what I believe in and love

Biggest strength: Not giving up

Biggest challenge: Shoemakers attitude

Plan: Making it accessible in Africa with better designs

First career: None

PERSONAL

Most interested in meeting: None

Most admired person: My mom

Stress reducer: GTrying something new

Favorite pastime: None

Favorite book: AHoly Bible

Favorite destination: Brazil

Favorite automobile: Hyundai

DAILY EXCHANGE RATE

Dec. 21, 2024

CURRENCY	BUYING	SELLING
US DOLLAR	123.5986	126.0706
POUND STERLING	152.7803	155.8359
EURO	129.0493	131.6303
SWISS FRANK	136.0547	138.7758
SWEDISH KRONER	11.0293	11.2499
NORWEGIAN KRONER	10.7276	10.9422
DANISH KRONER	16.9804	17.32
JAPANIS YEN	0.7773	0.7929
CANADIAN DOLLAR	84.4657	86.155
SAUDI RIYAL	32.9245	33.583
UAE DIRHAM	33.6561	34.3292

United Nations



Nations Unies

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

This notice is placed by UNECA. The accuracy, reliability and completeness of the contents of furnished information is the responsibility of The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. You are therefore requested to direct all queries regarding this EOI to The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa using the fax number or e-mail address provided below.

Title of the EOI: Feasibility Study on Trade Facilitation through the Northern Corridor using Lake Victoria and Akagera River Navigation
Date of this EOI: 20 December 2024
Closing Date for Receipt of EOI: 20 January 2025
EOI Number: EOIUNECA23308
Beneficiary Country/Territory: Rwanda
Commodity/Service category: Professional Services
Address EOI response by fax or e-mail to the Attention of: Mrs.Tigist.Adbaru / Mr.Ali Assaad
E-mail Address: tigist.adbaru@un.org; assaad@un.org;
UNSPSC Code: 80101601

DESCRIPTION OF REQUIREMENTS

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) is located in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from qualified companies with the required expertise and experience to conduct a Feasibility Study on Trade Facilitation through the Northern Corridor using Lake Victoria and Akagera River Navigation by Assessing the current navigability of Lake Victoria and Akagera River, considering the current status and potential of Kisumu Port, especially the newly developed oil jetty, which will serve as a critical node for the Akagera transportation system. By evaluating the economic, technical, and environmental viability of the proposed waterway, identifying necessary infrastructure developments and investment needs, identifying and analyzing legal and cooperation frameworks relevant for project success, exploring potential financing options and business models to support the project and providing strategic recommendations for implementing the waterway project.

The consulting firm is expected to conduct tasks for the feasibility study including but not limited to Literature Review and Data Collection, Technical Feasibility Assessment, Economic and Environmental Analysis, Legal Frameworks and Cooperation, Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement, Financial and Business Model Development, Reporting and Recommendations.

Interested firms will be invited to the tender by "RFP" at a later stage.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS / INFORMATION (IF ANY)

The consulting firm should possess extensive experience (at least 15 years) in conducting feasibility studies for transport infrastructure projects, particularly in inland waterway navigation and multimodal transport systems, proven track

record of successfully completed similar projects in the region or other comparable regions, strong capability in economic and environmental impact assessments, demonstrated experience in engaging with diverse stakeholders, including government agencies, private sector, and regional organizations. And required to have relevant team composition (Project Manager, Transport Engineer, Civil Engineer, Architect, Hydraulic engineer, Topographer, Maritime and inland waterways safety and security specialist, Sociologist, Economist, Environmental Expert, Financial Analyst, and Legal Expert) with necessary expertise and experience.

Companies interested in being considered for invitation to participate in the tender MUST submit:

1. A written Expression of Interest in accordance with the instructions provided in this REOI;"
2. A vendor is a legally registered company/institution. Documents to be submitted: Current certificate of incorporation or equivalent document verifying legal status.
3. A Business Registration Certificate and Applicable Trade License (s).
4. A Company profile with submission of proof demonstrating 15 years of relevant experience in conducting feasibility studies for transport infrastructure projects, particularly in inland waterway navigation and multimodal transport systems, proven track record of successfully completed similar projects in the region or other comparable regions, strong capability in economic and environmental impact assessments, demonstrated experience in engaging with diverse stakeholders, including government agencies, private sector, and regional organizations.

Companies who do not have relevant experience comparable to UNECA's requirement will not be invited to participate in the solicitation process even if they send an expression of interest.

