



STATEMENT OF ERITREAN DELEGATION AT INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE ON HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

The Eritrean representative at the Permanent Mission of Eritrea to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva delivered a statement during the enhanced interactive dialogue on the human rights situation in Eritrea held on 28 February.

In the statement, the Eritrean representative highlighted that Eritrea has assumed the chairmanship of the Council of Human Rights, despite being a

victim of politicized and selective mandates for the past 12 years. These mandates have perpetuated a failed attempt to fabricate a human rights crisis through vilification, exertion of pressure, and diversion from nation-building efforts.

The statement reiterated Eritrea's unwavering commitment to promoting and protecting human rights in its broadest dimensions, which lies at the heart of its nationhood. Eritrea achieved nationhood after a prolonged

armed struggle for the human rights of its people.

Regarding the imposition of unilateral coercive measures by some countries, which contradicts the promotion of human rights and principles of the United Nations Charter and international relations, the statement called on the Council to remain true to its mandate of promoting and protecting all human rights for all. *(Full text of the statement is on page 2)*

DISCOVERY OF CERAMICS INDICATING ANCIENT HISTORICAL STAGES

During the excavation program at the Adulis archaeological site, ceramics indicating historical stages between 1500 to 500 BC have been unearthed.

emphasized the significance of this discovery in bridging previous historical periods spanning from the 1st to the 7th decades with this new finding.

coordinator of the project, highlighted the various ceramic artifacts unearthed since the inception of the Adulis Archaeological project, spanning different historical epochs. He stressed the importance of this new discovery in terms of its content and antiquity, foreseeing its potential to significantly enrich the history of the country and the region with thorough research and study.

Prof. Serena Massa, project coordinator, underscored Adulis as the sole ancient town in Sub-Saharan Africa constructed with stones, thus holding substantial international historical significance. She further suggested that the ancient findings and monuments could

serve as crucial links between the Adulis civilization and probably that of Punt Land, potentially catalyzing a new phase of excavation.

Archaeologist Dr. Abraham Zere added that this discovery will contribute to a deeper

understanding of ancient civilizations in the Horn of Africa and the Southern Red Sea region.

The Adulis project commenced in 2011 through collaboration between Eritrean and Italian experts, facilitating the exchange of experiences and expertise.

ERITREAN TROOPS ARE ON SOVEREIGN ERITREAN TERRITORIES

For reasons that are not difficult to decipher, certain pundits and TPLF-hired lobbyists are these days regurgitating revisionist narratives on the war that raged in northern Ethiopia for two years from November 2020 until 2022.

This revisionist narrative is best illustrated in the postulates of recent, broadly similar, articles on "The Statesman; Gray Dynamics (online edition); World peace foundation ... etc." respectively. Among other distortions, all these articles falsely accuse Eritrea of "maintaining its troops in several parts of Tigray region".

What are the real facts?

1. In the first place, the vicious and costly war that raged for two years erupted when the TPLF launched a war of Insurrection against the Federal Government of Ethiopia on November 4, 2020. The pronounced aim of the TPLF's war of choice – that it dubbed a blitzkrieg- had the twin aims of removing the new government in Ethiopia as well as perpetuating its irredentist agendas against Eritrea. This was the inevitable product of the TPLF's reckless miscalculation, prodded as it were by its external handler and allies, about its military prowess. It was also driven by the desire to roll back and scuttle the momentum of regional peace that was ushered in when Eritrea and the new government in Ethiopia signed a historic peace Agreement in July 2018.

2. The Pretoria peace agreement was signed by the TPLF when all its war objections and adventures –and the three offensives that it had launched mostly during harvest times- were totally vanquished.

3. Notwithstanding these indelible facts and instead of implementing, in good faith, all the provisions of the Pretoria agreement on cessation of hostilities, TPLF and its Enablers seem to have come up with a new ruse of scapegoating Eritrea for ulterior objectives by alluding to a "lingering and/or continued presence of Eritrea troops in some parts of the Tigray region."

4. These accusations are not only false but essentially endorse TPLF's untenable position of reclaiming, once again, Badme and other Eritrean sovereign territories that it had occupied for almost two decades in flagrant breach of the EEBC awards of 13 April 2002. In its convoluted parlance, the TPLF continued to assert that "the critical path in implementing the Pretoria Agreement is the return of Tigray to its pre-war administrative boundary". (It has even stated with audacity, as recently as last week, that it has not yet demobilized its "270,000 troops".

5. In any case and as stressed above, false accusations of the presence of Eritrean troops in Tigray Region in fact refer to, and are literally a euphemism for, the sovereign Eritrean territories that the TPLF had illegally occupied for two decades with impunity. Eritrean troops are otherwise inside Eritrean sovereign territories with no presence in Ethiopian sovereign land.

*Media & communication office
Embassy of the State of Eritrea to the UK & Ireland
London, 28 February 2024*



Eritrea's Delegation Statement at UNHRC Enhanced Interactive Dialogue

Statement by Mr. Habtom Zerai, Chargé d'affaires, Permanent Mission of Eritrea to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, During the Enhanced interactive Dialogue on the Situation of Human Rights in Eritrea

Excellencies,
Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

Allow me, at the outset, to congratulate you, Ambassador Omar Zniber, on your election as President of the Human Rights Council. We are confident that under your leadership, the Council's deliberations will be a great success. You can always count, Excellency, on Eritrea's full support in discharging your duties as the President of the Council.

