**NATIONAL INSURANCE CORPORATION OF ERITREA EXPANDING ITS ACTIVITIES**

General Manager of the National Insurance Corporation of Eritrea (NICE), Mr. Zeru Woldemichael, disclosed that the Corporation is working to ensure the safety of lives and property, expanding and developing its activities, as well as increasing awareness of the public.

Noting that the corporation provides insurance coverage for accidents as well as re-insuring in various foreign insurance companies, Mr. Zeru said that the corporation is making persistent efforts to raise the awareness of the public in making proper use of the service.

Mr. Zeru also pointed out that all vehicles in the country are mandated to have a third party insurance and that out of the 250 million Nakfa annual insurance agreements, 150 million Nakfa is from vehicles and the remaining from other insurance agreements. He also said that the corporation has generated 92 million Nakfa profit in 2017.

Noting that there are 2,200 Eritrean shareholders including the Government and the Martyrs Trust Fund, Mr. Zeru said that profit is distributed to share holders every year.

The National Insurance Corporation of Eritrea was established in 1992 and has joint venture with re-insurance companies in Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Germany.

**Tserona Sub-Zone: Malaria Prevalence Declines by 76%**

Owing to the active awareness raising campaigns conducted and the involvement of health practitioners in the Tserona sub zone, commendable result has been registered in controlling the prevalence of communicable diseases, malaria in particular, report indicated.

In an activity assessment meeting, Mr. Yohanes Shimondi, Head of public health in the sub-zone, stated that the prevalence of malaria has declined by 76% in 2017.

It was also underscored that the remarkable achievement has been registered as a result of the rigorous popular campaign being conducted twice a week under the supervision of professionals, distribution of impregnated mosquito nets as well as spraying of anti-mosquito medicines in households.

Call was also made to maintain the achieved success story and integrated effort for better outcome.

**Road Renovation Popular Campaign**

The inhabitants of Mai-Mine sub-zone carried out a popular campaign to renovate a 42 km-long dirt road linking Enda Gergis with Mai-Mine.

The residents of Adi Shim-Tombosa, Adi Chigono and Mekabir Tsabla Administrative areas as well as residents of Dahre, Adi-Nala and Adi-Keina villages participated in the campaign.

Report also indicated that the campaign that also included construction of water diversion canals to protect the road from erosion was carried out with machinery support.

**US Delegation Conducts Working Visit in Eritrea**

US Delegation led by Acting Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Ambassador Donald Y. Yamamoto, paid a working visit to Asmara from 22 to 24 April.

During its three-day visit in Eritrea, the US delegation held talks with President Isaias Afwerki and other government officials on prospects of bilateral ties and cooperation on regional issues.

**NUEW Branch in Sweden Holds Activity Assessment Meeting**

The branch of the National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW) in Sweden has conducted an activity assessment meeting in Stockholm city.

During the meeting attended by representatives from the cities of Stockholm, Uppsala, Orebro, Gothenburg, Skara, Ostersund, Lund, Malmo, Smaland and Flen respectively, discussion was conducted on activity reports presented as well as future action plan.

Noting the commendable contribution of Eritrean women in national issues, the chairperson of the Union’s branch in Europe, Ms. Nigisti Tsegai, called for greater participation for total emancipation.

In a related report, Eritrean citizens in Frankfurt held a meeting. The Head of Public and Community Affairs, Mr. Kahai Tewolde, gave briefing regarding the role of the youths in the struggle for independence, safeguarding national sovereignty and nation-building.

The coordinator of the group, Mr. Zemichael Gebrbegiassu, said that the mission of the group is to portray Eritrea’s correct image and the vision of the Eritrean people and their leadership to build a prosperous nation.

**ERCOE’s Effective Contribution**

The Eritrean Centre for Organizational Excellence (ERCOE) has made effective contribution over the past 10 years in providing training for staff members of 45 public and government institutions in developing strategic action plan and consultancy as well as research for improved management.

The Acting Director of the centre, Dr. Abel Habetemariam, said that the center has so far provided training to a total of 1,620 including staff members of 10 ministries, 6 regional Administrations, 14 construction companies, 5 colleges and 10 other public and government bodies in revising the management system and developing strategic plan.