5. Vendors who are currently registered at basic or Level 1 in UNGM, for the purposes of this bidding exercise, MUST successfully apply for Level 2 Registration in UNGM before submitting their Expression of Interest. To proof this, Vendors submitting an expression of interest MUST submit proof of their successful application to UNGM for registration to Level 2. Please refer to the EOI instructions embedded in the REOI document for instructions on Vendor registration in UNGM; The successful bidder will be required to Register in UNGM at Level 2 before Contract award. The contract shall not be awarded to vendors who fail to register in UNGM at L2."

By submitting an EOI, the Applicant acknowledges that neither the United Nations nor the Applicant intends to create any contract or other relationship under which the United Nations is legally obliged to conduct the Expression of Interest process for the works in any manner or to proceed to tender on the basis set out in this Invitation to Expression



of Interest or any other basis and that there is in fact no such contract or other relationship in existence.

UNECA reserves the right to verify statements by the EOI respondent and not to invite all those companies who had expressed interest. Only eligible firms that are successful at this pre-qualification stage will be invited to participate in the tender invitation.

Interested vendors should submit a fully completed Vendor Response Form to the link provided.

All questions which the vendors should have must be sent through the above email address not later than 3 days before the closing date. The UN reserves the right to reject incomplete Expressions of Interest.

NOTE

Information on tendering for the UN Procurement System is **available free of charge** at the following address: <https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice>

Only the United Nations Global Marketplace (UNGM) has been authorized to collect a nominal fee from vendors that wish to receive automatically Procurement Notices or Requests for Expression Of Interest. Vendors interested in this Tender Alert Service are invited to subscribe on <http://www.ungm.org>

Vendors interested in participating in the planned solicitation process should submit the Vendor Response Form of this EOI electronically (through the link available on the next page) before the closing date set forth above.

VENDOR RESPONSE

NOTICE

- Companies can only participate in solicitations of the UN Secretariat after completing their registration (**free of charge**) at the United Nations Global Marketplace (www.ungm.org).
- As you express interest in the planned solicitation by submitting this response form, please verify that your company is registered under its full legal name on the United Nations Global Marketplace (www.ungm.org) and that your application has been submitted to the **UN Secretariat**.
- While companies can participate in solicitations after completion of registration at Basic Level, we strongly recommend all companies to register at least at **Level 1** under the United Nations Secretariat prior to participating in any solicitations.
- Companies are reminded of the restrictions of employment of former UN personnel that were involved in the procurement process during their last three years of service as per **ST/SGB/2006/15**, including (a) employing those personnel for one year after separation of service and (b) allowing those personnel to communicate with, or appear before, active UN personnel for matters related to the procurement process for two years after separation of service. Violation of the provisions of **ST/SGB/2006/15** may lead to suspension of the registration of the company as a UN vendor.

PLEASE NOTE: You should express your interest to this EOI electronically at:

<https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/255983>

In case you have difficulties submitting your interest electronically, please contact tigist.adbaru@un.org; assaad@un.org; directly for instructions.



Save the Children

INVITATION

TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF VEHICLES MAINTENANCES AND REPAIR SERVICE - RE

Tender Reference # - SCI-ET-2024-021

SAVETHECHILDREN INTERNATIONAL (SCI, Ethiopia) the world's leading independent non-profit organization for children intends to enter a framework agreement for the supply of Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Service Procurement. We are looking for a competent experienced Garages with all required technical, financial, equipment, infrastructural and personnel capacity to do A, B, C, D services and repairers of the level required for its fleet expected to be done with Garages outsourcing at Addis Level, through entering a two-year Framework agreement with the possibility of extension. And hereby invites potential service providers to submit a sealed tender in accordance with the Service Details, Instruction to Bidders, and General Terms and Conditions of Purchase as described hereunder:

Tender document

- Potential bidders may obtain the tender documents against payment of a non-refundable amount of ETB 100 from SCI offices in Addis Ababa Country office starting from **December 24, 2024, up to January 10, 2025**, during working hours.

Save the children Ethiopia Country Office, close to Meskel Square, near the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Tenders submitted must be accompanied with:

- Renewed Valid Business License
- Company profile listing the bidders' address, branches, structure, resources, and other document as specified on the bid document.
- Declaration of acceptance to SCI's statement of requirement, terms/conditions, and policies etc.
- Bid Security in the name of "Save the Children International" amounting to **ETB 100,000.00** in the form of CPO or bank guarantee valid at least for 90 days from the date of tender submission. (Cash and insurance bond are not accepted).
- Financial Offer and technical document shall be sealed separately to be eligible. The detail requirement is stated on the bid document.

Tenders must be submitted in **sealed envelopes**, separate **technical and financial bids**, bearing an official company seal, and clearly marked by the **"bidders' name, address, and the tender reference number and title as stated above.**

The tender must be submitted in the bid box prepared for the purpose at SCI offices in Addis Ababa Country office on **January 13, 2025**, on or before 2:00 PM.

