

PRESIDENT ISAIAS AFWERKI RETURNS HOME



President Isaias and his delegation returned home in the mid-morning hours yesterday after participating in the Summit of Leaders of the neighboring countries of Sudan that was held in Cairo on 13 July.

The Summit, in which the leaders of Eritrea, Egypt, Chad, the Central African Republic, Libya, South Sudan, and Ethiopia, as well as the Chairman of the African Union Commission and Secretary General of the Arab League, took part, concluded with the issuing of a Communiqué.

In the Communiqué, expressing deep concern regarding the ongoing military confrontations and the continuous deterioration of the security and humanitarian situations in Sudan, the leaders called on the parties to the conflict to de-escalate the situation and commit to an immediate and sustainable cease-fire to end the war, avoiding further loss of innocent civilian Sudanese lives and destruction of property.

Affirming full respect for the sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity of Sudan, the leaders agreed that the current conflict is an internal Sudanese affair, and stressed the need for ending any external interferences in the crisis, including interferences that protract the conflict and obstruct

efforts to contain its escalation and reach an agreed settlement that will restore stability and security in Sudan. *(Full text of the Communiqué is on page 2)*

Speaking at the Summit, President Isaias commended the initiative that the Government of Egypt took to organize the summit, reiterated Eritrea's support for the people of Sudan to extricate themselves from the quagmire, and underlined the imperative of respecting the sovereignty of Sudan.

President Isaias also stressed the pitfalls of military intervention and hoped that collective efforts will lead to the gate of safety.

Prior to the summit, President Isaias Afwerki met and held talks with President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, focusing on resolving the conflict in Sudan as well as regional and global developments of interest to the two countries.

President Isaias Afwerki had also met, on 13 July with the President of the Republic of

Chad, General Mahamat Deby, to exchange views on the crisis in Sudan.

Likewise, President Isaias met and held talks on 12 July, with Dr.

General of the Arab League.

It is to be recalled that, President Isaias, on the invitation of President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, arrived in Cairo in the



Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, President Salva Kiir Mayardit of the Republic of South Sudan, as well as with the Chairman of the African Union Commission and Secretary

mid-morning hours of July 12, to attend the Summit of Leaders of the neighboring countries of Sudan accompanied by Mr. Osman Saleh, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Presidential Adviser Mr. Yemane Gebreab.

NUEYS ACTIVITY ASSESSMENT MEETING

The National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students conducted a six-month activity assessment meeting on the implementation of charted-out programs.

According to the report presented

at the meeting, sustainable training programs have been organized, the 10th Festival of Higher Education Institutions has been conducted, commendable activity has been exerted to strengthen

the organizational capacity of the youth, and support has been extended to selected six projects.

The report also indicated that commendable effort has been

exerted to develop the overall capacity of the youth, their participation in the development programs, as well as relations with the national associations.

The participants conducted extensive discussion on the report presented and adopted various recommendations,

Speaking at the occasion, Mr. Saleh Ahmedin, Chairman of the Union, indicated that education is the basis for socio-economic development, and expressed the union's conviction to exert more effort to that effect.



Communique of Sudan's Neighboring States Summit

Upon the invitation of H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the heads of state and governments of the Central African Republic, Chad, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Libya, and South Sudan, with the presence of the Chairman of the African Union Commission and the Secretary General of the League of Arab States, met in Cairo on July 13, 2023, to attend the "Sudan's Neighboring States Summit". They discussed various aspects of the situation in Sudan and deliberated on possible solutions to end the crisis. The leaders agreed on the following:

1- Expressing their deep concern regarding the ongoing military confrontations and the continuous deterioration of the security and humanitarian situations in Sudan. The leaders called on the parties to the conflict to de-escalate the situation and commit to an immediate and sustainable cease-fire to end the war and avoid further loss of innocent civilian Sudanese lives and destruction of property.

2- Affirming their full respect for the sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity of Sudan. The leaders agreed that the current conflict is an internal Sudanese affair, and stressed the need for ending any external interferences in the crisis. Such interferences protract the conflict and obstruct efforts to contain its escalation and reach an agreed settlement that



will restore stability and security in Sudan.

3- Reiterating the importance of preserving the Sudanese State and its institutions, and preventing the fragmentation of the country, or descent into chaos that could lead to the spread of terrorism and organized crime and other serious impacts on the national security of neighboring states and overall regional stability.

4- Stressing the utmost priority of formulating a comprehensive approach to addressing the current crisis and its humanitarian ramifications, including those internally displaced and the growing influx of refugees fleeing the conflict to neighboring states, a challenging situation that creates growing pressure on the resources of neighboring states. The leaders called on the international community and donor countries to shoulder their responsibility by upholding pledges made at the "Ministerial-level Pledging Event to Support the Humanitarian Response in Sudan and the Region", attended by Sudan's neighboring states on June 19, 2023.

