



WORLD TUBERCULOSIS DAY OBSERVED



World Tuberculosis Day was observed today, 24 March, on a national level, with a ceremony organized at Orotta Referral Hospital Hall under the theme "Yes! We Can End Tuberculosis."

Sister Hiwet Negusse, head

of TB and Leprosy Control at the Ministry of Health, emphasized that World TB Day is an opportunity to renew commitments, inspire action, and work towards ending TB. She called for integrated efforts to implement the Ministry of

Health's initiative to control the prevalence of the disease.

Sister Hiwet also noted a significant increase in the disease cure rate, reaching 94% at the national level, and expressed appreciation for the Ministry of Health's efforts in introducing modern diagnostic instruments.

Dr. Nonso Ejofor, Representative of WHO in Eritrea, highlighted that in 2022, approximately 2.5 million people worldwide were infected with Tuberculosis, resulting in 424 thousand deaths. He stressed the urgent need for integrated efforts to eradicate the disease permanently.

The event featured a general knowledge competition among women from the 13 sub-zones of the Central Region and a debating and narration contest involving 22 high school students from the region.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR YOUTH IN MENDEFERA SUB-ZONE

Vocational training programs lasting one to three months were provided to 300 youths in the Mendefera sub-zone.

Mr. Saleh Mohammed Seid, head of the National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students in the sub-zone, stated that 176 ninth-grade students received training in social science, while 124 youths were trained in electrical installation, solar system installation, video and still camera operation, and beauty salon.

Mr. Saleh also mentioned that 40 of the trainees were disadvantaged citizens identified by their administrative areas, and he praised the support from the Ministries of Education, Labor, and Social Welfare.

Mr. Girmay Gebru, head of the union branch in the Southern region, emphasized that the training was part of efforts to enhance the overall capabilities of the youth. He encouraged the youth to seize the opportunities provided by these training programs.

LIVESTOCK VACCINATION PROGRAM IN EMNI-HAILI

A comprehensive livestock vaccination program targeting various animal diseases has been successfully rolled out across 17 administrative areas within the Emni-Haili sub-zone.

Mr. Yebio Okbaselasia, a dedicated veterinarian in the subzone, highlighted that the vaccination initiative specifically targeted areas identified as hotspots for animal disease outbreaks. He emphasized the importance of livestock owners prompt reporting to relevant authorities upon detecting signs of illness in their animals.

The program received commendable support from

members of the defense forces, who played a crucial role in its effective execution. Mr. Okbaselasia further encouraged farmers to engage in upcoming vaccination efforts actively, underscoring the significance of collective action in safeguarding animal health.

Local farmers expressed their appreciation for the initiative, recognizing the critical role of vaccination in protecting their livestock and, by extension, their livelihoods. They pledged their full cooperation in future vaccination campaigns, acknowledging the integral connection between animal health and agricultural development.

47TH ANNIVERSARY OF NAKFA LIBERATION

The 47th anniversary of the liberation of Nakfa was enthusiastically observed on 23 March at the historic trenches on the Nakfa front.

Ms. Leul Gebreab, Minister of Labor and Social Welfare, and Ms. Asmeret Abraha, Governor of the Northern Red Sea Region, attended the event, along with numerous Nakfa residents.

The celebration featured cultural and artistic performances that portrayed the heroic efforts of the liberation fighters in liberating Nakfa, a city that was never recaptured by the Ethiopian colonial

forces.

Mr. Yakob Idris, the Nakfa sub-zone administrator, highlighted the liberation fighters' unwavering determination and sacrifices. He noted that Nakfa, once liberated, never fell into enemy hands throughout the protracted thirty-year conflict, holding a unique place in Eritrea's struggle for independence.

Attendees visited the trenches where these heroic deeds occurred and received briefings from veteran fighters who participated in the offensive.

Nakfa was liberated on 23 March 1977 after six months of encirclement and intense combat.

CONGRESS OF TEACHERS ASSOCIATION IN CENTRAL REGION

The Teachers Association in the Central Region convened its 8th congress on 23 March in Asmara.

Mr. Belai Habtegabir, head of the education office in the region, highlighted that the National Teachers Association is one of the prominent vocational associations in the country, encompassing both veteran and young teachers. He urged the association to establish sustainable training programs

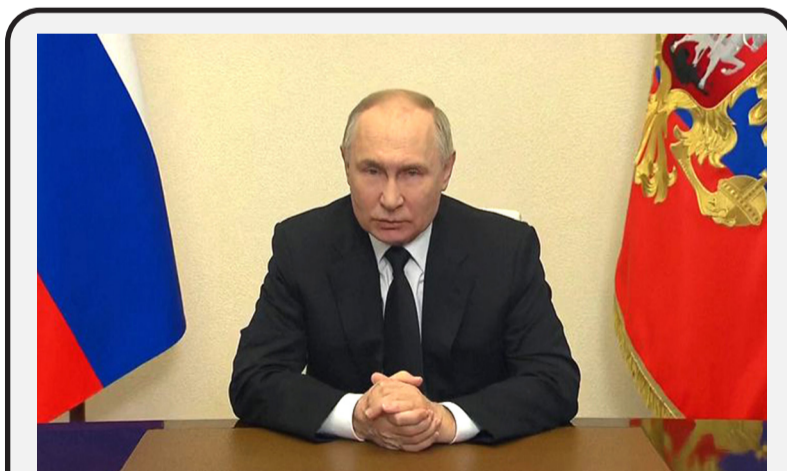
aimed at enhancing teachers' capacity, thereby fostering the teaching-learning process.