Mr. President,

Eritrea has been a victim of this politicized and selective mandate for the last 12 years. A mandate that continues to be part of a failed attempt to achieve a self-fulfilling prophecy of human rights crisis through vilification, excursion of pressure, and diversion from nation-building efforts. Despite that Eritrea has responded to continuous out-of-context, politicized, and oftentimes irresponsible allegations. Today, rather than delving into the substance of these reports, we wish to underscore several crucial points.

First: we would like to reiterate our full commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights in its broadest dimensions. This commitment lies at the heart of our nationhood. A nationhood



that was realized after a long-drawn armed struggle for the human rights of the Eritrean people. Despite harsh external conditions, Eritrea has remained focused in advancing its objective to achieve a meaningful improvement in the lives of its people. Having forged a development policy anchored in Social Justice and self-reliance.

Over the past decades, it has made consistent investments in infrastructural developments and it remains committed to a long-term and sustainable development policy that ensures the participation and ownership by all segments of its diverse society. The outcome of this policy has placed it in the right direction towards a dignified life for its people.

Second: human rights are at the center of all global issues we confront today. Issues that no country can single-handedly tackle. Indeed, to effectively and collectively respond to these challenges, genuine dialogue, and dignified partnerships are required. This involves, in a nutshell: i) cooperation based on adherence to international law and the UN Charter; ii) dialogues that take into account, and not ignore, the interests and approaches of all states, including the global south countries.

Third: the practices of Country-specific mandates are politicized, confrontational, and counterproductive. These mandates exploit human rights for geopolitical purposes making the Council a political tool. Every state has its fair

share of human rights gaps. After all, the pursuit, realization, and sustained enjoyment of human rights is a dynamic continuum. It should be construed as a work-in-progress; not as a finite, one-off event. Indeed, it is a whole-sum process that must be addressed through genuine dialogue and engagement at the international level.

It is important to note at this juncture that the future participation and cooperation of the Government of the State of Eritrea in upcoming HRC platforms will be negatively affected should this unfair and unjust mandate and treatment continue.

Fourth: the imposition of Unilateral Conceive Measure, by some countries, is contrary to the promotion of human rights, principles of the United Nations Charter, and international relations. UCMs have never been about human rights. On the contrary, they impede the affected populations from the full realization of their human rights.

Fifth: There are glaring double standards in responding to violations exhibited by this very Council. While swift actions are taken in certain scenarios, there is a deafening silence and inaction when it comes to addressing others.

Mr. President,

Justice should not be selective. The Council should remain true to its mandate of promoting and protecting all human rights for all. We want to see a Council whose work is informed

interrelatedness of all human rights. We will continue to work for a Council that promotes constructive engagement, dialogue, and effective cooperation based on mutual respect and understanding.

Finally Mr. President, on a positive note, I would like to share that Eritrea submitted its fourth UPR report a few weeks ago. UPR is a universally recognized mechanism of the Council. Because, simply put, it is a state-driven peer review mechanism and the best tool to address human rights in all countries in an equal manner.

The State of Eritrea takes all necessary measures to guarantee the well-being of all its citizens and remains committed to the promotion of human rights and fulfillment of its obligations under international and national laws.

I thank you.
28th February 2024

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Editor-In-Chief
Amanuel Mesfun

Asst. Editor-In-Chief
Sirak Habtemichael

P.O.Box: 247

Tel: 11-41-14

Fax: 12-77-49

E-mail:

eritreaprofilemoi@gmail.com

Advertisement: 12-50-13

Layout
Azmera Berhane

from Social Media



Yemane G. Meskel
@hawelti

China's statement reflects, & is in full consonance with, constructive stance of almost 2/3rd (19 out of 29) countries that delivered official remarks at Enhanced Dialogue on Eritrea. EU's strident comments belied bankruptcy of politically-driven charade & agenda of harassment

Chinese Embassy in Eritrea @ChinaEmbEritrea · 7h

During the Human Rights Council meeting on Eritrea held on Feb.28, Chinese delegation opposed politicizing human rights issues, rejected interfering in other's internal affairs under the pretext of human rights, and urged the immediate lift of unilateral sanction on Eritrea.



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SpotLight

Massawa Salt Factory: Revitalizing Eritrea's Salt Industry

Habtom Tesfamichael

There are several potential opportunities to grow the economy in Massawa with public-private investments. A Free Trade Zone Authority has been launched and its construction activities in the port of Massawa are already underway.

Twice in its history, Eritrea had the fastest-growing GDP in Africa, once in the 1940s and again between 1994 and 1997. Unfortunately, the border war with Ethiopia hindered this progress. However, in recent years Eritrea has made strides in rebuilding its economy. It is blessed with abundant natural resources, and the excavation of mineral resources and extraction of its gold deposits have once again put it on the spotlight for economic development.

Due to its location alongside the Red Sea, Massawa is home to a salt factory. Massawa Salt Factory was established by two Italian investors in 1907 under the name Società Italiana Salina per L'Eritrea. At the beginning, the production was labor-intensive, with work done using shovels, mattocks, buckets, baskets, wagons, and other hand-operated rudimentary tools. Over the years the factory developed and was modernized, producing hundreds of thousands of tons of salt up until the end of the Second World War. In the few years between the end of the Second World War and the time Eritrea was federated with Ethiopia, it experienced a decline in production. During the federation period, new machines were imported, including bull dozers, loaders, excavators, harvesters, trailer trucks, and processing and packaging machines. In 1968, the overall capacity of the plant peaked and reached up to around

120 thousand tons after the introduction of new machinery and equipment. The projected production capacity of the plant was about 120 thousand tons from around 425 hectares of salt evaporation pans.

