



UN ASSISTANT SECRETARY CONDUCTS WORKING VISIT TO ERITREA

A UN delegation headed by Mr. Dereje Wordofa, UN Assistant Secretary-General and UNFPA Deputy Executive Director, conducted a two-day official visit to Eritrea. The delegation included the UNFPA Regional Director for East and Southern Africa Region, Dr. Julitta Onabanjo, and Mr. Ramiz Alkbarov, UNFPA Policy and Strategic Division Head at the UN Headquarters.

During its stay in Eritrea from 18 to 19 October, the UN delegation met and held talks with Mr. Osman Saleh, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Gergis Teklemicael, Minister of National Development, Ms. Amina Nur-Hussein, Minister of Health, as well as with heads of NUEYS, NUEW, and the College of Health Sciences. Discussion focused on the development of bilateral relations, as well as the progress of the peace process between Eritrea and Ethiopia and its potential contributions to development in the two countries.

During his meeting with the UN delegation, Minister Osman Saleh



indicated that the Government of Eritrea has exerted strong efforts toward peace, believing it to be the foundation for all development, and he stated that the peace agreement with Ethiopia and other countries will have a significantly positive impact on the region. Minister Osman also called on the UN to support the peace initiatives and play its part in

ongoing development programs.

Mr. Dereje Wordofa extended congratulations for the peace agreement recently reached between Eritrea and Ethiopia, while also expressing his expectation that the agreement will positively influence the Horn of Africa.

At a meeting with the Minister of National Development, Dr. Gergis Teklemicael, the UN Assistant Secretary-General also commended Eritrea for the progress it has registered in health, education, agriculture and other sectors, as well as its cooperation with UN agencies through the "Strategic Partnership

Cooperation Framework 2017-2021".

Indicating that nation-building is a long process and requires commitment and proper planning, Dr. Gergis said that the Government of Eritrea is working resolutely to meet the Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

The UN delegation, accompanied by Ms. Amina Nur-Husein, Minister of Health, visited the Fistula Treatment Center in the Southern region, as well as the Maternity Center in Adi-Quala Community Hospital. It was provided briefings on the activities of the both health institutions.

CALL FOR SUPPORT TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC CAPACITY OF WAR DISABLED VETERANS

The Governor of the Anseba region, Mr. Ali Mahmud, called for strengthening support for improving the economic capacity of war disabled veterans.

Speaking at the event, organized on 22 October in Keren in connection with the anniversary celebrations of the National Association of Eritrean War Disabled Veterans (NAEWDV), Mr. Ali expressed the readiness of the zonal administration to support the efforts being made to improve the livelihoods of disabled veterans.

Mr. Dawit Gebrekrstos, head of the branch office in the region, commended the activities conducted in the Anseba region to improve the lives of disabled veterans. He also declared that further efforts would be made to support the rehabilitation of war disabled veterans, including through income-generating programs.

The event was highlighted by cultural and artistic performances, as well as a photo exhibition depicting the NAEWDV's activities.

TRAINING ORGANIZED FOR 26 ENGINEERS



The Ministry of Public Works, in partnership with the Embassy of the Republic of China in Eritrea, organized a training program for 26 of its engineers, including 4 females.

The training program, which ran from 26 September to 19 October, was conducted by Chinese architects from Sichuan University and covered project management, modern engineering, and the construction of roads, bridges, and tunnels, among other topics.

At the conclusion ceremony on 19 October, taking place on the premises of the Ministry of Public Works, Minister Abreha Asfeha thanked the Embassy of China and called on workshop participants to put their training into practice.

Also speaking at the ceremony, Mr. Yang Zigang, Chinese Ambassador to Eritrea, indicated that the workshop was organized recognizing the significance of construction programs toward national development. He also stated that similar training programs and workshops would be organized in the future.

Wang King, a Chinese professor that led the workshop, commended the participants for keen interest and expressed his conviction that the program would help them carry out their tasks in the future.

At the graduation ceremony held at the conclusion of the workshop, certificates and gifts were awarded to the participants and Chinese professors.

WORKSHOP ON STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY MAGISTRATES

The Ministry of Justice organized a workshop on 22 October focusing on the proposal, structure, and regulations of community magistrates.

The workshop was attended by the Governor of the Central region, Major General Romodan Osman Aweliay, the Chairman of the PFDJ in the Central region, Mr. Yosuf Saiq, other officials of the Central region, heads of line ministries, members of the Assembly in the region, area administrators, and community magistrates.

Indicating that the objective of establishing community magistrates was to provide legal services to the community, Ms. Fauzia Hashim, Minister of Justice, said that community magistrates have been making concerted efforts to provide timely and efficient legal services to

the community.