He further indicated that the objective of the centre is to support the government, public and private institutions to develop qualitative service capacity.

Indicating that management is a dynamic process, Dr. Abel said that the center since its establishment has significantly contributed its part in developing the organizational capacity of government and public institutions.
Way Forward: Eritrea’s Post Graduate Education

The National Higher Education and Research Institute (NHERI) has been exerting efforts to develop its human resources not only for the institutions of higher education but also for the sector ministries. We adopted three avenues of human resources development by opening both undergraduate and post graduate programs in Eritrea and by sending students abroad. We send students abroad for the programs for which we do not have at home. If we have a post graduate program at home, then the students will follow their studies inside the country. The third is through distance education. These are the three modalities that we have been using to develop our human resources. Prof. Zemenfes elaborated.

As regards the long term plans of the NHERI, Prof. Zemenfes said as follows:

The long term plan is, as far as possible, to give training at master’s level inside the country, and progressively we will move towards giving training at PhD level. The PhD level training is the very long term vision of the NHERI. We have been working on the Master’s programs and we are trying to expand the kind of programs that we will offer in the post graduate studies.

We have a number of post graduate studies at the present time. At the Eritrea Institute of Technology (EIT) we have post graduate studies in four fields at master’s level, at Hamelmalo Agricultural College we have five post graduate programs, at Adi-Keyih College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS) we have one post graduate program but we might start second and third programs in September. In Asmara College of Health Sciences, we have three post graduate programs in Midwifery, Anastasia and in Pharmacy. These are the currently running post graduate programs inside the country.

Some of the programs started three or four years back and some of them started last year. But, there is quite substantial number of students who have graduated from these programs and who are also pursuing their studies.

The main advantage of the program at post graduate programs is the relevance of the curriculum. The curriculum is designed to serve the interest of the country. When students are sent to study abroad they have to fit into different curriculum. What is more, the cost of education is very low when compared to the cost of post graduate studies at master’s level abroad. The cost here at home is much lower than the cost outside the country. If a student is sent for master’s degree abroad, the average cost will be around 30,000 USD. Here in the country, it usually ranges between 17,000 and 18,000. So, there is a considerable saving in the cost of education.

As regards the benefits of providing post graduate education inside the country, Prof. Zemenfes said “We can monitor the quality of education that is provided to the post graduate students. We do not have any control on the curriculum and quality of education given by universities outside the country. But, we can ensure the quality of education given here. Another advantage is that these students will do researches related to Eritrean problems. Hence, these researches do have an added value for they can contribute towards the solution of the problems. Because of these advantages, our plan is to expand post graduate studies at home and the NHERI is working in that respect.”

The second avenue is sending students abroad. Students have been sent abroad intended for higher studies for the last 10 years and up to now more than 600 students have been offered a chance to study abroad both at master’s and PhD levels. “In this year, the coming September, we will be sending the highest number of students to study abroad. More than 100 students will go abroad for their post graduate studies. Some of the studies are full scholarship and some of them are partial scholarship.” Prof. Zemenfes noted.

The Eritrean Government supports the students in many ways. For instance, if the stipend that the scholarship granting university gives is law, then the Government tops up that salary. The amount of money that the Government of Eritrea spends on such cases is very huge. The Government’s contribution towards the post graduate studies is quite extensive. The payment is in hard currency so you can imagine the burden the Government shoulders in this case.

Also according to Prof. Zemenfes, students have been sent to African and European universities, to the US and in Asia to India, China, Japan, and South Korea. Students go to a number of countries depending on the scholarships they get. When they go for higher studies, they sign a legal contract with the NHERI and according to that legal contract every person who goes abroad for study is required to provide two years of service for every one year of training abroad. If the master’s program takes two years, the student is required to come back and serve for four years. If the student fails to do so, the full cost of the scholarship should be paid back. But, we have not yet started to implement the legal contract up to now but definitely there will be a time to do so. People who failed to meet their responsibility will be held accountable based on the legal contract.

