Ethio telecom launches its LTE Advanced service for the first time in the South Eastern Region with high mobile data traffic.

Ethiopian Petroleum Dealers Association blasts government for neglecting them on the new petroleum sales arrangement.

Gojo Bridge Housing receives support from government on new cooperative based housing scheme.

Ethio-India diplomatic ties continues to grow following visit to India by Demeke Mekonnen, Ethiopian Deputy Prime Minister.

The imposition of cash withdrawal limit and the recent demonetization policy measures has significantly contracted currency outside banks by more than 40 percent in the first quarter of the finance year compared with the preceding quarter.

In the first quarter of the year of 2020/21 that is from July 1 to September 30, 2020 the currency outside bank stood at 64.7 billion birr. In the fourth quarter of the 2019/20 financial year that amount was 109 billion birr. The National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), central bank, quarterly review indicated that in the first quarter the currency outside banks has contracted massively and showed a drop of 40.7 percent compared with the preceding quarter and 29.3 percent compared with the same period of last year.

At the end of the past financial year, the central bank had imposed the cash withdrawal limit directive that was followed by demonetization.

MoTI orders brewers to revert to previous prices.

Dashen complies with the order.

Ministry of Trade and Industry (MoTI) orders brewers to restore the latest price adjustment to the previous rate.

Sources told Capital that a week ago MoTI wrote a letter for breweries who revised the sales price to return to the previous rate. Eshete Assfaw, State Minister of MoTI, confirmed that the ministry has pushed the factories to restore their price.

He told Capital that the companies have informed them to re-revise their measures, while some of them are arguing that there are external pressures for the price revision.

So far, Dashen has reverted its rate to the previous price following the government’s pressure.

Breweries like BGI Ethiopia and Heineken...
Although most Americans may be largely ignorant of what was, and military, to say nothing about its increasingly advanced technology, in all subsequent agreements, as an equal partner. China is already an

Unfortunately, MAD round two needed to be revived to bring back the president. Therefore, all of NATO's imbecilic maneuverings and nuclear arsenals. Protection will also apply to Russia's allies, declared
tolerated and Russia will respond decisively by employing its various
to address to the Russian Parliament, he emphatically asserted that

The very effective S-300 and S-400, to say nothing about S-500, are, sure, Russia's formidable defensive weapons are also up and running.

Enter Russia! As we have been saying all along, Russia is too grand

Iran and North Korea were determined to come up with some kind

systemic terror on weaker states. The late Howard Zinn was puzzled;

that are anti-symmetric to western arsenals. Hypersonic delivery,

us a phrase coined by former French foreign minister. Russia might

that are used to bring the slaughter to an end -

illegal weapons against the civilian

of starvation sieges, barrel bombs and

Begin with the obvious: Syria

forces of democracy and the great moral gains of

the New World Order have given way to great-power

conflict with the West, as well as to

spheres of influence and stake their

Moreover, the war shows how

the broader authoritarian resurgence

Syria, which may have a ruler-
to a more ruthless, less-enlightened

challenge.

The Syrian war also reveals a second

unsettling feature of global politics

The forces of democracy and the great moral gains of the New World Order have given way to great-power conflict and the new autocracy.

For anyone who thought that the winding down of the campaign against the Islamic State would cause the Syrian civil war to recede from the headlines, the last few weeks have been a rude awakening. Far from abating, the Syrian conflict is intensifying, with a brutal assault - reportedly involving chemical weapons - by the Syrian government on rebel-held areas near Damascus, sharply increasing the clash between Israeli, Iranian, and Syrian forces, and a bloody and one-sided confrontation between American airpower and Russian "mercenaries." These events do more than simply demonstrate that the Syrian civil war remains an appalling humanitarian catastrophe. More significantly, Syria is the nexus for the destabilizing trends that are thwarting the entire global order into crisis.

That order was originally created after World War II, but it reached its full flowering and ambition after the fall of the Soviet Union. The post-
Cold War era was characterized by widespread hopes that the forces of order and civilization were finally defeating those of aggression and inhumanity; that democracy was on the march; that great power competition had vanished; and that the contours of a new, post-Cold War order was receding further than ever before. Nearly three decades later, however, the modern order of that period has given way to a darker trend, all of which are at war in Syria.

Begin with the obvious: Syria represents an assault on the very idea of moral progress. But it's not alone. Around the globe, longstanding legal and ethical norms are being eroded, and the world is being dragged back to a more ruthless, less-enlightened age. China, which may have a ruler-
for-life, is chipping away at freedom of navigation in the Western Pacific; Russia has shattered the taboo against wars of aggression and conquest in Ukraine and elsewhere.

Yet Syria is where the erosion is most advanced and the consequences most frightening. That's because Syria's continued use of starvation sieges, barrel bombs and illegal weapons against the civilian population, and the international community's inability or unwillingness to bring the slaughter to an end demonstrates more painfully than anything else that the moral gains the world seemed to have achieved are now being rolled back, and the rules of conduct it seemed to have established are now being eroded.

Neither the Barack Obama administration, with its "red line" fiasco of 2013, nor the Donald Trump administration, with its diplomatic disengagement from the conflict, has had an answer to the challenge.

The Syrian war also reveals a second unfolding feature of global politics today; the return of ideological conflict. This is not to say that the civil war is a clash between erstwhile authoritarians and aspiring democrats. Many Syrians who initially protested and fought against the regime in 2011 and 2012 wanted a transition to a more pluralistic society, but most of them have now been killed, radicalized or otherwise driven from the field.

Nonetheless, the Syrian conflict reflects the broader acceleration of authoritarian resurgence at work. President Bashar al-Assad offers the most brutal and ruthless example of how the world's remaining dictators have not merely succumbed to the forces of liberalization, but have instead become tougher and more tenacious in clamping to power.

Moreover, the war shows how ideological differences are again driving global politics. Most of the Western democracies have grown - rhetorically, at least - that the killing must stop and Assad must go. Yet the broad coalition against Russia, China, Russia, and Iran - have rejected the idea of foreign-imposed regime change and provisionally embraced forms of assassinations to keep a fellow autocrat in power. The competition between authoritarianism and democracy has been renewed, and nowhere has that competition been sharper than in Syria.

Meaning that intense geopolitical competition has also returned, and here too, Syria is ground zero. Iran and Israel are maneuvering - often violently - for advantage, as part of their broader regional struggle. More strikingly still, Syria has become an arena for renewed great-power rivalry between the U.S. and Russia. The once and current adversaries do not simply disagree over Assad's fate; they are using their military power to curve out competing spheres of influence and stake their respective claims to leadership in Syria and the broader Middle East.

Russia in particular is using Syria as a proving ground for the advanced weapons systems and hybrid-warfare tactics it might well employ in a future conflict with the West, as well as to make the case for a prairie in Middle Eastern geopolitics. From Ukraine to the South China Sea, great-power frictions are again the global norm, and Syria has as good a claim as any location to be the cockpit of the rivalry.

COMMENT

The 'American Century' Is Over, and It Died in Syria
South Eastern Region receives LTE boost

By our staff reporter

Ethio telecom launched of its LTE Advanced service for the first time in its South Eastern Region in cities including Adama, Bishoftu, Mojo, Dukem, Gelan and Awash Melkasa.

The expansion is based on where the company said that there is high mobile data traffic and surge in demand. “The service covers areas with a high demand for speedy internet,” said Frehiwot Tamiru, CEO of Ethio telecom during the launching ceremony held in Adama Hule Resort Hotel.

LTE Advanced mobile service is one of the latest mobile technologies providing reliable connections enriching customers’ experience with exceptional speed to download or upload large-sized data, high-definition (HD) multimedia, live streaming and video conferencing in real-time.

The new expansion will enable and empower customers to digitize their services, increase productivity and improve their experiences.

Speaking about the expansion of the new project at the launching ceremony Frehiwot said, “It opens a new chapter and brings an immediate impact on congested areas of telecom service.”

The project that was completed in one month is one of its three-year growth strategies, including data traffic growth, and demand-based 4G/LTE expansion around the country.

Over the next few months, the company has a plan to launch similar services in other parts of the country, for which preparation works are already underway.

Currently, at least 769 new sites are under development. Furthermore, she said that over 103 cities are earmarked under the company’s program to enjoy 4G/LTE advanced telecom services.

The company has 50.7 million subscribers and a geographic coverage of 85.4 percent at a national level.

The telecom provider, which aspires to become a preferred telecom operator among customers and partners in Ethiopia, also declared revenues of 25.5 billion birr in the first half of the current Ethiopian fiscal year, achieving 95 percent of its target.

The revenue marks a 12.3 percent increase compared to the same period last year. During this period, a regulation enactment was also witnessed from the Council of Ministers that incorporated changes such as: the authorized capital increased to 400 billion birr from 40 billion birr, the go ahead to engage in Mobile Money and related digital finance services, permission to engage in other related activities including forming an entity and further gives the right to invest on equities locally and at international level.

On matters valuation, the company’s Asset valuation work has also been completed and total asset value has increased by 42% using IFRS reporting standards.
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Raw Material
EPDA faces slippery neglect by government

By Mulukene Yewondwossen

Ethiopian Petroleum Dealers Association (EPDA) blasts government and claims that the government has rejected to listen to them.

The leadership of the association that was formed in 1970s currently has 120 members of which the members are expressing neglect. They expressed that despite being at hot point in the petroleum business, the government hasn’t shown any interest in discussing with them the sector challenges that they are facing.

Henok Mekonnen, chair of the board of directors of EPDA, said that from time to time the sector has been facing massive challenges that lead dealers to change their activity to other businesses.

Meanwhile, the petroleum business that is strictly regulated by the government has had some changes in profit margin in the past couple of year in response to the several years claim by distributor companies and dealers problems.

The current profit margin per liter has expanded to 23 cents from three cents, while they claimed that their cost has increased by another 25 percent after three months and the balance continue under similar manner. But companies are informing dealers that they will pay the full amount as of the stated period.

Ephrem Tesfaye, member of the board at EPDA stated expressing his anger.

Ephrem elaborates that the study that was conducted to keep the sector safe, the safe line for profit margin stood at 80 cents or three percent profit margin from the total annual transaction.

They claimed that the current annual profit is one percent from the total transaction.

