

ERITREA PARTICIPATES AT THE AFRICAN UNION–EUROPEAN UNION SUMMIT



Eritrean delegation led by Mr. Saleh Omar, Eritrea's Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa and southern African countries, participated in the 7th African Union–European Union Summit that was conducted in Luanda, Republic of Angola, from 23 to 25 November.

The summit, held under the broader theme "Promoting Peace and Prosperity through Effective Multilateralism" and attended by representatives from over 77 countries, was led by the Chairman of the African Union, President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço of Angola, and Mr. Antonio Costa, President of the European Council. The discussions focused on peace and security, development, human migration, and collective diplomacy.

Addressing the Summit, Ambassador Saleh said that the partnership between the AU and the EU in this format has existed since the year 2000. At this juncture, he stated, it is imperative to seriously evaluate the strengths and shortcomings of the partnership over the last quarter of a century and chart a roadmap that optimizes its added value, based on the principles of co-ownership, shared responsibilities, and mutual benefits.

At the meeting conducted by senior officials on 23 November to prepare the agenda of the summit, Mr. Biniam Berhe, Chargé d'Affaires at the Eritrean Embassy in Ethiopia and Eritrea's Permanent Representative to the AU and Economic Commission

for Africa, presented a report regarding the stance of the African Union on the implementation of the Joint Declaration adopted in 2022 in Brussels.

In his report, Mr. Biniam Berhe, chairman of the Committee of Multilateral Cooperation of the AU, said that AU member countries' participation in the planning and execution of programs was low and recommended ensuring mutual ownership, participation, and benefits going forward. The Eritrean delegation comprised Mr. Biniam Berhe, Mr. Michael Tesfay, First Secretary at the Eritrean Embassy in Benelux countries, and Mr. Hagos Zemicael, Eritrea's Consul in Angola. *(Full Text of the Statement is on page 2)*

WARM RECEPTION FOR NATIONAL CYCLING TEAM

The Eritrean National Cycling Team, which achieved remarkable victories in both men's and women's categories at the African Continental Cycling Championship 2025 in Kenya, was warmly welcomed upon its arrival at Asmara International Airport.

The welcoming ceremony was attended by Ambassador Zemed Tekle, Commissioner of Culture and Sports, along with officials from the Eritrean Cycling Federation and enthusiastic sports fans.

Ambassador Zemed said that the Eritrean National Cycling Team delivered victory as expected and according to plans, making the country and its people very proud. He also expressed gratitude to the National Team, on behalf of the public and the Government, for the tenacity and courage they demonstrated.

At the African Cycling Championship 2025, held from 20 to 23 November, the National

Team clinched 10 medals across both genders, including 3 gold, 5 silver, and 2 bronze.

At the final road race on 23 November, Olympian Merhawi Kudus in the elite group, Awet Aman in the under-23 category, and Natan Medhanie in the junior category shone, winning gold medals.

Likewise, Nahom Efreem won a silver medal in the junior category, while Mewael Germay secured a silver medal in the under-23 category.

In the women's category, Adiam Tesfu won a silver medal in the junior time trial, Monaliza Araya won a bronze medal in the under-23 category, Suzana Fesehaye secured a bronze medal in the under-23 category, and Birikti Fesehaye won a silver medal in the road race.

At the competitions, which lasted four days, competitors from over 30 countries took part.



SEMINAR FOR NATIONALS ABROAD



Angola

Mr. Saleh Omar, Eritrea's Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa and Southern African countries, conducted a seminar for nationals residing in Luanda and its environs, Angola, on 22 November.

The seminar focused on the current situation in the homeland, regional and global developments, the timely responsibilities and roles of nationals in national development

programs, and the significance of strengthening communities.

Likewise, the YPFDJ organization in Switzerland conducted its congress on 22 November in Bern. The congress was attended by representatives of 11 sub-organizations of the YPFDJ, as well as representatives of youth organizations from Europe and national organizations in

Switzerland.

Ms. Monaliza Tekeste, secretary of the central committee of the YPFDJ Europe branch, and Mr. Habtom Araya, head of finance for the organization, provided briefings on the organization's objectives and working procedures.

Mr. Alsheday Mesfun, the acting head of the organization, also

presented the organization's two-year activity report.

The congress also elected a new executive committee for a two-year term.

In the same vein, the Board of the National Union of Eritrean Women in Europe conducted its annual regular meeting from 14 to 16 November in Frankfurt, Germany.