Mr. Afwerki Gebrezgiabihier, chairman of the Teachers Association in the Central Region, urged participants to thoroughly assess the strengths and challenges and actively contribute to realizing the association's mission.

Participants engaged in extensive discussions on the

administrative and financial reports, adopting various recommendations. Additionally, they elected an executive committee for a four-year term.

Mr. Simon Mehari, the chairman of the National Teachers Association, called upon the newly elected executive committee members to work with commitment and diligence toward achieving the association's objectives.



MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCES

President Isaias Afwerki has sent a message of condolences to President Vladimir Putin following the horrific and tragic terrorist shooting at a concert hall in Moscow, orchestrated by terrorist groups.

In his letter, President Isaias, on behalf of the people and Government of Eritrea as well as on his behalf, extended his

sincere condolences to President Vladimir Putin, the families of the victims, and the people of the Russian Federation. He also expressed his wishes for a quick recovery for those injured in the attack.

Furthermore, President Isaias stated that the Government of Eritrea strongly condemns this act of terror.



Development

Eritrea: Committed to Eradicate TB by 2030

Lwam kahsay

Although there has been a significant decline in the incidence of TB in the last decade, it continues to be one of the biggest health issues mainly in developing countries. The World Health Organization (WHO) reports show that around 1.5 million people die annually of TB. The main reasons for its continued prevalence is poverty and societies' low awareness about its prevention methods.

World 2024 TB Day for 2024 has been held under the theme 'Yes! We can end TB!' to put across message of hope that getting back-on-track to turn the tide against the TB epidemic is possible through commitment, increased investments and faster uptake of new WHO recommendations. To accelerate progress to end TB, this year's focus has shifted to turning these commitments into tangible actions. Although TB has for a long time been one of the prevalent diseases afflicting Eritrea, the government has, since independence, been working to stop it from being a major health threat. It has established a TB monitoring and control unit under the Communicable Diseases Control Unit.

According to Mrs. Hiwet Nigusse, head of the TB Monitoring and Control Unit,



Mrs. Hiwet Nigusse

their unit is attempting to stop TB from becoming a public health threat in Eritrea by controlling and monitoring its prevalence. The vision is to reduce the spread and fatality of the disease. The main task of the unit is to change the way the disease is handled -- its diagnosis, its treatment and its strategic prevention methods – and the society's attitude toward the disease.

The prevalence of TB in Eritrea has been steadily decreasing due to the Ministry of Health's (MoH) work in collaboration with other organizations and stakeholders. The prevalence decreased from 2095 in 2015 to 1616 in 2020. And the treatment of more than 93% of those diagnosed with TB in the last five years has been successful.

Prior to 1996, the treatment of people suffering from TB was not efficient because it lasted for two years and there was no monitoring mechanism. After 1996, however, treatment was made efficient with the introduction of the Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) strategy, a treatment that lasts for six months and that includes monitoring and direct observation of the diagnosed person. This

has helped prevent instances of patients that stop treatment prematurely.

Another important progress made in dealing with TB is the improvement of the diagnostic mechanism. TB screening, which in the past was limited to big hospitals, is now available at community hospitals and health centers. The types of screening available at healthcare facilities include X-ray, gene expert and culture, and they are given free of charge.

Mrs. Hiwet is concerned that the reduction in the prevalence of TB

health of citizens. This approach ensures that people with TB have the best possible treatment, which also helps protect the wider population.

Existing conditions that can increase a person's risk for TB include diabetes, weakened immune system (as in people with HIV/AIDS), being malnourished and tobacco use. Moreover, people who live in densely populated areas, boarding schools and detention and rehabilitation areas are vulnerable to TB. Continuous surveillance and screening are done for those who are at high risk because the presence of

patients' behavior, such as using the prescribed medicines inappropriately or stopping their use prematurely. The most frequently occurring type of drug resistant TB is the Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB), which is caused by bacteria that do not respond to isoniazid and rifampicin, the two most effective first-line TB drugs. TB caused by bacteria that do not respond to the most effective second-line TB drugs can leave patients with very limited treatment options though this is rare in Eritrea.