They also argued the decision of some oil companies who announced that the current annual profit is one percent from the total transaction.

“Since we got the information, we have been trying our best to meet government officials at relevant offices that was unfruitful, due to that we are forced to call media and inform the situation,” Denise Shihesi, a member of the board said expressing his frustration.

The new scheme will change the existing one month credit petroleum supply that is supplied by the state owned Ethiopian Petroleum Supply Enterprise (EPSE) to cash bases.

Similarly, some oil companies have informed their dealers on the distribution approach which will be on cash base as of the implementation period on the companies from the enterprise.

“We are calling the government to discuss about the issue before the implementation because it would create serious challenges on our operation,” Henok says, adding, “The time is fast approaching, while we are not prepared. We are not against the new cash base system but need more time for preparation and profit margin adjustment that shall fill the cost of access to finance that may be covered by over draft or bank guarantee.”

According to the previous study the association conducted to keep the sector safe, the safe line for profit margin stood at 80 cents or three percent profit margin from the total annual transaction.

They also argued the decision of some oil companies who announced that the full cash based supply will be started as of March 10, while the new scheme has been briefed for oil companies.

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They claimed that the current annual profit is one percent from the total transaction.

They also argued the decision of some oil companies who announced that the full cash based supply will be started as of March 10. “According to the new government decision the cash based supply of oil companies will be applied in different phases that will be concluded in a year’s time; for instance as of March 10, companies will come up with the payment of 25 percent on cash and increased by another 25 percent after three months and the balance continue under similar manner. But companies are informing dealers that they will pay the full amount as of the stated period.”

Ephrem Tesfaye, member of the board at EPDA stated expressing his anger.

Ephrem elaborates that the study that was conducted shows how the sector is affected and poses discouragement of the actors and new entrants. “For instance the study shows that a dealer that has a daily trade of 15,000 liter gains 1.3 million birr gross profit from 133 million birr total transaction per annum, 350,000 birr and 200,000 birr from lubricant and other activities that is a total gross profit of 1.86 million, while their total cost is 2.15 million that shows that they loss 200,000 every year,” he claimed.

They have also argued that the current lubricant business that includes kookas has also been affecting their activity which ought to be controlled by the government.

The association leaders said that they will disclose their decision after discussing with members if the government will not come up with a decision beforehand.

Currently there are 36 oil companies and 800 dealers in the country.

Tadesse Hallieram, CEO of EPSE, recently told Capital that the upcoming arrangement will implicates a tariff change since companies are supposed to come up with cash.

Tadesse said that the new arrangement will improve the enterprise’s cash flow and working capital. “It will also cut the hassle that occurs when companies default to settle their payment on time,” he added.

The petroleum is now being supplied in a month credit but companies’ mainly new entrants abused the system, which forced EPSE to manage the case on legal battle.

The CEO said that the companies that recently joined the market are focused on the credit scheme than operating prudently. “The long existed companies and dominant market players on the sector are loyal and efficient compared with the new comers,” The CEO stated.

From the 36 oil companies only one third of them are loyal to settle the credit on time. Fuels pricing and revisions are made by MoTI on a monthly basis. Lubricants and greases, however, are being directly imported by the oil companies with less margin control unlike petroleum.

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Currency outside . . .

Continued from page 1

the birr, which was also a massive policy arrangement regarding cash management. On its review, the central bank said that its latest policy measures have contributed to the drop of cash outside banks.

“Narrow money supply (M1) exhibited a 5.5 percent annual growth and 7.2 percent quarterly contraction mainly due to the imposition of cash withdrawal limit following the recent demonetization policy measures,” NBE said.

At the stated period, the broad money supply (M2) stood at 1.1 trillion birr at the end of first quarter of 2020/21, showing a 19.2 percent annual expansion owing to 136.0 percent surge in domestic credit despite 9.9 percent decline in external asset 21.3 percent growth in claims on government and 18.6 percent in increase in claims on non-central government were the major driving forces for the expansion in aggregate domestic credit.

The M2 has an increment of 4 percent compared with the preceding quarter, while the quasi-money supply from M2 showed a 26.6 percent annual and 10.8 percent quarterly expansion.

From the total M2 the quasi money, which includes saving and time deposits, share stood at 750.4 billion birr. On the other side the M1, which includes currency outside banks and demand deposits, share from the total 1.1 trillion birr of M2 is 334.6 billion birr.

The M1 has dropped by 7.2 percent because of the contraction of currency circulating outside banks, while the demand deposits from M1 has expanded by 19.6 percent of the same period of last year.

As expected, reserve of banks have also increased by over double due to the later measures taken by NBE on currency holding and demonetization.

According to NBE, excess reserve of commercial banks surged 109.3 percent on annual and 27 percent quarterly basis. “Demonetization measures as well as the NBE directives setting cash holding and cash withdrawal limits have aided commercial banks to significantly increase their deposit mobilization and to improve their liquidity position.”

“Thus, money multiplier, measured by the ratio of broad money to reserve money and narrow money and reserve money declined on both annual and quarterly basis,” NBE explained the success achieved.

The excess reserve of commercial banks as of September 30 has stood at almost 68 billion birr from 32.4 billion birr of a year ago.

Banks despot at NBE has also expanded by 118 percent from September 30, 2020 and reached 137 billion birr from 63 billion birr.

NBE’s quarter review indicated that reserves money currency in circulation has dropped by 11.5 percent compared with the preceding quarter from 140.5 billion birr to 124.4 billion birr, while it has a 0.3 percent a year-on-year increment.

The latest decision of the central bank on massive reforms helps banks to expand aggressively.

“The surge in quasi-money was the result of a successful effort made by banks in expanding their branch network and improving service outreach,” it says. “Moreover, currency demonetization and cash withdrawal limit helped commercial banks to mobilize more fresh deposits.”

The 19 banks operated so far have opened 117 new bank branches during the review period, thereby raising the number of bank branches to 6,628, while more than one third is located at the capital city.

The NBE review shows that total resources mobilized by the banking system (the sum of net change in deposit, loans collected and net change in borrowings) rose by 132.5 percent over last year due to the policy change made by the National Bank of Ethiopia; with respect to ‘Legal Tender Protection Directive’ that restricts cash holding and cash withdrawal limits and demonetization measures that led to result high deposit mobilization in the first quarter of 2020/21.

The banking system resource mobilization has shown drastic change compared with the same period of the preceding year and the previous quarter because of the NBE new laws and demonization.

The review indicated that the deposit mobilization has been expanded by fivefold compared with the 2019/20 first quarter and stood at 105 billion birr, which has also climbed by more than double compared with the last quarter of 2019/20 financial year.

The total resources mobilization that includes loan collection, borrowing and deposits has also increased by 132.5 percent and 25 percent from similar period of last year and preceding quarters respectively and stood at 141 billion birr.

Banks liquidity has also surged by 5.5 fold and 75.4 percent from similar period of last year and preceding quarters respectively that stood 85 billion birr.

The total deposit liability has also expanded by a quarter annual growth rate and reached 1.15 trillion birr. “NBE’s Directives setting daily cash withdrawal and cash holding limits as well as demonetization measures have contributed to such a remarkable performance in deposit mobilization,” NBE amplified by its review.

Demand deposits, which accounted for 33.9 percent of the total deposits, reached 388.3 billion birr showing a 22.1 percent annual increase.

Similarly, saving deposits went up by 31.2 percent to Birr 659 billion and accounted for 57.5 percent of the total deposits. Time deposits, which constituted 8.6 percent of the total deposit liabilities increased by 2.5 percent and reached Birr 99.1 billion.

The share of state owned banks in total deposit was 57.3 percent while that of private banks was 42.7 percent.

MoTI orders brewers to . . .

Continued from page 1

that increased the price have yet to return to the previous rate. The two brewers are the biggest player on the market with different breweries in different corners of the country.

The State Minister indicated that brewers have raised issues related with tax and other factors. “They will get proper response in the coming week,” he said. Currently, there are six beer companies which operate in the country, and most of them are dominated global operators mainly by Europe based companies.

About two weeks ago, brewers have revised the bottled beer tariff by almost 50 birr per crate and 130 birr on a draft keg.

Tsehay Bank, one of the under formation banks, held its first establishment general assembly at Sheraton Hotel last Thursday, February 18. The Bank had received permission from the Central Bank to begin selling shares last year in October 2020.

The organizing committee decided to go for the lowest share sell to be 100,000 birr whilst the highest a shareholder can buy was 100 million birr.

The Bank has amassed almost 735 million birr in paid-up capital from a total of 2.9 billion birr subscribed shares through 373 shareholders.

Tsehay Bank is among around a dozen banks that are currently under formation in the country.
The Addis Ababa City Administration assures that it will support the new cooperative based housing scheme that is facilitated by Gojo Bridge Housing. At the ceremony held at Hyatt Regency Hotel with the presence of Tiratu Beyeene, Addis Ababa City Administration Manager and Deputy Mayor, and other city cabinet members, the project that will be commenced soon has been launched.

The new scheme that Gojo brings has invited landlords to come with their plots voluntarily to develop the property to different size apartments and interested co-builders to come up via housing cooperative to secure houses. Tiratu appreciated the convincing idea that led the city administration to accept the alternative on the housing scheme from the current condo projects lead by the government and private real estate developers.

He echoed that there is a huge mismatch between the demand and supply which is further burdened by mass migration to the city which presents an influx of new and young people.

He reminded that over 600,000 dwellers are saving and waiting for house under the 20/80 and 40/60 condo housing scheme and says that the problem is stretching. Tiratu explained that the issue will not be able to be covered by the government alone and as a result the real estate developers and other companies are expected to bring this project to a success.

“But there are issues on prudency and accountability on the private real estate activity that however should be stopped and will not be the case with this scheme,” he said expressing his hope that the new scheme that Gojo brings will change the dynamism.

According to the Gojo model, the cooperatives that would assign contractors will be responsible for the project that Almaw Gari, General Manager of Gojo Bridge Housing, said will make easy the concern of the city administration and the builders.

The City Manager stressed that the Gojo modality should be inclusive of new technologies that aim to make the projects’ cost effective and finalized in a short period. He emphasized that his government has appreciated the idea and will support the initiative.