Mr. Yohannes Weldu attended the event, Chargé d'Affaires at the Eritrean Embassy in Germany, Mr. Kibreab Tekeste, Eritrea's

Consul General, Mr. Teame Haile, head of Public and Community Affairs, as well as board members of the union from 10 European countries including Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, the UK, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland.

On the occasion, Ms. Negisti Tsegay, head of the union's Europe branch, delivered an activity report and the future program.

The participants conducted an extensive discussion of the report presented and expressed their readiness and commitment to implementing the program for 2026.



Switzerland

Statement by Ambassador Salih Omar Abdu Head of the Delegation of the State of Eritrea at the 7th African Union – European Union Summit Under Session I: “Peace, Security and Governance; and Multilateralism”

Your Excellencies Co-Chairpersons,

It is my great honor to address, on behalf of the State of Eritrea, the 7th AU-EU Summit being held under the theme “Promoting Peace and Prosperity through Effective Multilateralism.”

Allow me at the outset to convey to this august Summit the warm greetings of H.E. Mr. Isaias Afwerki, President of the State of Eritrea.

I also wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to the people and Government of the sisterly Republic of Angola for the warm hospitality accorded to me and my delegation since our arrival in this beautiful city of Luanda.

Your Excellencies Co-Chairpersons,

The partnership between AU and EU in this format has existed since the year 2000. It goes without saying, the interaction between the



two neighboring continents goes back to millennia. At this juncture, it is imperative to seriously evaluate the strengths and shortcomings of the partnership over the last quarter of a century and chart out a road map that optimizes the added value of the partnership, based on the principles of co-ownership, shared responsibilities and mutual benefits. This task becomes urgent as we are witnessing heightened competition and conflicts resulting from the

and States must refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force. Unequivocal adherence to these principles, enshrined in the UN Charter, are conditions *sine qua non* for peaceful inter-state relations.

• On Multilateralism
Your Excellencies Co-Chairpersons,

The ever-growing

of the system, to the necessity of creating a multilateral order that gives equal voice and influence to the hitherto marginalized parts of the world, especially Africa.

Eritrea is concerned that the imposition of unilateral sanctions on several African countries severely hampers their efforts to access international development and climate finance, achieve industrialization and mobilize private sector capital. This hinders the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the aspiration of Agenda 2063, the Africa We Want.

Your Excellencies Co-Chairpersons,

In conclusion, I wish to reaffirm Eritrea's continued commitment to contribute its share to the promotion of peace and security in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea Regions. Eritrea also remains committed to contribute to the collective effort of making this partnership a win-win engagement, that adds value to the two Unions, through co-ownership.

I thank you!

24th November 2025,
Luanda, Republic of Angola



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PROFILE**

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ongoing reconfiguration of the international system.

• On Peace and Security

One key pillar of the partnership between our two Unions is the maintenance of peace and security in the two continents and at the global level. The stability of the current international system depends on each and every state's commitment to respect the cardinal principles that underpin it. As stated in the draft Joint Declaration of this summit, the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of states cannot be negotiated or compromised;

interdependency between peoples' and nations of the world necessitate the strengthening and reforming of the multilateral system to capacitate it to address shared threats and make use of collective opportunities. The commitment of the two Unions on multilateralism is encouraging. However, there is an urgent need to expedite the reform of the multilateral system to make it more representative, fair and just. This reform should address the continued marginalization of Africa in all aspects of global governance. The success of the reform will largely depend on extending the shared understanding on the indispensability



From Social Media



Yemane G. Meskel
@hawelti

Prosperity Party (aka Potemkin Party) signature media trademark is better encapsulated in the following algebraic equation:
PP propaganda = Optics + Posturing + Deception + Disinformation; (the four variables have different weights depending on the event/intended objective).

This is indeed the hallmark of the numerous articles churned out on a daily/weekly basis by PP's extensive media platforms (Horn Review; Foreign Policy Institute; X accounts of hired lobbyists etc.).

Latest spin in this profusely boring and stale saga revolves on misconstruing the ordinary and periodic foreign military visits to Addis Ababa - Italian Navy; AFRICOM, France's Armed Forces etc. - as "explicit and pronounced endorsement of its quest for access to the sea".

The hollow optics of the whole affair apart, the controversy has never been on normative access to the sea. Truth is, Ethiopia enjoys a "buyers' market" with a wide latitude of choices and options for cementing viable commercial agreements with all the transit countries in the HoA neighbourhood for purposes of trade.

"Sovereign access to the sea" is however a toxic agenda that infringes on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ethiopia's neighbours in flagrant violation of international law, and, the foundational principles of the UN Charter and the AU Constitutive Act.

