

JOINT UN DELEGATION HOLDS TALKS WITH ERITREAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS



A joint delegation composed of Ms. Louis Haxthausen, Regional Director of UNESCO in East Africa, and Ms. Sandra Macharia, Director of UN Information Service in East Africa, met and held talks with Eritrean Government officials.

on 12 and 13 November with Mr. Osman Saleh, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Gergis Teklemicael, Minister of Finance and National Development, and Ambassador Zemed Tekle, Commissioner of Culture and Sports, focusing on strengthening bilateral relations.

The delegation held discussions in their meetings with Minister

Osman Saleh and Minister Dr. Gergis, the two Ministers highlighted Eritrea's ancient history and its significance as part of the ancient civilizations of the Horn of Africa. They noted that large portions of its historical resources had been looted during colonial times. The Ministers expressed the Government of Eritrea's readiness to work in collaboration with UNESCO to preserve this ancient heritage.

Ambassador Zemed Tekle also expressed a commitment joint cooperation to preserve cultural heritage, protect buildings in urgent need of maintenance, and on the ongoing archeological excavations.

The delegation expressed its readiness to collaborate in the preservation of cultural heritage, as well as in promoting cultural tourism and eco-tourism.

The delegation, accompanied by Ms. Nahla Valji, UN Resident Coordinator in Eritrea, visited the National Museum.



TRAINING ON PRODUCING ORGANIC FERTILIZER

The Ministry of Agriculture branch in the Gash Barka Region provided training to Commanders and staff members of the Sawa National Service Training Center on the production of organic fertilizer. The training aimed to boost agricultural production.

At the event, Mr. Bahlibi Goitom, a soil expert at the Agriculture Office, presented a research paper on "Soil and Integrated Management of Soil Productivity." Mr. Bahlibi explained in detail the characteristics and processes of soil, emphasizing that the best way to address soil degradation is through the use of organic fertilizer, crop rotation, and judicious water use.

Highlighting the negative consequences of chemical fertilizers on soil content and the health of crops, vegetables, livestock, and humans, Mr. Bahlibi urged farmers to frequently use organic fertilizers.

Ms. Adiam Rezene, a compost fertilizer expert at the Ministry of Agriculture, also presented a research paper titled "Dangerous Influence of Chemical Fertilizers and Pesticides." Ms. Adiam further said that use of chemical fertilizers for boosting agricultural production have harmful effects on human health, the environment, livestock, and underground water.

The participants, in turn, called for the training to be sustained and expanded across the country.

MINISTER YEMANE GEBREMESKEL MET WITH DIRECTOR OF THE UN INFORMATION SERVICE

Mr. Yemane Gebremeskel, Minister of Information, met yesterday morning with Ms. Sandra Macharia, Director of the UN Information Service in East Africa.

During the meeting, Mr. Yemane stated that the longstanding defamation against Eritrea has been politically driven and coordinated media campaign by U.S. and European media outlets.

Minister Yemane further noted that the defamation has been beyond normal and presented evidence showing that the negative media coverage of Eritrea is tied to the geopolitical interests of certain well-known countries.

Ms. Sandra Macharia, on her part noted that she had productive discussions with various Eritrean officials. She mentioned that her

perception of the country had changed significantly since her visit and praised the professional and insightful information she received from Eritrean youth.

Ms. Nahla Valji, UN Resident Coordinator in Eritrea, also attended the meeting.

The delegation composed of Ms. Louis Haxthausen, Regional Director of UNESCO in East Africa, and Ms. Sandra Macharia, visited the ancient archaeological site of Adulis and the Northern Red Sea Museum on 13 and 14 November. During their visit to Adulis, the delegation received a detailed briefing from experts and coordinators of the project that is being carried out by a joint effort by Eritrean and Italian archaeologists.



ERITREA PARTICIPATES IN RUSSIA-AFRICA CONFERENCE

Mr. Petros Tsegay, Eritrea's Ambassador to the Russian Federation, represented Eritrea at the first Russia-Africa Conference held in Sochi, Russia, on 8 and 9 November.

In his message to the conference, President Vladimir Putin highlighted that African states are confidently gaining political and economic influence, affirming themselves as one of the significant pillars of the multipolar world order. He

emphasized that African nations are playing an increasingly important role in shaping the international community's decisions on key regional and global issues.

Mr. Sergei Lavrov, Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation, stated that the conference was convened following the decision made at last year's Russia-Africa Summit in St. Petersburg. He explained that the aim is to expand political and trade relations between

African countries and Russia.

Mr. Lavrov also stressed that Russia places great importance on strengthening its traditionally friendly relations with African partners, emphasizing true equality, adherence to international law, and the absence of discrimination, coercion, or sanctions pressure.

The conference was attended by 1,500 representatives from 54 countries, including 45 Ministers.



LOCAL NEWS

MEETING TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN ENSURING PEACE AND STABILITY



Ms. Fauzia Hashim, Minister of Justice, conducted a meeting on 12 November in Asmara to strengthen public participation in ensuring peace and stability. The meeting was attended by religious leaders, village elders, and public representatives from 96 administrative areas in the Central Region.