The plant remained in the hands of its original owners until its nationalization in 1975 by the Ethiopian government. After its nationalization, the factory struggled to meet customer demands due to mismanagement, the situation of the workers deteriorated, its production dwindled, and it eventually lost access to international market. During its heyday, it exported to Malaysia, South Korea, India, Japan, Kenya and others. However, under the Dergue regime, the distribution of salt within Ethiopia was in itself a major challenge let alone exporting it.

When Massawa was liberated in 1990, the EPLF undertook renovation efforts on the plant, making it resume production. From 1992 onwards, the plant gradually increased its production capacity, reaching 83 thousand tons in 1995.

Mr. Negasi Goitom, General Manager of Massawa Salt Works, said that as the factory is presently located within the area that has been designated as the free trade zone, it is being relocated to a new area called Halibay.

The Dembe Kutmiya area, now commonly called 'enda Korea' residential complex, previously served as a salt evaporation pan for the Massawa Salt Works. The evaporation fields decreased following the use of the area for building the apartments, subsequently reducing the production capacity of the factory. Currently, the factory is

mainly catering to the domestic market.

Mr. Neganssi said that after Eritrea gained independence, Massawa experienced significant expansion, and the salt production factory was surrounded by city infrastructure. As a result, it was decided to relocate the plant to a more suitable area.

In 1998, a British company conducted a feasibility study in collaboration with an Eritrean company to identify potential areas for salt production. The study confirmed that the Berenji area was suitable for salt production. Initially, the plan was



Mr. Dawit Asefaw

to produce around 20 thousand tons of salt intended for domestic consumption until the plant is fully relocated to the Halibay area, where the construction of a large facility is underway.

Mr. Negass said that developing the new site from scratch proved to be a challenging task due to the swampy nature of the area. Clearing the swamp required a considerable amount of work and ingenuity. As the task was beyond the capacity of Massawa Salt Factory, Sawa Construction Company was entrusted with the development of the evaporation pans.

The plan was initially to produce around 20,000 tons of salt for the domestic market, with 64 hectares of evaporation pans prepared. According to the British company's study, around 200,000 tons of salt could be harvested from approximately 800 hectares and over a million tons from around 3,800 hectares. The total production capacity of salt from the evaporation pans is currently approaching 200,000 tons, with an additional 200



Mr. Negasi Goitom

hectares prepared this year, said Mr. Solomon Tsegay, Head of the Technique Department in factory and currently also working as inspector of the new site.

According to Mr. Dawit Asefaw, Director of Quality Control at Massawa Salt Works, the salt processing undergoes multiple stages. The process begins with the channeling of seawater to the evaporation pans. The seawater is then left in the first stage salt evaporation pans to increase its density until it reaches 15 degrees of Baume. Subsequently, it is transferred to the concentrator pan, where it remains until it reaches 25 degrees of Baume. At this point, calcium-sulfate is removed. The

During the crystallization stage, elements such as magnesium sulfate and barium sulfate settle on the top level of the sediment. Following harvesting, the salt undergoes a washing process, which increases its sodium chloride content from 95% to over 96.5%. According to the Eritrean Bureau of Standards, salt with a sodium chloride content exceeding 96% is considered high-quality.

After undergoing all these processes, including washing, processing, and iodization, the salt becomes a high-quality product. The iodization of salt during the production process is of utmost importance. The addition of iodine to salt helps prevent various diseases and plays a crucial role in human mental and physical development. The iodization of the salt produced by Massawa Salt Factory began in 1995, primarily driven by the United Nations' initiative to eliminate iodine deficiency-related deaths. The UN assisted in the form of iodine and iodizers. The formal implementation of the iodization process started at the salt factories in Massawa and Assab, and it is still ongoing.

According to the Ministry



salt is further transferred to the crystallizer, where it reaches a density of 29 degrees of Baume. Afterward, it is harvested and transferred to the processing plant, where impurities are removed. The salt density in the Red Sea is 3.5 degrees of Baume, higher than the Mediterranean Sea and the oceans.

For a successful salt harvest, hot temperature, low permeable soil, absence of rain, strong and dry wind, and low moisture are very important.

of Health's guidelines, the salt should contain 40 to 80 parts per million of iodine. The iodine is sprayed onto the salt using a compressor. While there are private salt producers in Eritrea, Mr. Dawit advises people to use only salt produced by Massawa Salt Factory. The iodization process at their factory is conducted scientifically and ensures even distribution of iodine on the salt.

Continued on page 4



ERITREA'S STATEMENT AT THE SIXTH MINISTERIAL-LEVEL
SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY

Delivered by: Mr. Kalekristos Zerisenay, First Secretary, Embassy of the State of Eritrea to Kenya and Permanent Representation to UNEP and UN-Habitat



Ms. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of my government, allow me to express my gratitude to the people and government of the Republic of Kenya for the warm hospitality. Let me also congratulate the President and Bureau of UNEA-6 for the excellent leadership. I also appreciate the Chair and Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as well as the

Executive Director of UNEP and the Secretariat for their diligence in organizing this important session.

Ms. President,

The status of the global environment is known to everyone, and I will not go into details. There is also a general agreement that the pace and scale of our responses to environmental crises are far behind the required. Attempts to

create hierarchy of importance among environmental challenges has the danger of undermining global solidarity. As we are living in different geographic regions of varied levels of development, environmental challenges that we face and our priorities and capabilities to respond to the challenges may not be completely the same. Regardless of these minor differences, the only way out of these crises is a united action and a holistic approach to the environment. After all, the various sections of the environment are interrelated and interdependent.