5- Expressing grave concern regarding the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Sudan, and condemning the repeated attacks on civilians, healthcare facilities, and public services outlets. The leaders also called on the international community to step up efforts to provide crucial humanitarian aid and to address urgent shortages in food and medical supplies in Sudan, as a measure towards alleviating the serious hardships caused by the crisis on innocent civilians.

6- Agreeing to facilitate the entry of humanitarian aid provided to Sudan through the territories of neighboring states, in coordination with relevant international agencies and organizations, and to

strongly promote the establishment of safe passage for aid deliveries to the most affected and vulnerable areas. In this context, the leaders urged various Sudanese parties to provide the necessary protection for humanitarian assistance and personnel and to facilitate their mission in delivering assistance to

those in need.

7- Emphasizing the pressing need for a political solution to stop the ongoing conflict. To this end, the leaders called for an inclusive and comprehensive national dialogue between Sudanese parties, prioritizing the aspirations and prosperity of the Sudanese people through the restoration of stability and security in the country.

8- Agreeing to form a Ministerial Mechanism comprised of foreign ministers of Sudan's neighboring states to coordinate common efforts to resolve the current conflict. The Ministerial Mechanism shall hold its first meeting in N'Djamena and will be mandated to take the following measures:

A- Develop an action plan that includes practical steps towards stopping the fighting and reaching a comprehensive solution to the crisis

through direct communication with various Sudanese parties, in complementarity with the existing mechanisms, including the IGAD and AU.

B- Discuss measures required to address the impact of the crisis on the future of Sudan's stability, unity, and territorial integrity, as well as to protect and preserve Sudan's national institutions. The Ministerial Mechanism shall also discuss steps to contain the negative effects of the crisis on neighboring states and agree on a delivery mechanism to provide humanitarian aid and relief to the Sudanese people.

C- The Ministerial Mechanism shall present its recommendations to the next Sudan's Neighboring States Summit.

Cairo
13th of July 2023



53 HRC – Eritrea's Statement on the Urgent Debate on public acts of Incitement to Religious Hatred and the Burning of the Holy Koran

Mr. President,

Eritrea has a rich history of religious tolerance, coexistence and harmony. Indeed, Christianity and Islam have coexisted in mutual respect and tolerance for the last 14 centuries.

The overarching aim in post-independence Eritrea is also anchored on nation-building predicated on upholding of equal rights and opportunity that is enshrined in nation law. There is thus no exclusion, marginalization, preferences on the basis of religion, sex, ethnicity, etc. Eritrea shines as a peaceful, secular nation where religious freedom is guaranteed by law and respected by every citizen.

Eritrea thus rejects extremist ideas and actions that sow discord

through radicalization and religious extremism. This trend disregards the respect of the inherent value system as well as respect and tolerance of the diverse religious constituencies. Disrespecting the sacred traditions, practices and holy books is thus irresponsible and unacceptable.

Mr. President,

In the above context, the recent burning of the Holy Koran by the leader of the Danish hard line Party Rasmus Paludan that continued in many western cities constitutes as irresponsible act that defies peaceful coexistence and mutual respect among religions. It is also a provocative act especially occurring, as it did, during the Eid celebrations.

The position of some western

countries in defence of the above intolerable act as "freedom of expression" is thus both untenable and irresponsible as the act also jeopardizes social harmony and international solidarity. It is also a violation of Article 20 of the ICCPR (International Convention on Civic and Political rights) that obligates all states to prohibit and enforce accountability on acts that constitute religious hatred and incitement to violence.

Mr. President,

In line to the rational expounded above, Eritrea supports the draft resolution at hand and calls on HRC members to uphold consensus during decision time as a basis of our future collective effort to the ideals of humanity.

I thank you, Mr. President!

**ERITREA
PROFILE**

**Published Every
Wednesday & Saturday**

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SpotLight

Simon Woldemichael

Sawa and the National Service, which serve as a bridge for transition from adolescence into adulthood, give the Eritrean youth an opportunity to broaden their experiences. Eritrea announced its “proclamation on national service 82/1995” to create hard working and disciplined new generation of young Eritreans that work without reservation for the reconstruction of the country. The National Service has become an Eritrean rite of passage to adulthood, and Sawa and the National Service, which are widely held as agents of socialization, build a united citizenry committed to the defence and development of the nation.

