

**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**



President Isaias Conducted Official Visit to Qatar

President Isaias Afwerki conducted an official visit to the State of Qatar from 2-5 March 2014. During his 4-day stay in Doha, the President held productive meetings with the Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Temim Bin Hammed Bin Khelifa Al-Thani.



The discussions between President Isaias and the Amir of Qatar focused on bilateral ties and partnership, as well as regional and international issues.

President of South Sudan Sent a Letter of Thanks and Appreciation to the President of Eritrea

On 6 March 2014, a Delegation led by the Deputy Foreign Minister of South Sudan, Mr. Peter Beshir Bande, met with President Isaias Afwerki and delivered a letter from President Salva Kiir.

In the letter, President Salva Kiir reiterated his gratitude for the historical role that the people and Government of Eritrea played in supporting the Sudanese people's right to self-determination. President Salva Kiir also commended the positive and constructive contributions that President Isaias and the Government of Eritrea are making in resolving the current problem in South Sudan.



President Isaias also held separate and extensive meetings with Dr. Khalid Al-Atia, Qatari Foreign Minister; Sheikh Abdalla Bin Nasser Bin Khelifa Al-Thani, Chairman of the Qatari Ministerial Assembly and Minister of Internal Affairs; as well as Mr. Jassim Seif Al-Suleiti, the Minister of Transport.



President Isaias, on his part, expressed his appreciation for President Salva Kiir's message and reaffirmed Eritrea's principled and consistent support to the Government and people of South Sudan. The President underlined that the current problem in South Sudan cannot be resolved militarily, and the way forward should be an all-inclusive national reconciliation, that is owned and led by the Government and people of South Sudan.

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Contact Addresses:

Tel: +251-116620052
Fax: +251-116620011
Email: eritreanaumission@gmail.com
P.o.Box: 5527
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



**Eritrean Mission to
AU & ECA**



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Eritrea's Diplomatic Activities in Brief

- On 3rd March 2014, Mr. Osman Saleh, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Eritrea addressed the High-level Segment of the 25th Session of the **UN Human Rights Council** held in Geneva, Switzerland. (full text of the statement can be accessed at: <http://eastafro.com/Post/2014/03/03/statement-by-h-e-osman-saleh-at-the-un-human-right-council/>)
- An Eritrean delegation led by Mr. Stifanos Habte, Minister of Trade and Industry participated in the 17th Summit of the Authority of the **Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)** held in Kinshasa, the Democratic Republic of Congo, from 26 - 27 February 2014.
- The President of the National Union of Eritrean Women, Ms. Luul Gebreab is participating in the 58th session of the **UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)** which is being held in New York, from 10-21 March 2014. On 11 March, Ms. Luul delivered a Statement on "Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls." (full text of the statement can be accessed at: <http://papersmart.unmeetings.org/media2/2261364/eritrea-r1.pdf>)
- An Eritrean Delegation led by Ambassador Abdella Mussa, Ambassador of the State of Eritrea to Libya and Permanent Representative to the **Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD)** took part in the 20th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of **CEN-SAD**, held in Khartoum, Sudan from 12 to 13 March 2014.
- The **Norwegian Special Envoy on Sudan and South Sudan**, Ambassador Jens-Petter Kjemprud travelled to Asmara on the first week of March and held consultations with Eritrean officials on the resolution of the problem in South Sudan. The Eritrean and Norwegian sides affirmed that they hold similar views on the way forward in South Sudan.

Eritrean Mining Sector Attracting More Investors

Eritrea is endowed with vast amounts of mineral resources including gold, copper, potash, zinc, gypsum, granite, marble, limestone, iron ore...etc.

Eritrea's rich mineral deposits coupled with its investment-

friendly mining code, active support and encouragement by the Government to the sector, corruption-free environment and reliable infrastructure has made the country a favorable destination for foreign investment in the mining sector.