While technology is playing a significant role in the



Photo: Yonatan Yebio

in Eritrea might cause people to be negligent, and this may result in the spread of the disease. That is why the MoH has established community DOTS promoters to monitor the spread of the disease. The main task of DOTS promoters is to inform the community, to organize sanitation campaigns and to monitor progress of patients under treatment within their community. Community based health service is one of the most effective strategies the MoH promotes to take care of the

even a single person with TB can be deadly for people in the whole environment. Upholding the motto "No one is safe until everyone is safe," the MoH has been fighting against the spread of the disease. It provides treatment to those diagnosed with TB and gives preventive treatment to those who are around them but haven't shown any symptoms.

One of the major challenges being faced is the emergence of drug resistant TB due to

diagnosis and treatment of TB, research, both nationally and internationally, is playing a role in improving control and prevention methods. WHO recommends the use of rapid molecular diagnostic test as the initial diagnostic test in all persons with symptoms of TB. Rapid diagnostic tests recommended by WHO include the Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra and Truenat assays. These tests have high diagnostic accuracy that lead to major improvements in the early detection of TB and drug-resistant TB.

Technology has been introduced to facilitate the struggle against TB and to achieve the WHO sustainable development goals in 2030-2035. For the 2020's, the MoH has succeeded in achieving 90% of the goal of identifying and treating the disease, 90% of the goal to reach out groups that are highly exposed to TB, and 90% of the goal of proving full treatment and cure. The MoH is committed to further achieve SDG goals by bringing about 90% reduction in the prevalence of TB by 2030-2035.



Photo: Yonatan Yebio

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Strengthening Resolve and Driving Developmental Progress

Dr. Fikrejesus Amahazion

Late last week, Eritrea Profile featured an extended interview with Pa Lamin Beyat, the recently assigned United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) country representative for Eritrea. The discussion, which focused on the

human well-being and the development of a country – not just the historic and overwhelming focus that has been given to economic growth or similar measures.

A key element of HDRs is the Human Development Index (HDI). First introduced three decades ago,

ators were first included in calculating the HDI in 2010, largely in response to persistent questions and criticisms that were raised with regard to other indicators that had previously been used.)

The scores for the three individual indices are subsequently

human development remains a broad, highly complex, multidimensional concept which cannot be fully captured within one composite. While the HDI certainly offers useful insights through its coverage of three dimensions (a long and healthy life, knowledge, and a decent standard of living), other important dimensions of human well-being are not measured.

pectancy, which helps to accentuate the country's broader improvements within health. In particular, life expectancy is now about 67 years, compared to 52 years in 2000. The country's progress over the years has been among the best on the continent, notwithstanding various challenges and issues confronted.

Eritrea is also expanding access to education, and there is an expectation that through the implementation of a variety of measures and interventions the country's mean years of schooling will rise. This will help to promote development through various pathways, and ultimately serve to drive up the country's HDR score. As well, in terms of the economic dimension, while economic growth has been characterized by dramatic swings in the past (associated with a combination of factors), there is a relatively positive outlook for the near future. Modest socioeconomic growth is projected moving forward, again based on several different factors and areas boasting great promise.



launch of the Human Development Report (HDR), raised many important issues and points of interest. The following paragraphs extend the discussion, particularly through looking deeper at the HDR, and also touching upon results and issues related to Eritrea.

A broad overview of the HDR and HDI

The HDR is an annual development report published by the Human Development Report Office of the UNDP. Released in almost every year since 1990, HDRs present "independent and analytically and empirically grounded discussions of major development issues, trends, and policies." They continue to have an extensive influence on the development debate worldwide and are an important tool for raising global awareness and understanding about human development. HDRs are ensured of editorial independence through the framework of the United Nations General Assembly.

HDRs are guided by the human development approach, which is centered on expanding the richness of human life. Developed by the Pakistani economist Mahbub Ul Haq, and anchored in the Nobel laureate Amartya Sen's work on expanding human capabilities, this approach emphasizes that people and their capabilities should be the ultimate criteria for assessing

the HDI is a statistic composite index reflecting average achievement in three basic dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, knowledge, and a decent standard of living. It serves as a useful frame of reference for monitoring the long-term progress in a country's social and economic development.

The three individual components of the HDI are measured through four separate indicators: life expectancy, which is the number of years a newborn infant could expect to live if prevailing patterns of age-specific mortality rates at the time of birth stay the same throughout the infant's life; expected years of schooling, which is the number of years of schooling that a child of school entrance age can expect to receive if prevailing patterns of age-specific enrolment rates persist throughout the child's life; mean years of schooling, which is the average number of years of education received by people ages 25 and older, converted from education attainment levels using official durations of each level; and gross national income per capita, which is the aggregate income of an economy generated by its production and its ownership of factors of production, less the incomes paid for the use of factors of production owned by the rest of the world, converted to international dollars using purchasing-power parity rates, divided by the midyear population. (Several of these indi-

aggregated into a composite index using a geometric mean. After the overall HDI values are calculated,



countries can then be assigned into one of four separate tiers of human development: Low (< 0.550); Medium (0.550-0.699); High (0.700-0.799); and Very High (> or = 0.800).