Eritreans fought a bitter war for thirty years and paid heavy price to attain freedom and sovereignty. The revolutionary experience of the Eritrean people has garnered enormous appreciation not only for its ability to defeat colonialism but also for its ability to forge collective hope, national cohesion, and perseverance. The first EPLF manifesto, *Our Struggle and Its Goals*, that was issued in November 1971 put as one of its focal points national unity. The document states that “it is a big shame that there should exist religious, ethnic, and other divisions within the Eritrean liberation struggle. As freedom fighters our role should be to eradicate this and other ills of Eritrean society; and in no way should we create a situation wherein such ills could be accentuated.”

As a step towards eradicating differences, the EPLF organized its combat and non-combat units by bringing fighters with diverse backgrounds together. The Eritrean struggle for independence was a golden period in the history of the country that brought together Eritreans from various ethnic, religious, and socioeconomic backgrounds in a common cause, providing a suitable environment in which to break down barriers. In this sense, the National Service Proclamation can be understood as a continuation of the legacy of the independence struggle, with the new generation assuming the historical responsibility to carry out the sacred duty of ensuring the preservation of the country’s freedom and sovereignty.

National Service in Eritrea was officially introduced for the first time in July 1994. It has become a catalyst in developing patriotic generations that appreciate their history. The program strengthens integration among the youth and

Sawa-School of Socialization and Nationhood



ensures national security. One of its grand objectives is to establish people-based strong defense forces

the socio-psychological makeup of the Eritrean youth, strengthening national identity, eradicating sub

The National Service proclamation, which was one of the first major pronouncements of the newly independent Eritrea, has as its objectives the strengthening of Eritrea’s defensive capacities and the building of the nation by bringing together Eritrea’s diverse population and inculcating civic ideals and loyalty to the nation. Initially, the National Service was designed to include a six-month military training followed by a 12-month active military or social service. Indeed, the first few rounds of recruits in the National Service fulfilled their duties as per the rules specified in the proclamation. However, the term had to be



that ensure the existence of a free and sovereign Eritrea and preserve the culture of heroism that the people of Eritrea have shown during the armed struggle and passed them on to the following generations. As a major national institution, the National Service requires that young students from all over the country spend a year in Sawa to attend grade 12 to complete their high school education and get military training.

Eritrea’s National Service holds a special place in the country’s collective psyche. It is widely viewed as an important component of the Eritrean identity and as central to nation building. In its 29 years of operation, more than half a million Eritrean men and women have gone to Sawa for high school education and military and vocational training. Sawa has had a significant and durable effect on

national and divisive sentiments and consolidating national power. The Eritrean youth who have done their national service have emerged more connected to one another and more invested in their country.

extended after the TPLF war of aggression was instigated in 1998 and the subsequent “no war no peace” situation to deal with the national security threat. The efficacy of the National Service program has

been proven by the ability of the Eritrean Defence Forces to quell the national threat.

In its mission of building a united, strong, and modern Eritrea, the government has invested heavily to develop human resources, and to accomplish this it mainly targets young students who represent the most dynamic and vibrant section of the society. The service ethic fostered among the youth during the past 29 years is incredibly high. During the perilous periods Eritreans went on to serve in the army and many more served in different sectors to support in the defence of the country. Sawa and the National Service have produced great generations that have saved the nation from danger. Eritreans from all walks of life came together to consolidate the wall of resistance and pay the ultimate price to preserve the independence and territorial integrity of the country. The Sawa generation have adequately shouldered the historical responsibility to fulfill the will of thousands of martyrs and ensure the continuity of the country’s freedom and sovereignty.

Engaging generations of Eritrea in service to the nation is an idea that dates back to the struggle for independence. National Service is a means to heal our problems, address our challenges, and develop our capacities. More importantly, it brings together the youth in common purpose and to learn the history and culture of the society. Sawa and the National Service shape and maintain Eritrea’s political culture and transmit it from one generation to the other.

Sawa and the National Service have already done a lot of good work, and they have the potential to do much more. Having completed their military training and high school education, members of the 35th round of the national service are graduating today.



SpotLight

A Popular Greening Campaign, Summer nights and city Lights!

Natnael Yebio W.

In a country like Eritrea where the dark clouds come to pour their blessings on parched lands once in a year, rainwater is a precious commodity. The rains come accompanied by thunder and lightning and water the highlands mainly during the three months of June, July and August. Indeed, the eagerness with which people wait for the rains to come around transcends human understanding.

Sometimes the whole Asmara spectacle, looming like fantastical cities of cloud, bursting into tempests, thunder and lightning, cats and dogs, stair-rods, flash floods, comes and goes in minutes, fascinatingly local when a kilometer or two down the road remains bone dry. The weather feels personal, purging, and inside the storms is another, existential world. Or that's how it feels, broken down on the motorway.