Another intriguing/perplexing dimension of PP's quest for "sovereign access to the sea" is its repeated allusion to the exigency of projecting "Naval power in the Red Sea".

True, the Red Sea is an important maritime route for global commercial trade. But this does not mean that all the countries - from near or far - whose commercial transactions somehow pass through the Red Sea have a "legal right or exigency" to acquire naval bases on the shores of the Red Sea!

As expounded in the link below, the littoral States of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden have a consensual position on their obligations and legal prerogatives in securing and promoting enduring and sustainable stability of the crucial international maritime route.

In the event, Potemkin Party's elusive obsession of projecting "naval power" in the Red Sea has no security rationale or dividends whatsoever. And besides its dangerous legal and security ramifications, the obsession is indeed akin to the adage: "ጽንብላሊዕሉ መቐመጫ ዘይከደነት ትምድሪ ከደነት" #



SpotLight

Bana Negusse

Safeguarding Women's Health

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), a specialized agency of the United Nations, cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer among women globally. In 2022, an estimated 660,000 women were diagnosed with cervical cancer worldwide, and about 350,000 women died from the disease. About 99 percent of cervical cancer cases are caused by human papillomavirus (HPV). HPV, which

Notably, extensive research has demonstrated that receiving the vaccine at a young age does not lead to earlier initiation of sexual activity.

Despite the global nature of the HPV challenge, the highest rates of cervical cancer incidence and mortality are found in sub-Saharan Africa, Central America, and South-East Asia. Regional differences in the cervical-cancer burden are

improvements have been recorded in maternal mortality, with the country moving from among the world's highest rates to among the best on the African continent. Steady gains have also been made in reducing female genital mutilation (FGM) and other harmful traditional practices. Life expectancy has increased markedly as well, now ranking among the highest in the region. These achievements highlight a sustained commitment to strengthening health systems and protecting vulnerable populations.

Importantly, Eritrea's efforts have also included raising awareness and promoting education about both the dangers of HPV and the importance of the vaccine. Public information campaigns have been delivered across national media, including television, radio, and newspapers, in the various languages spoken throughout the country. Additionally, complementary programs have been introduced in schools and youth groups to ensure accurate knowledge among adolescents and to combat misinformation. At the community

level, awareness gatherings and outreach initiatives have helped provide clear, reliable information and strengthen public trust and participation.

Beyond its direct health benefits, the HPV vaccination program also has broader social and economic implications. By improving the health of women and girls in Eritrea, it enhances their ability to participate fully in education, employment, and community life, contributing to long-term socioeconomic development.

The introduction of the HPV vaccine also aligns with Eritrea's longstanding commitments to gender equality, women's empowerment, and the promotion of health and human rights. Since independence was achieved in 1991, the country has prioritized advancing gender justice and expanding access to essential services. The integration of HPV vaccination into routine immunization reflects this continued dedication.

Access to health services is

a fundamental human right. Women's and girls' sexual and reproductive health is closely linked to multiple human-rights frameworks. International and regional instruments, including the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, affirm that women's right to health encompasses sexual and reproductive health. Likewise, the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action underscores the importance of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services and remains the world's most progressive blueprint for advancing gender equality.

Tragically, across the world – and especially in sub-Saharan Africa – countless individuals have suffered from HPV-related diseases that are easily preventable. For Eritrea, the introduction of the HPV vaccine has been a positive step in safeguarding the health of women and girls, giving them a greater chance to live longer, healthier lives and to reach their full potential.



is the most common viral infection of the reproductive tract, is primarily transmitted through sexual contact, and most people become infected shortly after the onset of sexual activity. Although HPV can affect both females and males, cervical cancer remains the most significant HPV-related disease. Globally, nearly 90 percent of the HPV vaccine-preventable disease burden falls on females.

Notably, widespread immunization with the HPV vaccine can dramatically reduce the incidence of cervical cancer and other HPV-related cancers. Empirical studies show that HPV vaccines provide nearly 100 percent protection against high-risk HPV types 16 and 18, which are the strains responsible for the majority of cervical cancer cases. Moreover, HPV vaccination has consistently been shown to be a cost-effective public health intervention worldwide across diverse contexts.

Across the globe, the primary target group for HPV vaccination is young and adolescent girls aged 9 to 15. The vaccine is most effective when administered before sexual debut and before exposure to HPV.

related to inequalities in access to vaccination, screening, and treatment services; risk factors such as HIV prevalence; and broader social and economic determinants, including gender bias and poverty. Furthermore, even though the HPV vaccine is a safe and proven tool for protecting women and girls, global coverage remains low – especially in the developing world. Currently, only slightly more than half of WHO Member States have introduced the HPV vaccine into their national immunization programs.

