



MINISTER OSMAN SALEH GAVE BRIEFING TO DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY

Foreign Minister Osman Saleh gave a briefing yesterday morning, at the Foreign Ministry HQ in Asmara, to Resident Ambassadors and Members of the Diplomatic Corps and Heads of UN Agencies accredited to the country, on false accusations regarding: i) Eritrea's presumptive preparations for war against Ethiopia; ii) the Pretoria Agreement; and, iii) Ethiopia's obsession for an outlet to the sea and subsequent diplomatic campaigns and attendant sabre-rattling.

In his extensive briefing, FM Osman underlined:

* The EDF has been redeployed to Eritrea's internationally recognized borders right after the end of the conflict in November 2022. "Anyone that claims or suggests that the Eritrean Defense Forces are still in Ethiopian

territory is doing so to scapegoat Eritrea for Ethiopia's internal problems".

* These accusations are peddled by former TPLF members who had rejected from the outset, and continue to reject, the final and binding Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC) decision, and who had worked for regime change in Eritrea "to no avail".

* The Government of Eritrea views the Pretoria Agreement as an internal affair of Ethiopia and has no desire to intervene in that process.

* The Government of Eritrea has no role whatsoever in the ongoing internal conflict between the Interim Tigray Administration and the TPLF; it categorically rejects any accusations or allegations that

insinuate otherwise.

* Eritrea is perplexed by Ethiopia's misguided and outdated ambitions for maritime access and naval base "through diplomacy or military force". In this respect, Eritrea urges the international community and its relevant bodies to put pressure on Ethiopia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of its neighbours.

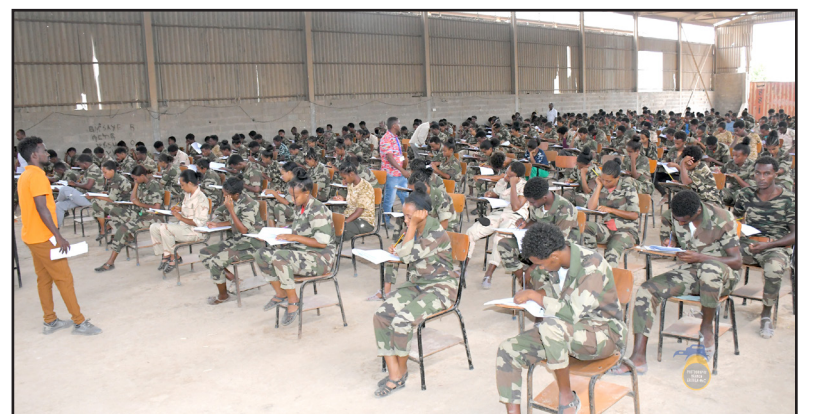
NATIONAL SCHOOL LEAVING EXAMINATION UNDERWAY

The National School Leaving Examination for the academic year 2024/2025 commenced on 17 March, across the country, as well as at International Eritrean Community Schools in Jeddah and Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

This national examination, covering 12 fields of study, is scheduled to run until 23 March. It is being conducted in 16 testing centers across the country, along with two additional centers at international schools in Saudi Arabia. A total of 24,306 students, 50% of whom are female, are sitting for this year's exams.

Dr. Bisirat Gebru, Director of the Testing Center at the Higher Education Institution and Research, stated that the number of students taking the national examination has increased by 10.6% compared to the previous year.

Dr. Bisirat further noted that 84.1% of the examinees are regular students from Sawa Warsai-Yikealo High School and technical schools. She also mentioned that 3,861 students are retaking the exam, while 61 candidates are from the Rehabilitation and Prison Center, as well as the adult education program for women.



MS. TEKEA TEFAMICHAEL ADDRESSES 69TH COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

An Eritrean delegation led by Ms. Tekea Tesfamichael, President of the National Union of Eritrean Women, is participating in the 69th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, currently underway in New York from 10 to 21 March.

During the session, countries and women's organizations are reviewing progress on the "Beijing 30" goals, which focus on ensuring political, economic, and technological opportunities for women.

Addressing the session, Ms. Tekea emphasized that the Beijing Declaration remains one of the most pivotal global commitments—not

only in advancing the rights of women and girls but also in fostering more inclusive and progressive societies.

Ms. Tekea highlighted that, much like during the colonial era, global economic structures remain unjust, exploitative, and extractive, enriching a select few in the Global North while impoverishing the poorest nations. She stressed that the diversion of vital resources away from education, healthcare, and economic opportunities for women and girls significantly hampers efforts to promote gender equality.

She reiterated that education initiatives have led to gender parity,

with a particular focus on rural areas, while investments in healthcare have resulted in a 70% reduction in maternal mortality. Women play a vital role in the economy, actively engaging in small businesses, agriculture, and trade, supported by microfinance and skills training programs. Additionally, Eritrean women hold key leadership positions at both national and local levels, ensuring that their voices influence policies and national development.

Concluding her remarks, Ms. Tekea affirmed that Eritrean women remain vigilant and committed to continuous improvement, determined to achieve the progress they aspire to and rightfully deserve. *(Full text of Ms. Tekea's remark is on page 2)*

At the sideline of the session, the delegation is actively engaged in explaining the stance of Eritrea in equal opportunities and participation of Eritrean women.

'INDOMASO' AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

A total of 44 outstanding students, including 29 female students, who achieved high scores in the eighth-grade national examination, have been honored with the 'Indomaso' award.