Minister Fauzia highlighted that Eritrea's legal system has traditionally emphasized cooperation, social responsibility, harmony, and mutual care. She noted that the primary objective of justice is to ensure peace and harmony, address both psychological and material offenses, uphold systems, and preserve indigenous values by integrating them with the modern legal framework.

The Minister also emphasized that the legal system incorporates elements of social control, law and order, and active public participation—fundamental for

building a stable society where security is respected. She called for enhanced public participation to help achieve these goals.

Ms. Fauzia further stated that Eritrean society has a culture of preserving its values, promoting communication and cooperation, resolving conflicts peacefully, and transferring the noble societal values and history of the country to future generations.

Participants expressed their readiness to strengthen their involvement in developing a legal system that fosters a unified national understanding.

The meeting was also attended by Mr. Fesehaye Haile, Governor of the Central Region, Mr. Abraham Semere, Chairman of the Regional Assembly, and Mr. Zeritewoldebrhan, Managing Director in the region.

MEETINGS TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Meetings aimed at strengthening national organizations were conducted in South Sudan and Norway.

At the meeting held on 9 November in Juba, South Sudan, Eritrea's Ambassador to South Sudan, Mr. Yohannes Teklemicael, called on all national organizations in the country to enhance their organizational capacity and unity and to actively contribute to the nation-building process.

The meeting featured extensive discussions on the relationship between the Embassy and national organizations, the political, security, and economic conditions of Eritrean nationals in South Sudan, support for the families of martyrs, administration and development of the Eritrean community school, and other related issues.

The participants, expressing their commitment to contribute to national affairs, pledged to take responsibility for supporting 44 families of martyrs.

In the same vein, Mr. Mohammed-Ali Mohammed-Seid, Chargé d'Affaires at the Eritrean Embassy in Scandinavian countries, and Mr. Yemane Gebrekidan, Head of Consular Affairs, conducted a seminar for nationals gathered from across Norway. The seminar focused on strengthening and expanding organizational capacity and the Fourth Front, as well as consular services and related modalities.

Mr. Mohammed-Ali praised the Eritrean nationals in Norway, emphasizing that their success in overcoming challenges is a testament to the effectiveness of the Fourth Front's programs.

The participants on their part indicating that strengthening the Fourth Front is their timely responsibility and expressed conviction to strengthen organizational capacity and unity.



ANCIENT HERITAGE TRACES IN AFABET SUB-ZONE

Ancient heritage traces, including rock-engraved paintings, spears used for hunting and farming activities, and ceramics, have been discovered in the Afabet sub-zone.

Mr. Yohannes Gebreyesus, Head of Culture in the Northern Red Sea Region, stated that the discovery of these ancient heritage traces, identified through information provided by local residents, bears similarities to findings made in 2022 in the area.

Mr. Yohannes also mentioned that a large vessel discovered in the Afabet sub-zone, estimated to be 350 to 400 years old, resembles other findings across the region and indicates the existence of a historical trade route from Adulis to Afabet.

Ms. Tigisti Beidu, Head of Heritage Preservation and Ancient Historical Sites, noted that the engraved paintings suggest the area was once covered in thick forests and extensive agricultural activities have been conducted.

Mr. Tekleweini Negassi, a representative from the Culture and Sports Department in the region, added that meetings have been conducted with village elders and experts in the Afabet sub-zone to document and preserve intangible heritage.

ERITREAN COMMUNITY FESTIVAL IN JEDDAH

The Eritrean community in Jeddah celebrated their annual festival on 10 November with patriotic zeal under the theme "Peace Anchored on Resilience." The festival was officially opened by Mr. Yosuf Saiq, Head of Organizational Affairs of the PFDJ.

The event featured cultural programs, a photo exhibition, traditional villages of the Eritrean ethnic groups, educational activities by the Eritrean community school, and other programs.

The yearly gathering also included participation from the Office of Eritrea's Consul General, the Eritrean community, national organizations, including the PFDJ, the National Union of Eritrean Women, and the "White" Truck Owners Association.

The festival will continue until 15 November.

ERITREA PROFILE

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Spate of new articles these days on the Horn of Africa by the usual/notorious conflict entrepreneurs & hired lobbyists (Andrew Korybko *et al*) demonstrate that they are already jostling for influence to ingratiate themselves with junior policy-makers in President Trump's second Administration. End game is to cash-in these networks to extract exorbitant fees for their shoddy lobbying work.

Poignant fact is these corrupt lobbyists possess neither the academic credentials and intellectual pedigree, nor the benign motives and intent, for the welfare of the peoples as well as the peace and stability of the Horn of Africa region.

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Yemane G. Meskel @hawelti

In very broad & brush terms, enduring peace critical for sustainable development in HoA will remain elusive unless these fault lines - exclusionist policies of ethnic/religious bigotry; ambitions of local hegemony & territorial irredentism; external agendas - are fully addressed

3:05 PM · Jan 17, 2024 · 25.1K Views

568 retweets, 697 likes, 11 bookmarks

SpotLight

Combating one of the Most Serious and Traumatic Childbirth Injuries

Dr. Fikrejesus Amahazion

General background on a serious, traumatic childbirth injury

Today, obstetric fistula remains one of the most serious and traumatic childbirth injuries occurring in the world. Not only does it lead to horrific health consequences for women and girls, it also robs them of their fundamental rights and basic dignity. Basically, obstetric fistula is a hole between the birth canal and bladder and/or rectum bladder that causes uncontrollable urinary incontinence or feces to leak. (There are several different types of obstetric fistula.) The development of obstetric fistula is directly linked to one of the major causes of maternal mortality: prolonged, obstructed labor, which itself can occur as a result of a lack of access to timely, high-quality medical assistance or emergency intervention during childbirth. Other significant causes are harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C), which negatively affects the normal delivery process, and early or child marriage. In regard to the latter, even though women of all ages may be at risk, young girls are particularly vulnerable because their bodies may not be fully physically ready for childbirth and the pelvis may not yet be fully developed.