Minister Fauzia pointed out that the objective of the workshop was also to include the traditional way of resolving conflicts.

She went on to underline that justice is not to be left solely to professionals and that the public should shoulder its responsibility in ensuring social justice.

Proposals for strengthening community magistrates include ensuring public participation and electing competent elders capable of resolving conflicts, Ms. Fauzia added.

Workshop participants engaged in extensive discussions about the proposals and they adopted recommendations.



Development

Silver Jubilee of the National Association of War Disabled Veterans

Kesete Ghebrehiwet

The National Association of War Disabled Veterans (NAWDV) reflects on its past accomplishments and looks forward to achieving more in the future. The Association recently held a one-day conference on 17 October to commemorate its 25th anniversary. At the conference, presentations were made on issues related to the challenges the disabled encounter and suggestions and recommendations were made by the participants to support war disabled veterans. Two research papers focusing on the socio-economic challenges of war disabled veterans and their integration into civilian life were presented and discussed.

Ministers, government officials, members of NAWDV and other guests took part in the one-day conference. Luul Ghebreab, Minister of Labor and Human Welfare, said that war disabled veterans made sacrifice for their country's independence and sovereignty. She added that the opening of the Bidho and Port Sudan camps by the EPLF in 1978 was meant to assist war disabled veterans to become productive citizens. More efforts have been made after independence to provide disabled veterans with opportunities to become self-sufficient.

Since its establishment in October 1993, NAWDV has made significant contributions toward improving the lives of disabled veterans through rehabilitation programs, the provision of support services and other activities.

The provision of medical care to war disabled veterans is one of the Association's main tasks, and it covers 50-70% of all their medical expenses. NAWDV members have been involved in rehabilitation programs within different sectors, including agriculture, trade, manufacturing, and services. NAWDV has given out 38 million Nakfa to veterans, often engaging them in self-directed employment and initiatives which have largely

Eritreans at home and abroad.

NAWDV's anniversary celebration was a platform for discussion. Members discussed a range of issues, including infrastructural challenges and the need for more mobility-improving equipment, such as motorcycles, wheelchairs, and spare parts. Conference participants also noted that a sound policy for upgrading the Association's income was required.

"War disabled veterans are always willing to work, and they are very keen to avoid idleness", Mr. Ghebrebrhan stated. But the challenges they face in their day-to-day lives need to be closely



Mr. Ghebrebrhan Eyassu

Disabled War Veterans in Eritrea", by Dr. Ghergish Tekle, based at Adi Keyih College of Arts and Social Sciences, highlights that low wages, ossification of trade activities, shortages of spare parts, severity of disability, mobility problems, ageing, lack of employment opportunities, and infrastructural challenges were among the main obstacles to productivity for war disabled veterans. It was also revealed that war disabled veterans depend upon NAWDV and their family members for support during financial crisis.

The paper also shed light on the problems faced by disabled female veterans, who make up 18% of the Association's members. NAWDV aims to support women, particularly in trade and agriculture. The Association, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Labor and Human Welfare, also provides micro-finance opportunities to female veterans. While most of those who have received financial support have achieved success, the high interest rate – nine percent – has been a major deterrent for those looking to obtain loans. Interest

rates need to be decreased in order to encourage the participation of women. Approximately 60% of the female loan recipients have been engaged in agriculture, with the remaining 40% participating in trade. Also, lack of adequate training has been a problem for female veterans.

Professor Abebe Kifleyesus, from Adi Keyih College of Arts and Social Sciences, presented a paper titled "Reintegration and Transition of War Impaired Veterans to Civilian Life." According to Professor Abebe, most veterans' social interactions are confined to people who have similar impairments. Those residing in the camps do not greatly interact with people living outside the camps. One important factor influencing veterans' limited social interactions is their low income. Thus, it is likely that increasing income as well as solving housing problems could enhance the social interactions of war disabled veterans. An important point raised by the paper is that, generally, the Eritrean society deeply honors and respects war disabled veterans, with little evidence of stigma or discrimination.

As a final point, the conference participants gave recommendations, including properly caring for and renovating properties owned by NAWDV, reinforcing ties with branch offices abroad, decreasing interest rates for loans, increasing focus on women, particularly those living in rural areas and cultivating relationships with regional offices.



been productive. Many veterans participate in trade.

considered.

At the conference, Ghebrebrhan Eyassu, chairperson of NAWDV, presented details of the Association's achievements during the pre- and post-independence periods. According to Ghebrebrhan, NAWDV aims to increase income through various business ventures. It currently owns over 30% of the Lilo Transport Corporation and more than 40% of the Shishay Animal Feed Processing Plant.