Ms. President,

The plethora of Funds and Secretariats of Multilateral Environmental Agreements that we have created to help us combat climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, land degradation, desertification and other environmental challenges have become a matter of concern.

The different modes operandi

they pursue, the uneven human and financial resources mobilization capacity they have, and the lack of coordination among themselves and with UNEP and UNEA necessitates consideration of reform and restructuring to achieve coherence, effectiveness and efficiency.

Ms. President,

In line with its development strategy, Eritrea is making efforts to achieve growth and development without compromising the environment. Transitioning to clean energy, conservation of soil and water, implementation of afforestation and reforestation programs, establishment of protected areas and area-based effective conservation, planting mangroves and date palms along the Red Sea coast, curbing all kinds of hunting, criminalizing illegal trade on wild animals and plants and their products, banning of single-use plastics and hazardous chemicals and waste are some of the measures

that Eritrea is taking seriously.

Ms. President,

As we may know, the rusting ship carrying more than 1.1 million barrels of oil off the coast of Yemen has been a matter of concern for countries of the Red Sea and beyond. Eritrea has consistently notified the United Nations about the danger posed by the vessel which was at the brink of breakaway, and requested for a speedy action to offload the oil from the fleet.

The oil was safely transferred to another fleet last year and the risk of oil spill in the Red Sea is successfully avoided. On this occasion, Eritrea would like to extend its gratitude to the United Nations and all parties who have contributed to the saving of the Red Sea from environmental catastrophe. As I conclude, I would like to congratulate the outgoing presidency for the successful accomplishments. I would also like to welcome and wish success for the incoming presidency.

*I thank you for your kind
Attention!!*

Massawa Salt Factory: Revitalizing . . .

Continued from page 3

Mr. Negassi emphasizes it is not enough to produce and stock the salt; it also needs to be processed and monetized. For this reason finding buyers at the international market is crucial.

Market studies were conducted in Kenya and Uganda in 1996, revealing high demand for products of Massawa Salt Works, and exports were initiated to those countries at that time. Records of the plant

show that before the war with Ethiopia broke out in 1998, around 80,000 tons of salt were exported, generating approximately three million dollars of income. Although in smaller quantities, exports also continued to countries like Japan and South Korea. Currently, efforts are being made to regain access to the international market and revive trade links. The quality of the salt produced in the factory meets international standards.

“The quality of the final product depends on adhering to the proper

production stages. Our customers often inquire about our production process. We provide them with the formulas we follow, and when the product reaches them, they conduct laboratory analyses to confirm their conformity with the provided formulas. If the laboratory results align with the specified formulas, they proceed to purchase our products,” said Mr. Dawit.

Mr. Negassi said that the target at the Halibay project is to increase production from 20,000 to 100,000

tons in the next five years, with further plans to reach over a million tons. With proper preparations and the necessary production tools, the capacity could easily exceed one million tons as there is ample space available.

The salt production sector holds immense potential in Eritrea, thanks to the extensive coastal areas and the high salinity of the Red Sea. According to several studies, areas like Menkaekae, near the city of Assab, have the potential to produce up to 10 million tons of salt. According to Mr. Negassi, with the ongoing development of the Halibay site, the production of one million tons of salt would result in potential earnings of approximately one billion dollars at the current market value.

“To realize this vision, we plan to install advanced and modern salt refineries. These machines process salt from the initial washing stage to the packaging stage. Coarse salt currently holds a market value of 35 to 40 dollars per ton in the international market, while refined and fine salt produced by the refineries can fetch up to 400 dollars per ton. Therefore, our future plan involves establishing these refineries, producing value-added products and high-quality salt, and generating foreign currency



Solomon Tegai

from this renewable resource. It is imperative that we effectively exploit this resource,” Mr. Negassi added.

Globally, annual salt production stands at around 200 million tons, with over 94 percent being utilized for industrial purposes and the remaining six percent used for human and animal consumption. It is a versatile commodity that finds applications in more than 14,000 industries, making it highly sought after on a global scale. In addition to salt, Massawa Salt Works also produces salt by-products such as gypsum, which is utilized for decoration and other purposes, as well as Clorox for hygiene and sanitization. Furthermore, the factory has plans to produce caustic soda, soda ash, and chlorine which are essential in the manufacturing of various products.





Looking Closer into Universal Health Coverage and life Expectancy

Dr. Fikrejesus Amahazion

Earlier this week, local media outlets featured an extended interview with Dr. Martins Obeverdjo, the World Health Organization (WHO) Country Representative in Eritrea, as he completed his tour of duty in the nation. The wide-ranging conversation touched upon a range of development-related topics and also shared his reflections on his nearly five years of time and work in Eritrea.

The following article delves a bit deeper into some of the important issues raised in the recent interview, offering further insights and details.

A closer look at universal health coverage

One topic highlighted by Dr. Martins was universal health coverage (UHC). In particular, he noted that Eritrea has “recorded a very notable improvement [in this area]” over the years.

UHC is about ensuring that all people have access to the full range of quality health services that they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship. It covers the full continuum of essential health services, from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and palliative care across the life course. UHC is particularly important in terms of its underlying significance to overall health, which represents both an outcome and indicator of the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Looking at the case of Eritrea, the country’s national health policy aims to maximize the health and well-being of all citizens at all ages and seeks to ensure equity and access to essential health services at an affordable cost, utilizing primary health care as a key strategy and consistent with UHC principles.

Since 2016, a wide set of interventions, including the Essential Health Care Package, have been developed and implemented by the Ministry of Health (among others) to expand access and improve care for all.