An array of consequences

The lives of those afflicted with the condition are characterized by tremendous pain or suffering and chronic medical problems, and the array of physical, social, and psychological consequences of fistula are devastating. For example, the condition can lead to frequent skin infections, ulcerations, kidney disease, painful sores, infertility, and even death if left untreated. It is also often associated with segregation and isolation. In particular, a lack of understanding or awareness, as well as the smell associated with constant leakages of urine and/or feces, leads to the isolation of women who are often shamed and stigmatized, abandoned or neglected by their friends, families, or neighbors, and ostracized by their communities.

Commonly, women and girls suffering with the condition experience depression and suicidal thoughts, along with other serious mental health issues. What is more, in a large percentage of cases, babies do not survive, further contributing to hardship and psychological trauma for mothers. An added challenge is that individuals with fistula are often unable to work or continue with viable livelihood opportunities. As a result, they may be driven into further poverty, greater vulnerability, and reduced living standards.

The global picture

According to estimates from a variety of international organizations, including the World Health Organization, more than 2 million women and girls live with untreated obstetric fistula worldwide, with between 50,000 to 100,000 women and girls around the world developing obstetric fistula every year. Today, obstetric fistula is extremely rare within developed, industrialized countries. This is largely linked to the relatively high levels of quality healthcare and availability of skilled professionals who can perform Caesarean sections. By contrast, the majority of cases continue to occur parts of sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), Asia, the Arab region, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Highlighting Eritrea's context and efforts



As with many other countries in SSA (and across the broader developing world), obstetric fistula continues to be an issue of concern in Eritrea. The prevalence of fistula in Eritrea is estimated

at approximately 0.34 per 1,000 women, with prevalence higher among females under 18 years of age. Additionally, obstetric fistula contributes to maternal deaths (the overall maternal mortality ratio was estimated to be approximately 184 per 100,000 live births in 2019, while globally it is estimated that obstructed labor accounts for up to 6 percent of all maternal deaths). Furthermore, a considerably large percentage of obstetric fistula cases result in stillbirths.

Addressing obstetric fistula remains a vital part of the country's broader commitment to promoting reproductive and maternal health, with Eritrea aiming to eradicate the condition in the near future.



Similar to many of the country's other highly successful health-related interventions, Eritrea's efforts to address fistula are based on a comprehensive and multifaceted

approach.

Eritrea's Ministry of Health (MoH), in close cooperation with a number of local and global developmental partners, provides women and girls with fistula free repair services, coverage for transportation, and a comprehensive rehabilitation program. Eritrea's National Fistula Diagnosis and Treatment Center (NFDTC), based in Mendefera, is dedicated to treating and rehabilitating victims of fistula. It is equipped with modern equipment, and provides free diagnoses,



treatment, care, and accommodation services to patients from different regions of the country. Over the years, repair and rehabilitation treatments have maintained a high success rate, ultimately helping to restore survivors' health and hopes, as well as empowering them to reclaim their lives and

basic dignity.

A critical part of the overall treatment process is follow-up, with women and girls receiving regular check-ups to ensure they do not redevelop the injury again. Crucially, survivors also have access to psychological, emotional, economic, and social support in order to help them fully recover from their ordeal. In addition, the MoH, the NFDTC, and various other partners work together to provide survivors with psychosocial counseling and promote their reintegration into the community (e.g., through offering life and job skills training). Importantly, local communities are also targeted for engagement, which helps to reduce stigma and misperceptions, as well as to raise general awareness about the importance of antenatal care and delivery within health facilities.

An all-around approach

In addition to repair and rehabilitation, prevention continues to be a central part of holistic efforts to address the condition. Notably, many of the interventions that promote reproductive and maternal health

or women's rights are also key for preventing obstetric fistula.

National laws and firm enforcement measures prohibit harmful, traditional practices, such as FGM/C and early or child marriage, while there are greater levels of public awareness and understanding. Community campaigns and the media have spread information that supports prevention and address harmful misperceptions. Additionally, with obstetric fistula closely linked to lack of access to care and poor quality of health systems, Eritrea's progress in expanding access to health and raising quality of the national health system has been vital. The country has constructed and renovated many health facilities, as well as considerably increased the number of doctors, nurses, and other health professionals. Distribution has also been improved, with more health workers now serving in rural and hard-to-reach areas. At present, greater than 80 percent of the population lives within a 10-kilometer radius of a health facility and more than 70 percent within a 5-kilometer radius. Consistent with these advancements, there has been steady national progress with regard to the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel. In 2019, the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel was approximately 71 percent (it was around 6 percent at independence), while the percentage of pregnant women attending at least one antenatal care visit is now about 98 percent, up from less than 20 percent at independence.