NAWDV seeks to upgrade its capacity in order to more effectively carry out its activities. It has earned approximately 198 million Nakfa from its business firms, which include spare part shops, recreation centers, garages, and computer training centers. Haben Trust Fund is another key source of financial support for the Association. To date, NAWDV has received over 53 million Nakfa in monetary terms and in kind from



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Eritrea: Views and Musings

Dr. Fikrejesus Amahazion

1. Tourism, power, and privilege

Like many Eritreans, I simply love football. Along with cycling and long-distance running, football is one of my country's favorite athletic activities. In general, the most popular clubs are Manchester United, Arsenal, and Real Madrid, basically in that order, with Barcelona, Chelsea, and Liverpool not too far behind (of course, this is not based on rigorous empirical analysis). Eritreans regularly watch matches at home or in popular public venues, such as cafes, lounges, theaters. Sometimes, matches have also been shown on the giant screens at the large public square, Bahti Meskerem. Several days ago, however, as I was watching the highly anticipated Chelsea – Manchester United English Premier League match in the middle of Asmara, my hometown, I observed something that was a little troubling and made me uncomfortable.

Specifically, as everyone was closely following the match, a tourist was snapping pictures. While one could reason that there's nothing especially strange about that, since that's one of the things tourists do – take photos – the particular issue was the target of the photos. The tourist was not taking pictures of colorful surroundings, creative artifacts or decorations, unique foods, inspiring natural landscapes, or historic buildings. Rather, the central focus was the people. This is problematic for several reasons.

First, it was quite rude, distracting, and highly annoying. As normal people were trying to relax and enjoy the match, they were confronted with a soundtrack of clicks and flashes. Furthermore, taking pictures of people without their knowledge or permission lacks basic decency and is a bit dehumanizing. These are human beings, not inanimate objects or animals in a zoo.

The situation also starkly revealed large differences in power and privilege. For example, I wonder what the response would be if the particular roles had been reversed, and it was Africans that travelled to the West and obnoxiously began taking pictures of locals going about their daily routines in public place?

While this was only one incident, it does indicative of a larger problem associated with travelers and



tourists in many diverse locations around the world. Travelling is wonderful because it offers people the opportunity to experience and explore rare or new things. However, it is also important for guests and visitors, wherever they travel, to remember to respect local people's basic privacy, humanity, and dignity. In the case I described above, simply engaging in conversation with people and then asking politely to take a photo would have been much more appropriate.

2. UNFPA lauds development gains

Last week, a high level United Nations (UN) delegation met with senior officials of the Eritrean Government during a visit to the country. The visit, led by the UN Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director (Programme), Dereje Wordofa, was focused on "strengthening of partnerships to sustain development gains in Eritrea."

Some comments made during the visit stood out and caught my eye. Dereje Wordofa, who hails from Ethiopia and was appointed to his position last February by UN Secretary-General António Guterres, described the development gains Eritrea has made on many social and development indicators, especially maternal and neonatal health, in recent decades as impressive and a good example to the rest of the world.

"This country has a lot to tell the rest of the world on achieving the transformative results UNFPA is pursuing – ending preventable

maternal death, ending unmet need for family planning, and ending gender-based violence and harmful cultural practices against women and girls," he declared.

Reading those comments reminded me of similar ones made by Christine Umutoni, the former UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Eritrea, who stated that Eritrea, which at that time had just made considerable progress on the UN's Millennium Development Goals, "has a lot to share that could help formulate, shape and implement the post-2015 development outlook for the good of humanity."

The UNFPA, which is the world's largest multilateral source of funding for population and reproductive health programs, began operations in 1969. Based in New York City, the UNFPA describes itself as, "the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled." Since 1993, the UNFPA has worked in Eritrea to help improve access to quality maternal and newborn health, family planning, and HIV and STI prevention services. It has also worked at the policy level to help advance gender equality and reproductive rights.

The significance of reproductive health and rights should not be overlooked or dismissed. First, they represent fundamental moral imperatives. In addition, however, protecting and promoting reproductive health and rights can help break the debilitating cycle of poverty, and help put families, communities, and states on a positive

path toward tangible, sustainable progress and development. For example, young women or girls who give birth are far more likely to drop out of school and earn a considerably lower income. A single year of primary school boosts women's wages later in life by 10 to 20 percent, while the boost from female secondary education is 15 to 25 percent (Psacharopoulos and Patrinos 2002). Furthermore, young women or girls who give birth are also at a much higher risk of suffering various pregnancy-related complications or dying.