Importantly, in line with Eritrea’s longstanding commitments to social justice, equality, inclusion, and leaving no one behind, health service continues to be heavily subsidized, with patients required to make only nominal payments (which are wholly waived in cases of financial need). Furthermore, a wide range of essential health services are provided completely free of charge, including all public and preventive services, such as immunization and growth monitoring, pre- and post-partum care, nutrition and supplementation, and health education. In addition, all patients with chronic diseases and other disorders, such as tuberculosis (TB), HIV/AIDS, hypertension, diabetes, and mental disorders, among several others, are provided with free care and prescribed medications.

Alongside the above, accessibility, the expansion of health infrastructure, and human resource development have also been areas of major focus over the years, with the country constructing and renovating many hospitals, health centres, health stations, and clinics, as well as considerably increasing the number of doctors and health professionals. There are now nearly 350 health facilities distributed across the country (comprising hospitals, health centres, health stations, and clinics) – which represents a nearly fourfold increase from 1991. What is more, at present, slightly over

80 percent of the population lives within a 10 km radius of a health facility and more than 70 percent within a 5 km radius, representing major improvements from just a few decades ago.

Eritrea has also considerably increased the number of doctors and health professionals. The number of doctors has been raised from 100 in 1997 to 291 by 2021, while across the same time period, the number of dentists rose from 6 to 59, nurses from 625 to 1,474, assistant nurses from 1,220 to 2,918, dental therapists from 11 to 165, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians from 97 to 486, laboratory technicians from 99 to 517, radiologists from 28 to 132, physiotherapy technicians from 6 to 140, and specialized doctors from 5 to 74. Notably, the government covers the full costs of education, training, and salaries for all health workers, and there are no recruitment ceilings or constraints.

Further insight into life expectancy, among the most commonly used measures of overall health

Another interesting point raised by Dr. Martins pertained to the topic of life expectancy. Speaking about the country’s progress in this area, he stated that Eritrea, “has achieved a phenomenal increase in life expectancy,” and pointed out “there are very few countries that have achieved such notable



results.”

According to international organizations, such as the WHO, the World Bank, and many others, life expectancy is defined as the average number of years that a newborn could expect to live, if he or she were to pass through life exposed to the sex- and age-specific death rates prevailing at the time of his or her birth, for a specific year, in a given country, territory, or geographic area. More simply, it can be understood as the average life span of an individual.

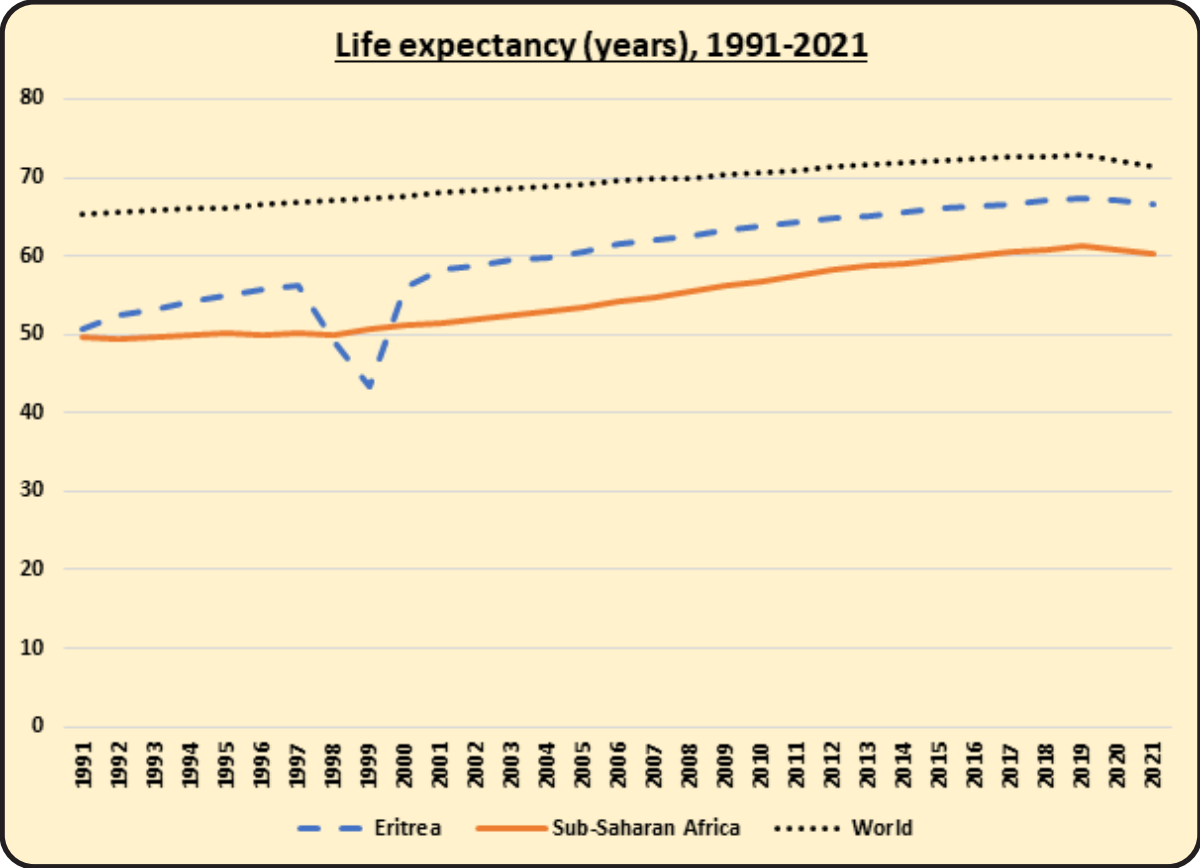
In terms of research and analysis, life expectancy continues to be among the most commonly used indicators for population health, human welfare, and assessing the economic and social development of a country or a region. Its significance is also reflected in the fact that it is one of the measures that comprises the UN’s Human Development Index, while a large body of empirical work from around the world has compellingly

shown that it is tightly intertwined with socioeconomic growth and development through a variety of pathways and mechanisms.