Overall, although much progress has been achieved, Eritrea remains committed to making further strides. It continues to extend effort and investment toward preventing and treating the condition, as well as to rehabilitating and empowering survivors.



Development

Glimpse of Molqi Subzone



Mussie Efriem

Molqi subzone is one of the 16 subzones within the Gash Barka region of Eritrea. Strategically located approximately 120 kilometers southeast of the regional capital, Barentu, it offers a unique blend of natural beauty and cultural heritage. It is bordered by Mensura subzone to the north, Areza subzone and the Southern Region to the east, Shambiko subzone to the west, and Ethiopia to the south.

The temperature in the subzone ranges from 10 to 37 degrees Celsius in the course of a year. Similarly, the annual rainfall varies from 400 to 700 millimeters. Elevations in the subzone range from 700 to 2200 meters above sea level, further influencing its climate and vegetation.

Molqi subzone is home to a diverse population, primarily comprising Tigrinya and Kunama ethnic groups. With a total of 54,319 inhabitants residing in 11,622 households, the region has a vibrant and culturally rich community. Agriculture and livestock herding form the backbone of the local economy, employing approximately 90% of the population.

Molqi subzone is known for its wealth in biodiversity and significant economic potential. One of its most distinctive features is the abundance of indigenous trees, including economically valuable trees that are rich in frankincense, such as *Boswellia papyrifera*. Eritrea has for centuries been known for its high-quality frankincense, which

was exported via the Red Sea to various parts of the world.

The diverse flora and favorable climate in the subzone provide an ideal environment for honeybee colonies to thrive. The availability of nectar all year round makes it an attractive location for beekeepers. There are approximately 2,400 beehives in the subzone. The production of honey in the subzone can contribute to food security and the local economy.

Molqi subzone's fertile lands and favorable climate are suitable for the cultivation of a variety of crops, while its expansive grazing land sustains a good number of livestock, making Molqi attractive for livestock market. The subzone is also known for its dairy products, including its

high-quality butter.

Molqi, a small town that serves as the capital of subzone, is home to over 15 governmental organizations that provide public services. The organization that runs the Micro Credit and Saving Program is playing a crucial role in improving the livelihoods of the local communities. By offering micro-credit, the program empowers individuals and small businesses, particularly in areas underserved by banks.

The subzone has a road network, with 260 kilometers of roads connecting various administrative areas in the subzone to the main Mendefera-Barentu road. This strategic road network facilitates trade and commerce between Gash Barka and other parts of the country,

further contributing to the economic development of Molqi subzone.

Prior to Eritrea's independence, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) spearheaded various programs and campaigns to combat illiteracy in the subzone. These initiatives were crucial in laying the foundation for a literate population. In terms of formal education today, there are one or two schools in every administrative area of the subzone. The number of schools in a subzone varies based on the number of residents. Overall there are 27 schools in the subzone that serve students from preschool to secondary levels. The subzone consistently stands first in Gash Barka region in both the 8th and 12th grade national exams, producing numerous top scorers nationwide. To ensure that no one is left behind, 11 Complementary Elementary Education (CEE) centers have been set for students who were not able to commence their education at the standard school age. In collaboration with the highly supportive local communities, the Ministry of Education remains committed to enhancing and expanding educational services in the subzone.

Mr. Zeray Berhe, administrator of Molqi subzone, said that due to its geographic location, the subzone has been facing challenges related to water scarcity, particularly clean water



Mr. Zeray Berhe

supplies. Local communities, in collaboration with relevant authorities, implemented a community-led initiative to install solar-powered water pumping systems, providing clean and potable water to all residents. The water is distributed through a network of pipelines, ensuring equitable access. While this solution has significantly improved living standards, challenges persist in extending the potable water infrastructure to certain areas.

Molqi subzone is a treasure trove of historical and tourist attractions, many of which remain largely untapped. These sites include ancient monasteries, ruins of houses of ancient local nobles, and diverse ecosystems teeming with indigenous trees, wild animals and a variety of bird species. Additionally, the subzone holds significant historical importance particularly related to the armed struggle for independence. Numerous battles were fought at different locations in the subzone.



SpotLight

Eritrea's Comprehensive and Collaborative Approach to Cervical Cancer Prevention

Awet Tesfay

information within their families and communities.

By making HPV vaccines widely accessible, Eritrea has managed to protect a significant portion of its adolescent population from the risk of cervical cancer.

Eritrea's national program dovetails with the World Health Organization's ambitious "90-70-90" strategy, a comprehensive framework aimed at eliminating cervical cancer by 2030. This global strategy sets specific targets: 90% of girls should be vaccinated by age 15, 70% of women should undergo two screenings in their lifetime, and 90% of women diagnosed with cervical disease should receive appropriate treatment.

Achieving these goals is essential, particularly in third world countries where cervical cancer remains a leading cause of death for women. WHO has highlighted Eritrea as a model in tackling cervical cancer within this framework, noting the country's vaccination coverage and its early detection efforts. Eritrea's strides show that even countries with limited resources can contribute effectively to global health targets through well-planned, data-driven approaches.