Last year, the Eritrean Government, the UNFPA, international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other regional and international partners worked together to address various health-related challenges and promote population and reproductive health programs. In brief, these programme activities were concentrated within the following areas: integrated sexual and reproductive health services, including maternal, sexual, and reproductive health and family planning; adolescents and youths; gender equality, including ending harmful practices and strengthening systems for protecting rights; organizational effectiveness, including resource management and programme effectiveness; and population dynamics.

3. Compelling critiques of US foreign policy

In a number of previous posts I have discussed how the international sanctions imposed against Eritrea, which were first implemented in 2009, and then broadened in 2011,

are less about Eritrea's alleged support for terrorism or other activities in the region than other factors. One of the several factors contributing to the sanctions being unjustly placed and maintained upon Eritrea has been the country's long and candid opposition to previous US administrations' misguided policies in the Horn of Africa (for instance, regional "anchor state" designations or approaches toward Somalia). Rather than positively impacting the Horn of Africa, Eritrea felt that the policies contributed to unnecessary rivalry, tension, conflict, instability, and insecurity.

Interestingly, several books by eminent scholars were recently published with insightful and compelling critiques of general US foreign policy which are not too dissimilar to Eritrea's. Specifically, *The Hell of Good Intentions: America's Foreign Policy Elite and the Decline of U.S. Primacy*, by Stephen M. Walt, and *The Great Delusion: Liberal Dreams and International Realities*, by John J. Mearsheimer, aim to understand and explain US foreign policy in the post-Cold War era, regarded as largely a series of costly, destructive failures. The US approach during this period, where the country emerged as the world's only superpower, a rare historical development, has not been "a formula for cooperation and peace, but instability and conflict." It is contended that it makes far more sense for the US to stop seeking to remake the world in its own image, eschew the use of force to spread democracy or dictate local politics, and instead adopt a more restrained foreign policy, including prioritizing peace and diplomacy.



Food and Culture

Natnael Yebio W.

When it comes to eating, Eritreans are known for their frugality. In our tradition, a gourmand or glutton is likened to a hyena. And a glutton who is never satiated is likened unto a donkey which keeps eating until its belly bursts open since, according to local sayings, it has no navel to act as a safety valve.

When I was young and we ate from the same plate with my brothers and sisters, my mother would first communicate her wish that everyone eat from the side which was closest to them. There were unmarked boundaries on the big plate that only unchaste eyes failed to notice.

Taking morsels of food from beyond one's designated boundaries was considered a serious transgression and punishable by a slap on the face administered by an older sibling. Since it is difficult to cry with your mouth full, the only thing you did was scowl in pain.

"When I was in Italy, I remember eating in a cafeteria beside a Somali. He stopped eating after two or three morsels which he shoved down his gullet rather quickly," my uncle would state as he narrated one of his many comical stories.

"Are you going to leave all this food on the plate?" Those at the table with him would question.

"You can take it if you want," the Somali replied, somewhat amused.

It was then that my uncle learned that there were people more frugal than Eritreans and he began to consider himself a glutton.

Upon hearing the whole story, I don't know if it were the anxiety that a university life in a foreign country produced in them at the time or maybe a result of some sort of cultural disorientation, but my uncle and his Eritrean colleagues ate like hyenas. They would have asked for more had the University's administration not provided a solution by placing a wooden barrel filled with mashed potatoes close to the exit door.

"What's that?" My uncle would ask his friend as they left the hall.

"Do you remember what our

mothers used to tell us we used to complain that dinner could not fill our stomach?" He asked.

"No, can you tell me?" My uncle replied.

"Well, they used to tell us that if you fail to fill your stomach with the food in front of you, you can fill it with cow's dung, for all we care!" He said.

Therefore, the mashed potatoes in the barrel were like a modern version of cow's dung. And, according to my uncle, at times they tasted like it.

In Eritrea, the proper way to eat *injera* and *tsebhi* (a spicy sauce) is to use the minimum number of fingers possible. The ability to use only one's thumb, index, and middle finger to eat is a sign of dexterity and good breed, while the use of four fingers is reflective of proper upbringing. Using five fingers is okay, as long as you don't scoop up your food from the communal plate. Scooping the food up like a bulldozer and then "fork-lifting" it to your mouth is frowned upon by the elders. And if you commit the cardinal sin of chewing with your mouth open or, even worse, using the right and left side of your mouth for chewing, you are identified as a public nuisance. In fact, during the old days in the villages, you would rarely be invited to wedding feasts or if you were invited, you would be seated with the ruffians and scoundrels.

Now all these good habits have become a thing of the past. Today it is not uncommon for people to do these things with impunity.