The city administration has also appreciated the initiative that will restore the old face of the city with new and modern images in conjunction with the government. Nadew Getahun, Founder and Deputy General Manager of Gojo Bridge Housing, said that in the past two years the company has been in the process to come up with this point. He said that 2,800 landlords and over 2 million square meter of land have been registered for the new development scheme.

He said that the schematic designs have been conducted by five companies and contractors have also been selected that builders will assign.

Almaw said that the project will also have a financial support modality which will take one and half year to realize. He said that so far four banks; Dashen, Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, Awash and Oromia International Bank have agreed to work on the new scheme including providing finance for projects that will be settled by builders under mortgage scheme. Almaw said the model mainly focus on middle and low income part of the society.

Nadew indicated that the project cost will be minimal since the charges that are requested by real estate developers is not applied on this scheme and the interior finishing work will be managed by the house owner itself.

On the new projects, 1,000 houses in four sites that are located in Goro, Bulgaria Embassy, Italy Embassy and Lancia will be constructed, while in the coming five years Gojo expects 100,000 houses to be built.

According to the founder of Gojo one of the best advantages of the new scheme is undertaking projects at the centre of the city, which has been developed on basic infrastructure. Gojo has also designed the rotating money and saving scheme that will be an instrument for the diaspora to save small amounts of money every month for several years which will allow building houses on sharing arrangement. Nadew said that rotating money and saving scheme is common in other countries and will help the country to secure significant amount of foreign currency for decades.
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Ethio-India ties continue to flourish

Demeke Mekonnen, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, accompanied by a high-level delegation, paid an official visit to India from 17 to 19 February 2021, his first visit to Asia after taking over as Foreign Minister in November 2020.

Dr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India, held wide-ranging discussions with the Deputy Prime Minister on Friday 19 February 2021, during which they exchanged views on bilateral, regional and global issues. The External Affairs Minister also hosted the Deputy Prime Minister at lunch.

Earlier, the two Ministers jointly inaugurated the newly-constructed Chancery building and Embassy residence of the Embassy of Ethiopia in New Delhi on 18th February 2021. Demeke highlighted the importance of the India-Ethiopia relationship to note the historical people-to-people, trade, and investment relationship between the two countries that stretches back over many centuries and deeply entwined with the beginning of formal diplomatic relations in 1948. He commended the high-level relationship that exists between the two countries which is manifested through investment, trade, capacity building, and education sectors.

The External Affairs Minister of India addressed the gathering and spoke of the historic ties between India and Ethiopia and the filip that those had received with the exchange of high-level visits over the last few years; he also touched upon the flourishing bilateral trade and investment ties and the growing people to people contacts.

ASSOCHAM, in association with the Embassy of Ethiopia in New Delhi, organized the India-Ethiopia Business Forum on 17th February, 2021 at which investment opportunities in Ethiopia were highlighted by the Ethiopian side and by Indian investors.

Demeke Mekonnen in his address, informed the gathering that the Government of Ethiopia was working on new measures to improve the business environment in Ethiopia. He noted the vibrant engagements of Indian companies in the economic life of Ethiopia serving as the main sources of FDI of the country and creating huge employment opportunities. Noting the current 1.3 billion US dollars’ worth of the trade volume between the two countries, the Deputy Prime Minister also appreciated the commitment of the 30 Indian companies who opted to invest in Ethiopia despite the global challenge posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. He said Ethiopia was working to be Africa’s beacon of prosperity by charting out a 10-year economic development plan where new frontiers of growth, such as the digital economy as well as science and technology are included, among others. The Minister also touched upon the advantage of doing business in Ethiopia stating its strategic positioning in the continent, abundant and trainable workforce, competitive economic incentives, adequate guarantees for investors, and a policy of zero tolerance for corruption.

Shri V. Muraleedharan, Minister of State for External Affairs, attended the Forum and, in his address, invited the business communities to take advantage of the trade and investment opportunities on offer and expressed his satisfaction at the role played by Indian educators in Ethiopia.

During the visit, the two sides signed an Agreement on Mutual Visa Exemption for holders of Diplomatic Passports and a MoU between the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research–Central Leather Research Institute, India and Wollo University, Ethiopia.

Guidance Welfare and Development Association (GWDA)

CALL FOR AUDIT SERVICE

Guidance Welfare and Development Association (GWDA) is a non-political, non-religious, not for profit and non-governmental organization with a registration number 0474 and re-registered as of proclamation number 1113/2019, working on different developmental and humanitarian activities in Ethiopia since 2007.

Guidance welfare and Development Association is inviting a competent Audit service provider for three consecutive years from 2020-2020 of fiscal year January 1st to December 31st.

Therefore, this is kindly to invite competent and professionally Authorized Auditors to submit price quotation for three years accompanied with the following documents so as to participate in the bid for Annual Audit services of the periods mentioned above on or before March 2, 2021.

The Audit Firm should submit the following documents:

1. Professional License
2. Renewed Trade License
3. Should Settled the Gov't Annual Tax
4. Tax Payer Identification Number
5. Renewed License from Federal or Regional Audit Bureau.

Note: The organization nominated for this bid will enter contract for three years.

Due to COVID-19, application can only be accepted through Email address provided below. Competition Result will be sent for all participants on their respective address

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Tel. +251-118688986 E-mail: gwdainfo2007@gmail.com
Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Supply of Personal Prevention Equipment (PPE) and Pharmaceuticals

EOI Number: EOI/01/21

Closing Date: Monday, 08th of March 2021

In response to COVID-19, the United Nations World Food Programme (UNWFP) in Ethiopia is seeking formal Expressions of Interest (EOI) from well-established, fully qualified supplier for supply of high-quality Personal Prevention Equipment (PPE) and Pharmaceuticals. Prospective suppliers must have a minimum of three (3) years’ experience in the line of business.

Description of Requirements

The supplier will be required to supply the following items on long term basis:

A. Personal Prevention Equipment (PPE)

- Surgical Face Masks
- Alcohol Based Hand Sanitizers
- Digital Thermometers
- Disinfectant wipes
- Infra-red thermometers
- Masks for screeners
- Disposable gloves for screeners
- Hand Sanitizer Dispensers
- Hand Sanitizer GEL
- Disposable paper towels
- Face Shield
- Medical Scrub
- Disposable Gown/Apron
- Waterproof boots
- N95/FFP2 mask
- Infrared thermometers
- Face Shield
- Medical Scrub
- Disposable Gown/Apron
- Waterproof boots
- N95/FFP2 mask

B. Pharmaceuticals

- Various Medications
- Medical Equipment

The supplier may supply only PPE or Pharmaceuticals or both.

Required Documents

Interested applicants must provide the following documents:

1. Company’s Confirmation in Writing of Interest to Participate in the Prequalification Process.
2. Filled WFP Registration Form. Please Contact addisababa.procurement@wfp.org to Obtain Copy of the Form.
3. Company Profile listing the products that the company supplies.
4. Valid Business License for the requested services including the second page of the license that has the category of service.
5. Commercial Registration Certificate from the Relevant Authority.
6. VAT Registration Certificate.
7. TIN Certificate
8. Memorandum of Understanding/Article of Association (In case of PLC or SC).
9. Certification from the Ministry of Health (FMHCA/Medicine and Health Care Administration and Health Care Authority) or other relevant authority as required.
10. Two Reference Letters from Clients.
11. Other Relevant Supporting Documents, if any.

WFP will evaluate each application based on the company’s demonstrated experience in the supply of the required items.

Method of Submission of Documents

Vendors who are interested to participate in the prequalification process should express their interest to WFP by e-mail to addisababa.procurement@wfp.org and the registration form indicated above will be sent to them via the same e-mail address. Vendors are required to complete the registration form and hand deliver it together with copies of supporting documents indicated above in a sealed envelope marked as below not later than Monday, 08th of March 2021 to WFP main office in Addis Ababa. Please note that WFP office will be closed at 02:00pm on Fridays.
Adverse impacts of currency devaluation on the Ethiopian construction industry

By Sebagadis Abay Meressa

The construction industry in Ethiopia has been experiencing significant growth in the past two decades, expanding by 16% in 2018 alone, and accounting for 15% of the economy's GDP. However, the Ethiopian currency has also been affected by currency devaluation, which has had significant implications for the construction sector.

A comprehensive research that was carried out in the country revealed that the consequent currency devaluation scheme has placed an individual's susceptibility to NTDs.

A world free of parasitic, bacterial, and viral infections is within reach as long as cross-sector stakeholders are able to rally together to achieve national and global targets aimed at eliminating the scourge of these diseases. In creating such a desirable future, it is critical that an integrated approach is used to treat and prevent NTDs.

Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) – intestinal worms, bilharzia, and lymphatic filariasis; schistosomiasis, trachoma, etc – are among the diseases transmitted by parasitic worm infections. The WHO designates 17 of these diseases, which are known to be highly dependent on the import of various materials from abroad. This phenomenon naturally leads to the prevalence of cost overruns in construction projects, contractual clauses that entitle contractors to compensation for unexpected costs that they may bear during the transmigration of such events. However, in the event of the entailing currency devaluation scheme, there seems to be no interest on the sides of employers to entertain such expeditions even though the applicable contracts indubitably situate them to do so.

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Ethiopia to import new technologies to develop arid areas

An Ethiopian delegation led by Dr Ahmedin Mohammed, State Minister of Innovation and Technology has held discussion with officials of UAE’s Ministry of Climate Change and Environment. During the discussion, the two sides exchanged experiences on the utilization and technology employed by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to develop desert areas. Dr Ahmedin on the occasion said Ethiopia will soon begin to import technologies, manpower and materials needed to start pilot development projects in arid areas. Members of the delegation are drawn from office of the Prime Minister, National Meteorology Agency, Basin Development Authority, INSA and Space Science Society, among others.

Some 75 international organizations granted permit to access Tigray

Ministry of Peace announced that the government of Ethiopia has granted permit to 75 international organizations that have applied to Tigray region through humanitarian engagement. The permission has been granted to international organizations which have fulfilled the criteria set to screen out eligible actors in the humanitarian efforts, the Ministry said. Over the past three months, 75 members of international organizations who have applied for access to the Tigray Regional State have been granted permit to support the humanitarian and rehabilitation process in the region, the Ministry indicated.