Eritrea has been developing partnership with different universities and institutions, to name, Finnish universities, African universities like Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Indian universities like the University of New Delhi and so on. Linkages have been created with universities in Italy and the UK and also with some universities in the US. Until now the country has developed more than 30 linkage agreements. But, it does not mean that all these linkages are very active. New partnerships have also been created with Chinese and Russian universities. So, partnership and training is dynamic and a continuous activity. For instance, this year Eritrea started a relationship with...
Eritrean Referendum: Reinforcement of the Bullet by Ballot

Simon Weldemichael

After 50 years of political and armed struggle, the loss of countless civilian lives, awful damage on natural and physical property, depopulation and miserable migration, the struggle against Ethiopian domination terminated with Eritrean military, political and legal victory. On April 23-25, 1993 Eritreans inside and outside began to vote in a referendum for independence with festive excitement. Although Eritrea had de facto independence and established a provisional government of its own in May 1991, the referendum represents the final legitimation of the 50 years of struggle for independence.

According to the official returns, 99.8% of Eritrean voters responded “yes” to the question: “Do you want Eritrea to be a free, independent country?” On April 27, 1993 Eritrea formally became an independent nation. At the event President Issaisie Aferwerki said “Eritrea is a sovereign country as of today.” Referendum commissioner Dr. Amare Tekle announced the results and said “This is the proudest moment”. On the event Dr. Amare briefed the overall turnout was 98.52%, 99.805% of Eritreans voting for independence and 0.1655% against. “The Eritrean referendum is probably the most affirmative referendum in the history of democracy, in terms of both the yes-percentage (99.8%) and the turnout of registered voters (98.5%)” said Kjeti Tronvoll, a researcher and UN-observer during the referendum in Eritrea. Tim Wise, director of Grassroots International and a non-governmental observer of Eritrean referendum, said that “Men and women lined the streets surrounding the polling stations; Women cried and embraced the ballot box. Some ululated in the traditional celebratory manner... If I hadn’t seen the process with my own eyes, such a result would have been hard to believe. All smiled widely.”

Referendum gave a rebirth of Eritrea as a new nation to join the international community. It’s also regarded a marriage of Eritrea linked with international community on the bases of sovereignty and dignity. After a U.N.-monitored referendum, the Provisional Government of Eritrea announced Eritrea’s formal independence, relegating to history four decades of unimagined barbarity of Ethiopian colonizers that turned the land of ancient civilization into Africa’s bloodiest battleground. UN, scuttled greatly by the victory of Eritreans, was compelled to witness the truth after half century of silence. One UN Press Release said that the 1993 referendum of Eritrea, which marked the end of one of Africa’s longest wars and brought about a peaceful transition, was a significant achievement for the United Nations.

Richard Dowden, who attended the referendum, referring to the diplomatic guests who had come to observe the referendum said that “there is a feeling of guilt about Eritrea in the corridors of the world’s foreign ministries. Eritrea is like an abandoned child who has returned a self-made man. This is all true. The war for Eritrea is the 20th century’s longest and least reported. Its result is this century’s version of David and Goliath.”

Referendum was a simple but decisive choice for or against independence. This is a great responsibility which will affect the lives of Eritreans for generations to come. When Kjeti Tronvoll asked an elderly villager about how he looked at the referendum, he responded “We are waiting for the referendum the way a child is looking forward to getting sweets in reward for a job well done” (Tronvoll, 47). The only question asked and the only answer expected from the electorate was whether you do or do not wish to see Eritrea independent. On the occasion of the announcement of the results President Issaisie Aferwerki said “This is not a political competition, rather it’s about becoming a nation or not. It has come to be satisfactory and efficacious historical conclusion of Eritrean choice.”

After 50 years of political and armed struggle for independence, the issue finally rested with the verdict of the people in a referendum. Besides the brave contribution played on the field, referendum was among the great historical rewards of Eritrean people given by the EPLF. Although the EPLF marched to victory in 1991, its leadership decided to delay the declaration of independence until a referendum was held. In many other places where liberation struggle, was conducted, the declaration of independence and calls for recognition were made after the final battle of victory. In Eritrea, however, sovereignty and membership in the international community was predicted on a democratic and legal conclusion. This shows EPLF’s legality and its non-intoxication with military power. When the EPLF liberated Eritrea in May 1991, instead of rushing to declare independence it opted to form a provisional government and intended to hold referendum in Eritrea within two years. PGE established a referendum commission by proclamation no.22/1992 issued on April 7, 1992.