A critical view and highlighting Eritrea

As was alluded to during the recent interview published in Eritrea Profile, while the HDI has undergone modifications and represents a significant overall improvement on our past understandings or assessments of development, it is not completely devoid of limitations or free of shortcomings. For instance,

In addition, as useful and positive as the current set of indicators used for the HDI certainly are, even they can be improved. For instance, the quality of years of education attained is not accounted for, while the expected years of schooling is not strictly comparable across countries because the length of the school year is not the same in each country.

Shifting to highlight this year's edition of the HDR, the UNDP reports that "uneven development progress is leaving the poorest behind, exacerbating inequality, and stoking political polarization on a global scale. The result is a danger-

ous gridlock that must be urgently tackled through collective action." Moreover, the HDR reveals "a troubling trend: the rebound in the global HDI...has been partial, incomplete, and unequal."

For Eritrea, the 2023/24 HDR shows an HDI value of 0.493, as compared to an HDI value of 0.492 reported in the 2021/22 HDR. Looking at HDR results for the past two decades, they have been as follows: 2000 (0.421); 2010 (0.463); and 2015 (0.483).

One specific area of good progress for Eritrea reflected on the HDR has been in terms of life ex-

Importantly, as has been indicated by the government on different occasions, there are many areas that the country is focusing on for improvement. These include: technological advancement; environmental sustainability, renewable energy, and climate change mitigation and adaptation; access to social services and water; gender equality and women's empowerment; universal health coverage, improving access to quality of education; and strengthening skills of young people, women, and other populations so that they can fully participate in the economy as drivers of change.

Lighter Side

Dreams from Last night

Everyone Who Dreams is having a Space Odyssey within Oneself

Natnael Yebio W.

When in your night sleep you see yourself getting kicked out from a promising job, that's a normal type of dream. But when your wife comes to know about it, that's a nightmare. And you wake up screaming only to find out that you have still to go to that darn office in the morning.

In our culture dreams are taken seriously. So much so that we have special people who interpret dreams for free, most of the time with great inaccuracy.

"What time was it when you had this dream?" an old lady next door would ask. She was a certified dream interpreter in the tradition of Joseph of the Old Testament.

"After four in the morning," goes the reply.

"Well, that's not a dream; that's hallucination," she warns. "Real dreams last from midnight until two."

The old lady classifies as real dream only that which goes on in the mind a few hours after one falls asleep. Sometimes a badly cooked dinner could be the cause for a nightmare comparable to the vision of St. John in the island of Patmos. The menu consists of headless horsemen, flying snakes, locust-headed dragons, etc.

Once I told my old neighbor that my dream that transpired before four o'clock in the morning was about my brother getting married.

"Spit it out! In the name of God, the Son and the Holy Ghost, that's death in the family!" she shouted.

She was wrong. My brother is still alive and very well, and get this! HE IS MARRIED and has a CHILD! What do you have to say now, old woman?

I have seen relatives take the early bus to far off villages because they dreamt that a grandfather or an uncle was not in good shape only to find the relative in question is alive and kicking.

"He said 'Good Bye' to me in a dream... He smiled at me... I saw



him wearing a white gown on his way to the pearly gates..."

Do poor men have nightmares? Isn't their life much of a nightmare as it is? My view is that the wretched of the earth have dreams when they are sleeping, and it is only when they wake up that they have nightmares. This also includes those that suffer from manic depression and addicts of all types.

There is a belief that when a person dreams, his soul travels inside himself. Remember that a person is a universe in miniature. So everyone who dreams is having a space odyssey within himself. Now that is interesting.

But what's more interesting is the discovery that dreams are the real world enacted in symbols. If you know how to decode the symbols, you can interpret your dream very accurately. If only there was some sort of a machine to do that for us humans who are obsessed with finding answers to everything.

According to our tradition, what takes place in the dream world turns out to be the opposite in the real world. Marriages become death. Laughter is crying. Riches mean destitution, etc.

One night, I dreamt of digging a grave meant for a friend of mine. I woke up horrified. Then I remembered that according to laws from the dream world, quite the opposite would take place in real life. Well, nothing

diagnosis that consisted of talking with the parents and sharing their dinner for a few days, prescribed Ma're Kumet (a long scroll of parchment and some cryptic inscriptions). This was to hang on his bed all the time and was supposed to protect him from incubus or some inconsiderate and senseless spirits.

The debtera would from time to time sprinkle mai d'gam (Holy water) on the child and repeat some chants by wagging his crucifix.

If all fails, then the patient is taken to mai tselot (Holy spa) where he is dipped into cold stream. Five or six dips per day for seven days might do him good.

I once asked an old man what the contents of the script were. The usual abracadabra was, of course, there, accompanied by strange drawings and occult numerology. The script was twisted in such a way that you would be tempted to call them satanic verses.

The idea seems to prove old and mystic motion. If you can talk to God by quoting from the Bible, as it is, then you can also talk to the Devil by quoting from the same Bible but by writing the

words backwards. That's the only way to stay on-line with Lucifer, Diablos or Ganen.