Save the Children Procurement Committee will open the technical tender responses on **January 13, 2025, at 03:00PM.**

SCI reserves the right to accept or reject this bid, in partial, or in its entirety.



3040 Cornwallis Road ■ PO Box 12194 ■ Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2194 ■ USA
Telephone 919.541.6000 ■ Fax 919.541.5985 ■ www.rti.org

INVITATION FOR BID

RTI is an International NGO dedicated to conducting innovative, multidisciplinary research that improves the human condition. Founded as a centerpiece of the Research Triangle Park in North Carolina in 1958, RTI offers innovative research and development and a full spectrum of multidisciplinary services. It has a worldwide staff of more than 6,000 people. Feed the Future Ethiopia Transforming Agriculture (FTFETA) is inviting all eligible bidders to submit their detailed company profile with detail on their experience of producing similar machineries. We are seeking qualified manufacturing companies with the necessary technical and financial capacity and have a valid license for the current Ethiopian fiscal year (2016/2017). Qualified bidders are invited to collect the RFP from Current Opportunities | RTI portal and submit softcopy document through InkindProcurement.ETA@transforming-agriculture.org for the RTI International/ FTFETA.

Commodity/Service Required:	Milk Processing Equipment
Type of Procurement:	Three tanker CIP system with accessories, Milk cans (50 L), Milk Cans (10L), Cream Separator, Butter Churner, Butter mold, Butter packaging machine, Display fridge and Sexed semen. Including transport to Mekelle with installation service.
Type of Contract:	One – time contract of fixed price with milestone payment
Term of Contract:	A potential of four months contract
Contract Funding:	USAID
This Procurement supports:	USAID Ethiopia Transforming Agriculture
Submit Proposal to:	InkindProcurement.ETA@transforming-agriculture.org
Date of Issue of RFP:	December 24, 2024, by 16:00 East Africa Time (EAT)
Date Questions from Supplier Due:	January 06, 2025, by 14:00 East Africa Time (EAT)
Date Proposal Due:	January 06, 2025
Approximate Date Purchase Order Issued to Successful Bidder(s):	TBD
Method of Submittal:	
Respond via e-mail InkindProcurement.ETA@transforming-agriculture.org with attached document in MS Word / Pdf format. Please provide digital brochures as deemed necessary to support your offer.	
Solicitation Number:	ETA-AA-24-027A_C-GRT

The RTI- FTFETA project reserves the right to reject any or all bids



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RTI is an international NGO dedicated to conducting innovative, multidisciplinary research that improves the human condition. Founded as a centerpiece of the Research Triangle Park in North Carolina in 1958, RTI offers innovative research and development and a full spectrum of multidisciplinary services. It has a worldwide staff of more than 6,000 people. Feed the Future Ethiopia Transforming Agriculture (FTFETA) is inviting all eligible bidders to submit their detailed company profile with detail on their experience of producing similar machineries. We are seeking qualified manufacturing companies with the necessary technical and financial capacity and have a valid license for the current Ethiopian fiscal year (2016/2017). Qualified bidders are invited to collect the RFP from Current Opportunities | RTI portal and submit softcopy document through InkindProcurement.ETA@transforming-agriculture.org for the RTI International/ FTFETA.

Commodity/Service Required:	Enset processing machineries
Type of Procurement:	Manufacturing of 40 pieces of Enset processing machineries along with their accessories, transport of the equipment's to Oromia, Sidama, Central, Southern, and Southwest region with a total of reaching 14 woredas, provide installation and commissioning service.
Type of Contract:	One – time contract of fixed price with milestone payment
Term of Contract:	A potential of four months contract
Contract Funding:	USAID
This Procurement supports:	USAID Ethiopia Transforming Agriculture
Submit Proposal to:	InkindProcurement.ETA@transforming-agriculture.org
Date of Issue of RFP:	December 23, 2024
Date Questions from Supplier Due:	December 24, 2024, by 16:00 East Africa Time (EAT)
Date Proposal Due:	January 06, 2025, by 14:00 East Africa Time (EAT)
Approximate Date Purchase Order Issued to Successful Bidder(s):	TBD
Method of Submittal:	
Respond via e-mail InkindProcurement.ETA@transforming-agriculture.org with attached document in MS Word / Pdf format. Please provide digital brochures as deemed necessary to support your offer.	
Solicitation Number:	ETA-24-023-GRT

The RTI- FTFETA project reserves the right to reject any or all bids

Senior Procurement Assistant G7/1

Job Opening ID: 249807
Job Network: Logistics, Transportation and Supply Chain
Job Family: Procurement
Category and Level: Consultants, CON
Duty Station: ADDIS ABABA
Department/Office: Economic Commission for Africa
Date Posted: Dec 20, 2024
Deadline: Dec 26, 2024

Result of Service

The Procurement Assistant is expected to assist requisitioning units on the full range of Procurement issues, providing support and guidance at all stage of the procurement cycle. Prepare and distributed solicitations and managed all aspects of the process until the case file is duly closed, including payments for Goods and Services delivered.

