



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



## President Received Invitation from Indian Prime Minister



Photo: Tazaz Abrha

President Isaias Afwerki received a letter from Indian Prime Minister Narendra Damodardas Modi inviting him to participate at the Africa-India Summit scheduled to take place from 26 to 30 October 2015 in New Delhi.

The formal invitation letter was delivered to President Isaias on 18 September 2015 by Dr. V.K Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs and Overseas Indian Affairs. Minister Singh underlined that India was earnestly working to cultivate ties of cooperation and partnership with Africa. This was predicated in a proper appraisal of its potential on the one hand, and, the prospects and opportunities that Africa offers on the other.

President Isaias Afwerki noted that Eritrea endorses the cultivation of

warm India-Africa ties that are hinged on symmetric relationships and mutual respect. Within this framework, Eritrea is keen in fostering partnership with India in the sectors of human resources development, transport and communication services, as well as, agriculture and food processing.

In a press statement to ERINA, Dr. Singh emphasized that India is prepared to cooperate with Eritrea in various sectors. The Minister underlined that sustainable progress cannot be guaranteed without nurturing extensive web of ties of cooperation with partners. In this regard, the Summit is expected to create a vital platform for African countries to chart out plans of action that promote their development agendas.

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## ‘Relations between Eritrea and China Developing Smoothly,’ Chinese Ambassador to Eritrea

On 19 September 2015, *Eritrea Profile* published an article by Mr. Qiu Xuejun, Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to the State of Eritrea, with the title ‘**Now it’s the Right Time to Deepen China-Africa Cooperation!**’ The following is excerpts from the article dealing with the relations between Eritrea and China.



*H.E. Ambassador Qiu Xuejun*

The relations between China and Eritrea are an important part in China’s relations with African countries. China and Eritrea established diplomatic relations right on the day of May 24, 1993, when the State of Eritrea was founded. Ever since then, despite the vicissitude in international situation, our bilateral relations have been developing smoothly and healthily, with frequent exchange of friendly visits, and deepening of cooperation in all areas. Leaders of our two countries have kept close contacts and communications.

China is Eritrea’s largest trading partner and the two countries have fruitful cooperation in the areas of agriculture, mining, infrastructure construction, culture, education, health and people to people exchanges.

Eritrea is a country with a long history and civilization and has breath-taking and beautiful natural sceneries. Multi-ethnic groups with different religious beliefs live with each other in the country in harmony. The Eritrean people live a peaceful and alive life. Since independence and as one of the youngest countries in the world, Eritrea has made tremendous progress and achievements in its nation building endeavors. Eritrea is a country with great potential for development with its rich resources, natural produce and well-educated young talents.

As a young and new developing country with huge potential for development, there is a huge potential for cooperation between China and Eritrea in the fields of industry, mining, agriculture, fishing, tourism, aviation, telecommunications and other infrastructures.

China is willing to join hands with Eritrea to further strengthen the all dimensional bilateral cooperation and continually explore new areas of cooperation. I am confident that there is a bright prospect for our future bilateral cooperation and this will surely benefit our two countries and peoples to a larger extent, and will at the same time make greater contributions to the cause of peace and development in Africa and the world at large.

*The full text of the article can be accessed at:*

<http://www.shabait.com/eritrea-profile>

<http://er.chineseembassy.org/eng/sghd/t1298666.htm>

## Eritrea Took Part in the Second Regional Conference on the African Union-Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants held in Egypt

An Eritrean Delegation led by Ambassador Araya Desta, Permanent Representative to the AU and UNECA took part in the Second Regional Conference on the AU-HoA Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants, held on 13 and 14 September 2015 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

The Conference which was attended by countries from Eastern and Northern Africa, as well as relevant regional and international organizations discussed the implementation of the decisions reached in the First Conference held in Khartoum in October 2014.

In a presentation made at the Conference, the Eritrean Delegation elucidated that the Government and People of Eritrea have been exerting efforts to address the root causes of migration, both pull and push factors. Primary among them, ending the illegal occupation of Eritrean territories and the unjust sanctions imposed on the country, and reversing the negative effects of this situation on national development. In addition, Eritrea has been engaging European states for them to reconsider their preferential asylum policies towards Eritreans.



The Delegation also highlighted the activities undertaken by the Government of Eritrea in the areas of setting up the necessary coordination framework, as well in the 4Ps, i.e. prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnership to combat human trafficking and smuggling.

The Conference called up on all concerned bodies to redouble their efforts in fighting the scourges, and for partner States and Organizations to support the creation of conducive environment for the promotion of sustainable development in countries of origin.

## Eritrea Hired Lecturers from Kenya

The Eritrean government has hired 35 Kenyans to work as expatriate lecturers in institutions of higher education.

The lecturers arrived in Asmara in the first week of September and have started duty.



## Outstanding Performances by Eritrean Athletes at the 11<sup>th</sup> All-Africa Games held in Brazzaville from 4-19 September 2015

### ◆ 2 Gold and 1 Silver Medals in Cycling

Eritrean cyclists dominated both the women's and men's Individual Time Trial (ITT) competition held on 11 September 2015. In the women's category, Mosana Debesay and Wehazit Kidane prevailed over their competitors to secure gold and silver medals respectively. In the men's race, Meron Teshome became the new Time Trial Champion of the All African Games followed by Gustav Basson of South Africa.



### ◆ Gold and Bronze Medals in Half-Marathon

Olympian athlete Zersenay Tadesse clinched a gold medal in the Half-Marathon race, while Hizkel Te wolde secured third position. Another Eritrean athlete, Samson Gebreyohannes, was ranked 4<sup>th</sup>.



### Eritrea's Merhawi Kesete Won Mattoni Ústí nad Labem Half Marathon 2015 in Czech Republic

Merhawi Kesete sprang a surprise to win the Mattoni Ústí nad Labem Half-Marathon, on 12 September 2015, beating better known rivals with a time of 1:00:58. Kenyan pair Barselius Kipyego and Eliah Tirop were second and third.

### Eritrean Athletes Dominated the Austrian Mountain Race

Eritrean Athletes Abraham Kidane, Pietro Mamo, and Yosief Tekle secured 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> places respectively in the mountain race held in Austria on 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2015. Over 20 nations participated in the challenging race.

