

PRESIDENT ISAIAS AFWERKI MEETS AND HOLDS TALKS WITH EGYPTIAN DELEGATION



President Isaias Afwerki received, at Denden Guest House in the late morning hours on 16 May, a senior Egyptian delegation comprising Foreign Minister Dr. Badr Abdelatty, Minister of Transport Lt. General Engineer Kamel Alwazir, and CEOs of several companies involved in the transport, energy, and mining sectors.

The extensive discussions centered on further enhancing bilateral cooperation across the board, as well as regional and international issues of mutual importance.

President Isaias underlined the significance of consolidating the

all-round ties between Eritrea and Egypt to advance the mutual interests of the Eritrean and Egyptian peoples. In this respect, President Isaias expressed Eritrea's readiness to implement joint projects with Egyptian economic and trade companies.

Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty, for his part, stated that the current visit was a manifestation and expression of the brotherly ties of friendship and cooperation that exist between the peoples of Eritrea and Egypt. The principal purpose of the visit, Dr. Badr noted, was to further consolidate economic and trade ties between the two countries

in accordance with the guidelines charted out by President Isaias Afwerki and President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi.

On the occasion, the two countries signed an Agreement on Marine Transport "for developing cooperation in the sector with a view to contributing to the development of international shipping on the basis of the principles of freedom of navigation."

The agreement was signed by Eritrea's Minister of Transport and Communications, Mr. Tesfaselassie Berhane, and Egypt's Minister of Transport, Lt. General Kamel

Alwazir.

Foreign Minister Osman Saleh also met with his Egyptian counterpart, Dr. Badr Abdelatty, to discuss modalities for implementing the overall bilateral cooperation agreements reached between the two sides.

Foreign Minister Osman underlined the significance of the visit by the senior Egyptian delegation and the importance of strengthening bilateral cooperation at this crucial time of fluid

developments in the Horn of Africa.

Dr. Badr, for his part, referred to the alignment of the two sides' views and positions on vital regional and international issues and stressed the importance of expediting the implementation of mutually agreed-upon development programs.

Upon arrival at Asmara International Airport, the senior Egyptian delegation was welcomed by Mr. Osman Saleh, Minister of Foreign Affairs.



SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENT IN EXPANSION OF COMMUNICATION SERVICE

Mr. Tesfaselassie Berhane, Minister of Transportation and Communications, said that as a result of over 35 billion Nakfa investment over the past years of independence, effective work has been carried out in the expansion of telephone and Internet services across the country.

Minister Tesfaselassie said that replacing old network services with new ones, putting in place infrastructure for mobile and landline services, installing 184 towers and accessories, as well as introducing and expanding Internet service from time to time, were among the main activities that have been carried out.

As a result, Minister Tesfaselassie went on to say that landline telephone services have been installed in the cities of Akordet and Adi-Quala; the old line in the port city of Assab has been replaced by a new one; installation and renovation activities have been conducted in the cities of Dekemhare, Keren, Massawa, Teseney, and Adi-Keih, as well as at the Naval Force Base; and about 73 km of new telephone lines have been

installed in the administrative areas of Akria, Edaga-Hamus, Hazhaz, Mihram-Chira, and Central.

Regarding mobile telephone service, Minister Tesfaselassie said that geographical coverage has reached 90% and that efforts are underway to further modernize the service.

Internet service, which started with half a megabyte in 2001, has increased to 1 thousand 536 megabytes over the past 10 years and has reached 4G level. Wi-Fi Internet service has been introduced in remote areas and semi-urban centers, and special Internet service is being provided to people who need it for research purposes and temporary needs, Minister Tesfaselassie added.

Regarding future programs, Minister Tesfaselassie said that putting in place communication services that are in line with technological development, as well as installing towers in the sub-zones of Araeta, Central Denkalia, Gaden, and Dekemhare, are among the future programs.

MESSAGES OF CONGRATULATIONS

Leaders of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Kingdom of the Netherlands, France, Ghana, Australia, Republic of Malta, Republic of South Africa, and Republic of Pakistan have sent messages of congratulations to the people and Government of Eritrea on the occasion of the 35th Independence anniversary.

In their messages, King Salman bin Abdulaziz and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi of the Republic of Egypt, President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa of the Republic of South Africa, President John Dramani Mahama of the Republic of Ghana, President Emmanuel Macron of the French Republic, King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands, President Myriam Spiteri Debono of the Republic of Malta, Ms. Sam

Mostyn, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, and Mr. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, congratulated the people and Government of Eritrea on the occasion of the Independence Day anniversary and expressed their goodwill.

They also conveyed their best wishes for good health to President Isaias Afwerki, as well as peace and prosperity to the Eritrean people, and expressed their countries' readiness to develop mutual relations and cooperation with Eritrea.

Commending the strong historical relations developing between Eritrea and Egypt, President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi expressed his firm



belief that bilateral consultation and cooperation on various issues for the benefit of the two peoples will develop to a higher level.

Ms. Theresa Lazaro, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, also sent a similar message to Mr. Osman Saleh, Minister of Foreign Affairs.



The Anatomy of Revisionism: Dismantling the Prosperity Party's Hostile

Campaign against Eritrean Sovereignty

A dominant trend in orthodox geopolitical literature is the uncritical acceptance of geographic determinism, which often frames landlocked states as passive “prisoners of geography.” In the Horn of Africa, the Ethiopian Prosperity Party (PP) administration, led by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, has weaponized and stretched this flawed structural paradigm to its limits.

The regime has constructed a revisionist discourse that positions maritime access not as a matter of voluntary trade agreements, but as an existential and natural right. This rhetoric goes beyond standard foreign policy; it constitutes a calculated assault on the post-colonial legal architecture of Northeast Africa. By shifting its rhetoric from a search for commercial port access to questioning the legitimacy of Eritrean statehood, the Prosperity Party effectively deploys external revisionism to mask deep domestic crises.

Specifically, over the past three years, the PP regime has executed a calculated and multi-layered hostile campaign targeting the State of Eritrea. What began as a domestic rhetorical pivot regarding “maritime access” has systematically weaponized historical revisionism, ethnic manipulation, and regional proxy warfare. While the PP administration nominally projects a benign image of “Pan-Africanism” and economic necessity, its actions

reveal a zero-sum and expansionist foreign policy designed to externalize profound domestic governance failures – both inherited and self-inflicted. This article, in essence, illustrates the key components of the Prosperity Party’s continuous aggression against Eritrea, and the broader threat it poses to the legal architecture of the Horn of Africa and the African continent as a whole.