Prosperity Party launches manifesto, electoral symbol

President of the ruling Prosperity Party (PP), Abiy Ahmed has launched today the party’s manifesto and electoral symbol for the 6th General Election. The official launching ceremony was held under the theme, “Multinational Fraternity for Mutual Prosperity.” Prosperity Party Main Office Head, Binayl Andamlak expressed PP’s commitment to work in collaboration with all actors to ensure the successful conclusion of the election peacefully and democratically.

PM inaugurates Shambu-Bako road project

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed on Sunday inaugurated the 60.2 kilometre Shambu-Bako asphalt road project. The road project was constructed with an outlay of one billion Birr. The road eases socio-economic activities of people by reducing transportation time and connects different parts in Oromia Regional State. The Premier also launched the construction of a 95 kilometre Shambu-Agamsa concrete asphalt road project.

Political Parties making preparations for general election

A number of parties revealed that they are preparing for the upcoming general election in accordance with the schedule of the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE). The parties also called for the resolution of problems of free movement.

In an exclusive interview with ENA, Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) Provisional Public Relations Head, Betese Urgessa said his party is making preparations for the 5th June 2021 election by coming up with alternative ideas. He further alleged that leaders of his party have been arrested and offices closed in the constituencies where they compete. Prosperity Party (PP) Election Affairs Head, Zadig Abtaha said his party will compete on a level field with competing parties and strive to win the election through the ideas it generates and organizational strength. The people will, of course, decide the winner.

Addis Ababa to launch its first-ever tourism brand

Addis Ababa City is working in partnership with Tourism Ethiopia to launch its first-ever tourism brand in the coming three months.

The brand it intended to enhance promotion of tourism opportunities in the capital, Addis Ababa Culture, Art and Tourism Bureau said.

Bureau Deputy Head Wachamo Petersen stated that the limited promotion of Addis Ababa’s tourism opportunities has remained a factor for the unsatisfactory revenue that is obtained from the sector.

Addis Ababa, a diplomatic seat of African Union, is home to large number of regional, continental and international organizations including the AU, UNECA.

Term of the Day

INFRASTRUCTURE

Definition
The basic physical systems of a country’s or community’s population, including roads, utilities, water, sewage, etc. These systems are considered essential for enabling productivity in the economy. Developing infrastructure often requires large initial investment, but the economies of scale tend to be significant.

Usage Example
Investment in infrastructure, while initially large, produces long term economic benefit to the overall economy of both the local community as well as surrounding business interests.

Open for only LOCAL companies

Topic- UNICEF (Ethiopia) wishes to request eligible bidders to participate in an Invitation to Bid (LITB-2021-9165098) for procurement of School bag canvas 25x35cm, CYAN blue color.

Details of the requirements for this bid and eligibility criteria etc. can be found in the bid document.

Interested and eligible bidders from local companies can get the bid document in the link Any query or clarification with regard to this bid shall be send through an email to supplyaddisababa@unicef.org. Bid clarification will be posted on the same websites mentioned above to all bidders. While sending your request for clarification, please ensure that you specify the LITB number in the subject email, provide the name of the company, contact person, email and mobile number.

The due date for submission of proposals/Bid to UNICEF Ethiopia Office, Addis Ababa is on or before 2:00 pm (East African Time) 3rd March 2021 (Wednesday). Please read the LITB and the annexes for detailed requirements, Eligibility Criteria and due dates.

Please quote the LITB-2021-9165098 in all your correspondences. UNICEF reserves the right to accept or reject part or all of any or all bids.

ADDRESs

UNICEF Ethiopia, UNECA Compound, Zambezi Building, 2nd floor Supply Section,

www.capitalethiopia.com
FREIGHT TRANSPORT SERVICES

Tender Reference #: T-SCI-ET-2021-006

SAVE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL (SCI, Ethiopia) the world’s leading independent non-profit organization for children intends to establish framework agreements for one year with possible extension of additional one year for the provision of Freight Transport Services, particularly Targeted for as a supporting to its operations for transportation of Food commodities from to and between various region in Ethiopia and hereby invites potential service providers to submit a sealed tender in accordance to the Service Details, Instruction to Bidders, and General Terms and Conditions of Purchase as described hereunder:

Minimum requiems:

Eligibility Documents – Valid Business License (E.C. 2013), VAT & Tax Payers’ Certificate

Bid Security in the name of “Save the Children International” amounting to ETB 80,000 in the form of CPO or bank guarantee valid for a period of at least 3 months starting from the date of tender submission must be in a separate envelop on the Original Technical. (Cash and insurance bond are not accepted) and should be presented with separate envelope.

Fleet capacity/standard

A company should have owned vehicles under the name of the bidding company all trucks having compressive insurance coverage all trucks must meet the standards of the road transport Authority

Statement of declaration in compliance to save the children policies.

Terms and conditions:

Price validity period (1) year
Payment terms – 100% after delivery of the services on monthly bases within 21 days up on receipt of request for payment
Delivery period response time –within 2 working days upon a request.

Tender responses: must be accompanied with:

Company profile listing the bidders’ address, branches, structure, resources…etc.
Recommendation letter from similar International organizations
A Filled and signed SCI Price Schedule (Financial Offer).

Potential service providers may obtain the tender documents against payment of a non-refundable amount of ETB 100 from SCI offices in Addis Ababa, Offices from February 22, 2021 up to March 12, 2021 during working hours.

Tenders must be submitted in sealed envelopes, one original Technical, one original Financial and two copies, one for Financial and another one for Technical Separately, bearing an official company seal, and clearly marked by the “bidders’ name, address, and the tender reference number and title as stated above. Tenders must be submitted in the bid box prepared for the purpose at SCI offices in Addis Ababa, on March 15, 2021 on or before 2:00PM.

Bids will be opened on March 16, 2021 at 2:00PM at SCI Office in the Country Office, Addis Ababa, by the Tender Committee. SCI reserves the right to accept or reject this bid, in partial, or in its entirety.
Yes! New advanced batteries are already in the market? Capital: These batteries are already reaching out than a decade of life. However, I believe that no single but, regardless of their type and application we expect slow charging time, low cycle life and low energy, batteries. The current, lithium-ion batteries suffer from in electric vehicles which are powered exclusively by batteries. Yes, the durability and speed of charging are both and leading innovators which will help me to become and environmentally friendly and safe. I believe that over time advanced battery will eventually replace some, if not all, current commercial rechargeable Li-ion batteries. My research project mainly focuses on enabling the use of silicon electrode as an alternative to graphite electrode in Li-ion batteries. I would like to make clear what is the major gap of the current existing lithium-ion battery. Most commercial lithium-ion batteries are based on graphite anode electrode, which has a maximum attainable capacity of 372 mAh/g. Hence, graphite fails to meet future demands of the optimal capacity of 1000 mAh/g. In this regard, silicon stands as one of the most outstanding options, with a theoretical capacity close to 4000 mAh/g, more than 10 times higher capacity than graphite. Therefore, converting from graphite to silicon-based electrode can significantly increase the energy density of batteries. In addition, silicon is highly abundant and environmentally friendly. However, large volume change of silicon during charging and discharging process remains the major challenge in commercialization of lithium-ion battery. Therefore, researchers in this area, including my research, aim at designing electrode integrity and increase battery life. Capital: You were one those who were selected from Ethiopia by the Next Einstein Forum that offer opportunities for mentorship and collaborations with established researchers. Can you explain how you will benefit from this? Andebet Gedamu: You are right! I am the Next Einstein Forum Ambassador, representing Ethiopia for two years until the end of 2021. Like other African scientists, one of the challenges in my career is lack of research funding and collaboration. To this end, NEF helped me to connect with leading scientists and make collaborations and networks with other NEF members and other renowned scientists. In addition, NEF creates several platforms to present my work at global level and thereby gain global visibility to my research outputs. It also creates chances to meet successful African scientist and leading innovators which will help me to become acquainted with how to tackle the real challenges that hamper to conduct research. As a young scholar and researcher, I am challenged with the way how my research outputs to a level of end-user products. In this regard, NEF creates an opportunity to communicate with industries, product developers and other stakeholders. Capital: What do you think the future of battery technology will be? Andebet Gedamu: In fact, the answer for this question is not as such simple, as it depends on a range of factors, from the speed of innovation to the ability to reduce costs of the new technologies. But, as there is a high expansion of smartphones, computers, tablets, electric vehicles, flexible and wearable electronic devices and other portable electronic equipments there is a growing demand for high-performance rechargeable batteries for these devices. There are still significant challenges to implementing new battery materials, such as silicon which I mentioned earlier and high-voltage cathodes. If both changes can be made, I think, we could see batteries with better mechanical and electrochemical properties in the market within a couple of years. For instance, leading automobile manufacturers, including General Motors, Ford, Toyota, Nissan, Honda, and Tesla, are actively engaged in the design and development of Electric and Hybrid Vehicles and established giga factories to produce high-capacity, reliable batteries, hinting that a future switch for EVs could soon take place. Overall, I would say the future of battery technology would be very exciting and bright. Capital: How can Africa benefit from this technology? Andebet Gedamu: Africa’s population is increasing very rapidly. Concurrently, the need for portable electronic devices and electric vehicles is growing rapidly in the continent. In this regard, next-generation batteries are expected to promote the sustainable development of the society. Africa has huge potential for solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal power, and other sustainable energy sources. Thus, highly reliable and well-designed stationary batteries with higher energy, better change-discharge cycle and durability characteristics are needed to ensure electricity from these renewables can be stored for use when the wind isn’t blowing or the sun shining. In addition, Africa is rich in resources. For example, cobalt, one of the key elements for battery making, is in the Democratic Republic of Congo with more than half of global supply. However, as the rest of the world is heading to new green energy storage systems, I am afraid Africa will be dumping ground for the existing old batteries unless researchers, industries, product developers and other stakeholders are engaged to developing new energy storage systems.
FAMILY GUIDANCE ASSOCIATION OF ETHIOPIA
Bid re-announcement for Conducting Feasibility Study and Develop a bundle of Business Plans for establishing “Private for Public-Business wing”- of FGAE

The Family Guidance Association of Ethiopia (FGAE) is an Ethiopian Resident Charity Organization playing pivotal role in the introduction and expansion of family planning and other sexual and reproductive health services in Ethiopia. It has been contributing to the national effort to meet the high unmet need in the country for over half a century since 1966.

