

**Eritrea: Land of  
Can-Do People!**  
(*Yikealo! kikewn eyu  
kemey zeykewn!*)



# ERI-NEWS

**Bi-Weekly Newsletter**  
**Permanent Mission of the State of Eritrea to AU  
and UNECA**  
**Press Section**

**National Service: A tool  
for Economic  
Development, National  
Cohesion and the  
Defence of Sovereignty**



## **Chinese Communist Party Delegation Held Talks with PFDJ Officials in Asmara**

A Delegation of the Communist Party of China (CPC) led by Mr. Zhong Weiyun, Head of the Bureau of Africa Affairs in the International Department of the Central Committee, held talks on 09 February 2015, with Mr. Yemane Gebreab, Head of Political Affairs of the People's Front for Democracy and Justice (PFDJ).

The discussion focused on enhancing cooperation between the PFDJ and the CPC, as well as between the Governments of Eritrea and China. The two sides also conducted discussions on regional and international issues.

During its three-day stay in Eritrea, the Chinese Delegation held meetings with



officials of the Foreign Ministry, Higher Education Commission, as well as with representatives of the Workers', Youth and Women's Associations, pertaining to the enhancement of bilateral relations. The Delegation also visited the port city of Massawa.

## **Eritrea Participated in the Ministerial Meeting on Maritime Safety and Security Held in Seychelles**

Ambassador Araya Desta, Permanent Representative of Eritrea to the AU and UNECA, represented Eritrea in the Ministerial Meeting on Maritime Safety and Security held in Victoria, Seychelles on 8 and 9 February 2015.

The meeting provided an opportunity for concerned AU member States and international partners to discuss maritime safety and security issues, with particular focus on the Gulf of Guinea and the Horn of Africa and mapped out

priorities ahead of the Summit on maritime security to be convened in Togo in November 2015.

In remarks he made at the meeting, Ambassador Araya reiterated Eritrea's commitment to ensure the security of the Red Sea maritime route which has critical importance to its own peace, security and development, as well as to the safety and security of international shipping.

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**Eritrean Mission to  
AU & ECA**



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دولة إرتريا  
وزارة الشؤون الخارجية

**The State of Eritrea**  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Ethiopia/Djibouti: A Communiqué Gone Astray**

In a Joint Communiqué issued at the end of their “First High Level Joint Commission Meeting” of 9 February 2015, Ethiopia and Djibouti go out of their way to “condemn” Eritrea for its “continuous destabilization policy” and “urge the international community to tighten the sanctions imposed” on it.

Eritrea is appalled by this unwarranted and calumnious act of hostility. As it is well known, Ethiopia continues to occupy sovereign Eritrean territories in flagrant breach of international law as well as the fundamental African Union principles of the sanctity of colonial borders almost 13 years after the final and binding arbitral award of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission. Clearly, Ethiopia’s unlawful behavior contravenes the integrity of arbitration processes and the basic tenets of international law.

That Ethiopia’s continued occupation of sovereign Eritrean territories constitutes the singular and central cause of regional destabilization is too palpable to merit additional emphasis. Unfortunately, the authorities in Addis Ababa seem to be immersed in a futile and transparent game of semantics. On the one hand, they say they are bound by the “final and binding ruling

of the EEBC” only to qualify and annul this hollow “affirmation” and their treaty obligations by calls for “dialogue” and “readiness to go to Asmara” etc.

Djibouti’s unwarranted stance is also difficult to decipher. As it is well-known, the putative border dispute between the two countries has been entrusted to the good offices of a mutually agreed third party, the State of Qatar. In the event, Djibouti’s premature and hostile stance is hard to explain in terms of a pending, good-faith, mediation.

On the other hand, there is increasing awareness in the international community these days that the UNSC sanctions imposed on Eritrea were not justified in the first place. Many countries indeed believe maintenance of the sanctions regime is not tenable anymore. The Ethiopian regime is clearly worried by the implications of the crescendo against the sanctions on Eritrea and has used its leverage to insert the unwarranted clause in the Joint Communiqué.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Asmara  
12 February 2015

## **‘Eritrea: A Country with High Levels of Accountability for Resources and Impressive Return on Investment’ - UNDP**

UNDP-Eritrea released a publication entitled **‘Delivering Together for Eritrea’s Development and Self-Reliance.’** Below are excerpts from the publication released on 12 February 2015.

*“Eritrea has shown commendable commitment to its development agenda. The United Nations applauds Eritrea’s development programmes, which have improved the lives of many people despite the harsh environmental conditions in the Horn of Africa.*

*“Although a number of challenges still exist, Eritrea is a country with high levels of accountability for resources and impressive return on investment. Small but visible interventions make powerful impacts on people’s livelihoods in Eritrea and evidence shows that the country has recorded significant progress towards achieving the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 4, 5 and 6.*



*“The UN is pleased to be associated with this notable record. Still, much more needs to be done to achieve the country’s development aspirations of sustainable economic growth, social equity, justice and human dignity for all. Our support seeks to build on and sustain the gains already made as well as address those areas lagging behind. This is a mammoth task that requires huge resources, expanded partnerships and the participation of other development partners, as well as the international community.”*

*The publication can be accessed from:  
[http://www.er.undp.org/content/eritrea/en/home/library/human\\_development/un-in-eritrea/](http://www.er.undp.org/content/eritrea/en/home/library/human_development/un-in-eritrea/)*

## **A Turkish Delegation Paid a Visit to Eritrea**

A Delegation from the Prime Ministry of the Republic of Turkey paid a visit to the State of Eritrea from 4-7 February 2015.

During the visit, the Delegation met and exchanged views with the Minister of Education, Mr. Semere Russom, and other Eritrean Government officials on cooperation in the field of education including scholarship programs.



## **Athletes from Eritrea, Kenya, Sudan, Uganda Took Part in the Fenkil Half Marathon**

On 07 February 2015, Massawa hosted athletic competitions in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of Operation Fenkil that brought about the liberation of Massawa in February 1990.

Eritrean Olympic Athlete Zeresenai Tadese won the Men’s Half Marathon race, which saw the participation of athletes from Eritrea, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. Another Eritrean athlete, Nazret Woldu, won the 10 Kms Women’s race held on the same day.