1. The Evolution of Aggressive Rhetoric and Claims of Ownership

Since late 2022, high-ranking Ethiopian officials, state media, and state-backed academicians have launched a synchronized campaign asserting a “natural right” to the Red Sea, transitioning from calls for commercial trade agreements to claims implying physical ownership of sovereign Eritrean coastlines. Moreover, the Prosperity Party’s expansionist ambitions are clearly manifested in its official statements, strategic doctrines, and choice of historical metaphors, including:

•The “Two Waters Strategy”: Developed by state-affiliated research institutes, this policy doctrine attempts to construct a geopolitical “Greater Ethiopia” stretching from the Nile Basin to the Red Sea coast. This ideological framework extends beyond a simple search for port access; it seeks to project regional hegemony and incorporates the territories of Eritrea, Djibouti, and Somalia. In effect, by invoking a provocative and untenable doctrine based on demographic weight and hydro-power calculus, the PP seeks to legitimize the unilateral redrawing of borders and rationalize encroachment upon the sovereign coastlines of neighboring states.

•The “Prisoner of Geography” Metaphor: On October 13, 2023, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed officially initiated the maritime campaign by declaring access to the Red Sea a “matter of existence” and asserting that Ethiopia could not remain a “prisoner of geography.” Subsequent high-level state briefings explicitly stated that the nation would secure a sea outlet “by any means necessary,” signaling a clear shift toward coercive rhetoric.

•The Awassa Declaration: On February 22, 2026, the Prime Minister escalated this rhetoric before elite “Special Forces,” declaring that Ethiopia’s military forces would “ensure the security of the Red Sea from Somalia to the edge of Massawa.” This provocative

statement unlawfully asserted Ethiopia’s security jurisdiction deep within sovereign Eritrean territorial waters.

•The Golan Heights Insinuation: During parliamentary sessions in early 2026, the Prime Minister cited the illegal, forced occupation of the Golan Heights as a historical precedent for states seeking to secure “existential” interests. Across the region, this reference was widely interpreted as a thinly veiled military threat of annexation directed at Eritrea’s southern coastline.

1. Questioning Eritrean Statehood and the Revision of History

To construct a domestic justification for annexationist ambitions, the Prosperity Party has actively challenged the legal legitimacy of Eritrean statehood.

•Denial of History: Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed openly challenged the international architecture of state formation in the Horn of Africa, as well as Eritrea’s hard-won and legitimate independence, by telling lawmakers that “we cannot find a single document explaining how the latter transpired.” This preposterous assertion amounts to political blasphemy of the highest order. Eritrea’s right to decolonization – which was uniquely denied in the 1940s due to overriding United States geopolitical interests during the emerging Cold War, thereby precipitating Africa’s longest war of national liberation – does not require the prior approval or endorsement of any external power. Furthermore, this falsified narrative constitutes an affront to both the United Nations and the African Union, both of which formally monitored and certified the April 1993 Eritrean Referendum, in which 99.83% of the population voted for sovereignty on the basis of the free will of the Eritrean people.

•The “Arab Driver” Fabrication: State-sponsored media and academic forums in Ethiopia have recently attempted to delegitimize the decades-long Eritrean national liberation struggle by portraying it as an artificial project driven exclusively by “Arab interests” seeking to sever Ethiopia’s coastline. In reality, Eritrea’s coastal territories were never part and parcel of the feudal fiefdoms and kingdoms that governed various parts of present-day Ethiopia prior to the imposed Federation of 1952 and the subsequent annexation period from 1962 to 1991. For reasons of

breavity and without delving into an exhaustive and comprehensive historical exposition, the broader objective of the PP’s revisionism is to erase the indigenous, pan-ethnic, and popular character of Eritrea’s 30-year resistance against Ethiopian occupation – a struggle that emerged in the 1940s amid the complicity and support of major external powers.

III. Geopolitical Framing: Red Sea Crises and Transnational Smear Campaigns

The Prosperity Party has further exploited shifting global dynamics in a futile attempt to isolate Eritrea internationally and justify its own regional maneuvers.

•The Iran Connection Fabrication: Amid ongoing security crises in the Middle East and disruptions surrounding the Strait of Hormuz, the PP regime has reportedly used diplomatic channels to mendaciously allege that Eritrea is “secretly siding with Iran and destabilizing global shipping lanes”. This mendacious and transparent strategy seeks to exploit Western maritime anxieties and portray Eritrea as a “rogue actor” in order to secure external support for Ethiopia’s port ambitions. What Ethiopia deliberately obscures, however, is its extensive military cooperation with Iran, particularly over the last decade. Ethiopia has not only procured Iranian drones for use in its myriad domestic conflicts, but an Ethiopian Parliamentary Defense Committee delegation also visited Iran in October of last year to strengthen bilateral military and security cooperation.

•The Irony of Destabilization: While Addis Ababa attempts to depict Eritrea as a source of regional instability, empirical evidence indicates that Ethiopia’s current foreign policy is itself a principal driver of friction in the Horn of Africa:

•The Somaliland Memorandum of Understanding (MoU): Signed on January 1, 2024, this unilateral agreement to lease 20 kilometers of coastline for an Ethiopian naval base directly violated the sovereignty of the Federal Republic of Somalia and triggered widespread regional condemnation.

•Proxy Warfare and Transnational Destabilization in Sudan: A detailed Reuters investigative report exposed definitive satellite imagery and diplomatic confirmation indicating that Ethiopia has hosted a covert military training facility in the western Benishangul-Gumuz region near

Asosa. Funded and logistically supported by the United Arab Emirates, this covert site allegedly has trained thousands of mercenary militia fighters linked to Sudan’s paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF). Such dangerous intervention has directly fueled the devastating Sudanese civil war. The cross-border implications of these activities became evident when the Sudanese government formally accused both Ethiopia and the UAE of coordinating drone strikes inside Khartoum. These developments continue to destabilize both the Horn of Africa and the critical Red Sea trade corridor.

•The UAE and “Port Imperialism”: The United Arab Emirates has increasingly relied on an aggressive strategy of “port imperialism” to project power across Africa and the Near East by unilaterally seizing, leasing, or dominating strategic maritime trade hubs to secure monopolies over maritime logistics. This predatory framework has contributed to trail of security crises in Sudan, Libya, Yemen, and Somalia. In its desperate pursuit of a sea outlet, the Prosperity Party appears to be emulating this model while simultaneously coordinating with the UAE in certain theaters. Furthermore, Ethiopia’s approach similarly transforms trade infrastructure into an instrument of political leverage and territorial influence over neighboring sovereign states.