Dream becomes a problem when the dreamer is a king or a tyrant. A small error in interpretation and hell begins to roll.

When old Pharaoh dreamt about the cows and ears of corn, it was Joseph who saved the day. This reminds me of the story of a certain peasant who had the unfortunate fate of dreaming an ungodly dream. The poor man lived when a powerful king was reigning a long time ago. One day, the poor peasant dreamt of the king's defeat in battle. Naturally, he talked and the news reached the ears of the furious king who ordered that the dreamer be arrested and appear before him.

"I don't like your dream, and I would have killed you for that. But I let you now go free on the condition that you never dream of such stupid things again," the king said to the trembling peasant.

"Your Majesty, I will be damned if I ever go to sleep again let alone dream!" the peasant promised and left the court in haste.

NEWS

MEETING ON IMPLEMENTATION OF MEASLES AND RUBELLA VACCINATION PROGRAM

A pivotal meeting was held on 21 and 22 March in Keren, focusing on the rollout of the national measles and rubella vaccination program alongside the distribution of Vitamin A. This nationwide initiative is scheduled to take place from 24 to 28 March.

Organized by the Ministry of Health's branch in the Anseba

Region, the meeting saw participation from task force members representing all sub-zones within the region.

Mr. Tedros Yihdego, the head of national vaccination programs at the Ministry of Health, highlighted the consistent success of previous national vaccination

campaigns attributed to the robust engagement of the community and the unwavering dedication of healthcare professionals. He noted that these efforts have brought the prevalence of measles to the brink of elimination.

Mr. Tedros further outlined that the upcoming vaccination drive would target children aged nine months to 5 years in the sub-zones of Asmat, Habero, and Adi-Tekelezan. Additionally, Vitamin A supplements will be provided to children aged six months to 5 years as part of the campaign.

The meeting fostered extensive discussions on various topics and concluded with the participants affirming their commitment to contribute to the successful implementation of the vaccination program actively.



REPORTAGE

OAG: Launching a Five-Year Strategic Plan

Samuel Habtemichael

Though the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) has, since its inception, acknowledged the importance of a strategic plan, it was in 2007 that it launched its first five-year strategic plan. The INTOSAI Development Initiative (IDI) and AFROSAI – E prepared a guidance, and the OAG designed the 2007-2011 strategic plan based on the guidance. In that period, the OAG made progress in several areas. Audit manuals were customized using the International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs), and policies and guidelines were developed. The organizational structure was revised to reflect the substantial increase in human resources and link it with the strategic priority areas.

The OAG held a meeting, which was attended by its staff members and stakeholders, on March 21 to launch a five-year strategic plan that will be implemented from 2024 to 2028. On the occasion, Mr. Amanuel Isaac, Director of Information System Audit and ICT at the OAG, briefed the participants on the office's vision, mission, goals, and objectives, as well as the expected outcomes of the strategic plan.

As demonstrated in the presentations, these are the main strategic goals: strengthen the independence of the OAG; improve the OAG's management capacity and performance; enhance the professional competency, diversity, and productivity of human resources; enhance the quality of audit services; and improve communication and stakeholder management of the OAG.

The strategic plan was designed based on the IDI Strategic Plan handbook, identifying the overall impact of the plan and its desired outcomes. Needs assessment has been made based on the ICBF (Institutional Capacity Building Framework) with a view to building the capacity of OAG's staff.

A Strategic Planning Team (SPT) that comprises top and middle management members and is chaired by the Auditor General was set up to develop the plan. The SPT collected relevant



Mr. Amanuel Isaac

materials for the strategic plan and consulted several SAIs' (Supreme Audit Institutions) strategic planning documents. Since May 2023, it has engaged in a series of discussions on the approach and content of the strategic plan document, and collective decisions have been made on every issue. A workshop was held to do SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) Analysis to secure ownership and collect broader input from all staff members. The workshop helped the SPT to identify and polish the critical policy areas.

The approach in designing the strategic plan was based on the new Strategic Management Handbook for Supreme Audit Institutions of the IDI. Training on the new IDI guidelines, which was instrumental in understanding the concepts and frameworks for

designing a strategic plan, was given by AFROSAI – E experts.

When the strategic plan is annually operationalized, it will enable the OAG to produce sustainable audit results that can bring about positive change in the management of public resources of government entities.

Speaking with ERINA (Eritrean News Agency), Mr. Gherezgiher Ghebremedhin, Auditor General, said that Eritrea was one of the five countries that took part in a training on some guidance on how to design a strategic plan, which was organized by the IDI and AFROSAI—E and held in August 2006 in Kenya. Based on the guidance, the OAG designed its first strategic plan and launched it in 2007.

Mr. Gherezgiher added that although the formulation of a strategic plan is very important, it shouldn't be our main emphasis because it is the implementation that counts most. The OAG's evaluation shows that 89 percent of the desired goals and objectives of the First phase of the strategic plan, covering the years 2007-2011, were realized. The Second phase of the strategic plan, covering 2019 to 2023, was set to fill the gap, taking account of various tasks that were not put to work, which later resulted in 87 percent implementation.