For most of human history, average life expectancy has steadily increased worldwide, with improvements in health care, access to water, hygiene and sanitary conditions, decreases in disease epidemics, and improved safety measures. Today, global life expectancy is slightly over 70 years, about double what it was just a couple of centuries ago.

With specific regard to Eritrea, life expectancy has soared from less than 50 at independence to about 67 last year, a relatively large improvement within a short period of time. To put this long-run progress into better context, the country now has the highest life expectancy in the Horn of Africa region. What is more, it is now among the leaders on the continent, and has gone from below to well above the average for Sub-Saharan Africa. Eritrea’s rapid improvement has also seen it considerably narrow the once yawning gap with the world average.

It is also worth keeping firmly in mind that not long after winning its independence, Eritrea was faced with a brutal two-year war of aggression. Launched by the belligerent, expansionist previous Ethiopian regime, the war directly aimed at effecting a violent extralegal change of government in Asmara and forcibly annexing most of the highlands and large parts of the eastern lowlands of Eritrea. In addition to all of its extremely destructive impacts and highly damaging consequences, the war halted much of the Eritrea’s early improvements in life expectancy, reversing its progress considerably.





Bisha Mining Share Company
P.O. Box 4276
Asmara
Eritrea

Tel: (+291) 1124941
Fax: (+291) 1124941
www.bishamining.com

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Bisha Mining Share Company is inviting applicants for the following position for Bisha site project.

1. Position: Mine Captain
Department: Mining
Number required: One (01)

Primary Purpose

- Plan, organise and control mining activities in underground sections under his responsibility to ensure that production, drilling, and development targets are achieved, safely and within budget.

TASK DESCRIPTION Expanded TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

Production targets

- Ensure that agreed ore production tonnage and development advance are effectively and economically achieved, to meet overall production targets.

Supervision

- Supervise the work relating to development, long hole drilling, timbering, stope blasting, and tramming.

Safety

- Ensure that both domestic and statutory mining safety regulations are enforced and observed at all times, so as to safeguard personnel and material assets.

Cost Control

- Optimize the use of men, equipment, and materials so as to minimize operating costs.

Labor Relations

- Maintain discipline and sound industrial relations among subordinates and supervisors in order to promote good atmosphere conducive to high productivity.

Communication

- Ensure that higher management is properly, and effectively informed of progress in the various activities of operation.

Training and development of subordinates

- Ensure the availability of trained personnel to uphold sectional performance.

Health, Safety and Environment

- Drive the health, safety and environment standards/policy awareness and practice in the Department to ensure compliance.
- Facilitate Stop look assess and manage (SLAM), Visible felt leadership (VFL), Planned task observation (PTO), training.

Additional Duties

- Adhering to all other assignments that are given that are lawful and fair.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Degree or Diploma in mining engineering or equivalento Blasting Licenseo First Aid certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Diploma with Minimum of 10 years' working experience or Degree with Minimum of 8 years' working experience in hard rock underground mining.o Knowledge of blasting operation techniques & Mine Planning.o Must be able to make right and quick decisions towards solving operating problems in the various aspects of development, drilling, and production
Behavioral Skills	Technical Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Self-starter, Drive and enthusiasmo Development orientatedo Passion for accuracy and perfection in delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Supervisory skills-ability to organize and co-ordinate including good liaison with other departments. Basic Computer Literacy.o Good English written, verbal & organisational skills. Ability to lead a team, Strong Supervisory Skill & ability to lead a team.o Knowledge of underground rock mechanics and mine planning as applied to underground mining operations. Excellent hazard awareness.

UNIQUE REQUIREMENTS/OTHER INFORMATION

- The candidate must be Physically and Medically fit.

2. Position: Senior Underground Planning Engineer
Department: Mining
Number required: Two (01)

Primary Purpose

- Assist the Underground Chief Mining Engineer with planning, scheduling,

coordination, monitoring, and management of all underground projects.

TASK DESCRIPTION Expanded TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

Underground Project Planning and Management

- Planning and scheduling of the underground projects and update project schedules as required
- Monitoring of the progress on project milestones
- Weekly and end of month reporting on projects and department activities, attend meetings as required.
- Understand the strategic, long term mine plans for the projects with the overall strategic BMSC Life of Mine Plan
- The development of short-term plans that maintains the long-term objectives
- Manage, control, and coordinate all Underground technical services departments; Blasting, Ventilation, Survey, Geology & Geotechnical.
- Optimize all mine designs and layouts in accordance with best mine procedures and standards
- Ensure legal compliance of all legally appointed personnel. Annual reporting of ore resources and reserves.

Administrations

- Project management documentation.
- Compilation of Project reports, attend meetings as required. Provide other duties as requested.
- Always ensure ethical behavior and maintain good communication within the department.
- Always maintain and enforce the BMSC Safety and Health policies

Budgeting

- Financial tracking of all underground projects, budgets, and capital expenditure
- Development of cost models in and financial analysis for all underground operations

Mine Engineering

- Development, evaluation and reviewing of mine designs and production scheduling
- Development, review, monitoring, and management of the execution plan
- Technical audits and evaluation, including mining methods, infrastructure, designs, schedules, and financials. Provide other duties as required.
- Provide mentoring to the mining engineers and graduate mining engineers.
- Assist with design and integration of underground related safety protocols, mining standards and SOPs into the BMSC system.