Fortunately, I was in a coffee shop when it rained heavily almost a week ago, even lucky enough to have a seat by the window, and once the rain started it was hard not to glance through the windows and enjoy the rain pouring down, even have a laugh here and there at the expense of the ones caught in the rain outside. I had been lucky enough to experience the phenomena that have dominated discussion hours at home, work places, bus and taxi stops.

"Did you enjoy the rain, yesterday?" asks one friend.

"Heavenly, it is like the world was being cleansed and being rid of all sins," replies the other.

"I hate the rain, it makes me anxious!" the third jumps into the conversation. Of course, there is definitely always one person who hates all things good.

And if it doesn't rain as early as it should, then it is our fault, say the ancient. You see, a lot of Eritreans associate rain with the community's religious performance for that year. If the floodgates of heaven are closed, it is because of our sins. Let us love one another and do good works.

Come summer my grandmother complains about the inequities of society at large. Once during our

endless chats, I said that she should brace herself for a very wet summer.

"Who said it will rain?" she asked.

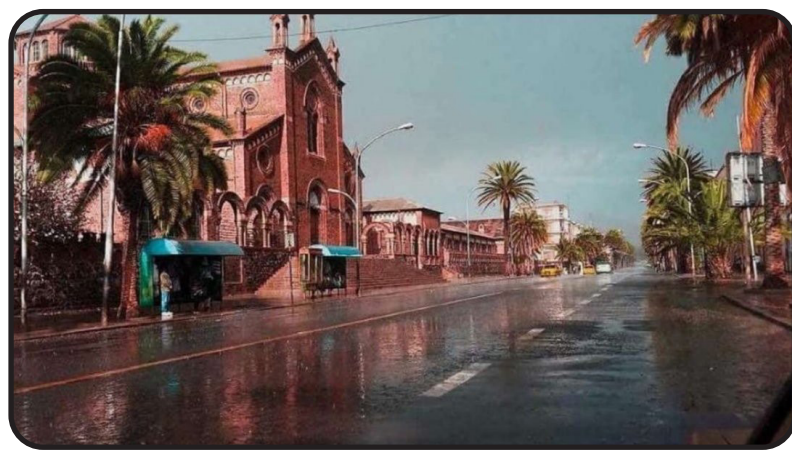
"Our weather bureau, of course," I said blithely.

"That is the problem," she sighed. "Trying to play God and predict rains; it will rain when the Almighty wills it, not when the weather department tells us to take the umbrella with us tomorrow afternoon."

"Well, don't we in our tradition say that if the wind blows from the sea, or if the moon comes out a halo at night, there would be good rains?" I said.

"Yes," she admitted.

"What the meteorologists are saying is no more different from what our wise forefathers used to say in the past," I explained. "The only difference is that modern meteorologists use scientific instruments while our



forefathers resorted to accumulated experience."

Grandparents past 80 don't want to listen to reason.

Anyway, jokes aside, summer in Eritrea is something to enjoy, for everybody of all ages, that old cliché about Christmas being the most 'magical' time of the year that never quite rang true with me. It was always summer. School's out, cities empty and are somewhat reclaimed by locals who happily indulge themselves by visiting typically touristy hotspots, kids are out doors, playing all kinds of summer games.

I really love summer! As a child I impatiently waited for school to end. I couldn't wait for homework-free, long, hot days hanging outside

with friends playing soccer all day, reading books, riding my bike, looking for the next fun thing to do with friends and family. Often I just enjoyed doing nothing. Now, as an adult, I haven't changed that much. I count the days to summer. I sleep a little longer, sneak out of work and grab a macchiato with a friend and still I try to make time as much as

possible just to play soccer in the mud. At times, there are summer days where I long to do nothing but enjoy the day and evening immersed in a good book or a TV series.

Then you have the popular Greening Campaign Eritrean students take part in. In 1994, the government started Summer Work Programs (Maetot). Students in high school and teachers in different parts of the country take part in greening activities, traffic duties as well as cleaning the environment projects in their respective regions for the duration of one month. This summer an estimated 10,000 students and teachers will take part in the popular greening campaign. In addition, government ministries, numerous communities, volunteers,

religious institutions as well as defense forces will plant over 2 million seedlings in several regions of the country.

During summer in Eritrea there are a lot of things to do. There are different places to visit. As most of us know, Eritrea is one of the few places around the globe that enjoys three seasons in two hours' drive. In fact, any one could experience this on a drive to Massawa through the Filfil Solomuna road, a must visit destination during the summer. Massawa, Dahlak Islands, and Adulis are among many places to visit during your stay in the shores of the Northern Red-Sea.