Although FGAE has been providing SRH/FP services for half a century, current evidence depicts that FGAE’s funding portfolio is heavily donor dependent i.e the financial and institutional sustainability is among the major challenges to FGAE. Some efforts have been made to generate local income from service fees, drug sales and trainings. But the income generated so far is very minimal.

To put FGAE on track for achieving greater self sufficiency and enhance sustainability it needs to conduct detailed analysis of local income generation opportunities of its current revenue streams and conduct Feasibility Study so as to develop viable bundle of Social Enterprise Business plans.

To this end, FGAE has developed a ToR to procure a Consultancy service for Conducting Feasibility Study and Develop a bundle of Business Plans for establishing “Private for Public-Business wing”- of FGAE social enterprises:-

1. FGAE Model Medium Clinics,
2. FGAE Community Pharmaceutical Retail Outlets, and
3. SRH Training Institute and Special Services.

The assignment requires interested and legally registered consultancy firms (VAT registered, with tax payer’s identification number and with renewed license); with at least five years’ proven experience in conducting market assessment and developing business plans, Consultancy firms applying for the assignment are expected to have a team with a professional mix of qualified and experienced experts in the following fields of study: MBA/MA/MSc/MPH/ in Business Administration, Management, Economics, Finance and Accounts, Pharmaceutics, Public Health, Health Facility Management, Curriculum development, M&E and related fields who have experience on Health related Business plan development.

The consulting firm should include only those experts and professionals who will be available during the consultancy assignment. Each expert has to have at least three years practical experience in his/her prior engagement in similar assignments. Interested consultancy firms are expected to submit their technical and financial proposals in separately sealed and waxed envelopes within 15 calendar days starting 21/02/2021 the date of announcement of this bid.

Collection of TOR & Submission of Bid Document:

1) All bidders are required to submit separate technical and financial proposals (one copy one original for each) in separately sealed and stamped envelopes at FGAE, Head Office (Addis Ababa) on or before March 8, 2021 at 12:30 (Lunch time). Bid proposal shall be accompanied by a separately sealed bid security of 1% of the bid amount in the form of CPO or bank guarantee.

2) All documents with regard to firm’s profile, team composition and CV of individual team members, copy of license and taxpayers registration documents shall be attached to the technical proposal; CPO must also be attached in the technical proposal in a separately sealed envelope. Technical evaluation will take 60% while financial evaluation is accounted to 40%.

3) Bid document shall be deposited to the box provided for this purpose at the address mentioned below.

4) The bid will be opened on March 8, 2021 at 2:00 PM (After lunch) at FGAE Head Office Hall (Addis Ababa) in front of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend the opening. FGAE reserves the right to partially or fully cancel the bid.

Requirement

Applicants are required to fulfill the following minimum requirement:

- They should be legally registered and shall present renewed trade license;
- They should have VAT and TIN registration certificate;
- They should be able to provide organizational profile and the CVs of individuals who are going to take part in this consultancy service;
- They should demonstrate proven experience in facilitating, conducting market assessment and developing business plans and producing report;
- They should have a mix of expertise from MBA/MA/MSc/MPH/ in Business Administration, Management, Economics, Finance and Accounts, Pharmaceutics, Public Health.

To this effect, FGAE would like to invite potential bidders/ firm, with extensive and experience for consultancy service stated above and interested bidders can collect the TOR prepared for this purpose at a non-returnable fee of Birr one hundred (100.00) at FGAE main office located at the address below.

CONTACT ADDRESS

For any information, doubts, bidding document purchase, Bid delivery and opening
Family Guidance Association of Ethiopia (FGAE), Head Office Debre Zeit Road, Meskerem Mazoria (Ritchie Area)
3rd floor Room No. 303 Tel. 251 (11) 467 2216, or 251 (11) 467 2300 (for any information, compliant, or doubts)
P.O. Box 5716, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia All Tenders are also available at www.fgae.org
SMOOTH AND REFRESHING TASTE

There’s a solid reason why we are confident and proud about our beer - it’s because we use 100% pure malted barley. It gives our beer a superior smooth taste and a refreshing feeling.

We invite you to taste the new height of Walia beer, it causes no headache, no heartburn, no discomfort.

Only absolute delight in the pure taste of the highest quality beer. Walia beer with new height of taste and new look.

100% malted barley,
100% quality
100% natural ingredients
Walia unites us with enthusiasm and a big smile.
Come join us, on the new height of taste
NEW
HEIGHT OF TASTE
Brewed With 100% Pure Malted Barley
The AfCFTA secretary general talks to The Africa Report about the continental trade bloc’s January launch, forging value chains and diplomatic challenges ahead.

Now that Africa’s much-vaunted free trade area has launched on 1 January, there will be big fanfare and even bigger pressure mounting for South Africa’s Wamkele Mene to make it a success.

Building up the continent’s interconnections and market of more than 1 billion people is being touted as a means to fight poverty, bring development and reduce the continent’s dependence on fickle foreign markets.

Mene, elected secretary general of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in February 2020, tells The Africa Report: “I don’t want anybody to be under the illusion this is going to be easy. It’s going to be difficult, but we’ve got to do it.”

Africa’s over-reliance on exporting primary commodities is detrimental to its economic development and undermines its ambition for greater integration.

As Mene puts it, this “keeps Africa trapped in [a] colonial model of economic trajectory”. But, in dealing with trade and economy ministers from all over the continent, he says he sees a lot of goodwill.

“Everybody wants [to see] Africa industrialising. Everybody wants to see a digital economy on the continent. Everybody wants to see the continent leapfrogging into the Fourth Industrial Revolution,” Mene says.

This will take reducing barriers to trade and eliminating non-tariff barriers and barriers to intra-Africa investment.

All of that, he says, requires the economic actors on the continent to take a holistic view of the trade ecosystem.

Mene explains: “We have to reconfigure Africa’s supply chain. We have to reconfigure and relook into how we establish a continent [... in a way that [makes us] more self-sufficient as a continent.”

During his nomination, Mene got a taste of the diplomatic skills required to make a continent-wide institution work and the role of competing national interests.

Nigeria is one of the most reluctant countries to take part in the AfCFTA; President Muhammadu Buhari has closed the country’s western borders to encourage more domestic rice production and fight smuggling.

Abuja rejected an expert panel’s report that Mene, with years of working on trade for the South African government, was the most qualified for the job. And this despite Mene winning a two-thirds majority when “We talk about trade creating opportunities for people – and when we talk about trade as an instrument for development – that’s what I’ve seen,” he says, recalling his experiences growing up in the township of KwaNobuhle.

The settlement is on the outskirts of Uitenhage in Eastern Cape, a place well-known as the home of a Volkswagen vehicle assembly plant. Mene has personal experience of how trade deals can affect a small-town community.

A new world view

“When Volkswagen started exporting to the US under the African Growth and Opportunity Act, there were almost 1,000 people who were taken from my township to go to Germany to train for the production of the new vehicles. I saw how trade can transform people’s lives. People came back with new skills. People came back with a new world view. People came back and they were able to be part of a global value chain – not just a regional value chain,” says Mene.

Trade has been Mene’s professional domain for most of his adult working life. The exception is the three or so years he spent working at a law firm. Mene cut his teeth at the department of trade and industry in South Africa and the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in Geneva, Switzerland, where he represented his country and performed ambassadorial duties.

“I’ve been in trade law, trade policy, [and] trade negotiations for a long time. I would say that [having spent] time at the WTO – about six years – I now know the rules of the game. I’ve seen how trade can transform people’s lives.”

Trade deal President Kenyatta has also sought to dispel fears that the ongoing trade talks between Kenya and the US would undermine the AfCFTA. He says Kenya’s trade deal with the US will assist the continent more broadly by creating a reference upon which other AfCFTA acceding countries can base their bilateral arrangements within the AfCFTA framework going forward.

“Beyond its economic importance, AfCFTA has the potential to accelerate continental integration efforts by promoting people-to-people interactions through trade,” said President Uhuru when he met Mr Mene at Sagana State Lodge in Nyeri County in central Kenya on Wednesday.

Since AfCFTA’s commencement on January 1, tariffs on 90 per cent of lines are in the process of being eliminated for the next 10 years for other African countries, and for least developed countries it will be over a 15-year period.

On trade in services, the African Union Assembly directed that all outstanding issues on Phase I – trade in goods and trade in services – be completed by June 2021.

Negotiations in investment, competition, intellectual property, e-commerce and tourism will have to be ‘Made in Africa’ in order to benefit from the AfCFTA.

Countries with infant industries do not want a neighbour to be able to import a Chinese T-shirt and sew a stripe on it to call it African.

But supply chains are not yet set up to deliver Beninse cotton to the textile factories of Lesotho or Mauritius. So there are more or less 3½ years’ worth of time to get over this finish line and to plot out workable measures for each stage of the AfCFTA’s growth and development.

AfCFTA States Terms for Members in Other Pacts

African countries negotiating free trade agreements with parties from other parts of the world will be required to grant the same preferences or better terms to African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) member states.

The AfCFTA Secretary General Wamkele Keabetswe Mene, referring to Kenya, which is currently negotiating a free trade agreement with the US, said the same preferences granted to America should be given to other African states.

“African countries negotiating free trade agreements with parties from other parts of the world will be required to give the same preferences or better terms to African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) member states. Kenya is currently negotiating a free trade agreement with the US, which has the same preferences granted to America should be given to other African states,” Mene said.

Mr Mene said the matter was discussed and the rule was agreed upon at the Heads of State summit that met in July 2019.

He added that during the 2019 AfCFTA summit, Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta discussed the US agreement with African leaders, who had no objection to it.

The settlement is on the outskirts of Uitenhage in Eastern Cape, a place well-known as the home of a Volkswagen vehicle assembly plant. Mene has personal experience of how trade deals can affect a small-town community.

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On trade in services, the African Union Assembly approved investment priority sectors - business, communication, financial, tourism and travel-related services and transport.

The AfCFTA Secretariat has received 34 initial offers and a number of requests from state parties. In December 2020, the 13th Extraordinary Session of the African Union Assembly directed that all outstanding issues on Phase I – trade in goods and trade in services – be completed by June 2021.