Public seminars and community outreach efforts extend beyond vaccination and screening; they focus on building trust and fostering a proactive approach to healthcare. Seminars held at hospitals, health centers, and even local schools emphasize the importance of preventive measures and encourage individuals to utilize available resources. By addressing the cultural stigmas that often surround discussions of reproductive health, these initiatives foster open, informative dialogue, making cervical cancer

prevention a topic for community support rather than silence.

To make health services accessible and comfortable, Eritrea has deployed healthcare workers who understand the cultural dynamics of their communities. This personalized approach enables trust-building and greater acceptance, helping increase screening rates among women who may otherwise be hesitant. The involvement of local leaders in health education initiatives further solidifies community acceptance, creating a supportive network where women feel encouraged to seek preventive care.

The results of Eritrea's efforts are beginning to shine. Health officials have observed positive feedback from communities where awareness is now stronger,

reproductive health, empowered to make informed choices, and less vulnerable to preventable diseases.

In a broader context, Eritrea's experience serves as a powerful lesson for public health policy, especially in low-resource settings. The country's holistic approach exemplifies how effective collaboration, cultural sensitivity, and commitment to health equity can overcome substantial obstacles. Eritrea's cervical cancer prevention programs are not only safeguarding its own population but also contributing to the global vision of a world free from cervical cancer.

As Eritrea continues its fight against cervical cancer, sustaining these programs remains critical. Ensuring a consistent vaccine supply, expanding screening



Eritrea has taken bold and effective steps to combat cervical cancer, marking itself as a strong advocate in this crucial public health issue. Cervical Cancer Elimination Day of Action, observed on November 17, serves as a reminder of the importance of community education, early detection, and preventive healthcare services. Eritrea's Ministry of Health (MoH), in close partnership with the Ministry of Education and international organizations like GAVI and UNICEF, has implemented wide-ranging, collaborative initiatives designed to protect women's health nationwide.

Raising awareness is a cornerstone of Eritrea's cervical cancer prevention strategy. Over the past few years, Eritrea has focused heavily on educating its youth and their communities about cervical cancer, particularly in junior and secondary schools in regions like the Central Zone. These educational sessions create a strong foundation by informing students of the risks, symptoms, and available prevention methods. They include engaging discussions that highlight HPV's role in cervical cancer and promote the HPV vaccine as a powerful preventive measure.

Such education efforts have garnered widespread participation. Understanding the connection between unprotected sexual activity and cervical cancer is essential for young people. This advocacy reflects a broader governmental emphasis on knowledge-based prevention, where informed youth are encouraged to take active roles in both their health and in spreading

Vaccination campaigns have become one of Eritrea's most effective tools in the fight against cervical cancer. In 2022, the MoH, with the support of GAVI and UNICEF, launched the country's first large-scale HPV vaccination campaign. This campaign reached a remarkable 93% coverage rate for the initial target group of adolescent girls, a success that set the stage for further nationwide efforts. The Ministry's success in 2022 was not an isolated achievement; it laid the groundwork for a more comprehensive campaign in 2023.

In the 2023 campaign, conducted in two phases, the MoH implemented the vaccine rollout with careful attention to regional conditions, such as climate and varying school schedules, particularly in areas like Gash Barka and the Red Sea Zone. These campaigns were logistically challenging due to the vast geography and the dispersion of rural communities, but Eritrean health workers and regional coordinators employed a variety of creative solutions, including mobile vaccination units and flexible school-based programs.



and trust in the healthcare system has increased. In Asmara, for example, young girls who received HPV vaccinations shared their experiences with classmates, helping to demystify the process and encourage others to participate.

Eritrea's approach to cervical cancer prevention illustrates how targeted education, vaccination, and proactive healthcare can yield significant progress. Through productive partnerships, comprehensive vaccination programs, and community-focused education, Eritrea is setting an example for other nations facing similar health challenges. By integrating cervical cancer prevention into school curriculums and community health seminars, Eritrea is fostering a generation that is more informed about

infrastructure, and continuing education and outreach efforts will require ongoing support from both national resources and international partners. The successes achieved thus far are encouraging, but as with any public health endeavor, vigilance and adaptability will be essential.

With continued investment in these preventive programs, Eritrea stands poised to make even greater progress toward a future where cervical cancer no longer poses a threat to its population. Employing targeted, resource-savvy policies and community-driven engagement, Eritrea is not only addressing cervical cancer but is also building a healthcare model that other low-resource countries can emulate, illustrating how determined efforts can make a real difference in the lives of countless women.



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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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

1. Position: Auxiliary Equipment Supervisor

Department: Mining

Number required: One (01)

Primary Purpose

- Direct supervision of the Auxiliary Machines Crew and Crew Leader.

Main functions

- The Supervisor will be responsible for maintenance activities on tools and equipment, including performing pre-op inspections, repairs and preventive maintenance tasks when appropriate, along with the accompanying reporting.