Mr. Gherezgiher further noted



Mr. Gherezgiher Ghebremedhin

that owing to the newly adopted terms and conditions to articulate a legitimate, standardized, and internationally recognized strategic plan, the OAG has faced challenges in designing the Third phase of the strategic plan (2024 – 2028).

Speaking of the strategic plan's significance, he asserted that it will contribute to the OAG's accountability and transparency, which in turn will motivate proper governance practice. For this to happen, stakeholders are expected to routinely monitor their management processes, evaluate actors in the line of duty, duly apply the recommendations put forward by the OAG, and set their strategic plan in a way that is compatible with the OAG's plan.

At the meeting, participants

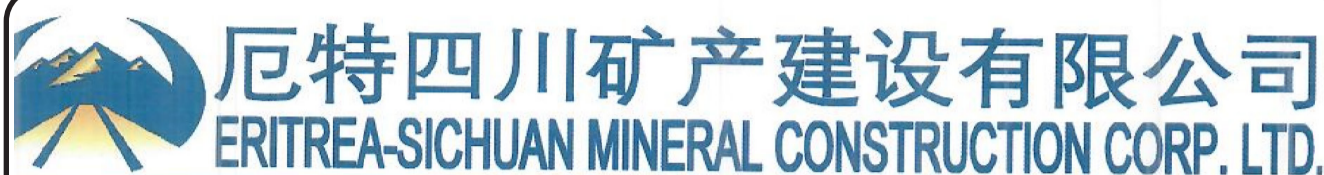
suggested that OAG's services be extended to the private sector and internal audit be enhanced in organizations. In a closing remark, Mr. Fesehaye Haile, Administrator of the Central Region, called upon stakeholders to formulate strategic plans that align with that of the OAG.

The OAG is the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) in Eritrea mandated to audit all government institutions, parastatals, and state-owned enterprises. It is also mandated to set auditing standards in Eritrea, impound books of accounts if it deems that there are fraudulent activities, advise the Ministry of Finance where necessary, and issue certificates of competence to private auditors and accountants. It has been giving auditing services for 32 years and is at the moment serving 177 audit clients.

In November 1994, the OAG was admitted as a member into INTOSAI (International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions), and, in 1995, it secured membership in AFROSAI (African Organization for Supreme Audit Institutions) and AFROSA-E (African Organization for Supreme Audit Institutions - English speaking countries). At the end of 1996 it was securely established. Since 1996, it has been a member state of the AFROSAI/AFROSAI - E and that of INTOSAI.



Photo: Saleh Abdelkader



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ERITREA-SICHUAN MINERAL CONSTRUCTION CORP. LTD.

Vacancy Announcement

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

Position: Equipment Engineer
Place of Work: Emba Derho Site
Required Number: 01
Contract Type: Indefinite

1) Major Duties and Responsibilities

- ❖ Visit site to guide subcontractors install and test equipment for proper functioning.
- ❖ Provide consultancy to subcontractors' equipment commissioning.
- ❖ Provide technical assistance in installation and maintenance of equipment.
- ❖ Help subcontractors analyze equipment malfunctions and failures and accordingly develop corrective actions.
- ❖ Develop improvements to enhance equipment reliability and scalability.
- ❖ Develop preventive maintenance procedures to reduce equipment failures.
- ❖ Work with subcontractors to monitor equipment performance and suggest improvements.
- ❖ Maintain documentations for equipment installation, maintenance and troubleshooting procedures for reference purposes.
- ❖ Provide 24x7 support for troubleshooting equipment.
- ❖ Develop cost-reduction initiatives while still maintaining quality and productivity.
- ❖ Provide assistance and conduct job trainings for employees as needed.
- ❖ Act as primary contact for equipment performance related questions and concerns.

2) Qualification and Other Skills

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Bachelor's degree or above ❖ Major in engineering/mining machinery/equipment, instrument, automation, mechanical engineering, site management or a related field.
Working Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Minimum 10 years' experience in this field, preferably in mining or construction industry.
Leadership Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Be a team player. ❖ Have good interpersonal skill. ❖ Know how to lead a team.
Other skills and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Good trouble shooting skill. ❖ Be efficient. ❖ Good communication skills.