In Eritrea, cervical cancer is among the most frequently diagnosed cancers in women, second only to breast cancer. The introduction of the HPV vaccine in recent years has therefore been a significant milestone in strengthening the nation's public health system, with cancer screening and treatment services still relatively limited – often resulting in late-stage diagnosis – expanding vaccination before HPV exposure has been especially critical. However, HPV immunization does not replace the need for cervical cancer screening.

This progress is part of Eritrea's broader, long-term investments in public health. Significant



LOCAL NEWS

CULTURAL WEEK AT WARSAI-YIKEALO SCHOOL IN SAWA



The Cultural Week organized by the National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students of Sawa and Higher Education Institutions, in collaboration with Warsai-Yikealo School, was enthusiastically concluded at a closing event held

on 23 November. The program, which ran for over two months, featured cultural, educational, and artistic activities, including general knowledge competitions, drama, music, fashion shows, poetry, and more.

Ms. Mensura Ismail, head of the National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students branch for Sawa and Higher Education Institutions, said that the event enabled students to identify their talents, competitive spirit, and creativity.

Mr. Saleh Ahmedin, chairman of the National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students, highlighted the importance of creating forums where students can showcase their talents and capacities, exchange experiences, and enhance their competitiveness.

At the event, awards were handed out to the winners of various competitions.

A NEW MATERNITY WARD AT GODAIF COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Mr. Tesfaldet Gebre'amlak, administrator of Godaif community hospital, reported that a new maternity ward has been constructed and is now providing services.

said the new maternity ward is ready to provide delivery services.

Godaif Community Hospital

provides health care services to residents of the sub-zones of Godaif, Gejeret, Sembel, and Gala-Nefhi.

Mr. Tesfaldet also said that four hospital rooms have been renovated in collaboration with partners, and that toilets have been installed in each room.

Indicating that the community hospital has been providing pre- and post-natal care as well as womb and cancer diagnoses, Nurse Gebrehiwet Araya, head of the maternity service,





Ngdet: A Resilient Cultural Practice

By Simon Weldemikael

Ngdet, the periodic communal gathering in Eritrea, often tied to religious and cultural traditions, is one of the most resilient cultural practices of Eritrean society. In Eritrea, traditions are not merely remnants of the past; they are living institutions that continue to shape the present. Ngdet stands out as a periodic social, cultural, and religious gathering that has endured through centuries of change. More than a festive occasion, Ngdet embodies the resilience of Eritrean society, preserving indigenous values amid colonial disruption and modernization. This essay explores how Ngdet functions as a cultural anchor, sustaining community cohesion, religious harmony, and national identity.

Ngdet traces its origins to pre-colonial Eritrean society, where communal gatherings were central to social organization, serving as opportunities for families and villages to reaffirm bonds, exchange stories,

with the aroma of traditional foods and beverages prepared with care. Families open their homes to guests, offering dishes and locally brewed drinks. Sharing food is a symbolic act of generosity and solidarity. The presence of neighboring communities strengthens ties beyond the village, weaving a broader network of trust and cooperation. These gatherings ensure that traditional recipes, songs, and rituals are passed down, keeping indigenous values alive across generations.

At its core, Ngdet is about community. It brings together families, neighbors, and entire villages in a spirit of solidarity, reinforcing trust and mutual support in a society where kinship networks are vital.

Ngdet's role in transmitting values across generations is vital. Elders use these gatherings to pass down oral traditions, proverbs, and moral lessons. Through storytelling, music, and dance, younger generations learn not only about their history but also



of interconnectedness that defines Eritrean society. The majority of Asmara's Ngdet is celebrated on November 30th. The celebrations are anchored around Saint Mary Church, a spiritual and cultural hub in Asmara,

into a living stage of Eritrean culture.

One of the most remarkable aspects of Ngdet is its interfaith character. Eritrea is home to both Christian and Muslim communities, and Ngdet often serves as a shared space where members of different faiths celebrate together. This interfaith participation reflects Eritrea's broader tradition of religious harmony, where Muslims and Christians have coexisted peacefully for centuries. Ngdet gatherings embody this harmony by emphasizing common values of hospitality, respect, and solidarity. They remind participants that cultural identity transcends religious boundaries, fostering unity in diversity. In a region often marked by sectarian conflict, Ngdet stands as a testament to Eritrea's unique model of coexistence.