Keren is also another wonder of a place to visit while in Eritrea. The scenery along the road to Keren are tempting enough for you to stop here and there to take pictures, and the famous 'Libi Tigray' road is something to see and enjoy. Mind you, it is not for the fainthearted. The big Elabered garden is also a spot to stop at and see, whilst managing to buy huge oranges and bananas for the road.

There is just something magical about this particular season that it would be a waste if you don't manage to visit one of these places mentioned above. Summer days are long and beautiful. The sun shines often. People are typically happier, calmer, more open, which makes taking a vacation even sweeter and pleasant.

Back in Asmara, in the capital nick named 'Piccolo Rome', you get to enjoy the passaggio, taking a

stroll down Harnet Avenue in the early evenings, under the city lights. The lively Asmarino youngsters are out and about catching up with friends from abroad and frequenting all the go to spots around town.

Not only that but one is spoiled for choice at the number of cafés available to visit in Asmara, many of which look like a setting of an Italian movie than anything else. Imagine breakfast at Dave Café, Dolce Vita, Bar Victoria or Asmara Sweet Cafe, a cup of macchiato in hand, with a pastry every pastry chef in Florence would be proud of. A little advice -- make sure to get a seat by the window. For lunch, perhaps visit Albergo Italia; again, get a seat outside, the fresh breeze of summer wind is an appetizer.

If you are more of an indoor person, there are so many places to choose from to grab lunch: Asmara Palace, Roof Garden, Lion, Alaskala, Niyala, Alsikomoro, Napoli and so many others. For dinner, the summer nights provide a certain je ne se quoi of weather; perhaps have a little cookout at your house, have a couple of friends and relatives over and enjoy the starry night. If you plan to go out, Spaghetti House's outer setting in the evening is a great place to eat dinner at.

A certain writer once said, "Life is full of beauty. Notice it. Notice the bumble bee, the small child, and the smiling faces. Smell the rain, and feel the wind. Live your life to the fullest potential, and fight for your dreams." I would like to think summer gives you that chance.



Development

Combating Climate Change in Anseba Region

Milka Teklom

Eritrea is prone to the effects of climate change, with droughts and floods having for long been recurring challenges for the people of Eritrea. In recent years, global warming and other environmental hazards have made the challenges even more severe. Extreme weather patterns, rising temperatures, and changes in rainfall have all had a profound effect on Eritrea's water resources.

Groundwater levels are declining, and water quality is deteriorating as saline water intrusion contaminates freshwater sources. Coastal areas are especially vulnerable to the rising sea levels, which exacerbates the problem of saltwater intrusion into freshwater aquifers.

The 2014 report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) highlights the extreme precipitation changes experienced in eastern Africa, including Eritrea. Droughts and heavy rainfall have become more frequent over the past 30-60 years, leading to a significant impact on Eritrea's agriculture and food security.

The impacts of climate change are not uniform across Eritrea's different regions. Changes in the amount and intensity of rainfall and the length of the rain season, rising air temperature, and declining flow

declined, leading to a reduction in groundwater levels and the water's quality. This situation is particularly worrying because groundwater is the primary source of water for many communities in Eritrea, particularly during the times of drought.

Eritrea is one of the African countries that are most vulnerable to the impact of climate change. Considering its present low adaptive capacity and its dependence on subsistence agriculture, the climate change-induced impacts constitute a formidable challenge to the country's efforts to combat poverty and guarantee food security.

In an effort to cope with recurrent droughts, climate change and climate variability, the Government has formulated the Climate Change Adaptation Programme in water and agriculture in Anseba region, a region with arid and hot climate.

The project that is being implemented by the Ministry of Land, Water and Environment (MLWE) and the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) has been operational since 2013 in two sub-zones, Habero and Hamelmalo of the Anseba region, where the average annual rainfall is 190 mm and 367 mm for Habero and Hamelmalo respectively.

The objective of the programme is to increase community

structures and associated irrigation technologies such as the construction of dams, micro-dams and check-dams have helped increase the amount of water available and control erosion. Through the programme, the amount of water

trees, 5 leguminous trees that serve as supplemental feed for the cow, and 5 trees to be used as fire wood).

This approach has brought about significant change in household level production capacity, food

households have benefited from the distribution of energy efficient cooking stoves, which not only reduce fuel consumption and play huge role in decreasing deforestation rates but also have a positive impact on women's health and the time and energy needed to gather timber for basic household needs.

Several farmers are given training on animal production and health, horticulture and irrigation, establishment of dairy farms, and cultivation of fruits, vegetables and animal feed.