TASK DESCRIPTION Expanded TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Assisting the General Foreman in forecasting and planning of maintenance and repairs of Auxiliary Equipment.
- Ensuring safety requirements are fulfilled at the workplace, including leading Field Level Risk Assessment (FLRA) and proper use of appropriate PPE.
- Collecting Planned Maintenance Schedule from Planning office and distributing work to the crew leader and team members.
- Identifying high priority tasks for each day and allocating resources accordingly.
- Conducting checks to ensure maintenance and repair of equipment is carried out in an efficient and effective manner in order to minimize unplanned downtime.
- Performing regular machine audits and reporting all potential breakdowns to the General Foreman for further action before an actual breakdown occurs.
- Ensuring that all Section personnel have job relevant training requirements to carry out tasks assigned to them.
- Ensuring that the necessary maintenance parts and materials are always available by conducting regular stock checks and advising the Planning Section of movements in stock levels.
- Compiling daily progress reports for the Section as well as suggestions brought up by the Technicians and other Section operatives.
- Preparing equipment maintenance reports by collecting, analyzing and summarizing information and trends.
- Instructing subordinates in proper work methods and standards; monitoring crew work quality; insuring adherence to time schedules and safe work practices, provide performance feedback and input into performance reviews.
- Leading the crew and participating in performing a wide variety of maintenance and repair tasks (hands-on-leader).
- Assisting the General Foreman in conducting performance evaluations of crew members.
- Working with the Supervisor to identify manpower needs within the Section; identifying opportunities for Crew members to learn new Technologies.
- Supporting and enforcing the National Artisan Training program conducted by the HME and Training and Development Departments.
- Ensuring safety requirements are fulfilled at the work place, including leading Field Level Risk Assessment (FLRA) and proper use of appropriate PPE.

UNIQUE REQUIREMENTS/OTHER INFORMATION

- Candidate must be physically and medically fit.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minimum Technician Certificate in Diesel Mechanic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 8 - 10 years with HME Maintenance and repair in a Mining environment
Technical Skills	Behavioral Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Basic Computer Literacy ○ Attention to detail ○ Analytical skill ○ problem solving skill ○ Should have advanced understanding of hydraulic, Diessel systems ○ Preferable previous experience on forklift, skid steers, mobile cranes, telehandlers, TLB'S 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Communication (English) ○ Assertiveness ○ Prioritizing skills & multi-skilling ○ Ability to work towards strict deadlines ○ High level of accuracy ○ Self-motivation

2. Position: Project Mechanical Engineer

Department: Process Plant

Number required: One (01)

Primary Purpose

- Project Engineer will specialize project execution and responsible for project engineering planning, procurement and execution of projects.

TASK DESCRIPTION Expanded TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Planning
 - Provide engineering quality systems required for specific capital budgeting
 - Assist in cost and budget and schedule planning for engineering packages
 - Prepare project resource planning with project stakeholders
 - Establish commissioning and project operational readiness matrixes for various projects
- Executing
 - Perform all quality checks, review and document as part of quality control protocols on all projects
 - Provide stage guidance for projects as far as mechanical engineering is concern
 - Perform and review adherence of QMS on projects by supervisors
- Closure
 - Champion the preparation of all documentations as part of project handover
 - Formalize document storage procedures for on projects for all mechanical engineering scope

UNIQUE REQUIREMENTS / OTHER INFORMATION

- Attention to detail and ability to enforce engineering standards as required by specifications
- Excellent understanding of quality management systems on complete project life cycle
- The candidate must be Physically and Medically fit.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recognized trade certificate in engineering ○ Certification from an internationally recognized engineering body 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At least 10 years of continuous experience in a similar role in a mining, engineering and construction background ○ Advance understanding in project engineering and project life cycle management ○ Ability to formalize engineering procedures, templates and structures on projects
Technical Skills	Behavioral Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proven working experience as a Project Engineer ○ Advanced MS Office skills ○ Familiarity with engineering rules, regulations, best practices and performance standards ○ Ability to work with multiple discipline projects ○ Project management and supervision skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assertiveness ○ Good communication skills ○ Organised ○ Team player

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:

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




Zara Mining
Share Company

Vacancy Announcement

Position:	Fixed Plant Maintenance Engineer
Number required	1
Location:	Koka Gold Mine (Site)
Reporting to:	Process Plant Maintenance Superintendent/Manager
Position Overview:	<p>Ensure assets are maintained according to ZMSC policies and standards. Plan, direct & coordinate the Asset Reliability Function on site in line with ZMSC Policies and Procedures. Drive continual improvement by identifying assets and processes that do not achieve reliability targets. Ensure systems are in place and used per ZMSC Policies and Procedures. Provide technical support to the Operational and Maintenance teams. Coordinate capital and engineering projects to support operations. Liaise with the Plant Project Superintendent on Plant Refurbishment and Capital projects.</p>
Job Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure assets are maintained according to ZMSC policies and standards. ➤ Plan, direct & coordinate the Asset Reliability Function on site in line with ZMSC Policies and Procedures. ➤ Drive continual improvement by identifying assets and processes that do not achieve reliability targets. ➤ Ensure systems are in place and used per ZMSC Policies and Procedures. ➤ Provide technical support to the Operational and Maintenance teams. ➤ Coordinate capital and engineering projects to support operations. ➤ Liaise with the Plant Project Superintendent on Plant Refurbishment and Capital projects. ➤ To work within budget constraints to ensure the budget is achieved.
Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Routine audit of maintenance systems and practices according to ZMSC Standards. ➤ Work with the operational areas to understand where opportunities for improvement can be made by improved asset or process reliability. ➤ Manage strategies to ensure that reliability measures are in place. ➤ Ensure that the approved reliability projects are fully justified and measurable outcomes are achievable. ➤ Ensure the Management team reviews, previews, sets, and approves a monthly reliability project register. ➤ Ensure that only approved reliability projects are enacted. ➤ Report monthly on the progress of reliability projects to the Management team. ➤ Develop strategies to implement a culture of continuous improvement in the workplace. ➤ Coordinate all capital and engineering projects both on and off-site. ➤ Ensure that the operations utilize the PRONTO CMMS and identify areas for development and further training. ➤ Ensure all equipment has appropriate maintenance strategies according to the whole-of-life asset management principles and is planned and scheduled in PRONTO. ➤ Prepare and execute an annual budget for the position. ➤ Assist the operational team with preparing their annual budget. ➤ Liaise closely with the project superintendent for efficient execution of project work.