Beyond its social and religious dimensions, Ngdet has significant political and societal implications. Historically, communal gatherings like Ngdet served as informal forums for dialogue and decision-making. During the struggle for independence, Ngdet gatherings helped sustain resistance by reinforcing collective identity and resilience.

In contemporary Eritrea, Ngdet continues to shape political culture.

These celebrations transcend religious boundaries, reinforcing Eritrea's national unity. By fostering unity and reinforcing indigenous values, it contributes to national stability. Ngdet is more than a cultural gathering; it is a national glue. By bringing together relatives, friends, and neighboring villages, Ngdet strengthens communal bonds. Eritrea's nine ethnic groups, while diverse, share overlapping traditions of hospitality and communal festivals, reinforcing national unity.

Despite challenges posed by modernization and exposure to foreign cultures, Ngdet's resilience lies in its ability to adapt while preserving its core values. The challenge is ensuring that modernization does not erode its cultural essence.

Ngdet is a living institution that embodies indigenous values. It teaches solidarity, respect, and harmony. It preserves cultural practices while fostering unity across religious and social divides. In a world where external pressures often erode cultural practices, Ngdet offers a powerful lesson that traditions rooted in community and values can withstand change. For Eritrean society, Ngdet is not just a gathering; it is a symbol of continuity, resilience, and identity, ensuring that indigenous values remain at the heart of Eritrean society.



and celebrate shared heritage.

During the colonial era, Eritrea experienced profound cultural disruption as foreign institutions attempted to reshape indigenous practices. Yet Ngdet endured, serving as a quiet form of resistance and cultural continuity. By continuing to celebrate Ngdet, communities rejected the colonial narrative that indigenous practices were "primitive" or "obsolete." Even when external powers sought to impose new norms, Eritreans relied on Ngdet as a space to reaffirm their identity and values.

Each village and city in Eritrea sets aside a special day for Ngdet, transforming ordinary life into a vibrant communal celebration. On this day, relatives, friends, and even neighboring villages gather, creating a festive atmosphere. The air is filled

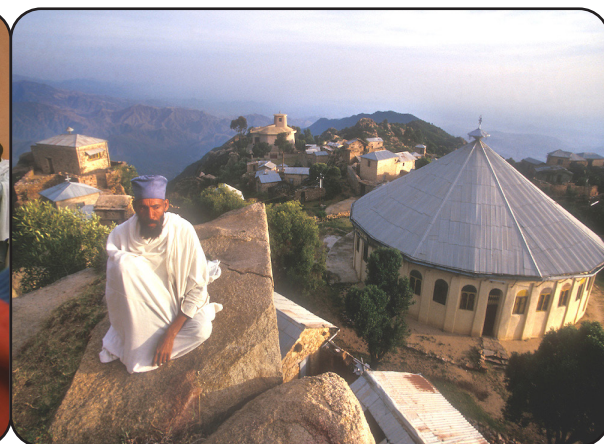
about the ethical frameworks that guide communal life. In this way, Ngdet functions as a living classroom.

Despite the pressures of modernization, Ngdet continues to sustain traditional practices such as folk music, dances like Guaila, and rituals. These elements reinforce a sense of belonging and pride, reminding Eritreans of their distinct cultural identity in a rapidly globalizing world.

While Ngdet is deeply rooted in village life, Eritrean cities have developed their own rhythm of celebration. Different parts or zones of Asmara observe Ngdet at varying times, creating a mosaic of festivities across neighborhoods. This staggered schedule allows families and friends to participate in multiple gatherings, reinforcing the sense

underscoring the intertwining of religious devotion and cultural identity.

Just as in villages, Ngdet in Asmara and other cities is marked by hospitality, with traditional foods and beverages shared among relatives, neighbors, and visitors from surrounding areas. The festive mood spills into the streets, turning the city



Development

Agricultural development of Dekemhare subzone

Mussie Efriem

Progress in agriculture is more than just a technological improvement; it is a major milestone in efforts to ensure food supply and acts as a powerful engine for economic growth. By increasing productivity through improved inputs such as better irrigation and mechanization, a nation ensures its food security. Furthermore, efficient farming lowers the cost of food, making it accessible for the poorest segments of the population. In short, an investment in agriculture is a foundational, cross-cutting strategy for achieving comprehensive societal progress and lasting human security.

Located in Eritrea's Southern region, Dekemhare subzone stands out as one of the country's most productive agricultural areas, celebrated particularly for its effective irrigation farming. It is nationally known for its production of high quantity and quality of diverse fruits, such as oranges, lemons, papayas, grapes, guavas and peaches.