The programme has benefitted directly over 6,000 households, including 22% women headed households, and indirectly over 75,000 inhabitants of the two sub-zones who are mainly vulnerable groups that include small-scale farmers, agro-pastoralists, pastoralists and rural women. The minimum integrated household agricultural package, along with the improved traditional fuel-efficient stoves and solar panels, has provided diverse opportunities to many farming households to improve their livelihoods.

The adaptation practices related to soil and water conservation practices, livelihood diversification strategy, the use of climate-smart technologies and varieties of crop and livestock, the change of lifestyle from pastoralist to agro-pastoralists, the deliberate integration of gender consideration in the implementation of the program in the two sub-zones of the Anseba region are all but successes that should be emulated in other regions of Eritrea that are currently subject to food insecurities and associated vulnerabilities within the scope of the projected climate change impacts in the entire region of the Horn of Africa.

The challenges posed by climate change in Eritrea require urgent action to mitigate the challenges and reduce their impact on water resources. The action should include the implementation of sustainable water management practices, such as effective ways of harvesting and conserving rainwater, as well as the development of resilient agricultural practices that can withstand changing weather patterns. With these efforts, Eritrea can ensure the sustainability of its water resources and lay the ground for a more climate-resilient future for its people.



available has been increased by about 1 to 2 million cubic meters.

In combatting climate-change induced problems, the programme has targeted vulnerable groups, including small-scale farmers, agro-pastoralists, pastoralists and rural women as its main beneficiaries. Climate-resilient agricultural technologies such as improved and drought resistant pearl millet seeds have been introduced in order to help farmers secure food and income as well as surplus to sell at markets in towns.

The improved seeds given out to farmers are ecologically sustainable and climate-resilient and can yield more even in the dry season, enabling many farmers to have harvests twice a year, both in the rainy and dry seasons.

The MoA has piloted the Minimum Integrated Household Agricultural Package (MIHAP) in complementarity with improved water availability.

In the Anseba region, every household is given an opportunity to acquire either one improved cross-bred dairy cow or six goats. The cow is given on a pass-on program in which the farmer is supposed to give back the first female calf born when it turns about one year. As part of the package, every household is also given 25 chicken (out of which only three are males), two bee-hives, a plot of land to grow vegetables (in addition to the farm land that is traditionally given to grow crops) and 20 trees (10 fruit

security, and income as farmers are able to sell their surplus milk, vegetables and animal feed at reasonable prices.

The programme has successfully increased food and livestock productivity and hence food security. Farmers can now produce more than double or triple the amount of food they need for household consumption.

Six meteorological stations have been installed as part of the programme in the Anseba region to enhance community preparedness to deal with climate hazards. The installations at Hamelmalo College of Agriculture and the Agro-Technical School, whose generated data is being shared with MLWE and the Department of Water Resources, have enabled faculty and students to conduct training and research for improved weather forecasting.

As part of the efforts to mitigate the effects of climate change caused mainly by man-made environmental disaster, solar panels have been installed in 748 households in Habero and Hamelmalo sub-zones. The solar energy has improved the livelihoods of farmers by minimizing expenditure on kerosene.

The solar energy has also benefitted three schools in the sub-zones where computers and other electronic and electrical appliances can be used and students can use the schools' facilities in the evenings.

About 1,700 women-headed



of surface water have all had an impact on Eritrea's water resources, particularly in the central highlands of the country. The average annual temperature has increased by 1.7°C since 1960, and sea levels have risen by 0.02 meters per decade between 1992 and 2010 in the Red Sea.

As a result of the decline in the flow of surface water, the recharge of groundwater has also

resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change through an integrated water management and agricultural development approach. Within the programme, both MLWE and MoA have been working closely and effectively to provide support and input to ensure timely implementation and accomplishments of the programme's outputs and outcomes.

The construction of diversion

ERITREA

Specific Procurement Notice Invitation for Bids [IFB] Goods (One-Envelope Bidding Process)

IFB Number: PMU/SSDEE/ADF/OCBI/G/003/2023
 Purchaser: Project Management Unit of Ministry of
 Education (PMU-MoE)
 Project: Support to Skills Development for Employability
 and Entrepreneurship (SSDEE) Project

Contract title: Procurement of Workshop Equipment
 Country: The State of Eritrea
 Loan No. / Grant No.: Loan number 2100150032843 & Grant
 no 210015029467
 Procurement Method: Open Competitive Bidding
 (International) (OCBI)
 OCBI Reference No: SSDEE/ADF/G/OCBI/003/2023
 Issued on: July 12, 2023

1. The Government of the state of Eritrea has received financing from the African development Bank hereinafter called the Bank towards the cost of the **Support to Skills Development for Employability and Entrepreneurship (SSDEE) Project** and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Workshop Equipment for Technical Schools. The Borrower shall process the payments using the Direct Payment disbursement method, as defined in the Bank's Disbursement Guidelines and procedures for Investment Project Financing.