1. Domestic Subversion: The Incitement of the Afar People

A particularly alarming aspect of the Prosperity Party’s campaign is its attempt to manipulate ethnic identity as a pretext for territorial annexation. Ethiopian state actors and regional officials have launched a targeted propaganda campaign directed at the Afar populations residing across the borders of Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Djibouti. This rhetoric falsely claims that the Afar people are uniquely marginalized within Eritrea and encourages cross-border subversion.

The strategic objective of this incitement is evident: to provoke a localized rebellion or security crisis along Eritrea’s southern Red Sea coast. The Prosperity Party could then exploit such unrest as a humanitarian or security pretext for military intervention aimed at controlling – and ultimately annexing – the port of Assab. This tactic directly mirrors the colonial “divide-and-rule” methods that African states have historically rejected.

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Eritrea: the Long Road to Independence

Bana Negusse

Introductory note: Eritrea, strategically positioned along the Red Sea in the volatile Horn of Africa, is a country shaped by resilience, sacrifice, and an unrelenting struggle for self-determination. With its long, unspoiled coastline and deep historical roots stretching back to the dawn of humanity, the nation occupies a unique place in both African and world history. Yet Eritrea's modern story has been defined above all by decades of foreign efforts at domination, political betrayal, and one of the longest liberation wars on the African continent. As Eritreans worldwide celebrate the 35th anniversary of independence, this three-part series revisits the historical forces, international interventions, and popular resistance that forged the Eritrean nation

To understand Eritrea's modern struggle for sovereignty and identity, one must first appreciate the country's far deeper historical significance. This history stretches back to the very beginnings of human civilization.

Archaeological discoveries in Eritrea's Danakil Depression — particularly in Buya — have uncovered hominid remains estimated to be between 1.5 and 2 million years old, placing the region among the earliest known centers of human existence. Across the country, prehistoric sites containing rock art, stone tools, and ancient artifacts testify to a long and continuous human presence. At the same time, evidence of early farming and animal domestication dates back to roughly 5000 BCE.

Many historians and archaeologists have also identified Eritrea as the most likely location of the ancient Land of Punt, the prosperous trading partner frequently referenced in Egyptian records. This connection further underscores the region's significance in the development of early civilization and long-distance trade networks.

Yet Eritrea's strategic location and economic importance also made it a frequent target for

outside powers long before the colonial era. Different parts of present-day Eritrea experienced periodic invasions and occupations by regional empires and foreign rulers. Egyptian and Ottoman authorities controlled coastal centers such as Massawa and sections of the lowlands at various times. At the same time, neighboring monarchs, feudal chiefs, and rival armies launched repeated incursions into the territory. These occupations were often temporary and met with determined resistance from local populations.

These repeated foreign incursions eventually gave way to full-scale European colonialism. Toward the end of the nineteenth century, Italy began seizing territory along the Eritrean coast, then steadily expanding inland in pursuit of a settler-colonial project. Backed quietly by Britain, which viewed Italian expansion as useful in countering French influence in the region, Italy officially proclaimed Eritrea its "colonia primogenita" — or first-born colony — on January 1, 1890. Massawa initially served as the capital before the role was transferred to Asmara in 1897, where it remains today.

For the next half-century, Eritrea remained under Italian colonial

rule. Eritreans endured land confiscations, racial segregation, forced labor, political repression, and systematic discrimination under a rigid colonial order. Educational opportunities for Eritreans were deliberately restricted and designed largely to produce a subordinate labor force that served colonial interests. Many sections of Asmara were inaccessible to Eritreans, while apartheid-style policies governed much of daily life.

At the same time, the colonial era transformed Eritrea's physical infrastructure and economy. The period saw the construction of roads, railways, ports, airports, hospitals, factories, and communication systems, making Eritrea one of the most industrialized territories in Africa. The Teleferica Massawa-Asmara, a 75-kilometer aerial tramway connecting the coast to the highlands, was once the world's longest cableway.

Writing in 2006, Eritrean scholar Rahel Almedom observed that when the British took control of Eritrea after Italy's defeat, they inherited "a thriving local economy." Brigadier Stephen H. Longrigg, who served as chief administrator of the British Military Administration between 1942 and 1944, similarly described Eritrea as "highly developed," noting that it possessed "superb roads, a railway, airports, a European city as its capital, [and] public services up to European standards."

Other foreign observers also remarked on Eritrea's level of development during the period. Asmara was regarded as one of the most modern and progressive cities across the region, while Massawa possessed one of the finest harbors between Alexandria and Cape Town. Elsewhere, cities such as Tessenai emerged as important transportation and commercial hubs, while Dekemhare — south of Asmara — became known for its concentration of factories and industrial activity, earning labels such as "zona industria" and "secondo Milano."

Beyond infrastructure and industrialization, the colonial era also played a major role in shaping the foundations of the modern Eritrean state. Despite the brutality and exploitation that accompanied colonialism,



Young Eritreans dig at the ancient port city of Adulis, unearthing a civilization that thrived long before colonial rule. Their work echoes the nation's own struggle: to reclaim a buried past and build a sovereign future.

the period contributed to the emergence of shared political institutions, common historical experiences, and a distinct national consciousness among Eritrea's diverse communities.

In April 1941, following the decisive British-led victory over Italian forces at the Battle of Keren, Eritrea was placed under British Military Administration. During the war, British officials had promised Eritreans independence in exchange for assistance against Italy, but these pledges were quickly abandoned once victory was secured. British propaganda openly encouraged Eritrean nationalism, declaring: "Eritreans! You deserve to have a flag! This is the honorable life for the Eritrean: to have the guts to call his people a Nation." In the end, however, such promises proved empty.

Instead of preparing Eritrea for independence, the British dismantled and sold large portions of the country's industrial infrastructure for profit. The prominent British activist Sylvia Pankhurst condemned the plunder as "a disgrace to British civilization." At the same time, the British administration deliberately deepened social and political divisions inside Eritrea, seeking to portray the country as too fragmented and economically weak to survive as an independent state. British officials explored

plans to partition Eritrea between the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan and the imperial Ethiopian Empire.

At the same time, Ethiopia aggressively advanced similar arguments. Ethiopian representatives insisted that Eritrea lacked the economic and political viability necessary for independence. In a speech delivered to the United Nations in 1947, Aklilu Habtewold argued that Eritrea "could not live by itself." The United States, increasingly preoccupied with Cold War rivalries and strategic influence in the Red Sea region, echoed many of these claims.