The achievement of Dekemhare's farming has been sustained by a robust assistance from the Ministry of Agriculture



effectively and implementing water augmentation procedures, primarily through the construction of new water reservoirs. This proactive approach ensures the long-term viability of the subzone's water-intensive fruit production. The scale of irrigated farming in Dekemhare is significant and growing. There are currently approximately 650 licensed irrigation farmers operating in the subzone, with an additional 150 farmers in the process of getting licensed, an indication of the substantial commitment to expanding the sector. The total land area under irrigation by licensed farmers has

Spanning approximately 13,680 hectares of cultivated land, the subzone grows a diverse mix of over 11 crop types, including oilseeds, cereals, and pulses, with seasonal variations dictated by climate. The predominantly sandy soil in the subzone favors crops like barley, which makes up the largest portion of the seasonal crops, alongside other important grains such as wheat, sorghum, maize, and finger millet. The agricultural output is significantly boosted by supplementary irrigation sourced from dams, wells, and streams, enabling the year-round production of high-value crops.

foundation of food security and the daily diet of the Eritrean population.

The agricultural productivity of Dekemhare subzone faces a persistent challenge due to its sandy soil that makes the land highly susceptible to erosion. Mr. Tsegay Hadish, an expert in water and soil conservation in the subzone, says this natural vulnerability demands an extra work and commitment to conservation efforts when compared to areas with more stable soil types. To effectively address this issue, the Water and Soil Conservation division employs a strategic and collaborative approach, working closely with local communities and designating responsible persons to consistently oversee the projects.

This concerted effort has yielded significant results, notably the construction of check dams around the vicinity of the town, which has delivered evident improvements in mitigating destructive water runoff. Furthermore, in the subzone's most vulnerable, sloppy areas, where the risk of erosion is highest, extensive terracing has been implemented. These collective initiatives have made tangible changes, fundamentally improving agricultural productivity by recovering and stabilizing degraded land, securing vital water augmentation, and demonstrably increasing the water level of local wells, thereby allowing farmers to utilize water resources more effectively and sustainably for year-round irrigation.



(MoA). The MoA's assistance, which is critical, targets farmers operating irrigation and para-irrigation systems across the subzone. The assistance includes the supply of essential equipment to veteran farmers and the supply of water pumps to new farmers. This targeted support aims to fully harness the subzone's extensive agricultural potential and broaden the community's participation in irrigation farming.

Central to the sustainability of Dekemhare's agriculture is the diligent water management. Amanuel Feschaye, an engineer in the irrigation division, emphasizes that the primary strategic focus is on harnessing water

reached about 1,600 hectares.

Dekemhare subzone is known for its citrus production, and orange is the most popular and most extensively cultivated fruit, covering almost 50% of the fruit farms. The highest concentration of orange groves is found in the Ala Gadien area, whose oranges are nationally known for their exceptional quality, positioning the area as a benchmark for high quality citrus farming in the country. This dual achievement in the quantity and quality of oranges contributes substantially to the national market and solidifies Dekemhare subzone's role in the nation's agricultural economy.

The success achieved in the rain-fed summer crops -- specifically sorghum, maize, and finger millet -- is fundamentally and heavily reliant upon the timely and adequate distribution of the main summer rains. This critical summer precipitation, the cornerstone of the farming season, is generally preceded and significantly optimized by promising spring precipitation. The early spring rains play a vital, preparatory role, ensuring that the soil moisture profiles are adequately charged and conditioned for planting and the subsequent growth phases. This year, the combination of these favorable conditions promising spring precipitation followed by a promising summer rain resulted in a positive outcome. Consequently, this synergistic rainfall pattern, the promising spring precipitation followed by a good, reliable main summer rains produced a truly commendable harvest season this year. The success was particularly pronounced in the yields of the major rain-fed summer crops -- sorghum, maize, and finger millet. These crops are of immense significance as they are essential staples for the population of the entire country, forming the very

LOCAL NEWS

VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR YOUTH IN THE SENAFA SUB-ZONE



The National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students branch in Senafe sub-zone has provided vocational training for 137 youth over the past three months.

The theoretical and practical training covered first aid, beauty salon skills, and painting.

Indicating that the training was provided in line with the youth's inclinations, Mr. Habteab Negasi, head of the union branch, said that nurturing competent

youth is the responsibility of all citizens and called for the design of projects targeting youth.

Mr. Idris Ali Shiker, administrator of the sub-zone, noting that nurturing conscious and competent youth is among the priority tasks of the development programs, called for regular follow-up to ensure that the trainees apply the knowledge they gained from the training to improve their livelihoods.



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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Bisha Mining Share Company is inviting applicants for the following position for Bisha site project.