2. The Project Management Unit of Ministry of Education (PMU-MoE) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for **Supply, Delivery, Installation, Commissioning and Training Equipment, Tools and Supplies for Asmara (ATS), Dekemhare (DTS), Wina (WTS) and MaiHabar Technical Schools (MHTS) in three (3) Lots:**

☐ **Lot 1: Building Construction Workshops (BLC), [for: ATS, DTS, MHTS and WTS]**

☐ **Lot 2: Computer Maintenance and Networking Workshops (CMN) [for: ATS, DTS, MHTS] and**

☐ **Lot 3: Woodworking (Furniture Making) Workshop (WDW). [for: ATS]**

3. Bidding will be conducted through the Open Competitive Bidding (International), (OCBI) method as specified in the African Development Bank's *Procurement Policy for Bank Group Funded Operations, dated October 2015*, which is available on the Bank's website at www.afdb.org and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Framework.

4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from the Project Management Unit of Ministry of Education (PMU-MoE), Mr. Mebrahtu Gilagaber, General Manager (mgilagaber2019@gmail.com), Mr. Yosief Tekeste, Procurement

Manager (yosieftekeste90@gmail.com), and/or Mr. Esayas Tesfai, Procurement officer (esumesgana4411@gmail.com) and can collect the bidding document during office hours Monday-Friday i.e. 7:30 to 13:00 hrs. At the address given below.

5. The bidding document in English language may be received by interested eligible Bidders upon the submission of a written application with company headed paper signed and sealed to the address below.

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **10:00 a.m. Local time on Tuesday, 26 September 2023**. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below 10:00 a.m. Local time on **Tuesday, 26 September 2023**.

7. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security

For Lot One **Building Construction Workshops (BLC), USD 35,000.00 (Thirty-Five Thousand USD or equivalent.)**

For Lot Two **Computer Maintenance and Networking Workshops (CMN), USD 35,000.00 (Thirty-Five Thousand USD or equivalent.)**

For Lot Three **Woodworking (Furniture Making) Workshop (WDW), USD 35,000.00 (ThirtyFive Thousand USD or equivalent.)**

8. Attention is drawn to the Procurement Framework requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.

9. The address (es) referred to above is (are):
 Project Management Unit of Ministry of Education (PMU – MOE)
 Attention: Mr. Mebrahtu Gilagaber, General Manager of PMU-MOE

Mr. Yosief Tekeste, Procurement Manager of PMU-MOE and/or Mr. Esayas Tesfai,
 Procurement Officer PMU-MoE
 Street Address: Hday Street No.: 748-1, Floor/Room number: Dembe Sembel, Block "A" First Floor, ZIP Code: 748-1, Asmara, Eritrea

Telephone numbers: 00291-1-151614/ 002917218050/
 002917262014/00291267380 Facsimile number: 00291-1-152181

Emails: mgilagaber2019@gmail.com, yosieftekeste90@gmail.com and/or

esumesgana4411@gmail.com

Vacancy Announcement

Eritrea Sichuan Mineral Construction CORP. LTD. (ESMC) is inviting applicants for the following position for Asmara project sites.

Position: IT Administrator
Department: Administration
Number Required: 01
Contract Type: Indefinite

Major Duties and Responsibilities

- ❖ Good knowledge of IT operating systems, especially Windows, Exchange and Citrix
- ❖ Hands on experience of installing IT hardware and software
- ❖ Good organizational skills and Good time management
- ❖ Monitoring and maintaining networks and servers.
- ❖ Upgrading, installing and configuring new hardware and software to meet company objectives.
- ❖ Implementing security protocols and procedures to prevent potential threats.
- ❖ Creating user accounts and performing access control.
- ❖ Performing diagnostic tests and debugging procedures to optimize computer systems.
- ❖ Documenting processes, as well as backing up and archiving data.
- ❖ Developing data retrieval and recovery procedures.
- ❖ Designing and implementing efficient end-user feedback and error reporting systems.
- ❖ Supervising and mentoring IT department employees, as well as providing IT support.
- ❖ Keeping up to date with advancements and best practices in IT administration.