Mr. Berhane Woldeab, director of Dubarwa Junior School, emphasized that the 'Indomaso' award has played a significant role in encouraging students to excel in their education. He also urged the award recipients to remain competitive and dedicated to their future academic pursuits.

Heads from the National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students, along with the education office, stated that the award is organized in collaboration with both institutions and continues to serve as a motivation for students to achieve higher academic performance.

In the Southern Region, the 'Indomaso' award is given to students who score over 80 points in the eighth-grade national examination and those who achieve a GPA of over 3.0 in the national school leaving examination.



Statement by Ms. Takea Tesfamichael During the 69th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women

Madam Chair,

Beijing Declaration remains one of the most pivotal global commitments not only in advancing the rights of women and girls but also in fostering advanced and inclusive societies.

While undeniable progress has been made since Beijing, we are far from fulfilling its bold aspirations and data indicating we are over a hundred years away from achieving gender equality is a sobering reality that demands urgent action.

Madam Chair, allow me to offer a few reflections.

First, Reminiscent of the colonial era, global economic structures remain unjust, exploitative, and extractive, enriching a select few in the Global North while impoverishing the poorest nations. Nowhere is this more evident than in the ongoing debt crisis, where African countries pay borrowing costs of up to eight times higher than wealthy economies. The diversion of vital resources away from funding education, healthcare, and economic opportunities for women and girls, is no doubt impacting effort to promote gender equality.

Second, conflicts are reversing gender equality gains. Across Africa, conflicts, often driven



by external interference, have devastated economies, fractured communities, and left women and children bearing the heaviest burdens. Without genuine global cooperation to prevent and end conflicts, the achievement of gender equality will be a distant dream.

Third, we are witnessing women's rights selectively weaponized to justify punitive measures against certain governments, while the situation of other women, including those suffering from conflicts, have often escaped the level of outrage needed to drive political solutions.

This double standard exposes a deep hypocrisy in the global system, where the suffering of women is only acknowledged when it aligns with the geopolitical interests of powerful actors. No matter the identity of the perpetrators, the race, creed, or location of the victims, or the political considerations at play, women's rights must garner equal global consideration.

Madam Chair,

In Eritrea, the struggle for gender equality was born within the national liberation struggle for independence. It was not granted or negotiated; it was achieved through sacrifice and determination. Eritrean women stood shoulder to shoulder with their male counterparts, not only as supporters but as fighters and leaders. Their participation was not symbolic, it was fundamental to the success of the liberation

movement. In doing so, they shattered deeply entrenched patriarchal norms. Their rights are embedded in the very fabric of the nation's society.

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action was one of Eritrea's first major international commitments after gaining independence in 1993. Despite limited resources and persistent hostilities, Eritrea has steadily advanced toward fulfilling these commitments.

Since the Beijing Declaration, Eritrea has made significant strides in advancing women's rights and participation across all sectors. Legal reforms have ensured equal rights in marriage, employment, and property ownership, allowing women to inherit, own land, and make independent economic decisions.

Education initiatives have resulted in parity with particular focus in rural areas, while investments in health have led to over 70% reduction in maternal mortality. Women play a vital role in the economy, actively engaging in small businesses, agriculture, and trade, supported by microfinance and skills training programs. Politically, Eritrean women hold key leadership positions at national and local levels, ensuring their voices shape policies and national development.

Despite these achievements, we are not complacent. We remain vigilant and committed to continuous improvement, determined to achieve the

progress we aspire to and that Eritrean women rightfully deserve.

I thank you.
New York,
Thursday 13th March 2025

From Social Media



Yemane G. Meskel
@hawelti

From the diplomatic grapevine: "the new ruse of shifting blame to Eritrea for the failure of the full implementation of the Pretoria Agreement seems both disingenuous and rather pathetic. The Pretoria Agreement signed more than two years ago (in November 2022) had narrow timelines of implementation stretching from few weeks to a couple of months. Problems it has encountered in smooth and speedy implementation surely pre-date the quite recent political schisms within the TPLF".

The fact is the tension in the wider region squarely stems from the the toxic agenda of territorial irredentism; from unwarranted pronouncements and related sabre-rattling for acquiring a port and maritime territory "legally if possible and militarily if necessary". This is the malaise that warrants firm and unequivocal legal & moral stance by all countries who cherish the peace and stability of the Horn of Africa region.



Eritrea Ministry Of Information



PRESS RELEASE



By Shabait Admin on October 16, 2023

Discourses – both actual and presumed – on water, access to the sea, and related topics floated in the recent times are numerous and excessive indeed. The affair has perplexed all concerned observers.

In the event, the Government of Eritrea repeatedly reiterates that it will not, as ever, be drawn into such alleys and platforms. The GOE further urges all concerned not to be provoked by these events.