General Information and Other Requirement

- ❖ Place of Work: Asmara Project Sites (Emba Derho)
- ❖ Salary: As per Company salary scale

Additional Requirement for Nationals:

- ❖ Having fulfilled his/ her National Service Obligation and Provide evidence of Release Paper from Ministry of Defence.
- ❖ Present Clearance from current/ last employer or Unemployment card from Labor office.
- ❖ Testimonial documents to be attached (CV, work experience credential, a copy of your National Identity card etc.)
- ❖ Only shortlisted applicants will be considered as potential candidates for an interview.
- ❖ Application documents will not be returned to sender.
- ❖ All application should be sent through the post office.
- ❖ Deadline for application; 05 days from the date of publication on the newspapers

Address: Please mail your application to;

Eritrea Sichuan Mineral Construction CORP. LTD (ESMC)
 P.O. Box. 4832 Asmara, Eritrea

Required to send a copy of their application to the following address

Mineral Resources Management, Department of Mines
 P.O. Box. 272
 Asmara, Eritrea

Note to None Eritrean applicants:

Please send a copy of your application to
 Aliens Employment permits Affairs,
 P.O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Audit Services Corporation (ASC) wants to employ interested competent candidate for the following post:-

1. Accountant:

Educational Background----- Diploma or above in accounting,

Experience and skills----- 3 to 4years' experience as an accountant,

preferably with reasonable knowledge in Peach Tree Programme.

Age----- 30 to 45 years,

Required Number----- 1 (one),

Duties and Responsibilities----- Performs accounting duties, such as posting of accounting entries to peach tree programme, preparation of financial statements and others duties instructed by the GeneralManager,

4. Salary----- As per the scale of the Audit Services Corporation,

5. Place of work----- Asmara

6. Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligation and provide evidence of release paper from the Ministry of Defence.

Interested candidates are requested to send their letters of applications, current CVs, work experience credentials and other relevant documents. All applicants should send their applications through Post Office or hand over to the GM/ Head of Finance and Administration/secretary.

Short list will be contacted for interview. Therefore, telephone addresses should be clearly included in their applications.

Closing Date----- 5 days from the date of this announcement,

Address ----- Audit Services Corporation

P.O.Box 912

Asmara, Eritrea.

Office Location----- Nyala Hotel Building

2nd Floor, Above the Commercial Bank of

Eritrea, Martyr Branch, Office No. 78/04.



Vacancy Announcement

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

Position: Electrical Engineer

Place of Work: Emba Derho Site

Required Number: 01

Contract Type: Indefinite

1) Major Duties and Responsibilities

- ☐ Organize and participate in the commissioning and trial operation of electrical equipment and systems.
- ☐ Propose solutions to the problems found in the test process in time, and make relevant test records.
- ☐ Participate in the non-load linkage and load linkage debugging of the entire electrical system of the project, and propose reasonable solutions and methods to the problems found in the commissioning.
- ☐ Ensure that installations and applications are in line with safety standards.
- ☐ Review and modify professional design drawings such as electric power and automation.
- ☐ Responsible for installation progress and quality supervision of on-site electrical equipment, and responsible for the repair, maintenance and innovation of electrical equipment.
- ☐ Collaborate with other engineers and technicians to design and apply new electrical system processes.
- ☐ Examine needs on equipment, calculate costs and help prepare budgets.
- ☐ Monitor maintenance and inspection plans.

2) Qualification and Other Skills

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalentents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ high school or above or vocational school with good practical skill ☐ Major in electrical, mining machinery, or a related field
Working Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Mminimum 20 years' experience in electrical industry of related field
Leadership Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Strong sense of responsibility and team work spirit
Other skills and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Be familiar with various software programs used in the business world and CAD ☐ Have rich practical experience in the installation, repair, maintenance and technical innovation of equipment in ore processing plant and underground electrical equipment.

Position: Coordinator

Place of Work: Emba Derho Site

Required Number: 01

Contract Type: Indefinite

1) Major Duties and Responsibilities

- ☐ Act as a contact point with headquarter in China, subcontractors and business partners.
- ☐ Build and implement corporate culture.
- ☐ Organize festival celebrations and team building activities.
- ☐ Be responsible for employee relationship management, including the preparation of employee handbook, on-boarding training, and the management of employee attendance, rotational leave, termination, welfare, labor contracts, labor disputes, mainly for expats.

- ☐ Make statistics and update of personnel information and rosters, and report the statistical data and information of expats including subcontractors.
- ☐ Organize and attend contractor and subcontractors' meetings.
 - ☐ Liaise with subcontractors for administrative and HR matters.
- ☐ Provide administrative and HR support.
- ☐ Supervise and ensure the subcontractors' compliance of Eritrea's labor law and other policies.
- ☐ Make administrative and HR policies and regulations.
- ☐ Support General Manager if so requests.
- ☐

2) Qualification and Other Skills

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalentents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Bachelor degree or above ☐ Major in corporate culture, business administration, HR, public relations, literature or a related field
Working Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Minimum 10 years' experience in administration, HR, public relations or related field ☐ Have work experience in foreign countries ☐ Have experience in working with foreign employees
Leadership Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Team player ☐ Strong sense of responsibility
Other skills and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Good communication and interpersonal skill ☐ Be easy-going ☐ Have patience and attention to details ☐ Be optimistic ☐ Good public speaking skill ☐ Cultural awareness