Education & Experience:

- A tertiary degree in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering with experience in reliability techniques (Six Sigma, Statistical Analysis tools).
- Minimum of 10 years' experience in the mining/processing industry, 5 of which was in a senior supervisory position.
- Strong computer skills, particularly in maintenance management systems and MS Excel or equivalent packages.
- Proven communication skills
- Previous work experience in a developing country and an understanding of local culture and customs an advantage

Other skills and abilities

- Demonstrated ability and skill in reliability improvement processes.
- Well-developed interpersonal, written, and oral communication skills
- Sound working knowledge of Process Plant Operations
- Knowledge and understanding of statistical techniques and how they can be applied in the workplace
- Ability to develop, implement, and manage company policies
- Excellent interpersonal and team-building skills
- Commitment to safety and continuous improvement.
- Strong knowledge of both mechanical and electrical systems and equipment.

Behavioural Competencies

- Adaptable, flexible, and persistent
- Can work in a team environment and influence nondirected reports
- Good communicator and effective at ensuring policy compliance
- Initiative – action-oriented, self-starter and finisher
- Good organizational skills and coordination
- Problem-solving and ingenuity/analytical thinking
- Mentoring, coaching, and development of others

Salary	Company scale
Room Accommodation	Free accommodation
Other's requirement	Additional Requirement for nationals: - Have fulfilled their National Service obligations and provided evidence of a release paper from the Ministry of Defence. Present Clearance paper from the current/last employer. Only short-listed applicants would be considered as potential candidates for an interview. Application documents will not be returned to the sender.

Please mail your applications to the ZARA MINING SHARE CO P. O. Box 2393. Asmara, Eritrea

Note to Eritrean applicants: - Please send a copy of your application to Aliens Employment Permit Affairs P.O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea. and Eritrea. Mineral Resources Management P. O. Box 272

Deadline for application: 10 days from the day of announcement.

NOTICE

SKARGI Africa Engineering & Construction ltd, In the extra ordinary meeting of the board of Directors held on 17th October 2024, it was resolved hereby notify the public that Mr. GODSON KWABENA ALIGAH is appointed as a Branch Manager of the Company in Eritrea by replacing Mrs. Selamawit Ghebreigziabiher Ghebresslassie.

SKARGI Africa Engineering & Construction ltd



Q and A

UN Information Service Director Sandra Macharia's visit to Eritrea

Sabrina Solomon

What are the main priorities of your visit to Eritrea, and how do they fit into the broader regional communication objectives of the UN information services?

Thank you for having me for this interview. As the director of the UN information service, we are part of the UN Department of Global Communications focused on solutions-oriented storytelling, which concentrates on how we tell stories that demonstrate the effect on people's lives. As we approach the halfway point of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, we have the opportunity to assess how the UN team is supporting the Eritrean people, explore ways to improve communication, highlight additional stories about solutions and their impact on people's lives, and utilize our platforms to disseminate these stories more widely. At the same time, I am here to collaborate with the UN country team in Eritrea, with the aim of promoting a balanced narrative that is grounded in fact and effectively highlights the impact of the United Nations.

How did your meeting with the Eritrean officials go? Were any noteworthy agreements or areas identified for future collaboration in communication efforts?

We had the opportunity to meet with several Eritrean officials, including the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Finance and National Development, Minister of Information, the Commissioner of Sports and Culture, and several others. In addition, we had the chance to interact with representatives from the Asmara Museum and the Northern Red Sea Region Museum in Massawa, as well as some of the archaeologists and paleontologists working there. And the work they're doing there is fantastic. We got to visit some of the sites they are working on and see objective first-hand evidence of what they are working on and the rich cultural heritage that Eritrea has, which has been a custodian for the Eritrean people. I was accompanied by one of our regional directors from UNESCO, who is also responsible for overseeing some of the cultural heritage projects. Together, along with the country team, we brainstormed ways to communicate the rich cultural heritage of this place, highlighted the distinctive historical legacy and the archaeologists' efforts, and explored ways to collaborate in

Sandra Macharia, Director of UN Information Services in Nairobi, visited Eritrea this week to explore opportunities for collaboration and strengthen communication efforts. In an exclusive interview, she shared insights into her visit and the UN's commitment to supporting Eritrea's development. Here are some highlights from our time spent with Sandra Macharia.

bolstering Eritrea's cultural priorities and crafting captivating narratives. Also, we'd have to reflect within the UN country team on the next steps and support Eritrean priorities in that area of work.