Work Location

ECA

Expected duration

9 months

Duties and Responsibilities

Responsibilities: Under the direct supervision of the Chief of Procurement and the overall direction of the Chief of Section, the incumbent will be responsible for the following duties: • Reviews, records and prioritizes complex purchasing requests and obtains additional information/documentation as required; provides assistance to requisitioners in preparing scope of work and specifications of goods and services; proposes product substitutions consistent with requirements to achieve cost savings; determines the availability of funding sources. • Identifies and recommends sources of procurement; interview potential suppliers; produces tender documents (e.g. Invitations to Bids, Requests for Proposals and Requests for Quotation) based on the nature of requirements and cost of procurement involved and ensure inclusion of all the pertinent factors as submitted by requisitioners and as per the procurement manual. • Prepares abstracts of offers and compiles data contained in quotations, proposals and bids to determine which supplier can deliver the required goods/services at the best terms and lowest costs possible with due consideration to quality, delivery time, prompt payment and other discounts, transportation costs, etc. • Enters into negotiation of terms and conditions of orders under the guidance of Procurement Officers; obtains credit and other information on proposed suppliers. • Analyzes the potential of suppliers vis-à-vis pre-evaluation criteria set by the organization and advice the Chief Procurement

Officer accordingly. • Prepares draft contracts/agreements in consultations with requisitioners, Chief Procurement Officer, Chief, Supply Chain Management Section as well as Office of Legal Affairs and if required, prepares submission to the Contracts Committee for review and subsequent approval by the authorized official. • Assists in raising Purchase Orders and ensures that the funds are obligated. • Maintains relevant internal databases and files; keeps track of any contractual agreements, direct provisioning contracts, etc. and informs affected users of contractual rights and obligations. • Researches, retrieves and presents information from a variety of internal and external sources on sources of supply, vendors by commodity, etc., as well as obtain specifications for new products and equipment on the market. • Drafts a variety of correspondence. • Resolves issues/problems related to delivered goods, including discrepancies between purchase orders and items/quantities shipped or received; prepares and signs Return to Vendor forms for unacceptable and/or damaged goods received. • Performs other duties as assigned by the Chief Procurement Officer and Chief of the Section.

Qualifications/special skills

High School Diploma is required, Degree in the field of Procurement/Business Administration/Accounting is an asset. Additional training in the area of IPSAS & Umoja on procurement and logistics front is an advantage. Ten (10) years of progressively responsible experience in procurement administration or related areas, of which preferably three (3) years of experience in the UN common system or in an international public organization. At least two (2) years of procurement experience is required. Experience in Contract Management and/or Contract Administration is also desirable. Experience working with an ERP system in the area of purchasing and/or supply chain is desirable.

Languages

English and French are the working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. For the post advertised, fluency in oral and written English is required. Excellent English writing ability is a must. Knowledge of French or another official United Nations language is an advantage.

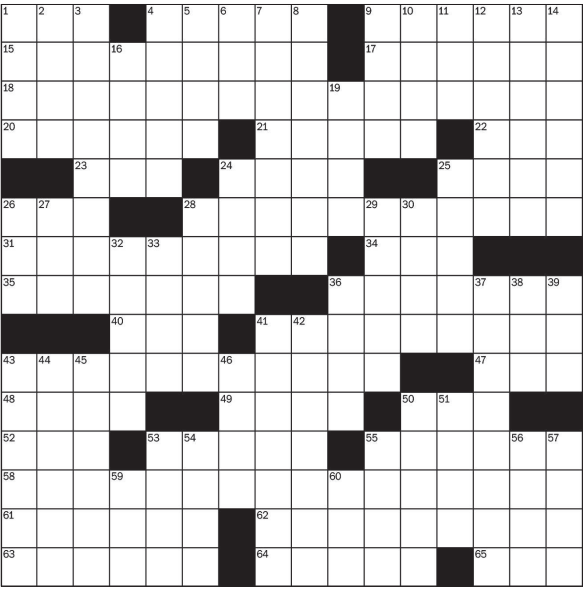
Additional Information

Not available.