Ministry of Information

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Building a Skilled Future: TVET for the Workforce and the Economy

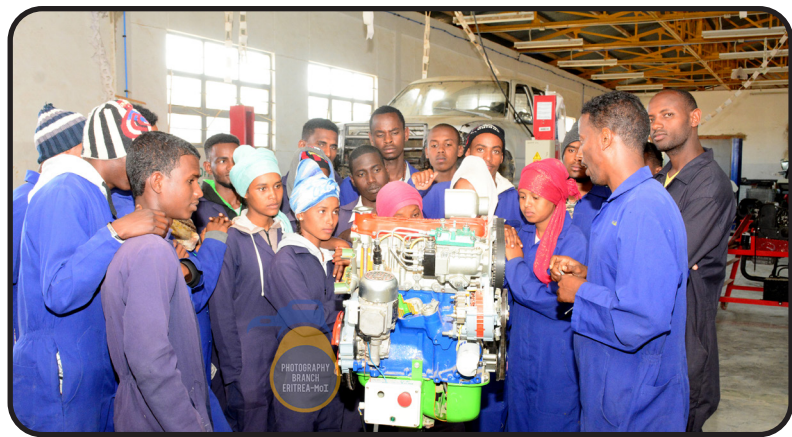
Dr. Fikrejesus Amahazion

Recently, local media outlets reported that several hundred students from colleges in Asmara and Adi-Keih have successfully completed short-term vocational training programs. These programs complement the regular and long-term technical and vocational education offered across Eritrea, including in Dekemhare, Nakfa, Asmara, Hagaz, Mai-Habar, and Halay.

Beyond their various immediate benefits, these initiatives underscore Eritrea's steadfast commitment to human capital development and its broader efforts to drive inclusive socio-economic growth, achieve sustainable development, and enhance the living standards of its people. As Eritrea continues to strengthen its technical and vocational education and training (TVET) infrastructure, these programs serve as a cornerstone in the nation's strategy to equip its citizens with the necessary skills to thrive in an evolving global economy.

Creating pathways to stable employment and sustainable livelihoods

A crucial aspect of TVET is its tremendous potential to create viable pathways to stable employment and sustainable livelihoods for a growing number of young people. Youth unemployment remains one of the most pressing social and economic challenges faced by developing



nations – including Eritrea. Across Africa, young people aged 15 to 24 make up approximately 20 percent of the population but account for more than 40 percent of the unemployed. With at least 100 million young people expected to enter the labor market by 2030 due to demographic trends, the urgency of addressing this issue is undeniable. The reality is that formal education alone is insufficient to meet the growing demand for labor, making TVET



a crucial alternative for equipping young people with employable skills.

It is well known that young job seekers often find themselves at the end of the employment queue due to various factors, including a lack of relevant skills and competencies, as well as limited experience. This forces many into the informal sector, which, while offering some opportunities, is often characterized by low wages, unpredictable working hours, and a lack of job security, protections, and benefits. Additionally, youth unemployment carries significant economic and social risks. It can contribute to crime, illicit drug use, and exploitative practices, such as

commercial sex work. Moreover, it can drive irregular migration, with a considerable body of empirical literature showing that factors such as large wage differentials, employment prospects, and returns on investment influence migration decisions. By failing to provide young people with adequate opportunities to earn a dignified livelihood, societies risk losing a valuable segment of their workforce and potential future leaders.

In this context, the skills and mindset developed through TVET programs provide young people with a viable pathway to formal employment. In Eritrea, thousands of young men and women have graduated from TVET institutions nationwide, acquiring high-quality training across diverse fields. The majority of these graduates secure stable, permanent jobs directly related to their training, allowing them to apply their skills, increase their lifetime earnings, and improve their quality of life. Furthermore, many TVET graduates eventually establish their businesses, becoming job creators rather than job seekers. This not only helps combat unemployment but also stimulates local economies by fostering innovation and self-reliance.

Upholding rights, fostering cohesion, and promoting equality

Another vital, albeit overlooked, aspect of Eritrea's TVET programs is their pivotal role in upholding fundamental rights, fostering social cohesion, and promoting gender equality. By equipping young people with essential skills and expanding employment opportunities, TVET contributes to creating a more equitable society. Globally, vocational training is recognized as a powerful tool for empowering marginalized communities by enhancing employability and fostering financial independence. In Eritrea, TVET institutions enroll students from diverse backgrounds, including those from historically disadvantaged communities and regions. This inclusivity highlights

the program's role in bridging historically vast socio-economic divides and ensuring that all citizens, regardless of particular background, have equal access to meaningful opportunities.

TVET programs also play a significant role in advancing gender equality, which remains a key priority for Eritrea. These programs have enabled young Eritrean women to gain expertise in trades traditionally dominated by men, such as carpentry, construction, woodworking, and metalwork. Many of these women have excelled in their respective fields, challenging deep-seated socio-cultural stereotypes and redefining perceptions of gender roles. (Just last week, a popular local television show presented the inspiring story of one young woman who had graduated from one of Eritrea's TVET institutions and is now excelling in several fields, including carpentry, mechanics, and metalworks.) Their success reflects a broader shift toward empowerment, autonomy, and



agency, reinforcing the importance of expanding access to vocational training for all. By fostering an environment where young women can not only participate but excel in technical fields, Eritrea is making strides toward a more inclusive and progressive society.

Beyond employment, TVET also contributes to Eritrea's broader national development goals. A skilled workforce strengthens key industries such as manufacturing, agriculture, and construction, which are vital to Eritrea's economic growth. Additionally, trained professionals in fields such as renewable energy and healthcare are crucial for modernizing infrastructure and improving essential services. By investing in vocational education, Eritrea is not only tackling immediate employment challenges but also laying a robust foundation for long-term economic resilience and national prosperity.

Eritrea's ongoing investment in technical and vocational education is a testament to its commitment to developing a skilled workforce, fostering sustainable economic growth, and creating opportunities for its young people. By continuing to expand and enhance these programs, the country is laying the groundwork for a future in which every young person has the tools to succeed and make a meaningful contribution to society.