Historically, referendum was first proposed by the EPLF in 1980 as a way of settling the conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia. However the repeated calls for peace were rejected by the military regime of the time (Derg) led by Colonel Mengistu hailemariam. When all avenues for peaceful resolution of the conflict got blocked, Eritreans were forced to continue a bitter war to determine their destiny. The call for peaceful resolution of the Eritrean case through democratic and fair referendum was foiled by Ethiopia as it resorted to military solution and diplomatic intrigues. The 1980 referendum proposal of the EPLF was a fair, democratic and peaceful means to self-determination of the Eritrean people. The EPLF’s call for referendum in the 1980 “was a shift from a military to a juridically sanctioned political solution” (Ruth, 1995, 124). However the Derg who knew very well the desire of the people for independence had refused to agree. Fearful of the proposed ballot they resorted to the bullet.

The provisional government of Eritrea was determined to make the referendum of Eritrea one of the most observable and witnessed UN-OAU, governments, numerous regional organizations, NGOs, prominent intellectuals, dignitaries, and international broadcast corporations were invited to participate as observers. In addition to that 547 observers and 137 members of international news broad cast received invitation from referendum commission of Eritrea (referendum ‘93, 49). Organizationally, the occasion was a carefully planned event which demonstrated the EPLF’s efficiency, pragmatism and high degree of popular legitimacy (Ruth, 1995, 140). General Secretary of UN appointed Mr. Samir Sanhar as representative of the United Nations. The African union sent a delegation of 18 men headed by Senegalese ambassador to Ethiopia. Eritrean referendum was finally legitimized by UN commissioner Samir Sanhar, who declared the referendum to be free and fair. Eritrean people’s festive excitement and warm reception to the UN and OAU envoys surprised diplomats. Eritreans demonstrated their wisdom to forget and give amnesty for past errors. Papa Louiz, head of the OAU observer mission, said that “the observer team was particularly impressed with the high degree of enthusiasm, discipline and maturity exhibited by the Eritrean electorate and people in view of the warm reception they extended to the OAU team in spite of previous misconceptions and misunderstanding.”

Eritrean referendum was unique in many respects. Unlike other developing countries there was no difference in the degree of participation between central and peripheral population. The participation of the people in Asmara, the capital, and the remotest village in the border were equal and the results were also the same across the country.

Continued on page 5
When exactly is Enough Good Enough?

Can’t we just get satisfied with what we already have? We keep wanting with no limit and then blame nature as an excuse for our lack of satisfaction. To begin with, we all have wishes, plans and needs to fulfill. But once we get to accomplish or posses what we asked for, we do not even stop to enjoy what we have, and the next hook is on immediately.

Had we set our goals and plans at the outset would it be different? We are beings with limitless needs and endless wants. I call that something that has ascended up with time, to hide what we have evolved to be. There happens to be confusion between needs and wants. The long strong fine line between them has faded, almost vanishing to the extent that we don’t even differentiate between them anymore.

What would the world look like when we totally forget or fail to recognize “what's enough”? or forgoing being precise and specific what to achieve. That someone has to have something to call enough, of course what more can we ask for?

When you look at everything you do with judgment, you get less done and you’re unhappy with the things you have done. It brings down your mood, self esteem, and self worth. That’s not ambition; that’s perfectionism. And it’s not your friend. But where exactly do such judgmental standards originate? Is your “good enough” criteria authentically aligned with your deepest beliefs, values, and ideals?

There is one issue that keeps us from being satisfied with what we have. And that’s the notion that alludes “if you are already done with what you got and you are totally through with it, then you have nothing inspiring to keep you going, so you fail to reach the edges and prosper”. Well it’s too hard to be brave enough and go against those words, especially if you truly recognize what it would bring you. Following suit with those words probably means it is the end of your life’s mission, because you have nothing inspiring or motivating to look forward to.

We humans are actually caught up in looking for a reward with more pleasure as soon as we accomplish a definite goal. There might be a lot of questions to ask as to why we have this kind of mind set in the first place. It might be our societal surrounding; perhaps it might be books, the media or others. We suffer from these because we keep following somebody’s way to find our own success. For example, we may read self-help books with titles, “how to be happy”; “how to be successful”, “how to love” and so on. In my view, those types of books are only obstacles that lead one to tilt from his/her peculiar aspirations and overtaking lane to approach one’s aspirations. In my opinion, they are rather more limiting than leading, paralyzing than motivating, dominating than inspiring.