No Fee

THE UNITED NATIONS DOES NOT CHARGE A FEE AT ANY STAGE OF THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS (APPLICATION, INTERVIEW MEETING, PROCESSING, OR TRAINING). THE UNITED NATIONS DOES NOT CONCERN ITSELF WITH INFORMATION ON APPLICANTS' BANK ACCOUNTS.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 At the stern
- 4 Revolutionary tool?
- 9 Ebbs
- 15 Place to pick up trinkets and tchotchkes
- 17 Action hero with amnesia
- 18 Physician who specializes in perioperative care
- 20 Use one's gray matter
- 21 Change
- 22 Start of a protestor's cry, perhaps
- 23 Pair
- 24 Pretzel shape
- 25 __package
- 26 Prefix with thermal
- 28 One who never draws a blank?
- 31 Fried turnovers
- 34 Taking after

35 Seafood paella option

36 Supports

40 "Sweet!"

41 Genre with retrofuturistic technology

43 Tribute act

47 __latte

48 Toss, slangily

49 Big stretches

50 Not awesome

52 Convent figure 53 Like some orange juice

55 Tricolor cat

58 "You're not fooling me!," or what 18-, 28-, and 43.Across might say?

61 Haitian language

62 Mooches

63 "__you right!"

64 Darts about

65 Speed Wagon maker

DOWN

1 Amazon berry

2 Slush __

3 Canopy makeup

4 Drawing worth a lot of money?

5 Tennis great Arthur

6 English article

7 Church cry of praise

8 Postscripts

9 Fit

10 Classless one

11 Summer mo.

12 Like some elders

13 Secure

14 Dog for pheasant hunters

16 "That didn't escape my attention"

19 Director Preminger

24 Joshes

25 Fastener

26 Glam rock?

27 Australian avian

28 Light wood

29 26-Down weight

30 Classless one?

32 To date

33 Approach

36 Crime novelist Gerritsen

37 Place to order rolls

38 "Music for Airports" composer Brian

39 Big __ Country

41 Visit on the way

42 Link-shortening service

43 Critics of good-faith efforts

44 Canon

45 False front

46 Depend (on)

50 Heavy hammers

51 Red Muppet

53 Propulsion aid

54 Versatile vehicles, for short

55 Tech review site acquired by Ziff Davis in

2024

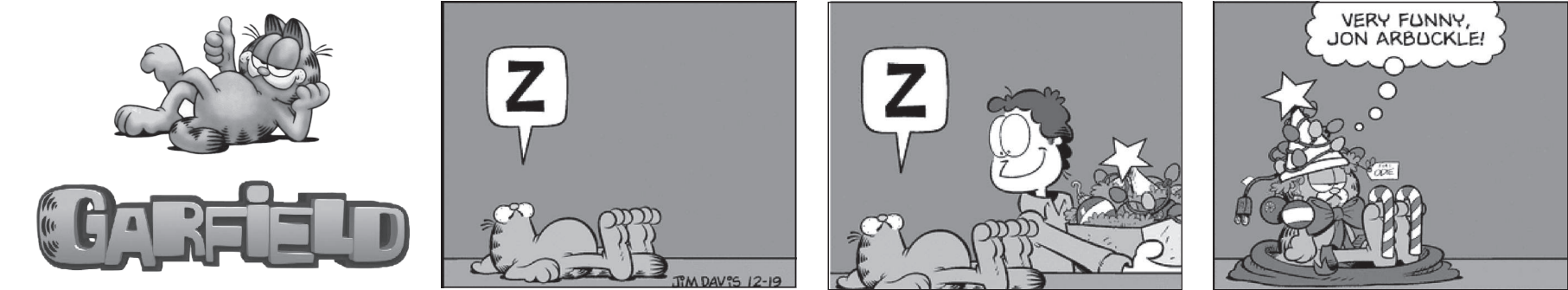
56 Give up

57 Ish


59 End of a congressional address

60 Retailer that sells crampons and chalk bags

Solution: see below




WEEKLY HOROSCOPES




Aries

Go for it this week. If you can see your way clearly, this is the time to act. If necessary, rethink your life to cut down on stress. It could be your workplace, some difficult co-workers, or a negligent boss is making things worse. Action is better than suffering in silence. Midweek is positive for improving public relations. Be honest and don't exaggerate for best results. Women can be especially helpful.




Cancer

This can be a very stressful week, but even negative events can hold the seeds of positive change. It's a good time to find or apply for a new job. Co-workers can be especially helpful midweek. Do your best even if you're feeling lazy. You could be feeling moody. Watch what you say or risk being seen as a whiner or complainer in your colleagues' eyes. Consider a holiday this weekend, or soon. Keep your eyes open.