Moving forward, increasing collaboration between the government, TVET institutions, international development partners, and the private sector will be essential in ensuring that TVET remains responsive to local industry needs. If Eritrea continues to prioritize TVET, the benefits will extend far beyond individual employment, fostering a dynamic, self-sufficient economy that benefits the entire nation.



The Chronicles of Heritage

Sona Berhane

Delving into Eritrean customs, Bereket Amare's insightful book "ክብ ሞሪ ናብ ሞሪ" offers a captivating exploration of Tigrigna society across the twelve months of the year. The book, published in 2022, meticulously records the various traditions and customs that shape Eritrean life. To illuminate the cultural significance of March, the following excerpt is drawn and translated from the chapter dedicated to this specific month.

As March arrives, it does not herald relief from the arduous conditions established in February. On the contrary, daily life becomes increasingly challenging as this month marks the onset of the most intense heat of the year, further exacerbating water scarcity. An adage – “መጋቢት፡ ኣይትለዝ፡ በላ ንወግቢት” – captures the precarious nature of this period, warning even the most charitable individuals to exercise prudence in their generosity, as both food and water

farmland is tilled and planted annually without rest. At the same time, Tsig'i involves a rotational fallow system, allowing land to lie uncultivated for a year to regenerate soil nutrients and improve long-term fertility. Fields that have remained fallow require extensive preparation, necessitating multiple stages of plowing before they become arable again.

The initial plowing employs a wide-bladed plow to break the

Farmers must tailor their cultivation techniques to regional soil characteristics, balancing soil conservation with productivity.

While most staple crops require the onset of the rainy season for successful cultivation, a few hardy species can be sown in March. One such crop is Eleusine coracana (ዳጉሻ), or finger millet. This drought-resistant cereal is uniquely suited for early planting, as its seeds can remain dormant in the soil for extended periods, germinating rapidly when the first rains arrive. Finger millet plays a vital role in Eritrean agriculture, particularly in rural households, where it is widely used in preparing S'wa, a traditionally fermented alcoholic beverage. Its ability to withstand harsh conditions makes



security throughout the dry season. During construction, a small opening – known as the “eye of the silo” – is incorporated at the base, facilitating the controlled release of stored grains. As silos deteriorate over time, women take this opportunity to repair or replace them, reinforcing the long-term sustainability of their storage infrastructure.

Land disputes often arise during this period with the intensification of agricultural activities. Common conflicts include boundary infringements, unauthorized land expansion, and disputes over irrigation rights. To mediate such conflicts, Eritrean villages rely on a traditional governance structure consisting of three groups of elders: Nebaro (ክብ), Aquaro (ዳጉ), and Gelafo (ገላፎ).

Nebaro (ክብ): Oversee all land tenure matters, including agricultural and residential land disputes. They possess extensive knowledge of land ownership and inheritance customs and serve as the primary adjudicators in cases of contested claims. Both Aquaro and Gelafo are under Nebaro's administration.

Aquaro (ዳጉ): Responsible for land allocation, particularly for newlywed couples and villagers needing farmland. Their duties include measuring and distributing

agricultural plots and ensuring equitable access to land resources. In cases where farmland remains unassigned, they facilitate short-term leasing arrangements, allowing unused land to be temporarily cultivated.

Gelafo (ገላፎ): Tasked with monitoring land succession following a landowner's death or permanent migration. After a designated period, they reintegrate unclaimed land into communal ownership, redistributing it according to village needs.

These traditional institutions are indispensable in maintaining agricultural land tenure stability, ensuring disputes do not escalate into prolonged conflicts. Elders serve year-round, and their tenure is periodically renewed through village elections, reinforcing communal participation in land governance.

March is characterized by rigorous preparation, both in terms of labor and resource management, as a transitional period leading into spring. Farmers engage in vital soil conditioning, while women undertake essential seed preservation and storage activities. At the same time, traditional governance structures mediate land use conflicts, ensuring that agricultural operations proceed smoothly.



resources become increasingly scarce.

Yet, despite these adversities, March serves as a critical transition in the agricultural calendar. It is the month when farmers begin to re-engage in fieldwork after months of inactivity, signaling the preparatory phase for the upcoming growing season. Oxen, which have been left to rest and recuperate, are once again yoked, albeit with moderation, as farmers understand that the true demands on their strength will come later in the year. This early cultivation is not exhaustive but serves a vital function in soil preparation, ensuring that farmland is optimally conditioned for sowing.

Agricultural practices in Eritrea are governed by two primary cultivation methods: Gerfi (ገርፊ) and Tsig'i (ጽግኢ). Gerfi refers to continuous cultivation, wherein

compacted surface, aerate the soil, and enhance water infiltration. The second plowing further refines soil structure, while the third loosens and homogenizes the substrate, facilitating adequate seedbed preparation. This multi-stage process enhances soil tilth, contributes to mechanical weed control, reduces soil compaction, and incorporates organic matter such as decomposed plant residues, improving nutrient availability. The final plowing coincides with the sowing period, ensuring optimal conditions for seed germination.

The varying soil composition of different regions plays a crucial role in determining labor intensity during this preparatory phase. For example, the Hazemo region's soil and the Barka's sandy loam soils require less intensive plowing compared to the more compacted clay-heavy soils found elsewhere.

it a strategic choice for farmers seeking to maximize productivity in unpredictable climatic conditions.