Qualification and Other Skills

❖ Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalents	❖ Diploma in ICT (Information & Communication Technology)
❖ Working Experience – Nature & Length	❖ At least five years’ experience IT or in a similar role.
❖ Leadership Experience – Nature & length of time	❖ Applicable professional qualification, such as Microsoft, Oracle, or Cisco certification. ❖ Exceptional leadership, organizational, and time management skills ❖ Good at English communication skills. ❖ Good interpersonal relationship & Team player
❖ Other skills and abilities	❖ Extensive experience with IT systems, networks, and related technologies. ❖ Solid knowledge of best practices in IT administration and system security. ❖ Strong analytical and problem-solving skills. ❖ Excellent interpersonal and communication skills. ❖ Must have 3 rd grade Eritrea driving license ❖ Able to work under pressure and extended hours

General Information and Other Requirement

- ❖ Place of Work: Asmara Project Sites
- ❖ 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 Ministry of Defense.
- ❖ Present Clearance from current/ last employer or Unemployment card from Labor office.
- ❖ Testimonial documents to be attached (CV, work experience credential, 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 application should be sent through the post office.
- ❖ Deadline for application; 05 days from the date of publication on the newspapers

Address: Please mail your application to;
Eritrea Sichuan Mineral Construction CORP. LTD (ESMC)
P.O. Box. 4832 Asmara, Eritrea

Note to None Eritrean applicants:
Please send a copy of your application to
Aliens Employment permits Affairs,
P.O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea



"No Growth comes from not Practicing what you know." Designer Elhiem

decided to enroll at an international designing school at the Ertro-German building, where I studied for one year. The course consisted of a variety of interdisciplinary courses within fashion designing.

Our guest today, Elhiem Habtom, is an auspicious 17-year-old female designer striving to live her dream. At such a young age, she has been able to put on a full fashion show.

Without the support of my family my dream wouldn't have turned into reality. In addition to all the support they gave me from the very beginning they also sponsored the whole show.

How did people react to your designs?

The craziest part of the show is that most of the people didn't know about my identity. When I was called to the stage, as expected, everyone was shocked. There were people who even suspected that the designs might have been done by other artists. There were others who gave me advice to focus more on traditional clothes. All in all, I am really grateful for all the people who saw my show and also for their thoughtful and encouraging ideas.

As a young designer, what kinds of challenges do you encounter?

Regardless of your age and profession difficulties are bound to come. That's how life is.



Although there are many people who encourage you, there are few who don't even hear you out just because of your age. But luckily I've learned not to give up on what I believe in because it is much more worth than people's attitude.

How would you define fashion?

Just like the food we eat, fashion is the reflection of a society. It is a medium through which you get to express your culture, your life

style. As I am still dependent on my family, the first and biggest challenge is finance. If you don't get to purchase the materials you need at the right time, most of your work remains theoretical. The other major challenge is the stereotype of being a child.

How are you able to manage your time?

What matters most is having the initiative and preparedness to pay sacrifices. So far that is what I have been doing. I try to manage my time as I have to succeed in both my education and designing. I know I am a beginner but I have a lot in mind.

Tell us your future goals.

I plan on being a successful person in my education and designing. Now that I am going to Sawa I intend to study to get the required grade and go to college to study Political Science. I also have a plan to work on fashion designs to compete at contests held in Sawa.

As soon as I am back from Sawa, my plan includes preparing a big fashion show. I've already sketched the designs. But my long term plan is to make our country globally known in the fashion industry.

Thank you for your time, Elhiem, and I wish you a bright future.

Introduce yourself.

My name is Elhiem Habtom. I was born in December 2005 in Asmara and grew up in Dubarwa. I am now in 11th grade, and in few weeks I'll be heading to Sawa for my national service and to attend 12th grade as a member of the 36th round.

Where did the audacity to put on a full fashion show come?

I believe in the principle that no growth comes from not practicing what you know or have. By the end of the course I attended, I had already pictured the fashion show in mind. So, I immediately sketched the clothes I was planning to put on show. I drew the sketches according to the seasons they are supposed to be worn.

When I started the process of preparing for the show, I faced challenges such as not finding a sponsor that I didn't expect. After a year of ups and downs, though, as the stubborn girl that I am, I was able to fulfill my dream.

How were you introduced to designing?

Growing up I was always curious to know how a cloth is put together. When my mom noticed that I was drawn to designing, she prohibited me from practicing it because she was concerned that I might get distracted at school.

The moment I joined high school, I started taking designing seriously thanks to my elder brother's understanding of my desire. I started practicing sketching on my own for almost a year and mom became my instructor in sewing. Next, I

Tell us about the fashion show.

The aim of "Heim Fashion Show" was to demonstrate that age is not a barrier to do whatever so long as you have faith in yourself. It was held at Ertro German building on the 9th of July. There were 12 costumes showcased by four models. The show became possible because Royal Family Event Organizers did everything for free. The number of people that attended the event was beyond my expectation. It really was a good moment and experience for me. I thank the organizers for everything they did.

The designs were made based on things that inspired me in my surrounding such as plants, and on the ideas in my mind.