Libra

Issues of fairness could dominate your attention. It's possible you may be feeling especially stressed. Do your best to stay calm and focus on what is expected. Tuesday is a lucky day if you must start something new or apply for a job. It's possible to work out your differences if you're willing to talk about your feelings and the situation. Be clear about what you think so you can win others to your side.




Capricorn

Stressful events can make you unusually wishy-washy and irritable at the same time. Take action for any new start. Don't hesitate to ask for help from people you respect. Practical solutions can be found. You may have to spend more time than you'd like soothing ruffled feathers at the end of the week. Team building is worth your effort. Any attempt to get along will be appreciated. The weekend is an ideal time for a holiday.




Taurus

Emotional stress could make you behave in a way that's both immature and foolish. Try to keep calm and stick to familiar routines. All the same, Monday or Tuesday is a lucky day to seek or start a new job. Focus on practical results. It may see you putting in some overtime. Resolve to be positive and have a good time no matter what you're doing. An improved attitude can generate surprising and welcome results.




Leo

It's a good time to be honest with yourself. Are you stuck in an unhealthy pattern with co-workers? This is a powerful week to change yourself and your situation. Monday or Tuesday is the luckiest day this month to find a new or better job. An optimistic attitude will make time fly and could bring some unexpected help just when you need it. The end of the week will see you shine at event logistics or any work-related social occasion.




Scorpio

People who instigate confrontation and cause tension usually thrive on controversy. If this is happening, Monday is a powerful day for a new start or a breakthrough in a stressful work-related situation. Don't stoop to someone else's level. It's also a lucky day to apply for a new job. Ask for help if you're feeling overcommitted. Look on the bright side and expect things to settle down by the end of the week.




Aquarius

This week the energy becomes more stable. You should be able to enjoy positive feedback from co-workers and superiors. Take extra time doing research. Networking in areas of interest can be especially helpful. Monday is the best day to apply for a new job or improve your current position. Midweek can bring critical or nitpicky people. Be as cooperative and patient as possible. You can help people excel by showing what excellence is.




Gemini

Dig down and find reasons to be happy this week no matter what you face. Tuesday is a lucky day, especially if you're looking for work. Midweek can see you moving in too many directions at once or enduring what you may see as unwelcome criticism. Slow down and do your best. The energy lightens by the end of the week and can see you shine making customers happy or contributing as part of a team effort.




Virgo

You can be especially sensitive this week. Beating yourself up reinforces attitudes you should be trying to avoid. Channel these feelings into positive, meaningful action. Strengthening your skills will bring greater happiness and future success. Monday is a powerful day to apply for a job or improve your current condition. Your ability to see how to make things better is energized. Good feelings in the office and with customers should improve your spirits.



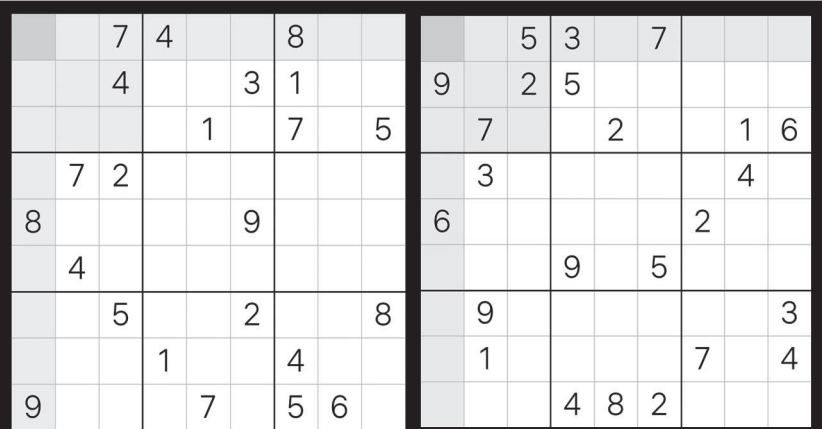
Sagittarius

This is a lucky week for making a big change. Monday is a powerful day to apply for a new job or make any new start. Don't neglect little details or take casual criticism to heart. Don't let people push your buttons. Expect to have positive experiences and you will. If you're in sales, the end of the week is very positive for making contacts. Long-distance research can bring needed resources. Take a break if possible.



Pisces

Some people like to maintain control by focusing on what's wrong or finding fault. Refuse to be put off balance by negative energy on the job. Tuesday is a lucky day for applying for work or improving your current position. Do your best and pay attention to little details. Things will be easier by the end of the week. A positive attitude is powerful. Habitually happy people don't blame, criticize, or make others wrong.