In reality, however, Eritrea's infrastructure, industrial capacity, and strategic location were precisely what made the territory so valuable to outside powers.

On September 20, 1949, the United Nations General Assembly sent a commission to examine Eritrea's political future. The commission found that the overwhelming majority of Eritreans favored independence. Pakistani delegate Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan warned that forcing Eritrea into union against the wishes of its people would create lasting instability, stating that denying Eritreans their "elementary right to independence" would "sow the seeds of discord."

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Tree-lined boulevards, bustling traffic, European-style architecture — 1940s Asmara was Africa's modernist jewel — proof of Eritrea's capacity for self-rule. Yet the UN federated Eritrea to Ethiopia, ignoring the people's vote and sowing decades of war.

OPINION

Eritrea's 35th Independence Anniversary Theme Echoes the past and Shapes the Future

Kesete Ghebrehiwet

“Our Resilience: Our Guarantee” — the theme of Eritrea’s 35th independence anniversary — speaks to the soul of the Eritrean people and the long journey from oppression to freedom. Eritrea’s independence was achieved through extraordinary endurance, unshakable vision, and the ultimate sacrifice of generations.

Nearly one-third of Eritrean freedom fighters were women, a unique chapter in liberation history. Women stood at the center of the struggle, carrying arms, treating the wounded, organizing communities, and sacrificing equally for the nation’s birth. They broke traditional barriers, shared the same trenches as men, and proved that national liberation was also a social transformation.

Mothers bore separation and loss with dignity. Fathers stood steadfast. The youth carried a “can-do” spirit. Together, their resilience made independence possible. The victory of 1991 was not one generation’s triumph but the collective victory of men and women, fighters and civilians, all united by one national purpose.

Resilience is not limited to the people alone. The land itself carries the marks of endurance. Eritrea’s mountains, plains, and valleys suffered years of conflict. Yet, like the people, the land endured. Mountains that survived bombardments remained standing. Plains that carried fighters’ footsteps continued to breathe life.

A powerful expression captures this spirit: “Even the stones are burning.” These words, spoken by late patriot Zeynab Yasin, became the title of Roy Pateman’s 1990 book, *Eritrea: Even the Stones Are Burning*. Pateman, presented the country not just as a battlefield but as a nation of remarkable endurance, organization, and hope.

The Eritrean struggle was fought against enormous odds. The enemy was larger, better equipped, and backed by powerful external interests. Many believed independence was impossible. But Eritreans relied on something stronger than weapons: resilience,

organization, sacrifice, and vision. They believed in their own capability, and that belief transformed the impossible into the possible.

When President Isaias Afwerki, then Secretary-General of the EPLF, declared during the struggle that independence was near, his words reflected a profound grasp of the people’s strength and history’s course. Independence in 1991 was no accident. It was resilience — and resilience guaranteed victory.

That year marked the triumph of a people who refused to accept injustice as destiny. Every family, every village, every fighter contributed. That is why Eritrea’s independence belongs to all Eritreans.

Resilience did not end with independence. The same resilience that secured liberation continues to guarantee sovereignty. Post-independence Eritrea has faced external pressures, economic hardship, and attempts to undermine national unity. Yet the people have

stood firm. Just as they defended their right to independence, they defend their right to dignity and self-reliant development.

Resilience is the backbone of Eritrea’s achievements. It is visible in roads, schools, dams, hospitals, and agriculture. Communities transform arid zones into productive lands through hard work and water conservation. Where others see impossibility, Eritreans see responsibility and possibility.

Eritrea’s resilience is also moral and spiritual — a refusal to be discouraged by temporary difficulties. Development is not achieved overnight but through patience, discipline, and national commitment. Prosperity must be built on sovereignty, unity, social justice, self-reliance, and hard work. These values, tested during the struggle, remain essential today.

“Our Resilience: Our Guarantee” connects past, present, and future. In the past, resilience delivered independence. In the present,

it guarantees sovereignty and stability. In the future, it will guarantee prosperity. This value is lived daily by farmers, teachers, workers, soldiers, mothers, fathers, and youth.

The theme honors the martyrs — heroes and heroines who gave their lives so Eritrea could stand free.

Their resilience was expressed not only in their ability to fight but in their willingness to give everything for future generations. To celebrate independence is to remember them with pride and to renew the promise that their legacy will be protected through unity and national service.

As Eritrea celebrates 35 years of independence, the message is clear: the journey has been

difficult, but the nation has endured. The people have suffered but triumphed. The land has been wounded but continues to give life. The spirit that carried Eritrea to independence still prevails.

“Our Resilience: Our Guarantee” is a declaration of national confidence. It tells the world that Eritrea’s strength lies not only in its history but in the living character of its people. The same resilience that overcame enormous military forces will continue to turn national aspirations into reality.

Eritrea’s story is endurance that became victory, sacrifice that became freedom, and resilience that became a guarantee: for independence, for sovereignty, and for a prosperous future.