One day, a lady, a bit deficient in civility, happened to be eating with eight people (which constitute a full table in our culture). Go to any wedding feast or other celebration, and if there are less than eight people at the table, they will have to wait for the eighth person to arrive before the table can be served.

This lady had intentionally brought her little child with her and put him on the floor beside her so that he could fill his belly with the crumbs that fell from the table. The magic number of eight having been achieved, the food arrived and everybody began to eat. This lady,



not giving a damn to culture or social propriety, stretched out her hand to eat, scooping a generous heap of food from the tray. She was about to bring it to her mouth when the people around her gasped in bewilderment. They stopped eating and began to stare at her, wondering how on earth she could fit that amount of food down her throat.

The woman was a glutton alright, but she was not stupid. She made a reverse movement with her hand and placed the food onto the open palms of her child saying, "Be a good boy and eat your food quietly."

The colossal mound of injera topped with tsebhi, which those at the table expected the women to eat, kept the little child occupied for a good ten minutes.

Eritrean mothers, in particular, are said to be very frugal. If they can have their morning coffee accompanied by a small piece of *kitcha* (unleavened bread), they can work for ten or more hours on end without food. In order to stifle any pangs of hunger or thirst that may arise during the day they simply gird their loins with a cummerbund, very tight.

Historically, men were expected to eat more than women (probably because, as per patriarchal tradition, they are the ones who protected the family from all kinds of predictable and unpredictable dangers). But the glutton is always despised by rural society. Children who overly indulge in eating are told to change their manners, while the shepherd

who turns down a lunch because it is not nutritious enough is given the same dinner.

Traditionally in Eritrea, the family menu frequently contained two items: the main entry (which invariably included *shiro* and *hamli*) and a tin can full of water.

But all this seems to have changed with the process of urbanization. Just go to any wedding reception to see what I am talking about. In the past, the wedding feast was an opportunity to display one's refinement and good manners. The lower or baser human appetites were suppressed in favour of nobler and more dignified social manners. However, the modern wedding reception is worth studying for anthropologists and sociologists.

A week ago, I was invited to a wedding reception at a popular hotel. I could see men turning into wolves right before my very own eyes! I have heard about men turning into werewolves at midnight in the past, but this was occurring in the middle of the day. I saw a frail old man carrying a plate upon which he had heaped all types of meat, bones, and fish from the banquet table. I had a strong feeling he would leave more than half of it on his plate to be discarded by the waiters later on. What a waste!

Not to be outdone, the rest of the guests carried their overloaded plates to their tables, slowly staggering as if they had killed a lion and were displaying their trophies. When it was my turn to help myself to a plate of food, I had to scrap together some pieces of bones and

half-burned potato chips.

Eritreans seem at present to have cast injera to the winds in favour of *bani* (bread rolls). Manual labourers, especially, have shifted to *sils* (tomato-based sauce), *frittata* (scrambled eggs), and *fata* (sils poured over breadcrumbs) – all meals that are eaten with *bani*. Goodbye *injera*, we will miss you!

In restaurants, most Eritreans seem to go for meat and fish. There is a tendency among those the wealthy to leave their vegetables on the plate. A rich man is expected to eat meat, leaving vegetables to the poor. Little do they know that what they have left on their plates could be their salvation as they grow old.

"On the other hand the *Ferengis* (white men) prefer vegetables to meat," stated an old man, who also happened to be a restaurant owner.

I told him that it is a pity that our people are destroying the diet that could save their lives.

"Alas, they only begin to eat vegetables after visiting a doctor," another friend added. "But most of the time it is too late."

Add to this the appearance of bakeries that sell all types of pastry, and it is little surprise that diabetes and blood pressure are increasing across the country.

Unless Eritreans switch back to the healthy foods which were more traditionally common, such as *kitcha*, vegetables, and other types of foods and drinks that are sugar and cholesterol free, things will surely turn ugly.

ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT AND ONLF SIGN PEACE AGREEMENT



The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF) signed a peace agreement on 21 October in Asmara.

The agreement calls for the two sides to end hostilities, the ONLF to pursue political activities in Ethiopia through peaceful means, and the establishment of a joint committee to further discuss substantive issues.

The document was signed by Dr. Workneh Gebeyehu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, on the Ethiopian

side and by Admiral Mohammed-Omar Osman, Chairman of the ONLF.

Commenting that the ONLF has been waging an armed struggle for 34 years, Dr. Workneh said that its decision to pursue its political activities through peaceful means is historic.