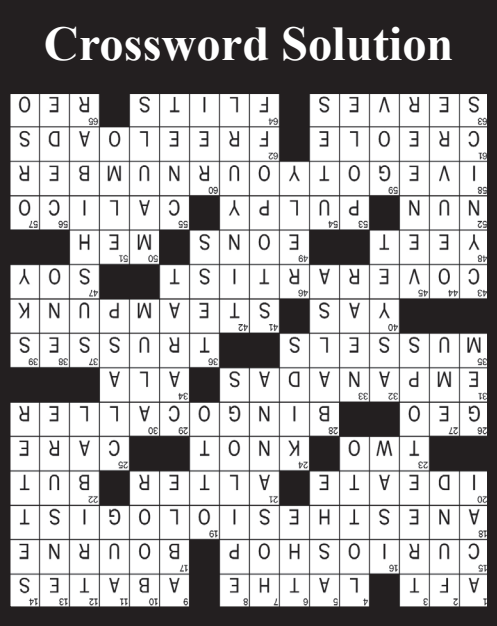
Sudoku

The game is easy, the rules are simple. All you have to do is make sure you fill every 3x3 box every row and every column, without repetition, using the number 1-9.

Word search

R	K	A	M	P	O	N	G	D	I	H	C	R	O
E	T	R	G	N	E	D	R	A	G	I	F	C	G
E	D	R	I	N	D	R	A	H	C	R	O	U	N
L	P	A	C	H	I	N	A	T	O	W	N	L	A
N	I	I	N	D	N	A	L	E	M	O	H	T	L
Y	O	T	H	A	T	D	O	N	A	R	E	U	Y
T	E	I	T	S	L	T	E	F	A	R	R	E	
I	T	M	G	L	D	P	R	I	V	E	R	E	G
R	I	N	E	I	E	N	S	F	P	R	A	C	E
U	I	N	G	R	L	I	E	E	L	I	R	U	R
C	G	C	G	I	L	E	N	I	C	A	C	A	F
E	H	C	A	R	E	I	R	D	R	I	G	O	I
S	M	O	S	Q	U	E	O	O	I	F	I	L	M
Y	T	I	N	U	D	E	L	N	Y	A	N	U	E

KAMPONG	CULTURE	LITTLEINDIA	GEYLANG
FRIENDSHIP	RIVER	RELIGION	MERLION
ORCHARD	ESPLANADE	CHINATOWN	ORCHID
RACE	HOMELAND	UNITY	MOSQUE
CARE	GARDEN	SECURITY	FLAG



Spotlight

Ever catch the perfect picture with your digital camera or camera phone and wish you could find a way for others to experience it? Here is your chance. If you find yourself at the right place at the right time and happen to catch an amazing scene you believe someone else should see, send us your news pictures with no more than 30 words to spotlight@capitalethiopia.com and we will publish it.

Norway provides NOK 50 Million to strengthen Africa’s climate resilience

Africa’s economic and social fabric is disproportionately affected by climate change. Over 95% of Africa’s food production depends on rainfed agriculture, with over 70% of the continent’s population relying on it for their livelihoods, making them highly vulnerable to erratic weather patterns. Disasters like droughts and floods exacerbate food insecurity, damage infrastructure, and erode decades of developmental progress. Current humanitarian aid systems are reactive, slow, and insufficient, and many African nations lack the financial and technical resources to respond effectively to such disasters, leaving countries to face delays that deepen human suffering and economic loss.

To help address this gap, Norway, through the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) has provided NOK 50 million (about \$4.5 million) to African Risk Capacity Limited (ARC Ltd.) to implement the Supporting Adaptation Capacity Through Increased Parametric Insurance Penetration in Africa (SACPIP-Africa) initiative. The partnership was made official during a signing ceremony in the CARICOM Pavillion at COP29 on 13 November 2024, marking the significant contribution this initiative will have in addressing climate change issues.

Raxio Group’s Mozambique, Ethiopia Data Centres Achieve Uptime Institute Tier III Facility Certification

Raxio Group the leading provider of Tier III certified and carrier neutral data centres across Africa, is proud to announce that its facilities in Mozambique and Ethiopia have achieved the prestigious Uptime Institute Tier III Certification of Constructed Facility (TCCF). This accomplishment is an endorsement of Raxio’s commitment to delivering state-of-the-art, reliable, and efficient data centre infrastructure across Africa.

The Tier III Facility Certification confirms that these facilities have been constructed in accordance with the original Tier III Design Certification standards and rigorously tested to meet Uptime Institute’s performance criteria. This certification ensures that the data centres are capable of providing the expected reliability and performance under various operational conditions.