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But supply chains are not yet set up to deliver Beninse cotton to the textile factories of Lesotho or Mauritius. So there are more or less 3½ years’ worth of time to get over this finish line and to plot out workable measures for each stage of the AfCFTA’s growth and development.
History is made: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala chosen as Director-General

World Trade Organization (WTO) members made history today (15 February) when the General Council agreed by consensus to select Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala of Nigeria as the organization’s seventh Director-General. When she takes office on 1 March, Dr Okonjo-Iweala will become the first woman and the first African to be chosen as Director-General. Her term, renewable, will expire on 31 August 2025.

“This is a very significant moment for the WTO. On behalf of the General Council, I extend our warmest congratulations to Dr Ngosi Okonjo-Iweala on her appointment as the WTO’s next Director-General and formally welcome her to this General Council meeting,” said General Council Chair David Walker of New Zealand who, together with co-facilitators Amb. Dacio Castillo (Honduras) and Amb. Harald Aspelund (Iceland) led the nine-month DG selection process.

“Dr Ngosi, on behalf of all members I wish to sincerely thank you for your graciousness in these exceptional months, and for your patience. We look forward to collaborating closely with you, Dr Ngosi, and I am certain that all members will work with you constructively during your tenure as Director-General to shape the future of this organization,” he added.

Dr Okonjo-Iweala said a key priority for her would be to work with governments to quickly address the economic and health consequences brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“I am honored to have been selected by WTO members as WTO Director-General,” said Dr Okonjo-Iweala. “A strong WTO is vital if we are to recover fully and rapidly from the devastation wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic. I look forward to working with members to shape and implement the policy responses we need to get the global economy going again. Our organization faces a great many challenges but working together we can collectively make the WTO stronger, more agile and better adapted to the realities of today.”

The General Council decision follows months of uncertainty which arose when the United States initially refused to join the consensus around Dr Okonjo-Iweala and threw its support behind Trade Minister Yoo Myung-hee of the Republic of Korea. But following Ms Yoo’s decision on 5 February to withdraw her candidacy, the administration of newly elected US President Joseph R. Biden Jr. dropped the US objection and announced instead that Washington extends its “strong support” to the candidacy of Dr Okonjo-Iweala.

Amb. Walker extended his thanks to all eight of the candidates who participated in the selection process and particularly to Ms Yoo “for her ongoing commitment to and support for the multilateral trading system and for the WTO”.

The General Council agreed on 31 July that there would be three stages of consultations held over a two-month period commencing 7 September. During these confidential consultations, the field of candidates was narrowed from nine to five and then two. On 28 October, General Council Chair David Walker of New Zealand had informed members that based on consultations with all delegations Dr Okonjo-Iweala was best poised to attain consensus of the 164 WTO members and that she had the deepest and the broadest support among the membership. At that meeting, the United States was the only WTO member which said it could not join the consensus.

The consultation process undertaken by the chair and facilitators was established through guidelines agreed by all WTO members in a 2002 General Council decision. These guidelines spelled out the key criteria in determining the candidate best positioned to gain consensus is the “breadth of support” each candidate receives from the members. During the DG selection processes of 2005 and 2013, breadth of support was defined as “the distribution of preferences across geographic regions and among the categories of members generally recognized in WTO provisions: that is (Least developed countries), developing countries and countries and developing countries”. This same process, agreed by all members in the General Council in 2020, was strictly followed by Chair Walker and his colleagues throughout the 2020-21 DG selection process.

The process for selecting a new Director-General was triggered on 14 May when former Director-General Mr Roberto Azevêdo informed WTO members he would be stepping down from his post one year before the expiry of his mandate. He subsequently left office on 31 August, 2021.

PACCI is the lead business organization with members in over 50 countries of the continent representing the interests of businesses and industry associations of every size and sector. PACCI operates as Africa’s voice of business, advocating for pro-business policies that create jobs, growth and prosperity.

IN THE NEWS

History is made: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala chosen as Director-General

History

TENDER TITEL: Invitation to Tyre Supplies

Tender Reference #: T-SCI-ET-2021-007

SAVE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL the world’s leading independent non-profit organization for children intends to establish fixed price frame work contract agreement for tyre suppliers. Thus, SCI would like to invite competent Manufacturer & wholesaler which may fulfill the minimum requirements to enter one-year contract Agreement. Interested Potential Manufacturer & wholesaler may obtain the tender documents against payment of non-refundable ETB 100 Birr from Save the Children International Country Office, Addis Ababa from February 22, 2021 up to March 12, 2021 during working hours from the following Address:

Save the Children, Ethiopia Country Office, Addis Ababa
Near Bisrate Gabriel Church, Supply Chain | Procurement Office
Tel # 0113 728455/61

Tenders submitted must be accompanied with:

- Valid business License 2013 E.C.
- Company profile
- Duty filled, signed and stamped technical proposal
- Duty filled, signed and stamped Financial proposal
- Save the children Master Terms and Conditions only signed and stamped.
- Tenders must be submitted in four (4) sealed envelopes, bearing the bidder’s official seal, and clearly marked Technical “Original & Copy” and Financial “Original & Copy” must include the bidders’ name, and contact address, as well as the Tender title and Tender Reference number.

Tenders must be submitted in the bid box prepared for this purpose at Save the Children, Ethiopia Country Office on March 15, 2021 on or before 2:00 PM.

Save the Children Committee will open tender responses on March 16, 2021 at its own discretion.

Save the Children reserves the right to accept or reject this bid, in partial, or in its entirety.

Save the Children

www.capitalethiopia.com
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AWASH MELKASA

MOJO
GELAN

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The African Union has declared 2021 the year of “Arts, Culture and Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa We Want.” Well done! However, African artists have not waited for anyone, any country or any institution to recognize or support their efforts, in line with the theme. Ethiopian artists amongst artists on the continent have had to fend for themselves, and during Covid19, and during 2020 when 99% of the world experienced serious financial hardship. These conditions have not deterred artists from finding new media, fresh narratives and innovative spaces to share their work. Moa Anbessa Art Studio Gallery is just one of these spaces. Located in Kazanches, the center of Addis, Artist Prince Merid Tafesse has decided to open his family home of over 35 years to the public for the purpose of sharing his art, ideas and creativity. Full disclaimer: I am married to Prince Merid and gave great consideration as to how to write a piece about the avantgarde artist and his decision to open his very private life to the public, without partiality. Problem is I am very partial to art and role it plays in our society; evidenced by this very weekly column.

There are a handful of galleries and art spaces in Addis Abeba which contribute in many ways to the development of the country. In alphabetical order, to name a few, Addis Ababa Museum, Addis Fine Art Gallery, Gebre Kristos Desta Modern Art Museum, Guaramayne Art Center, Lela Gallery, Latio Gallery, Oda Modern Art Sculpture Space, Si George Gallery and Zoma Museum. Being obviously biased to art and spaces where people can gather and have important exchanges on the relevance and analysis of social, spiritual, cultural, even political ideas; I am thrilled that Moa Anbessa Art Studio Gallery and Zoma Museum. 

The concept of a studio gallery is showcasing art, propped up on walls or government. They will catch up. Poet Merid’s “favorite female artist” Selome Muleta visited Moa Anbessa, the two discussed the shortage of space and thus limited options for exhibitions. They elaborated on the need for art lovers and buyers to experience the artists’ domain...where they live, eat, create. This may not be a novel idea however it does require some effort beyond showcasing art, propped up on walls which sit on the heavily paint encrusted floors. The concept of a studio gallery is about strong and focused artists curating a section of even the smallest space and inviting art connoisseurs, collectors, media and more to showcase and sell art work. Additionally, the studio gallery can be offered to young artists for pop ups as they rarely get a chance to exhibit in their first few years. Unleashing the power and potential of artists is essential to the shaping of tomorrow’s Ethiopia and there is no better way than in galleries with or government. They will catch up. Poet Lenn Sissay says, “I think I’ll paint rooms on my front room walls to convince myself that I’m going places.” Likewise, may artists be surrounded by curated spaces that remind them they are not just producers of paintings but visual authors of our dreams, hopes and aspirations.

Dr. Desta Meghio is a Jamaican born Creative Consultant, Curator and cultural promoter based in Ethiopia since 2005. She also serves as Liaison to the AU for the Ghana based, Diaspora African Forum. www.capitalethiopia.com

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)**

This notice is placed on behalf of UNECA. You are therefore requested to direct all your queries to United Nations Economic Commission for Africa using email or the fax number provided below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the EOI:</th>
<th>Procurement of two AC Split Units for Central UPS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date of this EOI:</td>
<td>17 February 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Date for Receipt of EOI:</td>
<td>02 March 2021</td>
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<td>EOI Number:</td>
<td>EOIJNECA18187</td>
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**DESCRIPTION OF REQUIREMENTS**

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia hereby seeks suitable supplier with valid license to express their interest for the supply of two AC split units for central UPS room at Niger Building.

Interested firms will be invited to the tender by “Request for Quotation” (RFQ) at a later stage. The detailed specifications will be contained in the RFQ Bid document.

Please note that the UNECA is precluded from entering into contract with a firm that is not fully registered with UNGM. Those interested in responding to this invitation but not currently fully registered as vendors with UNGM, are encouraged to register before submission of the bid. Further details may be obtained by visiting https://www. ungm.org/Vendor/Registration. In order to be eligible for UN Registration, please make sure to declare in writing the Prerequisite for Eligibility criteria itemized from A-F as contained in EOI instruction attached.

Those interested should write to the above-mentioned e-mail address to submit their “expression of interest” by the deadline of 02 March 2021.

Vendors interested in participating in the planned solicitation process should complete the Vendor Response Form (https://www.un.org/Depts/ptd/sites/ www.un.org.Depts.ptd/files/pdf/eoi18187.pdf) of this EOI email it to engidaweldetsadik@un.org; zewdea@ un.org before the closing date set forth above.
South African Jazz 'Giant'
Jonas Gwangwa Dies Aged 83

South Africa jazz trombonist and composer Jonas Gwangwa, whose music powered the anti-apartheid struggle, died aged 83 on January 23.