March is also a crucial period for seed selection and preparation, an activity primarily undertaken by women. Seed purity is paramount, as contamination with weeds or wild oats can lead to reduced yields and increased competition for soil nutrients. Through meticulous sorting and cleaning, women ensure that only the highest-quality seeds are reserved for planting, enhancing crop uniformity and minimizing the spread of invasive species.

In addition to seed selection, March is a time for constructing and maintaining silos. These storage units, crafted from dung and straw, are essential for preserving harvested grains, protecting them from pests, and ensuring food



Development

Progress in Kerkebet Subzone

Mussie Efriem

Situated in southwestern Eritrea, Gash Barka region as a whole is known for its fertile land and diverse population. Over the years, the region has been a site for various development works aimed at harnessing its natural resources,

needs of its pastoral and agricultural communities, taking into account factors such as availability of water, land management practices, and access to markets. The interplay between traditional livelihoods and development efforts in Kerkebet underscores the broader narrative of Gash Barka, a region striving for

office has made efforts over the years to relocate such communities to one and larger settlement. Himbol Qechech, Amalayt, and Hamashduba administrative areas stand out as successful examples of such settlements, demonstrating the potential for creating better organized and easily accessible social services. These examples illustrate how strategic planning can enhance governance and facilitate the delivery of essential services to the local population. A particularly compelling case is that of the residents of Amalayt. Their resettlement has increased their proximity to the strategically important Kerkebet dam that has profoundly transformed their livelihoods.

Kerkebet dam, a very important source of water, has fostered community engagement in water and soil conservation works that is now a daily practice. And the dedication to resource management has spurred the flourishing of numerous small-scale farmers. The positive effects of Kerkebet dam and the resettlements are increasingly becoming evident in the evolving economic landscape of Kerkebet subzone. In areas such as Amalayt, Drfa, Faleg, Hamashduba, and Himbol Qechech, communities are abandoning nomadic life, choosing instead to live in permanent locations.

This shift indicates a growing reliance on farming as a primary economic activity, likely fueled by improved access to water resources and more settled living conditions facilitated by the resettlement. Accompanying this transition is a remarkable increase in the participation of women in development programs. As families become engaged more in agriculture, women are actively becoming part of the workforce, contributing to the economic well-being of their communities. A striking example of this is seen in the work-for-food programs, where women constitute a significant majority of participants. Out of 500 individuals working in such programs, 350 are women.

The shift from a predominantly nomadic life and the active involvement of women in agriculture and development programs signify a profound and positive transformation within Kerkebet subzone. This evolution underscores the potential of well-planned development strategies in bringing about meaningful change in societies, fostering both economic growth and women's empowerment in Gash Barka region.

Considering that education is a fundamental pillar of society, it is sad that prior to Eritrea's independence, formal education had hardly existed in Kerkebet subzone. Following Eritrea's independence, the subzone has seen a significant transformation, now boasting a total of 31 schools, teaching students from pre-school up to high school



Mr. Mahmoud Idris

levels. There are also 37 centers that offer adult literacy programs and programs for individuals who missed formal education earlier in life. In the past, students from the subzone that sought secondary education had to go so far away from home to boarding schools located in Akurdet and Asmat. This problem has been eased with the construction of a local boarding school. As of last year, students that go to the boarding school are being sent to Sawa for a year to complete their secondary school education.

Elementary school education in the subzone is offered in three native languages: Tigre, Bedawyet, and Arabic. One of the challenges in elementary schools is shortage of mother tongue teachers. Mr. Mahmoud Idris, director of Education in the subzone, said they have found an interim solution to address the challenge: recruiting high school graduates in the subzone to teach students in elementary schools. Although girls' enrollment at schools is increasing, it hasn't yet reached the desired numbers. To boost girls' enrollment and retention, the subzone's administration office



Mr. Abdelkerim Idris

is providing girls with uniforms free of charge.

Furthermore, campaigns are conducted to promote the importance of education for girls and women. The communities in Kerkebet subzone are also doing their share for the development of schools. They donate essential materials, take initiatives to construct schools, and offer support to teachers, demonstrating a strong sense of ownership.

Like education, health services in Kerkebet subzone has seen progress. There was no health facility in the subzone before Eritrea's independence, but today there are six.

Five of the facilities are health stations providing essential primary care service to communities across the subzone while one is a health center located in Amalayt, providing more comprehensive healthcare services.

Mr. Esrom Tekle, director of Health in the subzone, said the services given by healthcare facilities in Kerkebet subzone include outpatient services for adults and children, a laboratory for diagnostic testing, inpatient beds for treatment, HIV diagnosis and counseling, immunization, pharmacy, and emergency care. Overall, Kerkebet subzone is now



Mr. Esrom Tekle

served by 42 professional healthcare staff, marking a considerable improvement in the availability of healthcare professionals in the subzone.