In what ways are the UN information services looking to support Eritrea's communication landscape and enhance the flow of accurate and reliable information? Are there any specific plans or projects in the pipeline?

So, as I said, my role here was on the invitation of the UN country team because they're the ones who are working in service and now here on the ground working in Eritrea, supporting the government, supporting the communities, and the idea then is how do we tell a more balanced story, what are the channels and news, what are the stories that you can serve, and really, at the end of the day, what is the impact on people's lives and how people's lives are improving because of the investments that the government with the support of the UN has made. As we consider the global network within the UN, we're examining stories related to topics such as health and food security, with the aim of disseminating these inspiring tales to other countries. As we approach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the COVID pandemic has caused a setback or regression in our progress towards these goals. So there's pressure on everyone, whether you are a community worker, private sector actor, or young person, at whatever level you are. Can you help us accelerate progress toward our sustainable development goals? Since our goal is to ensure that no one is left behind, we also aim to ensure that people live with dignity in a sustainable manner.

How does your office intend to contribute to shaping and promoting a balanced image of Eritrea on regional and global platforms?

As I mentioned earlier, we frequently discuss solution-oriented stories, which necessitates our use of the most effective methods to demonstrate that this is a story we

can firmly support, that we have thoroughly fact-checked, and that we are confident in its authenticity. However, this does not necessarily imply that the story is always positive or newsworthy. We aim to illustrate the complexity of issues related to health, food security, and related fields, while also highlighting the existence of progress, innovations, and activities that can find a middle ground in these areas. The balanced narratives incorporate evidence-based content and take into account effective communication strategies to reach the audience. Therefore, it is crucial to examine various platforms and explore available options, as we aim to prevent individuals from claiming they are unaware of their potential contributions to our community. We are making some progress on this fundamental goal, which is very much about the dignity of human beings.

Communication is vital for national development. What practical steps or resources can your team offer to help Eritrea improve its information-sharing infrastructure and outreach strategies?

This is a vital question. It is indeed true that communication plays a fundamental role in national development. This is due to the fact that development is primarily focused on individuals, who must understand how to access services and provide feedback on specific issues. We must be aware of the available resources, and it's beneficial for individuals to recognize the advancements made, as it instills in them a sense of optimism about the potential for improvement and the active role they can play as change agents. Communication is really at the core of everything.



Suppose you're doing something and nobody knows about it or can't hear. In that scenario, the effectiveness may not be as high as it would be if you prioritized communications from the start of the programming process. At the Department of Global Communications, where my office is located, our focus is on uncovering untold stories, not forgotten ones, but unique perspectives that we can present. When I reflect on my travels to Massawa and Adulis, for example, and witness the sight of the oldest mosque in Africa, I find it to be a truly remarkable piece of history that holds immense significance not only for Eritrea but also for millions of people worldwide. Therefore, these intriguing tales remain largely untold. How can we ensure that communication plays a central role in these stories, not only to inform people about them but also to potentially spark more awareness and activities around the preservation of these precious cultural artifacts and heritage?

During your visit, you engage with various local partners. Please share any impactful experiences or insights that may influence future cooperation in communication.

The visit to the museum has been quite impactful. We witnessed a wealth of history, ranging from prehistoric to the representation of cultural artifacts from various nationalities in Eritrea. Even though I was only in Eritrea for a few days, the opportunity to witness and experience this rich history was a brief yet extremely valuable.

Witnessing a modern Eritrea and embarking on a journey during a significantly suppressed time, as well as visiting archeological sites and engaging in conversations with archaeologists and paleontologists, who are dedicated to preserving this world-renowned culture, has been profoundly moving. This experience is not limited to the present, but also extends to Eritrea's past. This experience has been inspiring and has instilled hope in me. If we can preserve this and remember where we've come from, it's essential to preserve it for future generations, allowing them to witness Eritrea's and the continent's story throughout time. That is just amazing.

You just mentioned your visit to Massawa and Adulis. Please tell me more about it and provide any final remarks you may have.

It was amazing to go and see Adulis. Understanding the history of the area was fascinating. The length of the coastline suggests that people were trading here, coming from all over the world to meet and exchange. Observing remnants of ancient coins and pottery, the notion of safeguarding and managing this site in a manner that engages the local community, who we understand actively participates in archeological endeavors, was truly remarkable. The ability to see today the places where our forefathers and foremothers worked and traded was an astounding idea from a communications perspective, and it was truly lovely to me. It proves we have a purpose on Earth and that we existed before. The visit to Massawa and Adulis was terrific.

Working at the UN is about making a tangible difference in people's lives. It revolves around the pressing nature of sustainable development goals, which prioritize the well-being of people. Additionally, it involves narrating the experiences of marginalized and typically overlooked individuals. So, it is interesting to find these stories showcasing their development path and realizing their aspirations. I always say we're all the same and want the best life for our children and their children. Therefore, we should do whatever we can today to further this sustainable development goal. It's not just a term or a high-concept idea; it is about positively impacting people's lives.

Thank you!