South Africa President Cyril Ramaphosa led the tributes to the legendary musician who was nominated for an Oscar for the theme song of the 1987 film "Cry Freedom."

"A giant of our revolutionary cultural movement and our democratic creative industries has been called to rest," Ramaphosa said.

"The trombone that boomed with boldness and bravery, and equally warmed our hearts with mellow melody has lost its life force," the president added.

There were no immediate details on how or where Gwangwa died.

He passed away on the third anniversary of the death of the "father of South African jazz" Hugh Masekela and the second anniversary of the death of Zimbabwean musical legend Oliver Mtukudzi. January 23 had become "the day music died," the South African and other media outlets said.

Gwangwa was born in October 1937 in Soweto and went on to have a career spanning 40 years.

"He delighted audiences in Sophiatown until it became illegal for black people to congregate and South African musicians were jailed merely for practicing their craft," the presidency's statement said.

He was awarded the Order of Ikhamanga, South Africa's highest national award presented for achievements in art and culture, in 2010.

The award recognized his work as composer, arranger and musical director of the Amandla Cultural Ensemble, a cultural group formed by activists from the African National Congress in the 1970s.
The Mouse Impersonating a Lion

By The Queen of Sheba

Pundits, armchair analysts, paid operatives, compromised journalists and media houses are having a field day blasting journalists and media houses paid operatives, compromised undits, armchair analysts, and cowardly slaughtering the national army in their sleep. This triggered a fantastic and thunderous response that ended up consuming the plotters. This remains the undisputed narrative openly and officially acknowledged both by the victors and the vanquished alike.

This treasonous act was expressly and promptly condemned by a number of powerful entities including the former US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. The small country, Djibouti, awarded US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. The Emperor of Rwanda, who now ranking former intelligence chief, Patrick Karegeya, in South Africa which ensued a-dozen countries. It was also accused of a-dozen countries trying to help in dealing with the matter. "It is still just within the country itself of the continent involving more than half-a-dozen countries. It was also accused of..."

Seven of the continent's biggest states have already seen a barbaric one. The second motive, I have conjectured, is that this Emperor who has no clothes, the majority over the minority remains an inevitable at times with catastrophic consequences as genocides. And Rwanda has already seen a barbaric one.

"It is still just within the country itself of the continent involving more than half-a-dozen countries. It was also accused of..."

Africa has been engaged primarily. "It is still just within the country itself of the continent involving more than half-a-dozen countries. It was also accused of..."


"African Solutions to African Problems: Really?"

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Sudoku
The game is easy, the rules are simple. All you have to do is make sure you fill every 3x3 box every row and every column, without repetition, using the number 1-9.

JUDAS AND THE BLACK MESSIAH

FBI informant William O’Neal (LaKeith Stanfield) infiltrates the Illinois Black Panther Party and is tasked with keeping tabs on their charismatic leader, Chairman Fred Hampton (Daniel Kaluuya). A career thief, O’Neal revels in the danger of manipulating both his comrades and his handler, Special Agent Roy Mitchell (Jesse Plemons). Hampton’s political prowess grows just as he’s falling in love with fellow revolutionary Deborah Johnson (Dominique Fishback). Meanwhile, a battle wages for O’Neal’s soul. Will he align with the forces of good? Or subdue Hampton and The Panthers by any means, as FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover (Martin Sheen) commands?
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1 "Large" nickname for Dallas 38 See 36 Across
5 Curve of the foot 42 Overly intense
9 Concert's sound booth; for short 44 Price labels
12 Off-script remark 45 __ Sketch (drawing toy)
14 Small stores selling sandwiches 47 Totally silly
16 Pine and oak 48 __ Arial (Microsoft nation)
17 Shadow of sleep 50 Zest
18 Band's large safe 53 Multinationalized heat warmers
19 Gorilla or chimp 60 Pay for a golf ball
20 Plugged-in bedding 61 Fairy tale princess
21 Disney World 63 Chick up
23 __ Wild estimate 65 Thick, as fog
25 Fire department leader 66 __ in "Save"
28 Bread that's browned 67 Snow vehicle
31 Navy or sailor 68 Requirement
32 Bible or dictionary 36 With 38 Across, thick-fabric sleepwear
33 Highest poker card

DOWN
1 With no decoration 33 Prayer-ending word
2 Revealed celebrity 34 Give a hoot
3 Sticky stuff for scrapbooking 35 Suppository soft
36 And so on; uh-huh 37 And so on; uh-huh
39 Made sounds with a key ring 40 Pie...mode
41 __ Sketch (drawing toy) 43 Graceful antelope
42 On-screen remark 45 University Web address ending
43 Equity in a mutual fund 46 Leaves slightly
44 Common suffix for verbs 47 Common suffix for verbs
45 __ It's the end of... 48 Locations
46 __ It's the end of... 49 "Let's__...
50 __ It's the end of...
50 __ People downloading apps
52 Louped around 52 ___ and crafts
53 Hammer or screwdriver 53 Hammer or screwdriver
54 Large plow-pulling beasts 55 What a grape grows on
55 Large plow-pulling beasts 56 "So what__is new?"
56 Large plow-pulling beasts 57 Edible sunflower bit
57 Edible sunflower bit 58 Edible sunflower bit
58indicating that social networking sites could help you. Activity in your social zone may
58indicating that social networking sites could help you. Activity in your social zone may
59 Edible sunflower bit 60 Peg for a golf ball
60 Peg for a golf ball 61 Fairy tale princess
61 Fairy tale princess 62 Banish
62 Banish 63 Chick up
63 Chick up 64 __ Sketch (drawing toy)
64 __ Sketch (drawing toy) 65 Thick, as fog
65 Thick, as fog 66 __ in "Save"
66 __ in "Save" 67 Snow vehicle
67 Snow vehicle 68 Requirement
68 Requirement 36 With 38 Across, thick-fabric sleepwear
38 See 36 Across

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Aries
The Universe is encouraging you to think about merging your skills and resources with someone else to give you more options. This is the perfect time to ask for a loan to fund a major project. You're in a very businesslike mood and ready to negotiate a deal that works in your favor. Your creativity is at a peak, so use it! Expect an out-all-war to break out. If things have been running smoothly, do very well. But make sure your moneymaking ideas. The cosmos will indicate that social networking sites could help you. Activity in your social zone may

Cancer
You're going to be busy finding new markets and coming up with fresh moneymaking ideas. The cosmos will be a real help if you're about to launch a new product or service. You're at just the right time to catapult to success. This period may coincide with meetings and discussions at work. If you're out of work, this is a great time to apply for something new. Sensitive mind does not operate well during times of difficult stress. The struggle for your day will be getting your own dreams to life. Your family might criticize your latest experience level. Don't allow doubts to creep in and spoil your confidence. Let go of those negative thoughts and show everyone what a genius you really are. The Universe will encourage you to play around with new ideas and get vital feedback. The cosmic energy will create great upheaval in your work. Whatever your business ideas, this is a great time to get the word out if you're in the right place at the right time. This period is excellent for making the most of a lucky break that could increase your earnings quite a bit if you use your creative genius. Step outside your comfort zone. This is a time for you to relax. Be lazy for a change and let someone else do all the hard work.

Leo
You may find yourself in a tight situation doing some detective work. You should find it easy to locate and correct any problems. A business partner may have a great opportunity for you that could turn out to pay off well. If it feels right, go for it. This is a good time for in-depth brainstorming. Your intuitive mind has a chance to call the shots.

Libra
You're beginning to realize that you have more ability and determination than others give you credit for. It's time to take yourself seriously by working on a strategy that will bring your dreams to life. Your family might criticize your latest experience level. Don't allow doubts to creep in and spoil your confidence. Let go of those negative thoughts and show everyone what a genius you really are. The Universe will encourage you to play around with new ideas and get vital feedback. The cosmic energy will create great upheaval in your work.

Scorpio
Whatever your business ideas, this is a great time to get the word out if you're in the right place at the right time. This period is excellent for making the most of a lucky break that could increase your earnings quite a bit if you use your creative genius. Step outside your comfort zone. This is a time for you to relax. Be lazy for a change and let someone else do all the hard work.

Sagittarius
If you run a business online, you should do very well. But make sure your virus protection software is up to date. Hackers couldn't find a way into your system and ruin your hard work if you aren't careful. It pays to keep your defenses strong. Activity in your social zone indicates that social networking sites could help you. You have the perfect amount of ambition and courage, combined with good.

Aquarius
You've never been more serious about going back to college to get further certification. You're beginning to see how it could help you get the kind of career you want. There is a focus on your career zone, so you may be looking for a new job, attending interviews, and reflecting on where to go next. If you need publicity, this is a good time to get it. When you try to appeal to one group, you will only succeed in alienating another.

Capricorn
You're willing to put a lot of effort into your career success. The only problem you may face is that you want it so badly you could inhale your own program. You'll be working a lot harder now. Be willing to give 110 percent to get where you want to be. Drop the many expectations you put on yourself that burden you unnecessarily. The struggle for your day will be getting your own dreams to life. Your family might criticize your latest experience level. Don't allow doubts to creep in and spoil your confidence. Let go of those negative thoughts and show everyone what a genius you really are. The Universe will encourage you to play around with new ideas and get vital feedback. The cosmic energy will create great upheaval in your work.

Pisces
Aim for the impossible, even though you may not get there. The cosmos is smiling on you now, and you may get lucky. If you have an online business, it's essential that you take a look at your numbers and learn from them. You may be able to attract more visitors by tweaking your defenses strong. Activity in your social zone indicates that social networking sites could help you. You have the perfect amount of ambition and courage, combined with good.
WHO signs grant agreement with Canada on maintaining essential health services in the context of COVID-19

The World Health Organization and Canada signed an agreement to ensure functional health services in the context of COVID-19 in Ethiopia. Through this agreement, Canada will provide WHO a grant amounting to $9.9 million Canadian dollars to strengthen the primary health care capacity to deliver essential health services, particularly for women, girls and vulnerable populations, while maintaining an effective response to COVID-19 to avoid additional preventable sickness and death among the Ethiopian population.

The WHO Representative to Ethiopia, Dr. Bouraine Hama Samba, thanked Canada for the available funding to support continuity of essential health services. He said: “The grant will not only strengthen the provision of quality, gender-responsive essential health services at primary care level but also boost health system resilience by building the capacity of regional and city health authorities to deal with current and future crises.”