The Chairman of the Front, Admiral Mohammed-Omar, stated that the decision was encouraged by the recent positive developments

in Ethiopia. He also expressed the ONLF's commitment to ensure sustainable peace and development in the Somali region, as well as to contribute to the peace process in Ethiopia.

Mr. Ahmed Shide, Minister of Finance of the FDRE, stated that while Ethiopia is in a transition stage, the peace agreement would make a significantly positive contribution to ensuring peace and prosperity in the country. *(For full text of the joint declaration see box)*

JOINT DECLARATION BETWEEN THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA AND THE OGADEN NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT

Delegation from the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) and the Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF) met on 21 October, 2018 in Asmara, Eritrea.

The Ethiopian Government delegation was led by H.E. Workneh Gebeyehu and the ONLF delegation was led by Admiral Mohamed Omar Osman. The government delegation included the Ethiopian Minister of Finance, H.E. Ahmed Shide and the President of Somali Regional State, H.E. Mustafa Muhumed Omer. The ONLF delegation included Secretary General, Hon. Abdirahman Mahdi, Foreign Secretary, Hon. Ahmed Yassin Abdi and Finance Secretary, Hon. Ibado Herse Hassan.

Affirming to uphold all the political rights enshrined in the Ethiopian Constitution and recognizing the need to address the root cause of the conflict, both parties hereby agree:

- To end hostilities towards each other;
- That the ONLF shall pursue its political objectives through peaceful means, with assurances that the FDRE will respect and uphold the provisions of its Constitution;
- To establish a joint committee to further discuss substantive issues pertaining to the root causes of the conflict in the region through continuous engagement inside the country.

This declaration was done in Asmara on 21 October 2018

Photographers Corner

*Photo: Mendefera Referral Hospital
Yemane Abrha, October 2018*



ADS



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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Bisha Mining Share Company PLC is inviting interested applicants for the following position:-

Position: Control Room Operator
Department – Process Plant
Number required - One (01)
Contract Type - Indefinite

PRIMARY PURPOSE

- Monitor activities on the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and provide information to the Area Operators and Supervisors.

TASK DESCRIPTION EXPANDED TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

Planning

- Plan the days and weeks activities.

Implementation

- Adhere to plant operational procedures for production goal achievement and handle work safely.
- Input operational system status with applicable control system tools.
- Provide effective communication with operations, supervisors, service departments and Plant Manager.
- Gain awareness of process operating requirements and trends and suggest operating adjustment suggestions.
- Direct field operators and assistants for effecting changes in plant conditions.
- Reply to production floor requests and machine stoppage alerts.
- Oversee productions and process key metrics for operating plant machinery within parameters.
- Assess machine logs and support process metallurgist to troubleshoot.
- Ensure safety requirements are fulfilled at the work place, including leading Field Level Risk Assessment (FLRA) and proper use of the appropriate PPE. Report any safety issues/incidents.
- Comply with the mine's cardinal rules and other safety, environmental or other rules and standards as directed.

Reporting

- Report all equipment defects on the Log Sheet; keep control of log sheet, down time log sheet, defect log sheet.
- Report defects to Control Room Supervisor.

Qualifications

Grade I2

Knowledge and Experience

3 - 5 + years relevant experience (Control Room)

Technical Skills.	Behavioral skills
Computer Literacy (MS Office , Excel – Advanced)	Communication (English)
Attention to detail critical	Assertiveness
Analytical skill	Interpersonal Relations
Problem solving skill	Prioritizing skills & multi-skilling
	Ability to work towards strict deadlines
	High level of accuracy
	Discretion
	Self-motivation

General Information and other requirements:

- Place of Work:** Bisha.
- Salary:** As per Company salary scale.

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 would 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 Non - Eritrean applicants:**
Please send a copy of your application to
Aliens Employment permits Affairs,
P. O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea.

Invitation for Bid

IFB No 06.2/002/YB/2018

The State of Eritrea, Ministry of Agriculture
National Agricultural Project (NAP)

Agricultural Sector

Lot.1 Supply of Barley and lot 2 supply of Sorghum

IFAD Grant No. 8107 ER

Bid No. 06.2/002/LP/NCB/NAP/IFAD/GRANT/DSF-8107-ER/
AED/
YB/2018

The State of Eritrea (SOE), Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) has received a grant from the International Fund for Agricultural Development, IFAD toward the cost of the National Agricultural project NAP and It intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payment under the contract for supply of Lot.1 Supply of **Barley** and **lot 2 supply of Sorghum**

Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding NCB as specified in the IFAD's Procurement guidelines. Bidders shall submit a bid security of 2% from the total amount of bid price.