... Independence

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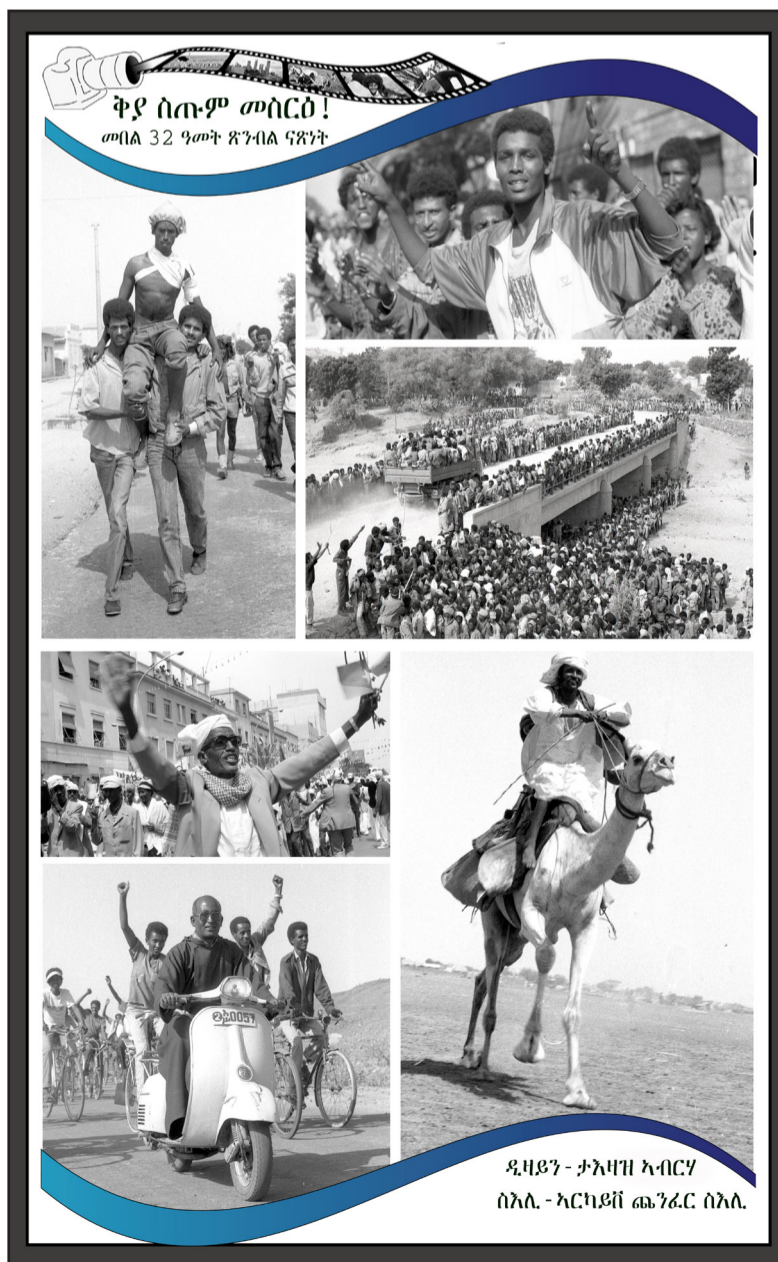
Despite these findings, geopolitical interests prevailed. On December 2, 1950, the UN adopted Resolution 390 (V), federating Eritrea with Ethiopia under the Ethiopian crown. Strongly backed by the United States, the decision subordinated Eritrean self-determination to Cold War strategic calculations. In words that are still bitterly etched into the hearts of Eritreans everywhere, US Secretary of State John Foster Dulles bluntly summarized Washington’s position:

“From the point of justice, the opinions of the Eritrean people must receive consideration. Nevertheless, the strategic interest of the United States in the Red Sea basin and considerations of security and world peace make it necessary that the country be linked with our ally, Ethiopia.”

Thus, unlike other former Italian colonies that achieved independence following the Second World War, Eritrea was denied the right to determine its own future. Only days after the UN decision, Emperor Haile Selassie declared a national celebration marking the “restoration” of Eritrea to Ethiopia and personally thanked the United States for its decisive support.

In return, Washington secured major military advantages in the region. On May 22, 1953, Ethiopia granted the United States permission to establish military installations in Eritrea, including Kagnew Station in Asmara, which would become one of the largest American intelligence and communications facilities outside the United States. Additional agreements soon followed, bringing extensive American military assistance and training to Ethiopia.

Under the United Nations-mandated federal arrangement, Eritrea was supposed to retain substantial autonomy over its internal affairs through its own legislative, judicial, and executive institutions. In practice, however, the Ethiopian monarchy steadily dismantled the federation from the outset. Eritrean autonomy was systematically eroded, democratic institutions weakened, and constitutional guarantees ignored. These escalating violations would ultimately ignite one of Africa’s longest and bloodiest wars for national liberation.



Development

Eritrea's Agricultural Development Over the Past 35 Years: Progress in Livestock Development

By: Ermias Solomon

Q: Mr. Kahsay, what is the overall strategy for livestock development in Eritrea?

A: Since independence, the Ministry has strengthened every component of agriculture, with livestock receiving particular attention due to its role in food security and rural livelihoods. Our strategy focuses on three areas: animal feed and nutrition; breeding and genetic improvement; and animal health services. We have



Mr Kahsay Negash

expanded green forage production, rehabilitated grazing areas, and introduced breeding programs using natural and artificial methods. In the dairy sector, improved cattle breeds and artificial insemination have increased milk production. Equally important has been strengthening veterinary services nationwide.

Q: What measures have been taken to control livestock diseases?

A: Immediately after independence, Eritrea faced serious diseases including Anthrax, Foot and Mouth Disease, Newcastle Disease, and others. The Ministry launched nationwide vaccination and surveillance programs. One notable success was the eradication of Rinderpest in 1997, earning international recognition. Currently, intensive efforts focus on eradicating Peste des Petits Ruminants, a deadly disease of sheep and goats, with encouraging results already achieved.

Q: Could you tell us more about the vaccination program?

A: For many years, we vaccinated



As Eritrea marks 35 years of independence, the Ministry of Agriculture reflects on significant progress in livestock development. In this interview, Mr. Kahsay Negash, Acting Head of the Agricultural Extension Department, discusses achievements and future directions.

approximately 2.5 million livestock annually. In 2025, the campaign was expanded significantly, reaching more than 6.1 million livestock, poultry, and dogs. Preventive vaccination is far more economical than treating outbreaks. The Ministry imports and also produces essential veterinary medicines. Since independence, more than 73 veterinary clinics have been established across the country, though continued investment remains essential.

Q: What progress has been made in poultry and egg production?

A: Poultry production has become a dynamic component of the livestock sector. At independence, poultry keeping was largely traditional and commercial production was virtually nonexistent. The Ministry began importing improved parent-stock chickens from the Netherlands, Germany, and Egypt. These birds were multiplied locally, and chicks were distributed to farmers throughout the country.

Q: How many chickens have been distributed over the past 35 years?

A: The hatchery in Kehawta, Asmara, was expanded into a large facility. Chick-rearing centers were established in all regions. Over 35 years, approximately 113,000 parent-stock chicks have been imported, and more than 8 million day-old chicks distributed nationwide. These interventions have enabled thousands of families — especially women and young people — to engage in poultry production, increasing the availability of eggs and meat significantly.

Q: What about beekeeping and honey production?

A: Beekeeping has recorded notable progress. At independence, honey production relied almost entirely on traditional hives. The introduction of frame hive systems began in 1998. In 1991, Eritrea had about 19,000 bee colonies; today, that number has grown to more than 46,000 colonies. Most are now managed using modern frame hives. This transformation has led to a substantial increase in honey production, making honey more widely available and reducing market prices to less than half their 1990s level. Beekeeping has also become an important supplementary income source for rural households.

Q: What progress has been made in dairy development and milk processing?