2.**Position: Auto Electrical Supervisor**
Department: Mining
Number required: One (01)

Primary Purpose

- The Auto Electrical Coordinator is primarily responsible for supervising the electrical work performed for maintenance and repairs of all the mining fleet equipment to ensure sustainable operations at BMSC to meet the approved business plans.

MAIN FUNCTIONS

- To supervise and coordinate the work of the maintenance Auto Electricians while complying with BMSC standards and “Safework” policy
- Manage and co-ordinate the planned preventative Auto Electrical maintenance for the mining fleet and ancillary machines to prevent unnecessary downtime
- Ensure that Auto Electrical work is done according to expected standards measured against industry and OEM standards
- Ensure that all work is carried out according to standard operating procedures to ensure integrity of the equipment and assets are maintained to prolong life and not reduce the life of the assets
- Ensure that all work performed on an unplanned as well as planned basis is documented according to the requirements of the planning process and CMMS system
- Ensure that daily inspections are completed to standard and documented accordingly to record any work required for backlog planning
- Ensure skill transfer to national employees through guidance and coaching by the Auto Electricians according to industry best practices
- Ensure enhancements and improvements to asset integrity and reliability practices for machine integrity to be maintained
- Ensure all corporate governance policies are adhered to for all dealings
- Ensure that all BMSC values and business ethics are maintained throughout the execution of duties

TASK DESCRIPTION EXPANDED TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Planning
- Implementation
- Reporting
- Developing procedures i.e. safe working procedures

Unique requirements/other information

- The candidate must be Physically and Medically fit.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
○ Technical engineering trade or equivalent within the Auto Electrical profession ○ Formal training with certificate for Mobile Air Conditioning systems will be advantageous.	○ At least 5 years experience in a supervisory role in an operational environment ○ At least 5 years experience in delivery of services within developing or underdeveloped countries, challenging operational environments ○ Experience in maintaining large earth moving equipment as well as limited fixed plant ○ At least 5 years experience in two way radios and radio installation and maintenance ○ AC and DC electrical experience will be advantageous
Technical Skills	Behavioral Skills

○ Computer Literacy (MS Office – Intermediate,) ○ Must be able to read and understand technical diagrams ○ Good understanding and knowledge of Mobile AC systems and maintenance. ○ Competent in the use of equipment technical software (ET etc.) ○ Root cause analyses techniques and report writing	○ Safety mindset ○ Communication (English) ○ Assertiveness ○ Interpersonal Relations ○ Integrity ○ Prioritizing skills & multi-skilling ○ Ability to work towards strict deadlines ○ High level of accuracy ○ Discretion ○ Self-motivation ○ Follow standard set procedures
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3.Position: Underground Operations Superintendent
Department: Processing and Underground Operations
Number required: One (01)

Primary Purpose

- Set up Asheli underground transition from project to operation stage and assist the Underground Operations Manager to manage all activities relating to underground mining operations to achieve targeted/scheduled production within budget and in compliance with Government and Domestic Mining regulation.

TASK DESCRIPTION EXPANDED TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Operations and Management
- Administrations
- Budgeting
- Risk & Safety
- Report Writing

Unique requirements/other information

- The incumbent must have the experience in setting up greenfield Underground operation and can plan/execute underground project to operation stage.
- The candidate must be Physically and Medically fit.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
○ Degree in Mining Engineering ○ Further qualification in Finance/Business Management would be an advantage	○ Minimum of 15 years’ experience in the mining industry. ○ 10+ years working experience in hard rock underground mining ○ 5+ years working on green field projects/set-up mining operations is essential. ○ Experience in zinc or other base metal mining is essential. ○ International experience is desirable particularly in Africa. ○ Mine overseer certificate of competence / all operations blasting license ○ Mine Rescue operations certificate ○ First Aid certificate
Technical Skills	Behavioral Skills
○ Computer Literacy (MS Office – Intermediate, Excel – Advanced; MS project – Advanced). ○ Strategic planning, Project planning, Budgeting, Plan, organise, and execution, Risk management and assessment, Analytical and Problem solving, Decision making, Technical Report writing, Attention to details, Valid driving license	○ Excellent Communication (English) ○ Ability to work in multi-disciplinary environment. ○ Ability to conduct Engineering matters to various levels. ○ Interpersonal skills. ○ Ability to work under pressure and achieve project milestones. ○ Excellent leadership skills.