General Information and Other Requirement

- ☐ Place of Work: Asmara Project Sites (Emba Derho)
- ☐ Salary: As per Company salary scale **Additional Requirement for Nationals:**
- ☐ Having fulfilled his/ her National Service Obligation and Provide evidence of Release Paper from Ministry of Defense.
- ☐ Present Clearance from current/ last employer or Unemployment card from Labor office.
- ☐ Testimonial documents to be attached (CV, work experience credential, a copy of your National Identity card etc.)
- ☐ Only shortlisted applicants will be considered as potential candidates for an interview.
- ☐ Application documents will not be returned to sender.
- ☐ All application should be sent through the post office.
- ☐ Deadline for application; 05 days from the date of publication on the newspapers

Address: Please mail your application to;

Eritrea Sichuan Mineral Construction CORP. LTD (ESMC)
P.O. Box. 4832 Asmara, Eritrea

Required to send a copy of their application to the following address

Mineral Resources Management, Department of Mines
P.O. Box. 272
Asmara, Eritrea

Note to None Eritrean applicants:

Please send a copy of your application to
Aliens Employment permits Affairs,
P.O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea

SpotLight

Ascarico: Keeping our Capital City ever Clean

Luwam Kahsay H.

Nicknamed “La piccola Roma”, Asmara has been known for its beauty since its establishment by the Italians as the capital city. This has been made possible by its infrastructure and its principled people.

There is a working infrastructure for the disposal of solid and liquid waste which was put in place so many decades ago. Reservoirs such as May Anbesa, May Bawzan and May Ch’hot were built early in the 1900’s to block soil and dirt carried by floods during rainy seasons from entering the city. The reservoirs would also serve

Eritrea’s independence in 1991. But the main actors that continue to keep Asmara clean are its street cleaners, commonly known in Asmara as “ascarico,” derived from the Italian word “scaricare” (discharging).

The city takes pride in its cleanliness, which is taken care of by the Sanitation and Cleaning Unit of Central Zone. As Mr. Ghebre Alemseghed, Head of Sanitation and Cleaning Unit of Central Zone said the unit works for the good health of people and the maintenance of the city’s beauty. In the past, the work was done exclusively by men but as of 1996 it is mostly done by women,



and cleanliness of Asmara.

people feel refreshed.

After giving a brief introduction about Eritrea in his blog of “A Loop Around Asmara, Eritrea,” Lee Abbamonte, travel blogger on air travel personality and entrepreneur, wrote: “... Eritrea is the cleanest country in Africa. The capital sparkles in the hot, dry afternoon sun without the usual African eyesores of trash piles and other crap everywhere. It doesn’t have the usual thousands of stray dogs running around, eating trash and sullyng up the sidewalks.”

According to Mr. Ghebre, the women cleaners are assigned to work at seven posts: 117 to Abashawl, 82 to Akrya, 125 to City Center, 109 to Tiravolo, 92 to Idaga Hamus, 119 to Gejeret, and 72 to Geza Banda. Mr. Ghebre said their age ranges from 35 to 75, and some women have been working for almost 40 years. The women start working very early in the morning, some as early as 4 AM, to keep the streets clean and make

has also been done construction of the main sewages of the city in the past ten years. This project besides playing a significant role in facilitating their job it also contributed in the sanitation of the city.

As Mr. Ghebre said the sanitation authorities give the women training regarding safety, use of personal protection materials and garbage recycling as an income generating option.

In addition to the street cleaners, people who live in Asmara get together periodically in their neighborhoods to clean up their surroundings. Watching the street cleaners’ dedication should make feel equally responsible for keeping our city clean and safe to live in and work.



as sources for drinking water for cattle.

whose number today is 716.

I read on the internet a tourist’s recommendation for neighboring countries to do what is being done in Asmara to keep their capital cities clean and orderly. Without the street cleaners our capital city wouldn’t have been known as one of the cleanest cities in the world. They are the reason tourists are always mesmerized by the beauty



NEWS

ERITREAN FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP WRAPS UP WITH DENDEN CLUB VICTORY



The Eritrean football championship, which kicked off on March 10th in Asmara and KMarch 10thhed its grand finale on March 24th at Asmara StadiMarch 24thampionship concluded with a riveting final match between Keih-Bahri and Denden Football Clubs, accompanied by an array of cultural and artistic showcases.

Denden Club, representing the Ministry of Defense, emerged as the triumphant champion of the 2024 season, securing a 2-1 victory over Keih-Bahri Club from the Central Region. This victory marked a significant achievement for the Denden team in the national football scene.

Mr. Paulos Woldehaimanot, the President of the Football Federation, highlighted that the tournament saw participation from 10 clubs spanning all regions of Eritrea and the Ministry of Defense. He emphasized the championship’s role in fostering a competitive spirit among the clubs, allowing them to gauge their strengths and share valuable experiences. The event was also aimed at bolstering football development within the nation.

The championship’s climax saw Denden Club awarded the Gold Medal and 100,000 Nakfa, while Keih-Bahri Club received the Silver Medal along with 75,000 Nakfa. Individual accolades were also distributed, recognizing the best goalkeeper, player, goal scorer, and most disciplined club, further celebrating excellence and sportsmanship in Eritrean football.