A: After independence, dairy farming was concentrated in urban and peri-urban areas such as Dekemhare, Elabered, and Keren. The Government launched major dairy initiatives to introduce improved dairy cattle. At Elabered and Halhale, improved breeds have been introduced to upgrade local cattle. Milk processing has advanced significantly as well. At independence, Eritrea had only three milk-processing plants. Today, nineteen facilities produce pasteurized milk, yogurt, cheese, and other dairy products. The cheese industry has developed to the point where it has the potential to target export markets.

Q: What is the broader significance of these achievements?

A: The progress in livestock development demonstrates Eritrea's sustained commitment to a resilient and self-reliant agricultural sector. Healthier animals, improved breeds, stronger veterinary services, and expanded opportunities in poultry, dairy, and beekeeping have boosted production, increased incomes, improved nutrition, and strengthened food security. As Eritrea celebrates 35 years of independence, these accomplishments stand as evidence of what can be achieved through visionary leadership, community participation, and national determination.

Public Relations Division
Ministry of Agriculture



The Anatomy of Revisionism . . .

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1. The False Veneer of Pan-Africanism The Prosperity Party frequently employs Pan-African rhetoric, portraying itself as a champion of continental integration and economic development. However, its actual conduct directly contradicts the foundational principles of the African Union:

- Violating Uti Possidetis Juris: The sanctity of inherited colonial borders remains a foundational pillar of continental stability, deliberately established by the founders of the AU to prevent expansionist wars. By questioning the legitimacy of Eritrea's borders and advocating their revision on the basis of demographic size or economic need, the PP is actively undermining this Pan-African consensus.
- Disregarding Legal Finality: Eritrea has consistently respected international law and the "final and binding" border decisions delivered by the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC) under the 2000 Algiers Agreement. The PP's continuing refusal to fully accept these settled boundaries demonstrates that its invocation of Pan-Africanism functions more as a political instrument rather than as a genuine commitment to continental principles.

On the other hand, and in contrast to the Prosperity Party's aggressive rhetoric, the State of Eritrea has maintained a disciplined focus on regional stability and international law. By refusing to engage in deceitful and inflammatory media campaigns and political provocation, Eritrea has sought to preserve the legal frameworks governing the Horn of Africa and the broader continent. Furthermore, Eritrea's distinct model of nation-building — centered on unified citizenship and social justice rather than ethnic regionalism — stands as a robust alternative to the fragmented political models proliferating across the region.

For international policymakers, scholars, and, most importantly, the peoples of the Horn of Africa, the central challenge is not Ethiopia's landlocked geography; rather, it is the Prosperity Party's increasingly reckless tendency to undermine regional stability, international law, and state sovereignty in order to deflect attention from mounting internal crises.

Conclusion

The Prosperity Party's three-year hostile campaign against Eritrea exemplifies a dangerous pattern of externalizing domestic structural failures through aggressive foreign policy. By conflating commercial ambitions with territorial sovereignty, inciting cross-border ethnic tensions, and supporting destabilizing proxy activities in Sudan and Somalia, the current Ethiopian administration is, in effect, undermining regional peace and stability.

Throughout these sustained provocations, the Government of Eritrea has maintained a principled position grounded in international law and a prudent policy of patience and restraint. The international community must look beyond the PP's superficial Pan-Africanist rhetoric and duplicity, and instead hold it accountable to the foundational principles of the United Nations and the African Union Constitutive Frameworks on absolute and unconditional respect for sovereign borders, non-interference in the internal affairs of states, and the peaceful resolution of disputes.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Research and Documentation Division
19 May 2026



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P.O. Box 4276
Asmara
Eritrea
Tel: (+291) 1124941
Fax: (+291) 1124941
www.bishamining.com

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Bisha Mining Share Company is inviting applicants for the following positions

1. Position: Underground Electrician

Department: Processing and Underground Operations

Section: Harena Underground

Number required: One (01)

Primary Purpose

- Carry out electrical maintenance, repair, and installation work on power plant.

Main Functions

- Carry out planned electrical repair and maintenance on the power plant
- Observe established safety regulations and procedures during work.
- Ensure that tools/equipment used for electrical installations is kept in appropriate places after operations.
- Compile check lists/work sheets and submit to supervisor.
- Health, Safety and Environment and Additional Duties

TASK DESCRIPTION EXPANDED TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

Carry out planned electrical repairs and maintenance on power plant

- Ensure optimum availability of the plant equipment.

Observe established safety regulations and procedures during work.

- Prevent injury to personnel and safeguard company property.

Ensure that tools/equipment used for electrical installations is kept in appropriate places after operations.

- Examines electrical installations and determines faults and state of repair required including the parts and materials required for repair work.

Compile check lists/work sheets and submit to supervisor.

- Show work progress/delays for attention/action.

Health, Safety and Environment.

- Drive the health, safety and environment standards/policy awareness and practice in the Department to ensure compliance.
- Facilitate Stop Look Assess and Manage (SLAM), Visible Felt Leadership (VFL), Planned Task Observation (PTO), training.

Additional Duties.

- Adhering to all other assignments that are given that are lawful and fair

Unique requirements/other information

- The candidate must be Physically and Medically fit.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craft Certificate in Electrical • First Aid Certificate • Valid driving license 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 years' experience • Knowledge of diesel power plant operations. • International experience is desirable particularly in Africa.
Technical Skills	Behavioral Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Literacy (MS Office, Intermediate, Excel) • Plan, organize, and execution • Risk management and assessment. • Analytical and Problem solving. • Technical Report writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good oral and written communication skills and Teamwork. • Ability to work in multi-disciplinary environment. • Ability to conduct Engineering matters to various levels. • Ability to work under pressure and achieve project milestones. • Self-starter, Drive and enthusiasm. • Developmental orientated, Passion for accuracy and perfection in delivery. • Good leadership skills • Safety oriented.

2. Position: Artisan Plant Fitter

Department: Processing and Underground Operations

Section: Harena Underground

Number required: One (01)

Primary Purpose

- To inspect, maintain and repair plant equipment (machinery) in underground, effectively, efficiently, and safely.
- Responsible for diagnosing, repair and rebuild underground plant, pumps, and other machineries. Can disassemble and assemble equipment to OEM standard.

Main Functions

- Equipment availability, Reports & prevent injury to self/others and safeguard company property, Preventive Maintenance and Health, Safety and Environment.
- Additional Duties

TASK DESCRIPTION EXPANDED TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

Equipment availability

- Ensure optimum plant/equipment availability; Perform maintenance activities per work order and ensure proper reporting/recording of defects for action

- Follow plan maintenance schedule
- Prepare list of consumables and parts required by the section.