The only line of attack to be free from all this is to have our own ways, ideologies, principles and methods to keep up our success. We got the potential power after all! To get to the point, it is important to “Know what to do and know what is really enough for you is.” Speaking critically we might also ask a bulk of questions; who said satisfaction is the limit! Who said it holds you back? What is the highest point anyway? Who set the mark in the first place and called it the peak? And any way what is a peak? Where does our satisfaction lay? And above all when is 'enough' good enough?

To answer those valuable questions one ought to use his/her own intelligence, perspective and instincts apart from the suggestions we might get from society. Our instincts lead us but we ignore them, maybe because we think they are too simple to be true. Because the solution seems to be way-more simpler compared to the problem we are facing. And there comes the question ‘why do we refuse to accept simple solutions for complex problems?’

Simply, a little key opens a huge door, a simple virus kills a serial killer, and a drop of water moves an entire dam. Then why can’t a simple solution solve a complicated problem? It can’t be that simple, can it?

Considering that anything we earn is great, we don’t need others to answer for our own questions? We can handle a complicated life; we have been through the worst after all. We managed to be simple when nobody else could do it and we can definitely handle complications. Because all we have to do is stay natural rather than denying our instincts, ‘Simplicity is complexity’. Just be simple, mastering the complicated is what comes with the flow!

In life it is true we get signs everywhere but in most cases we fail to interpret or understand them. The signs, if interpreted in a rather rightful manner, guarantee us a beautiful life. Of course, what more can we ask for than knowing ‘what the future holds’! All we have to do is shift a world of “Be complicated to live simply” into a world of “live simple to be complicated”.

This necessarily doesn’t mean you have to be like anybody else, just be on par enough to have something you call your own. I believe that there are many things in life we’d work harder at if we deemed that doing so would afford us with a truly gratifying, joyful, or even jubilant, experience. Be courageous enough to acquire and earn what is rightfully yours. When you set goals and plans in life, make sure that is all you want no matter how small or big they are. Working towards achieving these sets of goals with dedication will in return manifest into a realization of when enough is good enough. And it’s precisely when we’re willing to rouse ourselves and aspire to do something that just might turn out exceptional—when, that is, we labor to transcend mere adequacy and strive to accomplish something affirming the very best in us—that we can genuinely perceive ourselves as “special.”

“Using once notion of enough as yours is like burping for their full stomach!”

Nishan Fisshaye

Popular inspirational notes
### China’s Further Opening Heralds Broader Prospects for China-Eritrea Common Development


With the presence of more than 2,000 distinguished guests including heads of state and governments of more than 100 countries and regions, President Xi in his speech emphasized the major achievements of China in the past 40 years since the adoption of the Reform and Opening-up policy, reflected upon the valuable inspirations that China acquired and the positive contribution China has made to the world, and emphasized the importance of building a shared future for mankind.

On China’s major achievements, President Xi highlighted that the Chinese people have significantly unleashed and enhanced productivity, and have achieved unprecedented prosperity in China through hard work with an unyielding spirit. The people’s focused endeavor on national development and unswerving commitment to reform and opening-up have brought enormous changes to the country. The current China has grown into the world’s second largest economy, the largest industrial producer, the largest trader, and the holder of the largest foreign exchange reserves. Over the past four decades, China’s GDP has averaged an annual growth rate of around 9.5% in comparable prices, and its foreign trade has registered an annual growth rate of 14.5% in US dollar. According to the current UN standards, more than 700 million Chinese people have been lifted out of poverty, accounting for more than 70% of the global total over the same period.

In the international arena, China has also actively contributed to the Chinese share to the world. From WTO accession to the Belt and Road Initiative, China has made significant contributions to international development and global economic growth. By contributing over 30% of global economic growth in recent years, China has become a key anchor and driver for the world economy and a positive force in advancing global peace and development.