Eligible bidders should have a renewed License for 2018 appropriate for these supplies and shall quote the price or submit the bid offer for the complete lots, quotation for partial lot shall be rejected as non-responsive.

Eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding document from the Procurement and supplies Management Unit of the MOA at the address below during office hours Monday through Friday 07:00-12:00 and 14:00-18:00 Asmara local time.

Bid shall be Valid for a Period of 90 days after Bid opening, and delivered to Procurement and Supplies Management Unit Office on or before **November 27, 2018** local hours 14:30 PM and will be Opened On the same date at 15:00 PM Local hours in the presence of the Bidders or Bidders' Representatives who wish to attend.

Procurement and supplies Management Unit (PSMU)
Ministry of Agriculture
P.O.BOX 1048, Tel: 00291-1-189266/00291-1-180699
Fax: 00291-1-181415 Asmara, Eritrea

The Ministry of Agriculture reserves the right to accept or reject this bid fully or in part if it finds any option better than this IFB without needing to justify the grounds for it doing so and compensation which the bidder may incurred in preparing its bid.



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

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Bisha Mining Share Company PLC is inviting interested applicants for the following position.

Position: Process Plant Project Coordinator

Department: Process Plant

Number required: (01)

Contract Type: Indefinite

Primary Purpose

- Coordination of a variety of tasks on a number of different projects to benefit the short, medium and long term business goals of the processing plant

Major Duties and responsibilities:-

Planning

Communicate with staff, setting priorities, in order to plan for day's work

Implementation of the Plan

- Identify the highest priority for each day and focus on completing relevant tasks
- Delegate priorities to metallurgical technicians and graduate trainees in different sections and up on progress
- Solve any problems or issues, report any concerns related to daily plans
- Ensure all safety standards are fulfilled at the work place, including leading Field Level Risk Assessments (FLRAs) and proper use of appropriate PPE. Reporting of any safety issues
- Comply with the mines cardinal rules and other safety, environmental or other rules and standards as directed
- Achieve specified deadlines.

Writing Reports & Data Control

- Compile daily; progress reports for the project.

Supervise/Manage team

- Provide technical support for the team by supervising activities
- Provide training for the team (especially in safety and procedures)
- Promote good process plant behaviour.

Initial list of job tasks

- Projects
 - Process Plant Optimisation Project
 - Pyrite Sands
 - Tailings Treatment

Developing the Daily tasks required for the Metallurgical

Projects being managed by the technical services department to:

- Perform daily routine works,

- Perform daily routine works
- Arrange equipment and resources required for the projects to succeed.

Unique Requirements / Other Information

- High degree of management and organizational skills are essential

Knowledge, Experience and Skills

Qualifications:

- Complete 12th grade Education.

Knowledge and Experience:

- Familiarity with BMSC procedures and departments
- Supervisory Skills

Technical Skills	Behavioural Skills
Computer literacy	Communication (English)
Attention to detail	Assertiveness and Interpersonal relations
Analytical skills	Integrity and Time keeping
Problem solver	Prioritization and multi-tasking
	High level of accuracy
	Discretion and Self-motivation

General Information and other requirements:

- **Place of Work:** Bisha.
- **Salary:** As per Company salary scale.
- **Type of contract** Indefinite Period

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 would 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 Non - Eritrean applicants:**
Please send a copy of your application to
Aliens Employment Permit Affairs,
P. O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea.



"Eritrea is on the right track" UN Assistant Secretary General, Dereje Wordofa

UN Assistant Secretary conducts working visit in Eritrea

Billion Temesghen

A high level UN delegation, headed by Mr. Dereje Wordofa, UN Assistant Secretary General and UNFPA Deputy Executive Director, met with Eritrea's senior officials. The delegation included Dr. Julitta Onabanjo, the UNFPA Regional Director for East and Southern Africa Region and Mr. Ramiz Alkbarov, UNFPA Policy and Strategic Division Head at the UN Headquarters. ERITV spoke to Mr. Dereje Wordofa.

over the border. When I spoke to the Minister of National Development, Dr. Gherghis, he told me that Eritrea shouldn't wait until 2030 to achieve the sustainable development goals. We agree with him hundred percent. Eritrea is a country which is resilient, endured tough challenges and yet managed to register impressive

many things have been registered in the health sector that can be seen in many parts of the country.

I am most impressed by the professionals, mostly young men and women, who work in every referral and community health centers around the nation. They work not

UNFPA Regional Director for East and Southern Africa Region, Dr. Julitta Onabanjo

"Eritrea is in a new dawn with the new dynamics of the Horn of Africa. Eritrea is a country that has had it difficult in the previous circumstances and, that, I think, was translated into national commitment to ensure the wellbeing of its people. I was here five years ago and even then was impressed by what I saw in terms of maternal health care. In Eastern-Southern Africa, Eritrea is one of the countries that were able to achieve a decrease in maternal and child mortality.