Reports.

- Reports progress of work to his supervisors
- Complete all work order and report to maintenance planner for recording
- Conduct inspection and report of equipment conditions.

Prevent injury to self/others and safeguard company property.

- Ensure strict adherence to statutory and domestic regulations particularly those relating to safe working practices
- Comply with mine's cardinal rules and other safety, environmental or other rules and standards as directed.
- Identifies any hazards in the workplace.

Preventive Maintenance

- Keep equipment and prolong service life
- Ensure of good housekeeping
- Ensure follow up generation of corrective work orders are raised from the conducted plant maintenance (PM) programs i.e., for every 6 PMs done 1 follow up work order
- Diagnosis & repairs faults on equipment & machinery during production/operation.
- Analysis & solve mechanical problems.

Health, Safety and Environment.

- Drive the health, safety and environment standards/policy awareness and practice in the Department to ensure compliance.
- Facilitate SLAM, VFL, PTO, training.
- Report all hazards and corrective action taken
- Be visible leader in safety performance.

Additional Duties.

- Adhering to all other assignments that are given that are lawful and fair.

Unique requirements/other information

- The candidate must be Physically and Medically fit.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fitter Trade or Craft Certificate in Plant fitting or equivalent • First Aid Certificate • Technical school or college 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 years' experience • Knowledge of underground plant. • Experience in zinc or other base metal mining is essential. • International experience is desirable particularly in Africa.
Technical Skills	Behavioral Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Literacy- MS Office – Intermediate, Excel – • Plan, organize, and execution. • Risk management and assessment. • Analytical and Problem solving. • Technical Report writing • High level accuracy • Attention to details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good oral and written communication skills and Teamwork. • Ability to work in multi-disciplinary environment. • Ability to conduct Engineering matters to various levels. • Ability to work under pressure and achieve project milestones. • Self-starter, Drive, and enthusiasm. • Developmental orientated, Passion for accuracy and perfection in delivery. • Good leadership skills • Specialized organizational skills of evaluation, planning and scheduling.

General Information and other requirements:

- **Place of Work:** Bisha.
- **Salary:** As per Company salary scale.
- **Type of Contract:** Indefinite

Additional requirements for Nationals:

- Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligation and provided evidence of release paper from the Ministry of Defense.
- Present clearance paper from current/last employer.
- Testimonial documents to be attached (CV, work experience credentials, a copy of your National Identity Card etc.).
- Only shortlisted applicants will be considered as potential candidates for an interview.
- Application documents will not be returned to sender.
- All applications should be sent through the post office.
- **Deadline for application: 10 days from the day of publication in the Newspaper.**

Address: Please mail your applications to:-

Bisha Mining Share Company,
P. O. Box 4276 Asmara, Eritrea

Note to Eritrean applicants:

Please send a copy of your application to:

1. Aliens Employment permits Affairs,
P. O. Box 7940
Asmara, Eritrea.
2. Mineral Resources Management
P. O. Box 272 Asmara, Eritrea

Vacancy Announcement

The Embassy of Japan is inviting applicants for the following position.

Position	Clerk
Number Required	One
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor's degree or above • Fluent in English (speaking and writing) • Excellent communication and interpersonal skills • Computer skills necessary to create documents and materials, etc. (especially MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint)
Duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance duties for diplomatic activities by the Embassy (schedule coordination of the diplomats, research, document creation, speech writing, etc.) • Other duties specifically instructed by the diplomats of the Embassy

How to apply:

Please send the documents listed below by mail to the address below. The application must be received within 10 days from the publication date of the newspaper in which this announcement is published. All documents received after the deadline will be excluded from consideration.

Embassy of Japan
P.O. BOX 1131
Asmara, Eritrea

- CV (face photo, date of birth, gender, home address, phone number, email, educational background, and work experiences)
- Photocopy of ID
- National Service completion document
- Proof of no crime records
- Recommendation letter from the current or past employer(s)
- Academic graduation certificates, diploma, etc.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted after the document screening.



Congratulation



Red Sea Bottlers Sh. Co.

Coca - Cola

**Congratulates the People & Government of
Eritrea on the 35th Anniversary of Eritrean
Independence Day.**

Red Sea Bottlers Sh.Co. Coca – Cola

OUR RESILIENCE OUR GUARANTEE !



Exclusive Q&A: 'We Consider Eritrea a Pillar of Stability': Egypt's Foreign Minister, Dr. Badr Abdellaty

A senior Egyptian delegation led by Foreign Minister Dr. Badr Abdellaty, along with Egypt's Minister of Transport and CEOs from key transport, energy, and mining sectors, visited Eritrea on the weekend and held discussions at the Denden Guest House with President Isaias Afwerki. The talks focused on deepening all-around bilateral ties and shared regional and international issues. On that occasion, the two sides also signed a Maritime Transport Agreement to develop cooperation in the shipping sector. Eri-TV's Salahadin Hussien sat down with Egypt's Foreign Minister to unpack the outcome of the visit, the vision for bilateral economic collaboration, and the broader regional implications. Excerpts follow.

Q. To begin with, can you tell us about the purpose of the visit and its role in strengthening the historic bilateral relations between Eritrea and Egypt?

I am very happy to be here in my second home, the sisterly State of Eritrea. I am here on the direct instructions of His Excellency President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, within the framework of continuous communication with Eritrea, to demonstrate our full solidarity and to work towards a qualitative leap in bilateral relations. This is especially important in light of the directives issued by President El-Sisi and President Isaias Afwerki to strengthen relations, particularly in specialized and commercial fields, in addition to ongoing consultations with my brother, Foreign Minister Osman Saleh, regarding regional issues in the Horn of Africa.

This visit comes amidst several important occasions, most notably the approaching celebration of the 35th Anniversary of Eritrea's Independence. Heartfelt congratulations on this auspicious occasion. I am carrying a message from President El-Sisi to his brother President Isaias – a message of empathy, brotherhood, friendship, support, and solidarity. The visit also comes at a delicate time given escalating threats. Egypt and Eritrea live in a turbulent region, both in the Horn of Africa and the Middle East. We consider Eritrea a pillar of security and stability in the Horn of Africa. Therefore, there is a strong Egyptian leadership commitment to further consolidate relations between our two countries.