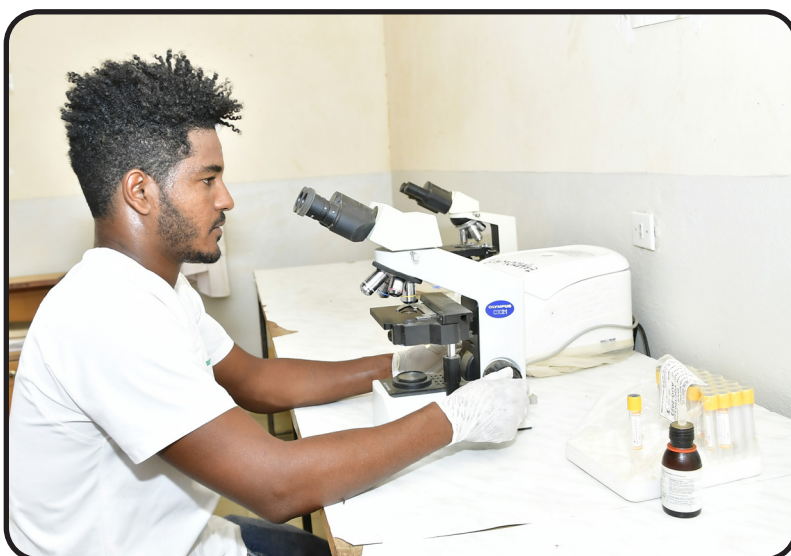


improving livelihoods, and fostering sustainable growth. In the expansive Gash Barka region lies Kerkebet subzone, one of the 16 subzones in the region.

Kerkebet subzone borders Dige

progress.

The development of Kerkebet is an integral part of the overall development and stability of Gash Barka region, contributing significantly to Eritrea's national

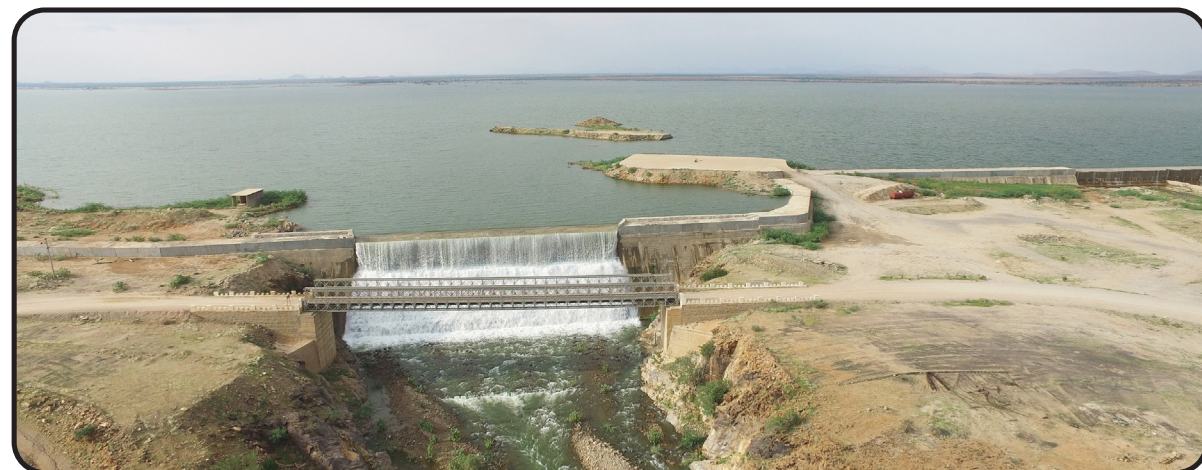


and Akurdet subzones to the south, parts of Forto Sawa region to the west, Se'la subzone to the east, and Sudan to the north. The economic and social fabric of Kerkebet subzone is shaped by the prevalence of pastoralism, the primary way of life for substantial portion of its population of around 42,000. Complementing pastoralism, agriculture sustains the remaining population.

Initiatives in Kerkebet subzone are tailored to address the specific

development agenda, particularly in sectors such as agriculture, food security, and rural livelihoods.

Mr. Abdelkerim Idris, administrator of Kerkebet subzone, sheds light on a significant development strategy being implemented to address the challenges associated with the bigness of the subzone and its scattered settlements. Recognizing that dispersed settlements can hinder the efficient delivery of social services, the subzone's administration





Zara Mining
Share Company

Vacancy Announcement

Position:	Environmental Officer
Department	EHS
Number required	01
Location:	Based at Koka Gold Mine (Site)
Reporting to:	Environmental Supervisor
Primary Responsibility & Scope of Work	Under the direction of the Environmental Supervisor, the environmental officer oversees the implementation and compliance of SEMP. The officer performs regular monitoring, inspection, training, and reporting assignments in a standard fashion in compliance with SEMP and other international regulatory bodies.
Duties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Perform inductions, environmental awareness programs, and training- Direct mine employees and contractors on how to implement environmental requirements such as pollution control, waste reduction, best environmental management practices, as well as other requirements listed in the approved Environmental Management Program (SEMP)- Regular environmental inspections of different sites- Hydrological, groundwater, climatological, ambient air quality, noise and other environmental data collections- On-site sampling, analysis, and interpretation of different environmental parameters.- On-site regular data downloading from monitoring instruments- Report environmental incidents and advise clean-up procedures- Perform hazardous and non-hazardous waste management programs- Planning, scheduling, Implementation, and monitoring of rehabilitation works- Planning and organizing seed collection and tree nursery activities- Developing and implementing controls to protect and conserve wildlife on site- Control of documents and records related to water, air, land, flora, and fauna- Provide report inputs monthly, quarterly, annually, and as instructed by the supervisor- Provide inputs for the mine closure plan- Understanding of sampling techniques for water and air quality monitoring- Must be self-driven and work without Supervision.- Any other duties as assigned by a supervisor
Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Relevant degree or diploma in environmental science/mining Engineering.- Relevant Environmental Short courses and certifications in environmental legislation- Knowledge of Environmental instrumentation groundwater, weather station, dust monitoring, air quality samplers, and other hydrological)- Understanding of sampling techniques for water and air quality monitoring- Professional in their approach to dealing with issues and employees.- Appreciation of confidentiality and discretion.- Strong understanding of the mining SEMP and government of Eritrea environmental proclamations- Occupational Health and Safety certification or equivalent certification
Working Experience – Nature & Length	2-5 years of experience in mining/process environment in a related field
Leadership Experience – Nature & length of time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Strong organizational and analytical skills- Strong teamwork skills- Professional in their approach to dealing with issues and employees’
Knowledge and skill Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Strong verbal and written communication skills in English- Strong organizational and analytical skills- Intermediate to advanced knowledge of Windows-based programs (Word, Excel, and Outlook)- Strong teamwork skills- GIS skills- Must be self-driven and work without Supervision.- Valid driving license
Other skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Evidence of continual active interest in and commitment to all aspects of the natural environment.
Salary: according to the Company’s salary scale.	
Additional Requirement for nationals: Having fulfilled their National Service obligations and providing 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.	
Address: Please mail your applications to Zara Mining Share Company. 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	
10 days from the day of the announcement	