This grant will benefit approximately 6.5 million Ethiopians in need, of which 50% are expected to be women. The remaining population are indirect beneficiaries, benefitting from the efforts to strengthen both the federal and regional health systems, with a focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) services.

AAAM and Afreximbank sign MoU to drive Automotive Investment in Africa

The African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) and the African Association of Automotive Manufacturers (AAAM) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the financing and promotion of the automotive industry in Africa. Prof. Benedict Oramah, President of Afreximbank and Mike Whitfield, President of AAAM and Managing Director of Nissan Africa, signed the MoU in early February, formalizing the basis for a partnership aimed at boosting regional automotive production, exports, and financing for the automotive industry while supporting the development of enabling policies, technical assistance, and capacity building initiatives. Prof. Benedict Oramah, President of Afreximbank said that “this strategic partnership with AAAM will facilitate the implementation of the Bank’s Automotive programme which aims to catalyze the development of the automotive sector in Africa as the continent commences trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).”

Africa Prize selects 2021 shortlist of entrepreneurial innovators shaping the continent

This year’s Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation shortlist includes the creators of a low-cost ventilator powered by water instead of electricity, a digital financial services solution that audits users based on their online social profiles, and sustainable packaging developed from banana stems to help battle plastic pollution and deforestation.

The Africa Prize, run every year by the UK’s Royal Academy of Engineering through Afreximbank, aims to provide crucial commercialisation support to ambitious African innovators who are transforming their communities through scalable engineering solutions. The 2021 shortlist represents nine countries including, for the first time, Côte d’Ivoire, Senegal, Ethiopia and the Gambia. Six of the 16-strong shortlist are female innovators.

The programme has a track record of identifying engineering entrepreneurs with significant potential, many of whom have gone on to achieve greater commercial success and social impact.
RESUME

Name: Rahel Mulugeta
Education: Diploma in Hotel Tourism
Company name: Eldana Flower
Title: Manager
Founded in: 2020
What it does: Sell flower bouquet
HQ: Beza Building around Bole Medhanealem
Number of employees: 2

STARTUP CAPITAL
20,000 birr

CURRENT CAPITAL
Growing

Reasons for starting the business: Because I love the sector
Biggest perk of ownership: It makes me happy
Biggest strength: Dedication
Biggest challenging: Difficult to find customers
Plan: To become a professional florist
First career: None

Pause the moment

ST. PETERSBURG

Although smaller than Moscow, St. Petersburg actually has so much to offer, it's often impossible to see it all in one day. Compared to Moscow, St. Petersburg feels more European-fine art and exquisite design details mixing in with history around every corner. You can explore it on foot to admire the architecture up close and personal, or hop on a cruise to explore part of the 300 kilometers of canals that cut through the imperial city. For a stunning overdose of white and gold colors, visit Moika Palace (most famous for being the place where Rasputin was killed) and the Neo-Russian, 19th-century St. Isaac's Cathedral, which is actually a Russian Orthodox museum.

THE AUTOMOTIVE MANUFACTURING COMPANY OF ETHIOPIA S.C. (A.M.C.E.)

INVITATION FOR SECURITY SERVICE

1. AMCE is currently looking for Organizations who are interested to provide Business Security Service. This task requires deployment of security personnel who possess excellent knowledge, skill, and experience in security service.

2. Interested bidders can obtain a complete biding document and TOR from Logistics & Purchasing Dept against payment of a non-refundable fee of Br 200.00 (Two hundred Birr) within 10(ten) calendar days starting from February 15, 2021. Monday to Friday from 9:00AM-12:00AM in the morning and 2:00PM-5:00PM in the afternoon.

3. Bidders who are interested to participate are required to submit a valid Trade License, Tax Clearance Certificate, VAT registration, TIN Certificates, other documents required in the TOR together with their offer.

4. The sealed bids shall be marked “Bid for the Procurement of Business Security Service”, addressed to:

Purchasing & Logistics Department
AMCE
P.O.Box 5736
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

and submitted in the above stated address not later than Friday February 26th, 2021 @ 3:00P.M.

5. Bid should be accompanied with a bid security of Birr. 10,000.00 (Ten Thousand) in the form of CPO. The bid will be closed on February 26th, 2021 at 3:00 PM and the technical proposal will be opened on March 1st, 2021 at 10:30 AM in the presence of the bidder’s representatives who choose to attend at AMCE Meeting Room.

6. The Company reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids at its own discretion.

7. Interested bidders can obtain additional information from the Company’s Purchasing & Logistics Dept Manager at the address below:

The Automotive Manufacturing Company of Ethiopia Share Company
(AMCE Sh. Co.)
P.O. Box 5736
Tel. No. 0116463311/46
Fax No. 0116463342
E-mail: eskinder@amceiveco.com
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

THE AUTOMOTIVE MANUFACTURING COMPANY OF ETHIOPIA S.C. (A.M.C.E.)
Lemlem, Solomon & Habtam in record breaking show in Torun

E thiopian Lemlem whose World U-20 1500m record of 4:01.57 was ratified last week kicked to victory ahead of the race as a favorite whilst World 3000m record holder Kenyan Beatrice Chepkoech also produced a good show in the latest World Athletics Indoor Tour Gold event in Torun-Poland.

Lemlem, Chepkoech and Ethiopia’s Fantu Worku had followed the pacemaker through 1000m mark on a world record pace, clocking 2:44.60, but 200m earlier the world record-holder, Genzebe Dibaba, had dropped out of the race on her season debut.

The pace slowed to 3:01.25 for the second kilometre as Lemlem led from Chepkoech and Fantu with 5:45.85 on the clock. A quicker final kilometer saw Ethiopia’s Habitam Alemu who ran a big PB to improve Women’s 800m’s previous meeting best with 1:58.19. It is the biggest accolade for the 24 year old of 8:31.24 ahead of Chepkoech’s 8:31.72 PB.

Chepkoech’s world 5000m silver medalist Solomon Barega won the 1500m in an indoor PB and meeting record of 3:32.97 from Marcin Lewandowski with a Polish indoor record of 3:35.71.

In third, Neil Gourley ran 3:35.79 to move to fifth on the UK indoor all-time rankings, whereas the time also beat his outdoor PB.

The Torun World Athletics Indoor Tour also offered another surprise victory to Ethiopia’s Habitat Alemu who ran a big PB to improve Women’s 800m’s previous meeting best with 1:58.19. It is the biggest accolade for the 24 year old.

Habitam who specializes in 800m event.

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አ-Sahii Anbessa
VICTORIOUS SPIRIT
100% ከፇረፉ የፈጠና የጋጠና የጠችው የኖር ያለበት ያሆን!
አሁኔን ዯ ያሆን

21+ ከጹን ያለበት ያሆን
ECONOMICS

Alazar Kebede

This relates to a final way in which Syria illustrates the growing crisis of global order - through the surging risk that it might set off a much larger military conflict. Across Eurasia, the danger of major war is rising, as geopolitical rivalries are inflamed, refine their war plans, and brush up against one another in increasingly incendiary ways. And in the last month alone, the Syrian civil war has occasioned two separate incidents that might have served as the spark. The recent clashes between Israeli, Iranian and Syrian regime forces - which started with an Iranian drone intruding into Israeli airspace, and culminated in a significant Israeli attack on Syrian air defenses - might easily have spiraled into something bigger. Had an Israeli F-16 downed by Syrian air defenses in early February not made it back across the Israeli border before its crew ejected, for instance, an aerial skirmish could have turned into a fight involving ground forces.

Last month's combat between U.S. and Russian mercenaries was even more dangerous. The Russian decision to use hybrid forces to attack a base at which U.S. troops were present demonstrates how bold Moscow is becoming. The punishing U.S. airstrikes that reportedly killed around 200 Russian personnel show the potential for great-power rivalry in Syria to rapidly escalate into something more deadly. If one is looking for evidence that the relative international peace is a post-Cold War era is crumbling, look no further than the U.S.-Russian quasi-war occurring in Syria today.

Some wars are ultimately remembered less for appalling harm inflicted on participants and bystanders than for what they revealed about the larger state of the world. We now see the Spanish Civil War, for instance, not just as a tragic episode in the history of that nation, but for what it demonstrated about an international system under strain. Today, our own international system is fracturing at the edges. If that process continues, we may one day look back on Syria as the crisis that forced the great unraveling to come.

Hal Brands is the Henry A. Kissinger Distinguished Professor at the Henry A. Kissinger Institute for Global Affairs at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies and a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments.

The American Century... [Continued from page 2]

requests for quotations (LRPS) to Consultancy to conduct a formative research on successful strategies to end FGM, including strategies to increase service seeking behavior and strengthen provision of care, and transform harmful inequitable gender norms in Ethiopia

LRPS-2020-9165100

(Attractive for local bidders)

Institutional Consultancy to conduct a formative research on successful strategies to end FGM, including strategies to increase service seeking behavior and strengthen provision of care, and transform harmful inequitable gender norms in Ethiopia

Details of the requirements for this bid and eligibility criteria etc. can be found in the bidding document.


Any query or clarification with regard to this bid shall be sent through an email to supplyaddisababa@unicef.org before or on 24 February 2021. Bid clarification will be communicated via email to supplyaddisababa@unicef.org.

Any query or clarification with regard to this bid shall be sent through an email to supplyaddisababa@unicef.org before or on 24 February 2021.

The due date for submission of proposals/Bid to UNICEF Addis Ababa Office, is on or before 2:00PM standard time (Ethiopian Time) 03 March 2021. Please read the LRPS for detailed requirements and due dates.

Please quote the respective LRPS # (request for quotation) and title - Institutional Consultancy to conduct a formative research on successful strategies to end FGM, including strategies to increase service seeking behavior and strengthen provision of care, and transform harmful inequitable gender norms in Ethiopia.

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EXCHANGE RATE

2-19-2021

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EXTRA CURRENCY BUYING SELLING

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ZAR  2.732   2.78664
CHINESE YUAN  5.5671  5.67844
EUR  48.0357  48.996414
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- Plant Accessories: (Soil, Fertilizer, Wooden chip, Etc.)

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