President Xi in his speech elaborated on how China has made these development achievements. The first factor is that Chinese people, with a keen awareness of both national realities and a global vision, have blazed a path of socialism with Chinese characteristics. China attaches great importance to independence and self-reliance while embracing openness and win-win cooperation. The second factor lies in China’s strength of being a truth-seeking nation with an open mind to embrace innovation and creativity to benefit social progress and the well-being of our people. This is also the reason for China’s pursuing further opening.

By the above listed factors, China’s reform and opening-up has brought enormous changes to the country.

The logic of history and the trend of the times in their pursuit of success and prosperity. As a Chinese saying goes, people must have the courage to ‘dispel the clouds to see the sun’ so as to have a keen grasp of the law of history and the trend of the world. At this point, President Xi highlighted in his speech that we are living at a time with an overwhelming trend towards peace and cooperation, openness and connectivity, reform and innovation and economic globalization. We need to resort to peaceful development and cooperation to bring win-win outcomes and promote common prosperity, embrace innovation and creativity to benefit social progress and the well-being of our people. This is also the reason for China’s pursuing further opening.

One question that might follow is, how will China put its further opening-up policy into practice? President Xi announced that China would adopt four major measures, those are: First, China will significantly broaden market access on sectors of financial services and manufacturing and so on. Second, China will create a more attractive investment environment by increasingly enhancing alignment with international economic and trading rules, promoting transparency, strengthening property rights protection and so on. Third, China will strengthen protection of intellectual property rights (IPR). Fourth, China will take the initiative to expand imports. This November, China will hold the first China International Import Expo in Shanghai, which is a major policy initiative and commitment taken of our own accord to open up the Chinese market.

China will remain as determined as ever to build world peace, contribute to global prosperity and uphold the international order.

President Xi in his speech finally said, ‘A mountain is formed by accumulation of earth and an ocean is formed by accumulation of water’, and success only favors those with courage and perseverance. He called for all the countries dedicating themselves to openness and win-win outcomes and embracing innovation, keeping striving for a community with a shared future for mankind and a better tomorrow for the world.

China and Eritrea have always been good friends. In the process of respective nation building, China remains ready to keep exchanging experience and learning from each other with Eritrea on an equal basis, so as to achieve better mutual understanding, solidifying friendship between the two peoples, and expand mutually beneficial cooperation. I am convinced that as China seeks further opening and implements the major measures announced by President Xi, it will herald new opportunities for China—Eritrea pragmatic cooperation, and create broader prospects for China—Eritrea common development.

This November, China sincerely expects and welcomes friends from different countries including Eritrea to participate in the first China International Import Expo in Shanghai, to share and enjoy more participation of China’s opening-up efforts.

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**Eritrean Referendum...**

Continued from page 3

Eritrean referendum has not only answered the possible future of the country as an independent sovereign entity among the family of nations. It also validated the question of the Eritrean people in the past. Referendum was a historical decision that witnessed the determination of Eritrean people for independence though bullet and ballot. EPLF had a firm belief in the revolution by the people, to the people and for the people. The referendum was, therefore, made to include the people in decisions that determine the fate of the country.

Finally, Eritreans scored spectacular and unique victory in the armed struggle through the ballot and in the referendum through the ballot. The secret behind these victories was conscious and enthusiastic participation of the people. Such an achievement has few equals in the history and is a testimony of the political maturity of the people of Eritrea and its leadership. We have already achieved our national independence and sovereignty.

Although we concluded an important chapter of liberation, we are also beginning a new chapter of emancipation from all social, economic and political ills. The task of building a peaceful and prosperous country is more difficult, which requires the participation of the entire population. As we voted “yes” in the referendum, this historical juncture Eritreans inside and outside of the country have to renew our pledge to vote “yes” to bear a heavy responsibility to serve the society.
The partnership is not limited to training and education in the post graduate studies only. In some cases joint researches that involve scientist from Eritrea and scientists from the partner institutions have been carried out. Sometimes there is staff exchange. Eritrean academics go and teach in the partner institutions and professors from the partner institutions come to Eritrea and teach in Eritrean institutions of higher education. “In some of the relationships we also exchange educational resources particularly digital ones. We get a lot of educational and digital resources from our partners. Sometimes they make their digital libraries accessible to Eritrean students and to Eritrean researchers. So, the focus and objective of the partnership varies from one partnership linkage to another.” Prof. Zemenfes explained.