I was honored to have a very important meeting lasting over an hour and a half with President Isaias. We thank him for his generosity. There was a convergence of views and a clear political will from both leaderships to enhance relations in all fields. I am accompanied by a large delegation including the Egyptian Minister of Transport and more than eight Egyptian companies operating in agriculture, mining, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, and maritime transport. We benefited greatly from President Isaias's wise

vision regarding industrial relations, economic cooperation, and the region's future. I conveyed President El-Sisi's verbal message and an official invitation for President Isaias to visit Egypt, which His Excellency graciously accepted.

Q. That leads us to the Agreement signed during this visit. What role will it play in enhancing cooperation between Eritrea and Egypt and in implementing joint projects?

Indeed, God willing, this will begin a major effort to link Egyptian and Eritrean ports and establish direct shipping lines, boosting trade and economic cooperation. The Agreement was signed in the presence of President Afwerki, sending a clear message of political commitment in both countries.

Also, as I mentioned, a delegation from major Egyptian companies is here, including two of the largest in Africa: Arab Contractors and Elsewedy Electric. These companies have built projects across Africa, including the Julius Nyerere Dam in Tanzania – a massive dam generating 600 megawatts with a storage capacity of 42 billion cubic meters of water, constructed using purely Egyptian technology without Western reliance. Technology transfer and vocational training programs have been facilitated. Other companies in the mining sector have also joined us.

I want to emphasize an important point: these Egyptian companies are not here merely for temporary commercial deals, but to invest and remain in Eritrea. This is due, firstly, to the modernization plan led by President El-Sisi, and secondly, to the favorable environment and full support from President Isaias, who stated his full support for Egyptian companies in mining, pharmaceuticals, construction, electricity, and irrigation. God willing, there will be tangible results in the coming period with Egyptian investments entering the Eritrean market, alongside new financing and development models based on mutual gain, knowledge transfer, and technical education.

Q. Excellency, both Eritrea and

Egypt are Red Sea basin states. What cooperative mechanisms exist between them and other basin countries to maintain the sea's security and stability, harvest the benefits that accrue from its resources, and make use of this vital strategic corridor?

I have already addressed this issue. During my meeting with President Isaias, the issue was very important. There is a strong alignment between Egyptian and Eritrean viewpoints that all matters related to the governance and security of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden are solely the responsibility of the littoral states. This is crystal clear and non-negotiable.

Discussions are currently underway among the littoral states – particularly with Saudi Arabia, Eritrea, Egypt, Jordan, Yemen, and Somalia – to activate the Council of Arab and African States Bordering the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. The focus is on activating this council as quickly as possible to ensure that governance and security of the Red Sea are a reality, not just rhetoric. This necessitates activating the council's mechanisms, which will be headquartered in Saudi Arabia. There are clear visions for linking ports and fostering logistical cooperation among Red Sea ports of the littoral states. Security, too, must be the sole responsibility of the littoral states and no other parties. This is a clear and non-negotiable point.

Q. You mentioned that fate has placed Eritrea and Egypt in this volatile region – the Horn of Africa and East Africa – which witnesses many conflicts and instabilities. What joint efforts are being made to resolve these problems and achieve security and stability in the region?

Firstly, we view Eritrea as a fundamental pillar of stability in this troubled region, the Horn of Africa. We admire President Isaias's wisdom in managing relations with a high degree of tact, balance, and de-escalation. Secondly, there is a shared vision between the two Presidents regarding managing relations in the Red Sea and Horn of Africa. We manage these relations based on dialogue, focusing on improving living standards, enhancing economic and technical cooperation, and avoiding military escalation or rash adventures with unpredictable consequences. We cannot afford such situations; we already have more than enough problems.

We must focus on dialogue, de-escalation, and promoting peaceful

solutions. With political will and a shared vision, we can achieve a great deal. In addition to the Council of Red Sea States, there is the Egyptian Stream Initiative, on which we are cooperating with Eritrea and other Red Sea countries regarding environmental



cooperation, maritime rescue, logistics, and port connectivity. This is what we need, far removed from any military adventures by parties seeking hegemony and control. Such adventures are unacceptable. We must focus on our commonalities, shared goals, and shared destiny to enhance economic and trade cooperation.

Q. The Middle East and Gulf region are going through a very difficult period due to the war between the US and Israel on one side and Iran on the other. In your opinion, what viable vision do you see for resolving this crisis and achieving security and stability?

The vision is clear and must be based on a set of general governing principles. First, there are no military solutions to this problem. We must focus on dialogue and peaceful solutions. We have witnessed more than forty days of fighting, and it has not achieved anything. Therefore, we are working to de-escalate and promote dialogue. Second, respecting the principle of good neighborliness is paramount – refraining from aggression, respecting the sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity of states, and non-interference in internal affairs. These are established principles in international law and the UN Charter.

We are now pushing for mediation and dialogue, encouraging the Iranian and American sides to sit at the negotiating table directly. There is a document to negotiate, commonalities, and some outstanding issues. But with goodwill and political will, we are confident a consensus can be reached. Once again, we condemn anything targeting our brothers in the Gulf Arab states, and we reject any armed aggression

or interference in internal affairs. If states want to address regional security frameworks, they must avoid hegemony, whether by Israel or any other regional party. Dialogue must be the only means to resolve differences. Good neighborliness and non-interference should be the guiding

principles, especially between Iran and the Gulf states. It is necessary to stop aggression and interference in the Gulf states' internal affairs and respect their legitimate security concerns.

Q. Your Excellency, this visit to Eritrea comes as Eritrea celebrates its 35th Independence Anniversary. Do you have any words or a message you would like to convey to the people and government of Eritrea on this occasion?

We extend our heartfelt congratulations and blessings from the Egyptian leadership, people, and government to the wise Eritrean leadership, the brotherly Eritrean people, and the State of Eritrea on this auspicious occasion – 35 years since the cherished achievement of independence in 1991. We appreciate all the achievements realized under the wise leadership of President Isaias Afwerki. The climate of security, stability, and development that Eritrea enjoys amidst this highly turbulent regional environment reflects the wisdom of the Eritrean leadership. We wish the brotherly Eritrean people continued progress, prosperity, and stability.

We also reaffirm Egypt's unwavering commitment to strengthening bilateral cooperation between our two countries and brotherly peoples, based on shared interests and mutual benefit. Given the long-standing ties and bonds between us, and with the political will of our wise leaders, President Sisi and President Isaias, we can achieve much more. We look forward to President Isaias's gracious visit to his second home, Egypt, in the near future.

Thank you, Dr. Badr Abdellaty.