Vacancy Announcement

Position:	Junior Accountant
Number required	1
Location:	Based at Koka Gold Mine (Zara)
Reporting to:	Financial Specialist Superintendent
Primary Responsibility & Scope of Work	To provide financial information to Finance Manager or management by researching and analysing accounting data; preparing reports required.
Duties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Recording financial data into Accounting Software or ERP by compiling, analysing and summarizing accounts information.- Maintain & prepare various financial reports, tax related matters, accounts payable & receivables, monthly Payroll, bank, and accounts reconciliations.- Documents financial transactions by entering account information.- Recommends financial actions by analysing accounting options.- Substantiates financial transactions by checking documents.- Maintains accounting controls by referring existing accounting policies and procedures.- Reconciles financial discrepancies by collecting and analysing account information.- Secures financial information by completing data base backups.- Maintains financial security by following internal controls.- Answers accounting procedure questions by researching and interpreting accounting policy and regulations.- Complies with Eritrean Government financial legal requirements by studying existing and new legislation, enforcing adherence to requirements.- Prepares special financial reports cash flows by collecting, analysing, and summarizing account information and trends.- Maintains customer confidence and protects operations by keeping financial information confidential.- Maintains professional and technical knowledge by attending educational workshops; reviewing professional publications; establishing personal networks; participating in professional societies.- Assists in preparing payments by verifying documentation and requesting disbursements.- Contributes to team effort by accomplishing related results as needed.
Formal Education, Certifications, or Equivalents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- University Degree or Diploma in Accounting.
Working Experience – Nature & Length	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Minimum 3 years’ experience as an Accountant. Mining experience will have an asset.
Other skills and abilities	Accounting, Corporate Finance, Reporting Skills, Deadline-Oriented, Reporting Research Results, Confidentiality, Time Management, Data Entry Management. Good math and computer skills. High-level of attention to detail. Strong organizational skills. Independent work skills. Analytical and problem-solving skills. Computer skills, especially the ability to use accounting software. Written and verbal communication skills.

Salary: according to the Company’s salary scale.

Additional Requirement for nationals: Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligations and provide evidence of a release paper from the Ministry of Defence. Provide clearance from the current/last employer. Applications should be sent through the Post Office. Only short-listed applicants would be considered as potential candidates for an interview. Application will not send to the sender.

Address: Please mail your applications to Zara Mining Share Company. 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

The deadline for application is 10 days from the day of the announcement



Eritrea's Voice on the Global Stage: Ambassador Sophia Tesfamariam on the UN, the Global South, and National Development

sabrina solomon

The Global South is increasingly asserting its influence in international affairs. How do you view Eritrea's role within this dynamic, and how can countries of the Global South collectively address shared challenges at the UN?

Well, thank you. That is a very loaded question and timely as well. The Global South has been actively coming together to respond to pressing global



challenges. Recently, I attended the UN Summit of the Future, as well as previous key summits over the past two years. The Global South has consistently raised its voice on critical issues such as the unbalanced global financial system, UN reforms, climate change, food and water security, and human rights.

At the UN, the African Group, along with other like-minded blocs, has been working collectively to advocate for these concerns. Over the past two years, serious negotiations have taken place on behalf of the Global South, particularly at major forums such as the G77 conference, the Summit in Kampala this January, and climate summits like COP28 and COP29. Climate financing and energy transition remain top priorities for our nations. The Global South is leveraging every available platform—conferences, summits, and high-level meetings—to ensure that our voices are heard and our developmental needs are addressed.

The global landscape is evolving rapidly with challenges such as climate change, geopolitical shifts, and technological advancements. How does Eritrea, as a UN member, perceive these changes, and what strategies is it employing to address them?

Ambassador Sophia Tesfamariam is Eritrea's Permanent Representative to the United Nations. She has extensive experience in global social development, particularly in working with youth and women in the Horn of Africa. Her passion lies in fostering a mindset of possibility among young people. She has conducted over 100 seminars and workshops on leadership and strategy development for youth and women in the USA, Europe, and Africa. With deep expertise in media and public diplomacy, Ambassador Sophia maintains strong networks across Africa, Europe, and Australia, continuously working to promote peace, stability, and security in the region.

Currently, in Eritrea, she continues her impactful work by leading seminars and visiting key developmental sites. Sabrina Solomon and Eri-TV's Raphael Giuseppe sat down with her for an in-depth interview. Below are excerpts from their discussion.