Reinforcement of linkages with institutions of higher education both inside and outside the country is among the areas of activities of the NHERI. In this regard, Prof. Zemenfes clarified saying:

We also encourage our colleges to develop linkage partnerships independently. Some of the colleges have already done this. The reason why we encourage these linkages is that because we get a lot of benefits from sharing experiences and exchange of staff. People who come from other universities will look at our curriculum and help us in revising and improving our curriculum. They also provide access to their laboratories and libraries. They also create pressure on our institutions to maintain the quality of education and also train our young staff. For this reason, we always try to promote and strengthen our partnership with the institutions outside the country.

In terms of performance our students perform very well. They perform very well while studying at home and when they go abroad. Actually in many cases our students do excel. The report we get from most of the universities is quite encouraging. Some Eritreans have made a name because of their excellence in their academic career. The reason for why many countries have been offering more and more scholarships every year like those offered by china is because of the excellence of the Eritrean students. There are few who decide to quit their studies not for academic performance but for other personal reasons.

“To the best of my recollection out the 600 student we have sent abroad only one student was expelled not for academic reasons but for misconduct. Their grades are excellent. They are always at the top. Because they perform well at the master’s level, the universities grant them the opportunity for PHD. This tells us the quality of education we give here at the undergraduate level is comparable to the quality of education that is offered in the other universities,” Prof. Zemenfes affirmed.

The impact that these people could make is significant. In the long term, if we continue at this rate, there will come a time when most of the institutions of higher education will be staffed by Eritreans and our dependence on expatriate staff will be minimized. The commitment of our Eritrean professionals is quite high. Because they feel responsible and that responsibility is important for the kind of commitment they have. So commitment, responsibility, professional integrity and professional ethics are reflected in our staff. Those who go to the ministries assume different positions. They are engaged in the formulation of ministerial plans, policy making and they are engaged in researches. Thus, the contributions they make to the country’s development programs are significant. That is why the Government takes human resources development at the center stage for the overall development of the country.

“The pace of development will depend on quality of our people, and the quality of our people depends on the kind of education we provide. The more we invest in education and the better quality we provide, the better contribution will be towards the socio economic development of the country,” Prof. Zemenfes underscores.
Invitation for Bids

Ministry of Marine Resources-Fisheries Resources Management Program
IFAD -- GRANT No. DSF-2000001700-ER
Procurement of Fishing Boats and Fishing Gears
National Competitive Bidding (NCB)
IFB No.: MMR/FReMP/G/NCB/0001/2018

1. The Government of the State of Eritrea has received grant from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) toward the cost of Fisheries Resources Management Program, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this grant to payments under the Contract for the procurement of LOT 1. Fishing Boats LOT 2. Fishing Gear. IFB No.: MMR/FReMP/G/NCB/0001/2018.

2. MMR-FReMP now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders with renewed license for 2018 for the procurement of Fishing Boats and Fishing Gears.

3. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the MMR-FReMP and inspect the Bidding documents at the address given below, from 8:00 – 12:00 P.M and 14:00 – 18:00 P.M. local time, Monday through Friday.

4. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Eritrean Nakfa (ERN) 500.00 (five hundred Nakfa) or equivalent in foreign currency starting from April 30, 2018.

5. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before Monday June 18, 2018. At 10:00 a.m.

6. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected.

7. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at 10:15 a.m. on June 18, 2018. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security mentioned in the bidding documents.

8. The address referred to above is:

The Ministry of Marine Resources-Fisheries Resources Management Program
Street Address: Hiday Street 748-1
Block and Floor: Dembe Sembel, Block “A”, 4th Floor, RH
City: Asmara
P.O.Box 923
ZIP code: 748-1
Country: Eritrea
Telephone: 291-1-153958
Facsimile number: 291-1-153961
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NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public that the Board of Directors of the British American Tobacco (Eritrea) Share Company in its meeting held on 11-04-2018 has appointed Mr. Philemon Kipkemoi as the General Manager of the Company in replacement of Mr. Dominic Mbaluka.

British American Tobacco (Eritrea) Share Company
“Bringing justice to the ones who deserves is Priceless!”