Currently there are 17 exploration and mining companies operating in Eritrea from Australia, Canada, China, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, U.K and so on. (see table below)

| Exploration and Mining Companies in Eritrea | | | |
|--|---|-----|--|
| 1. | BISHA MINING SHARE COMPANY | 10. | HUBEI GEOLOGICAL & MINING COMPANY LTD |
| 2. | ZARA MINING SH, CO | 11. | KETINA MINING |
| 3. | SUNRIDGE GOLD CORPORATION | 12. | LAND ENERGY GROUP (CHINA) LTD |
| 4. | SOUTH BOULDER MINES LTD | 13. | LONDON AFRICA LTD |
| 5. | ADOBHA RESOURCES LTD | 14. | SAHAR MINERALS LTD |
| 6. | ANDIAMO EXPLORATION LTD | 15. | SHANDONG MINING DEVELOPMENT LTD |
| 7. | BEIJING SINOMA MINING INVESTMENT LTD | 16. | SUB-SAHARA RESOURCES (ERITREA) LTD |
| 8. | CHINA AFRICA HUAKAN INVESTMENT CO., LTD | 17. | ZHONG CHANG MINING CO, LTD. |
| 9. | ERITREA CHINA EXPLORATION & MINING SH, CO | | <i>Source: Ministry of Energy and Mines of Eritrea, 2014</i> |

Press Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Eritrea's Principled Stance on the Situation in South Sudan

The stance and robust solidarity of the people and Government of Eritrea on the cause of the people of South Sudan is an indelible historical fact that is embossed on granite. In the event, it does not require third-party testimony or validation; nor can it be misconstrued for sinister purposes. Eritrea's unfaltering historical stance was never adulterated by whimsical considerations in response to fluid or changing developments and realities.

Furthermore, the people and Government of Eritrea went beyond mere recognition and endorsement to earnestly cultivate strategic ties with South Sudan and to extend their modest contributions when the people of South Sudan chose independence in exercising their right to self-determination, and, as they embarked on the challenging, nation-building, process to create a sovereign State that fulfills their aspirations. Again, Eritrea's unequivocal stance in regard to the new realities was not influenced by, and occurred irrespective of, the factors and protagonists that impinged on the unfolding developments.

Indeed, the people and Government of Eritrea have and remain committed to constructive engagement with the people and government of South Sudan as the latter formulated their primary priorities and charted out a road-map for a sovereign State and as they begun the long and arduous journey to rehabilitate their country devastated by a long war and to lay the foundations for a stable and prosperous nation.

Unfortunately, the people of South Sudan have not been enabled to implement the road map they have charted out in a congenial and serene environment. As it happened, sinister machinations designed to stoke and manage the crisis have catapulted the problem to confounding regional and international forums under the mantle of "benign facilitation" instead of encouraging the people of South Sudan to resolve their own problems themselves. This misguided approach is fraught with



risks of exacerbating the problem instead of preventing or containing it. It may well be designed to plunge and embroil

the people of South Sudan in an endless and meaningless internal strife and conflict thereby exposing them to the plundering of their resources while stifling their developmental opportunities. The Government of Eritrea is cognizant of the dangerous consequences that this would entail. As such, it has underlined its reservations and communicated its opposition and clear stance.

On the other hand, the purveyors of lies and "crises incubation" routinely resort to manufacturing outrageous lies against Eritrea principally in order to divert attention from and conceal their subversive acts described above. To this end, they have accused the Government of Eritrea, at times, for "supporting the Republic of Sudan in the battles at Higlig" and at other times "for supporting the Yaw-Yaw". Today they are peddling a preposterous lie accusing the Government of Eritrea "for supporting Machar". No one is surprised by this outrageous lie.

The Government of Eritrea again stresses that it will not be drawn into this cheap gimmick whose primary sources and ulterior objectives it knows only too well. But it calls on all pretentious "benefactors" who shed crocodile tears while profiting from the internecine killings, displacement and plight of the people of South Sudan to take their hands off and allow the people of South Sudan to resolve their own problems and lay the foundations for building their nation and governmental institutions.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Asmara

10 March 2014