Eritrea's approach aligns with strategies employed by many nations, but what sets us apart is our proactive stance. We have been addressing key issues—climate, food security, water management, and sustainability—long before they became global talking points. On the ground, Eritrea has made significant investments in infrastructure, including dam construction, terracing of mountains, and nationwide tree-planting initiatives. These are not just policy discussions for us; they are lived realities.

At the international level, we actively engage in global discussions at summits and conferences, contributing to shaping the discourse on these pressing issues. The geopolitical shifts taking place today were inevitable, and Eritrea has long anticipated the need for a more just and balanced international order. We have consistently called for change in the global system, and we welcome the transformations now taking place.

At the UN, Eritrea participates in thematic discussions on emerging issues such as cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. We are also an active member of the G77+China, a bloc of 134 countries, where we engage in policy dialogues on global development. Within the African Group, we focus on challenges unique to the continent, including the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030 and Africa's Agenda 2063. Eritrea uses platforms such as the Voluntary National Review (VNR) at ECOSOC to share our progress, learn from other nations, and showcase our development efforts.

Eritrea has taken positions that differ from those of major global powers. How does it balance its national interests with its commitment to international cooperation? What mechanisms ensure that Eritrea's voice is heard at the UN?

Eritrea is an active participant in discussions at the UN. It would be inaccurate to say that our positions are isolated or contradictory to global concerns. While a few dominant nations may not always share our perspectives, there is a broad coalition of like-minded countries that share Eritrea's concerns and aspirations.

Every country at the UN prioritizes its national interests, and Eritrea is no different. We are not aligned against any country, nor do we align blindly with others. Instead, we work with nations that share similar perspectives and understand the context of Eritrea's positions. These allies span both the Global South and the Global North, depending on the issue at hand.

To ensure our voice is heard, we maximize our presence at the UN by engaging in discussions on key topics such as climate change, food and water security, desertification, peace and security, territorial integrity, and UN reform. Eritrea does not simply participate; we also initiate conversations to gauge support for our positions and to build coalitions. The platforms, forums, and mechanisms exist—we just use innovative approaches to ensure our concerns are integrated into the broader UN agenda.

In promoting peace and understanding in the Horn of Africa, what diplomatic strategies does Eritrea employ at the UN to foster regional stability?

Eritrea takes a proactive and pragmatic approach to regional diplomacy. We engage bilaterally with our neighbors—Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, and Djibouti—while also working through multilateral frameworks like IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority on Development). At the UN, we consistently raise issues affecting the Horn of Africa and advocate for solutions that reflect the realities on the ground.

One of our key diplomatic

strategies is fostering honest dialogue. For too long, external narratives have painted the Horn of Africa as a conflict-ridden region. While differences exist, we have worked hard to dispel the notion that our nations are perpetually at odds. Much of the region's instability in the past has been driven by external interventions that distorted local dynamics. Today, we emphasize regional cooperation, recognizing that while each country has its priorities, our shared interests in peace, security, and territorial integrity must take precedence.

At the UN, Eritrea regularly engages with Horn of Africa resident ambassadors to discuss regional priorities, counter misinformation, and present a more accurate narrative of the region's political and security landscape.

Considering your background and passion for youth development, what message do you have for young Eritreans regarding their role in shaping Eritrea's engagement with the UN and the broader international community?

Eritrean youth have a significant role to play, and we already see their contributions in national development projects. Young Eritreans are deeply involved in building the country—whether in engineering, infrastructure, agriculture, or security. What remains is ensuring their voices are also heard at the international level.

We have started bringing young Eritreans to UN dialogues, including side events and global forums like the Commission on the Status of Women. Youth make up 70% of Africa's population, making their integration into political, economic, and development discussions essential.

Eritrea's national service program is often misrepresented, but it plays a critical role in nation-building. Our youth are not only in the military but also in ministries,

infrastructure projects, and international missions, including at Eritrea's UN mission. They are at the forefront of solar panel installations, dam construction, and development initiatives. This is a story that needs to be told. With the rise of social media, Eritrean youth have an unprecedented opportunity to shape the global narrative. This positive story needs to be shared more effectively, and empowering the energetic youth with context and platforms, especially through social media, will amplify Eritrea's voice to a broader global audience. So, hooray for the youth!

You recently gave a lecture titled 'Eritrea in a Changing Global Environment' to members of the Ministry of Information. Could you elaborate on the key takeaways, particularly how Eritrea is adapting to the evolving international order?

Eritrea has long anticipated and advocated for a shift in the global order, and the current changes align with its longstanding calls for justice and equality. The country feels vindicated as previous narratives against it—on human rights, national service, and development—are now being reconsidered. Eritrea emphasizes that peace, security, and self-sufficiency are its core priorities, ensuring a stable and self-reliant society. It challenges external misconceptions about fundamental rights and asserts that many of the concerns it has raised are now echoed by other African nations opposing injustice and resource exploitation. With over 60 years of experience navigating global challenges, Eritrea believes it has valuable lessons to offer and will continue advocating for a fairer international system while sharing its insights with other nations.

Any final remarks?

I appreciate the opportunity to discuss these important topics. Eritreans must recognize that we are part of the UN—one of 194 member states. While a few powerful nations may dominate decision-making, the majority of UN members share our aspirations for peace, development, and justice. We must engage constructively, ensuring that Eritrea's voice continues to be heard.

Thank you!