Report Writing

- Generate weekly and monthly reports;

UNIQUE REQUIREMENTS/OTHER INFORMATION

- The candidate must be Physically and Medically fit.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Degree in Mining Engineeringo Qualification in Business Administration/Project Management is desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Minimum of 7 years' experience in the mining industry.o 5+ years working experience in hard rock underground mining.o Experience in zinc or other base metal mining is essential.o International experience is desirable particularly in Africa
Technical Skills	Behavioral Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Computer Literacy, MS Office-Intermediate, Excel -Advanced; MS project – Advanced.o Competent in mining and scheduling software, i.e., Surpac, Datamine, Deswik, VentSim, Map-3Do Strategic planning. Project planning. Budgeting.o Plan, organise, and execution.o Risk management & assessment. Cost modelling.o Technical Report writing, A good knowledge of the mineral reporting codes, including the NI43-101 and JORC code. Analytical and Problem solving.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Communicationso Ability to work in multi-disciplinary environment.o Ability to conduct Engineering matters to various levels.o Interpersonal skills.o Ability to work under pressure and achieve project milestones.o Good leadership skills



3

Position: Sectional Engineer
Department: Mining
Number required: One (01)

Continued from page 6

Primary Purpose

- Ensure to supervise mechanical maintenance and repair work of fixed plants and other ancillary equipment in compliance with the maintenance management systems objectives.

TASK DESCRIPTION Expanded TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

Maintenance and Repair of Winding Plants

- Supervises and coordinates activities of subordinates (foremen) engaged in the maintenance, repair and installation of the fixed plants and other ancillary equipment in order to ensure Production of high-quality work and completion of work according to set schedules.
- Ensure critical spares are reviewed and are available to eliminate down time

Implementation of Maintenance Management systems

- Examines, in conjunction with the maintenance planner/scheduler, machine parts removed during major overhauls jointly decide whether or not the parts could be re-used.

Labor control

- Discusses any technical problems with subordinates and ensure their prompt solution in order to meet set work schedules.

Job planning and monitoring

- Request for requisite materials and labor to attend to emergency situations.

Safety promotion

- Ensures that subordinates strictly observe prescribed working rules and procedures to Promote and maintain safety and discipline. Recommends improvements to working practices, techniques and standards to the Sectional Engineer.

Health, Safety and Environment

- Drive the health, safety and environment standards/policy awareness and practice in the Department to ensure compliance.
- Facilitate Stop look assess and manage (SLAM), Visible felt leadership (VFL), Planned task observation (PTO), training.

Additional Duties

- Adhering to all other assignments that are given that are lawful and fair

UNIQUE REQUIREMENTS/OTHER INFORMATION

- The candidate must be Physically and Medically fit.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Degree or Diploma in Mechanical/Electrical Engineering○ Further qualification in Finance/Business Management would be an advantage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Diploma with Minimum of 10 years' working experience in underground mining fixed plant maintenance○ Degree with Minimum of 6 years' working experience in underground mining fixed plant maintenance○ Disciplinary industrial plant experience on surface mining / mainly on underground mining.○ Knowledge of plan, schedule, control, and direct workloads involving Mechanical Engineering.
Technical Skills	Behavioral Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Computer Literacy○ Conversant with Microsoft Office Suite (Outlook, Excel, Word, Microsoft Project, and Power Point).○ Strategic planning. Project planning. Budgeting.○ Plan, organise, & execution○ Risk management and assessment.○ Analytical and Problem solving.○ Technical Report writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Good oral and written communication skills○ Ability to work in multi-disciplinary environment.○ Ability to conduct Engineering matters to various levels.○ Ability to work under pressure and achieve project milestones. Self-starter, Drive and enthusiasm○ Developmental orientated. Excellent leadership skills.○ Passion for accuracy and perfection in delivery

General Information and other requirements:

- Place of Work: Bisha.
- Salary: As per Company salary scale.
- Type of Contract: Indefinite

Additional requirement for Nationals:

- Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligation and provide evidence of release paper from the Ministry of Defense.
- Present clearance paper from current/last employer.
- Testimonial documents to be attached (CV, work experience credentials, a copy of your National Identity Card etc.).
- Only shortlisted applicants will be considered as potential candidates for an interview.
- Application documents will not be returned to sender.
- All applications should be sent through the post office.
- Deadline for application: 10 days from the day of publication in the Newspaper.

Address: Please mail your applications to:-
Bisha Mining Share Company,
P. O. Box 4276 Asmara, Eritrea

Note to Eritrean applicants:

Please send a copy of your application to:

- Aliens Employment permits Affairs,
P. O. Box 7940
Asmara, Eritrea.
- Mineral Resources Management
P. O. Box 272
Asmara, Eritrea

Ministry of Agriculture

Procurement and Supplies Management Division

Integrated Agricultural Development Programme (IADP)

Government of: The State of Eritrea
Project/procuring entity: Integrated Agricultural Development Programme (IADP)

GPN version: 1.0

GPN publication date: 29 January, 2024

The Government of the state of Eritrea has received financing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) towards the cost of Integrated Agricultural Development Programme (IADP) and intends to apply part of the financing to payments for contracts for goods and services.