Compiled by
Asmit Futsambrhan

Law is a system that rules and guides our daily activity. It is the very basic way that directs a community to live a peaceful and organized life. These are few of the reasons why individuals should know and value the importance of law.

Today, Q&A presents Aman Hightghi, one of the many young lawyers in Eritrea. Aman is one of the few outstanding students who were honored with a ZAGRE Award, a medal given to students who score highest marks in the matriculations exam. He graduated in 2016 from the College of Arts and Social Science with a B.A degree in Law. Aman continued to explore the field more as he was assigned to work at the persecutor’s office for over a year in Tokombia, Gash-Barka region. He currently works as a member of a research team on criminal investigation at the National Prosecutor’s Office.

Would you please share your childhood with our readers?

I come from a family that truly understands and values education. I used to be hyper when I was a kid, which I think some still does exist. Both of my parents are business management graduates which is why they both have supported and encouraged me to get where I am today.

What subjects were you most interested in?

I was into history mostly at first. However, I became more concerned about economics later on. I can’t specifically tell why I was more in to the subjects, however it could be because history deals with the incredible stories the planet has experienced and about the ever changing development that economics brings. That is why even after I graduated, I still had the interest to join the economics department.

You were one of the youngest students in High School, was it challenging for you at times?

Yes, I think I was the youngest. I was excelling at all the subjects except math. However, I studied hard for my matriculation exam, and I got a satisfying result. Generally speaking my matriculation score was adequate considering my weakness on math.

Why did you choose Law school?

I was going for Economics at first. But that was before the law school was opened and I changed my mind. I was also more interested after I asked about the field.

Law is a very basic thing for societies to live in peace. It is difficult for people to know their rights and duties if there is no law to guide them. Law restricts an individual’s way of living in relation to the societies of culture. Law should exist before anything else, if not, it is impossible for society to be directed in the right way.

How was Law school for you?

It is a very interesting field and always has momentum. The challenges motivate you for a much in-depth study, which lead to upgrading your skills even more. It was an interesting journey for me. I learned and search more books to develop certain expertise. Most of all, bringing justice to the ones who deserve it is just priceless.

The study included four years of domestic and international law in addition to courses on economics and physiology.

What does the international law embrace?

It deals with the international accords and relations and how it is managed. Also it holds the laws of the sea, business and distributions of natural resources such as rivers and etc.

What about domestic law?

The domestic and international laws have similarities. Yet, the international law is more concerned in the international relations of various states, human rights, and weapon control while the domestic law is concerned in the local affairs.

The role of a prosecutor?

A prosecutor represents the people and government. The prosecutor brings anyone who violates the law to justice. Also, it is a persecutor’s job to do criminal investigations.

You are 25 years of age, how do you manage your career considering your age?

I know it can be challenging sometimes. People aren’t really satisfied when a young person is holding their cases. But that is wrong. I think young people have the ability to explore their career, to research and be great at what they do. It is important to have the work experience at a young age and a lot can be benefited from that. By the way, I want to remind people that age doesn’t matter, it is the experience and skills that counts the most.

Where are the places you have worked as a prosecutor?

Soon after I graduated I worked as an arbiter assistant at the Central region Court almost for three months. After gaining the three month experience I was assigned to go work in Tkombia, Gash-Barka region, as a prosecutor. I am currently working as a researcher at the National Prosecutor’s Office.

The knowledge our society has in Law?

I think it is well. Our society knows and values the rule of law. That is the most important thing to sustain and attain justice.

Do you have any other hobbies?

Yes, I love to read. I have also come up in partnership with my friend, with a movie series which we weren’t able to release yet due to financial problems. Also, I am a sportsperson. I love soccer.

How do you think Law school has influenced your life?

Honestly speaking, it has influenced me greatly. I see everything through law. I started to consider my answers in every conversation. I am not the same person as I was before I joined law school. I see it positively, it has helped me see and analyze things carefully.

You are also doing your masters.

Yes, I am doing my masters on philosophy.

Before we conclude our interview?

I would like to thank everyone who has been there for me to get to where I am today. My success is the outcome of everyone who has supported me through my academic years, so I would like thank my family, friends and everyone who has looked after me.