

**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**



Eritrea's Diplomatic Activity will Focus on Creating Conducive Ground for Peace, Justice, Development and Mutual Benefit – President Isaias

President Isaias Afwerki underlined that it is imperative to conduct active and effective diplomatic activity towards ensuring national interest and security by closely following and assessing the dynamic changes being witnessed in world politics and the impact of the mounting opposition of peoples around the world against the policy of domination and exploitation.



He made the salient remarks while addressing a meeting of Heads of Eritrean Diplomatic and Consular Missions in Asmara, on 18 June 2014.

Explaining the conspiracy of enemy quarters over the past years to subdue Eritrea and its people, including that of smear campaigns and isolation have ended up in utter failure, President Isaias said that the country has reached a new transition stage in the diplomatic domain.

In this connection, he pointed out that Eritrea's diplomatic activity in the years ahead would focus on creating conducive ground in the region for peace, justice, development and mutual benefit. In this regard, the President stressed the need to learn from past experience to ensure the success of the policy of peace and development. He also noted the need for strengthening institutional and organizational capacity to this end.

Also speaking at the opening session, Foreign Minister Osman Saleh said that the Ministry has mapped out a Strategic Plan to carry out effective diplomatic work on the basis of due assessment of the current regional and international developments. Moreover, he indicated that the Ministry has drawn up new structure and organizational setup, in addition to training programs towards enhancing the competence of its staff members.

President Isaias responded to questions raised by the participants pertaining to regional and international developments, as well as Eritrea's stance on various issues.

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**Eritrean Mission to
AU & ECA**



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Eritrean Delegation Participated in the 23rd African Union Summit

A Delegation led by Mr. Osman Saleh, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Eritrea, participated in the 23rd Summit of the African Union (AU) held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 20-27 June 2014, under the theme “*Year of Agriculture and Food Security.*”



Furthermore, Minister Osman indicated that Eritrea’s ultimate objective is not only to produce enough to feed its population but also to make agriculture the basis for industrialization through value-addition.



The Conference was conducted in three levels. The 28th Session of the Permanent Representatives Committee was convened from 20-22 June at the level of Ambassadors, followed by the 25th Session of the Executive Council held from 23-25 June at the level of Foreign Ministers, while the 23rd Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government took place on 26 and 27 June.

In a statement he delivered to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government on 26 June, Minister Osman underscored that the achievement of food security is of paramount importance to the security, dignity and development of Africa.

Minister Osman stated that the Government of Eritrea has put the achievement of food security at the top of its development agenda and has made huge investment towards this.

The Minister went on to list the activities undertaken by the people and Government of Eritrea to prepare the ground-work for the modernization of the agricultural sector, including human resources development, infrastructure, and soil and water conservation.

Minister Osman also emphasized that ‘Agriculture and Food Security’ is not a theme that could be shelved at the end of the year, but a mission that the people and Governments of Africa need to dedicate their efforts and resources to until its fulfillment.

Furthermore, on 25 June, the Delegation attended the meeting of the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) held at the level of Heads of State and Government to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the operationalization of the PSC.

Eritrea Attended the Group of 77 and China Summit

The Permanent Representative of the State of Eritrea to the United Nations and Special Envoy of the President, Ambassador Girma Asmerom, participated at the Commemorative Summit on the 50th Anniversary of the Group of 77 and China held in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, from 14-15 June 2014.

The Statement that Ambassador Girma delivered to the Summit can be accessed at: <http://www.tesfanews.net/eritrea-attends-g77-china-summit-in-bolivia/>

20th Commemoration of the Rwanda Genocide (Kwibuka20) Observed in Asmara

The 20th anniversary of the Rwanda Genocide against the Tutsi was commemorated in Asmara on 27 June 2014, with events jointly organized by the People's Front for Democracy and Justice (PFDJ) and the UN Office in Eritrea.

At a function attended by Government Ministers, PFDJ Officials, diplomats and staff of UN Agencies based in Eritrea, a moment of silence was observed for the victims and the Flame of Remembrance was lit to symbol-

ize remembrance and the resilience and courage of Rwandans over the past twenty years.



The participants were shown short films, pictures and testimonies from the genocide period.

Rwandan youth and Eritrean children recited poems charged with progressive sentiments to take Rwanda and the world beyond the agony of genocide.

The Head of Political Affairs of PFDJ, the President of the National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW) and the UN Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator made remarks at the sombre occasion.

Tree planting and street cleaning activities were also undertaken as part of the commemoration.

Nelson Mandela International Day Commemorated in Asmara

The Nelson Mandela International Day was commemorated in Asmara on 29 June 2014. The commemorative event was organized by the Embassy of South Africa in Eritrea, the National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students (NUEYS) and the UN Office in Eritrea.

The event involved the viewing

of 'Long Walk to Freedom,' followed by discussions on the movie by a panel and comments from the audience.

In the remarks they made at the occasion, Mr. Yemane Ghebream, Head of Political Affairs of PFDJ, and the Ambassador of South Africa to Eritrea, Professor Iqbal Jhazbhay, paid tribute to the anti-

apartheid leader.

Present at the occasion were Government Ministers, PFDJ officials, diplomats and heads of UN agencies based in Eritrea, as well as lecturers and students from various Colleges.

A meeting aimed at establishing a Research Institute was held between the Ministry of Health of Eritrea and the Shanghai Region of China

A meeting aimed at establishing a research institute for communicable and tropical diseases in Eritrea was held between the Eritrean Ministry of Health and China's Shanghai region.

During the meeting held on 18 June 2014 in Asmara, Ms. Amina Nur-Hussein, the Minister of Health of Eritrea, noted the historic nature of Sino-Eritrean relations,

and pointed out that the cooperation between the two countries in the domain of health over the last 23 years has been successful.

Furthermore, the Minister lauded Shanghai's contributions to the Ministry's endeavor to establish the institute for communicable and tropical diseases and in human resource development.

The head of the Chinese delegation, Mr. Han Weijun, Deputy Director General of the Shanghai Municipal Commission for Health and Family Planning, commended the services provided by the health facilities in Eritrea that he observed during his visits. He also expressed the delegation's readiness to strengthen the existing cooperation in the health sector.