Robert Saunders, Chief Technology Officer at Raxio Group, emphasized the importance of this achievement for customers:

"Achieving the Uptime Institute Tier III Facility Certification for our Mozambique and Ethiopia facilities is a significant milestone. It reassures our customers that these data centres are designed and constructed to meet the highest international standards. This guarantees operational resilience, reliability, and a robust environment to support their critical business operations. Our customers can confidently scale and innovate, knowing that their data is hosted in facilities that are built for peak performance and future growth."

Shelter Afrique Development Bank and AU Sign Landmark MOU to Advance Housing and Urban Development in Africa

Shelter Afrique Development Bank (ShafDB) and the African Union (AU) have signed a groundbreaking Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate on addressing Africa’s critical housing and urban development challenges.

The partnership which confers Shelter Afrique an Observer Status at the African Union, aligns with Agenda 2063 and underscores a shared commitment to ensuring a high standard of living, quality of life, and well-being for all African citizens.

The MOU outlines key areas of cooperation aimed at tackling Africa’s housing deficit, promoting sustainable urban development, and advancing capacity-building efforts.

With approximately 53 million housing units required across the continent and a \$1.4 trillion financing gap, this partnership will leverage innovative solutions, resource mobilization, and policy development to create lasting impact.

FRUITS MARKET



PHOTO: Anteneh Akilu

DESTROYING AND REBUILDING



PHOTO: Anteneh Akilu

DRIVING IN ADDIS



PHOTO: Anteneh Akilu

ATMIS Honours Ethiopian Troops for Contributions to Somalia

Ethiopian troops serving with the African Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) have been honoured for their outstanding contributions to peace and security in Somalia.

The soldiers, who recently completed their tour of duty, were honoured for degrading Al-Shabaab and protecting local communities in South West State.

Presiding over the medal award ceremony in Baidoa on Tuesday, ATMIS Military Chief of Staff, Brig. Gen. Kindu Gezu, praised the soldiers for their courage, professionalism, and selfless service.

"We gather to celebrate your remarkable achievements and unwavering dedication as you receive these well-deserved medals of honour. This ceremony is a testament to your courage, discipline, and commitment to ensuring peace and stability in Somalia," said Brig. Gen. Gezu.

He commended the Ethiopian contingent’s high level of discipline and significant contributions to regional and global peacekeeping operations since the 1950s.

"Ethiopia has been a key contributor to the African Union Mission in Somalia, which reflects the country’s commitment to peacekeeping and its dedication to regional stability and international peace efforts," he added.

ATMIS Ethiopian Contingent Commander, Brig. Gen. Besfat Fente Tegegn, congratulated the soldiers on completing their tour of duty and successfully meeting the Mission’s objectives despite numerous challenges.

World Press Freedom Day Global Conference 2025 to focus on Artificial Intelligence, Press Freedom and the Media

The World Press Freedom Day global conference to be held in Bucharest on 5 - 7 May 2025 will address the intersection of freedom of expression and artificial intelligence. The announcement was made during an official formal handover ceremony at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris.

Titled "Reporting in the Brave New World: The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Press Freedom and the Media," the conference will highlight the risks and challenges to the right to information; advocate for an improved AI governance, and ensure AI is designed, used, and deployed in accordance with international human rights standards.

With Romania as a host, World Press Freedom Day global conference returns to Eastern Europe after a decade since the event took place in 2015 in Riga, Latvia.

The ceremony was led by Simona Mirela Miculescu, in the presence of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Delegate of Romania to UNESCO; Raúl Fernández Daza, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to France and Permanent Delegate of the Republic of Chile to UNESCO, host country of the 2024 Conference; and Tawfik Jelassi, Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO.

The U.S. Government Amplifies Leadership of Persons with Disabilities

The United States Government, through its Agency for International Development (USAID), launched a two-day event on December 17, 2024, celebrating the leadership of persons with disabilities in Ethiopia. The event, "Amplifying the Leadership of Persons with Disabilities for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future," marked the International Day of Persons with Disabilities and highlighted the achievements of USAID’s Promoting Rights and Inclusion for Disability Empowerment (PRIDE) Activity.

The event featured a range of activities, including artistic performances, interactive displays, a gallery walk, documentary screenings, and panel discussions. These activities showcased the success stories of individuals who have benefited from economic empowerment through the PRIDE Activity. By highlighting the leadership potential of persons with disabilities, the event promoted a more inclusive society where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.



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BEST
PERFORMING
DEEPSEA

BREAK BULK

ULTIMATE PORT
FOR SPECIAL &
PROJECT CARGO

DRY BULK

SPECIALIZED
INFRASTRUCTURES
SOLUTION FOR
PANAMA VESSELS