When you listen to the leadership here you realize their interest to move faster towards national development trajectory, move faster to insure their people's health and education, move faster to insure that the youth really advance and develop this country in terms of leadership and their engagement. I think that this is very encouraging, for me. I am glad to see UNFPA-Eritrea has been collaborating with the Government of Eritrea in achieving results ensuring maternal health, reducing fistula cases, empowering women to be healthy and productive. I am glad to see the collaboration between UNFPA and the Eritrean Government towards national goals. Coming here as the Regional Director, I go away with a rich experience of what can be done and with a real sense of humility and drive.

It is really important that countries on the continent understand that we are blessed with the young population. And, therefore, it is really important that our Governments continue to put a priority, a focus on their investments towards our young population. We have the most dynamic youth. It would be tragic if we lose them not only in their movements outside the continent but in their frustration that they don't have what it takes to ensure that the continent is the Africa we want."

Mr. Dereje Wordofa, UN Assistant Secretary General and UNFPA Deputy Executive Director

As this is your first visit, what is your impression about Eritrea?

I am very impressed. I have seen the impact brought upon the peace agreement thanks to the efforts of H.E President of Eritrea, Isaias Afwerki and our own Prime Minister, Doctor Abiy Ahmed. The two leaders made a courageous decision which has a big impact in the horn. During my two-day work visit I had a chance to meet several government officials. I was introduced to national projects and I had a chance to look at national data especially for the education and health sectors. In Eritrea, I am impressed by major progresses in health and education. Child and maternal mortality, for example, have been reduced incredibly. This and such national undertakings show the hard work and commitment of the people and the leaders of the government.

What is your opinion about the function of the UNFPA in Eritrea?

The work of UNFPA is directed to work around the reduction of maternal mortality, maternal care, improvement of family planning, reducing harmful practices etc. I visited, in Eritrea, the Mendefera Referral Hospital as well as the Adi Quala Community Hospital where I saw outstanding work towards maternal and infant health. I saw how pregnant women are treated pre and after giving birth and also how the health centers respond to fistula cases. What is interesting about Eritrea is that the work is not conducted only through medical practices but also through psychological care. Giving birth at home is what leads many women to end up with fistula but here in Eritrea, thanks to the



Mr. Dereje Wordofa (middle) with Minister Amina and Dr. Julitta Onabanjo while visiting Fistula Treatment Center

government's effort to educate and make the society aware, the cases of fistula have minimized notably.

What kind of cooperation do you foresee between UNFPA and the Ministry of Health?

I have had useful conversation with government officials. We discussed the overall socio-political developments in the Horn of Africa and how that is bringing positive impacts for the countries. At the same time we discussed how to accelerate Eritrea's developmental achievements because as I mentioned before Eritrea has made tremendous headways in the education and health sectors.

Yet again there are miles to go. And UN, UNFPA included, are standing willful to work in cooperation with the Government and People of Eritrea. We have to bring more resources and accelerate our work. We expect longer travel permits for UN officials and workers now that security threats are less

progress. Therefore, if we add momentum resources to what has been done I believe that together we can achieve the sustainable development goals well before its time.

Mr. Dereje Wordofa, any final remarks?

Yesterday I had the opportunity to meet a number of government officials and senior diplomatic representatives based in Asmara, and I was impressed by the keenness of the international community to work with the People and Government of Eritrea; to support Eritrea and its development plans even more at this point in time when the hopes and aspirations are increasing.

I am also fascinated by the leaders in government such as the honorable Minister of Health, Ms. Amina Nur-Husein. Not only is she experienced but she also very passionate because she believes that it is indeed possible to change the health of Eritreans. With her leadership and passion

because they make wealth out of their profession but because they believe in the cause of national development. They wake up every morning to assist their people with what they have learned. For me as a development worker their stories were an inspiration. What I have been keen about through most part of my adult life was how to make changes and how to include people in poverty and in disadvantageous situations to live in prosperity. For me, this country is a country of possibility. We need to open up to much expanded cooperation schemes with Eritrea. We have a lot to learn from Eritrea. Eritrea has a lot to tell the world. So, as much as we show the example Eritrea has demonstrated in the past decades, we need to bring in resources and knowledge to accelerate Eritrea's drive towards inclusive development. I am very much inspired and energized. When I go back to New York I will share the stories I heard and the photographs I took to show that Eritrea is on the right track.