The procurement program for the period, 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024 will include the following:

Procurements for 1 year

Estimated value – 3.2 million

Procurement of goods to include:

Supply, installation and commissioning of Automatic weather stations, Procurement of pick axes and shovels, Procurement of total stations, Procurement of pesticides, Procurement of sprayers and PPE/PPG, Procurement of laboratory reagents, chemicals, supplements ,controls and consumables, Procurement of Equipment (Epoxy), procurement of High performance Liquid chromatography (HPLC) with mass spectrophotometer (LC-MS) equipment ,supporting materials, reagents and standards etc. . . .

Contracts for goods, works and services will be implemented according to the principles, rules and procedures set out in the current versions of the IFAD Project Procurement Guidelines and IFAD Procurement Handbook.

Specific procurement notices for contracts to be tendered under the competitive bidding procedures will be announced as they become available on selected portals, in local newspapers, and other media outlets as appropriate.

Interested eligible bidders and consultants who wish to be included on the mailing list to receive a copy of advertisements, or those requiring additional information, should send an email to the Procurement officer of Integrated Agricultural Development Programme (IADP) (Lidyarusomlidu1221@gmail.com) Procurement and Supplies Management Division using the subject line “GPN 1.0 for Integrated Agricultural Development Programme (IADP) and indicating which of the procurement items they are interested in.



Q and A

“With Careful Planning and Dedication, There is no Obstacle that can’t be overcome.” Mrs. Tigisti

Mussie Efriem

Where did your journey with dairy farming first take root?

I was born and raised in Beleza to a family of farmers. My father was a farmer, and so were my siblings. My personal experience as a dairy farmer dates back to 2005. We began by purchasing one cow to provide milk for our children and sell the excess to our neighbors. Through time, however, the one cow we had started reproducing, and our dairy farm started to expand beyond our expectations. Hence, we started selling our dairy production, including milk, traditionally spiced butter, yogurt, and other types of dairy products around our village. Later on, we started selling our products to the Dairy Farmers Association in Asmara. Encouraged by the augmented output we got from the farm, we decided to further expand our farm, building bigger shelters for the cattle and acquiring an even bigger land for the cultivation of greenery forage to feed our increasing number of cattle.

How many cattle do you have, and how do you meet the needs of your livestock?

At the moment, I have about 20 milk cows, the majority of them being Holstein (a type of imported cow) and some are indigenous. They each have their own set of advantages and disadvantages. Imported cows are more



For nearly twenty years, the Tigisti Hints family business in Beleza (a village 11 kilometers north-west of Asmara), has been producing and selling milk to the Dairy Farmers Association of the Central Region in Asmara. Owned by Ms. Tigisti, the farm has been producing traditionally spiced butter and other dairy-processed products for the market. Mrs. Tigisti is one of the exemplary farmers who have earned awards for effectively using MoA's dairy production strategies, showing a remarkable increase in dairy products in a short period, and influencing many other farmers.

productive and consume more, but they are less disease-resistant and require more care than indigenous cows. On the other hand, many of the indigenous cattle are adapted to the local environment, they don't require too much care unlike the foreign cows, but they are less productive than the Holstein. The average amount of milk we get from one cow is 15-17 liters per day. We have sufficient water supply and a quarter of a hectare of land for greenery fodder. Besides, we also provide them with some dry food such as straw, corn silage, grass hay, corn stover, and soybean straw. Although I have employees who inspect the daily activity of the farm, I also make sure I am there daily to oversee their hygiene, nutrition, and overall condition. My husband is also a passionate farmer, but he is not often available to take care of other duties.

How does your farm contribute to the well-being and financial stability of your family, and how do you manage being a wife, a mother, and a farmer?

Of course, since we started this family business our livelihood has been transformed, and we have been able to raise, and educate our children well. In addition to managing the farm, I prioritize their education, giving them time and assistance whenever possible. They are all prize winners, and one of them has followed his passion to becoming a successful cycling racer. In addition to providing financial income, the farm has a significant impact on improving the nutritional value of our family. Besides operating a dairy farm, I work hard to balance all of my household responsibilities as a mother and wife, as well as participate in other social activities.

What techniques do you use on your farm?

The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) assists us in a variety of ways, including practical training and the provision of materials and other resources. We received the Artificial Insemination (AI) technique from the MoA, which

What difficulties do you encounter in running your farm?

Well, there are several problems; all you have to do is not be defeated by them. There are also some food shortages because of the high consumption of food by imported cattle. Our current quarter of a hectare is insufficient to feed all cows daily.



we are using on our farm. When compared to traditional breeding with bulls in the herd, AI allows for faster genetic advancement by allowing the selection of specifically desired species, breeding more cows in less time, and many other benefits. Seven of my cows are the result of the AI. Furthermore, adopting this procedure may save you money over feeding bulls solely for reproduction. In general, if the cattle become ill or something beyond our control occurs, we contact the MoA, who are always available for us.

We also use some dry food, but green forage is the most effective for increased milk production, even though it doesn't match the costs and the outcomes. But now we have been hearing that the new techniques of the hydroponic system (a method of growing plants without soil) have been introduced by the MoA, so we have great hope that will solve our problem of land insufficiency. Hence, instead of just producing traditional dairy processing we have a plan to grow our dairy farm into the more industrialized form of dairy processing business opening our own sales center and trademark.

And finally, if you have a message for the Eritrean women?

I want to tell them that if they work hard and start their own business, not just farming but any kind of business, they can become self-sufficient and independent. You do not need to complain about what you do not have, and it is not necessary to start a business with a significant investment; you may start with what you have on hand. When it comes to dairy farming for instance, patience and sacrifice are required, but you will succeed. Women can't make excuses for not taking care of their domestic tasks and children; with careful planning and dedicated effort, no obstacle can't be overcome.