Continued on page 7



Continued from page 6

4. **Position: Senior Geologist**
Department: Processing and Underground Operations
Number required: One (01)

Primary Purpose

- To plan, supervise and control grade of underground ore production.
- Control activities at the mine, determine ore grade from draw points.
- Minimize dilution of ore by waste and determine ore reserves and resources of the mine.

TASK DESCRIPTION EXPANDED TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Determine the grade of ore produced from each draw point.
- Minimize dilution of ore by waste.
- Design and apply computer programs to prepare and maintain production control statistics.
- Calculate manual Ore Reserves and Resources of the mine.
- Control the use of labor.
- Reporting
- Training
- Health, Safety and Environment
- Additional Duties

Unique requirements/other information

- Previous working experience in reactive ground conditions.
- Requisite attributes necessary to perform the role in terms of BMSC core Values.
- To be always be organized, competent, dependable and responsible.
- Candidate must be physically and medically fit.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
○ University degree in Geology is essential. ○ Expert working knowledge of the mining and minerals industry. ○ Proficient in using various types of computer software (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, AutoCAD).	○ Software including: Deswik, Surpac, ACQ and Microsoft Office. ○ At least 10 years practical mining experience. ○ At least 5 years Geology experience in Underground mining.
Technical Skills	Behavioral Skills
○ Knowledge of precious and base metal assay techniques, principles of sampling and check assaying ○ Knowledge and understanding of Resource Modelling and Evaluation, QA/QC Principles, Database Management, Mine Financial Valuation, Geological Modelling, Drilling Techniques, Underground geology and structural mapping, Underground Grade control techniques, Interpretation of drill results, Ore blending and Mill grade reconciliation experience	○ Time Management, Attention to detail, Effective communication Skills, Interpersonal Skills, Creative & Innovative, Leadership, Team Player, Decisive, Ability to train subordinates

5. **Position: Senior Sectional Surveyor**

Department: Processing and Underground Operations
Number required: One (01)

Primary Purpose

- To supervise the carrying out of survey duties on surface and underground at defined locations
- To provide survey services in a defined section of the mine.

TASK DESCRIPTION EXPANDED TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Safety
- Provision of timely survey services
- Development of subordinates
- Observation of statutory and departmental requirements
- Provision of Survey data(sketches)
- Company cost (ensuring good mining)
- Sectional cost Control
- Health, Safety and Environment
- Additional Duties

Unique requirements/other information

- Candidate must be physically and medically fit.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
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○ Degree or Diploma in Surveying. ○ Specialized training in underground mining design layouts and planning techniques-added advantage. ○ Exposure to emerging survey technologies, including digital mapping, LiDAR	○ Must have vast knowledge about surveying. ○ 7 years working experience in underground hard rock mining ○ Knowledge of interpreting plan, design, schedule, control, and direct workloads involving surveying and design layouts of underground mine. ○ Proven ability to introduce and implement modern surveying methods in underground mining. ○ Experience in managing survey databases, digital models, and integration with mine planning software (Deswik)
Technical Skills	Behavioral Skills
○ Proficiency in modern underground survey equipment, including digital total stations, laser scanning, and related data processing tools ○ Strong knowledge of 3D mine design integration, survey control networks, and reconciliation reporting ○ Ability to evaluate and recommend survey technology upgrades to improve accuracy and efficiency. ○ Computer Literacy ○ Conversant with Microsoft Office Suite (Outlook, Excel, Word, Microsoft Project, and Power Point). ○ Ability to operate computers with Deswik software ○ Plan, organise, and execution. ○ Risk management and assessment. ○ Analytical and Problem solving. ○ Technical Report writing.	○ Good oral and written communication skills ○ 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 ○ Passion for accuracy and perfection in delivery ○ Excellent leadership skills.

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 provide 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

SpotLight

Eco-tourism, Culture, and Sustainability in Eritrea

Irdi Issaias

The pursuit of a more sustainable future demands a harmonious balance of economic, social, and environmental considerations. The concept of sustainable tourism has emerged as a key model for addressing these intertwined challenges, providing a framework for safeguarding cultural and natural heritage while fostering economic growth, social well-being, and community development. However, the question remains: how can tourism be sustained and effectively integrated into local heritage preservation efforts?

Many countries face pressure to find a balance between economic growth and protecting national heritage. Although the tourism industry is a major driver of economic development, over-tourism can lead to environmental degradation and cultural homogenization. Therefore, to ensure a sustainable tourism industry, countries must adopt a thoughtful, well-planned approach that balances economic development with the preservation of their unique heritage and natural resources.

Eritrea offers an incredible array of attractions, from ancient ruins and historical sites to modern architecture and distinctive natural wonders. With its treasure trove of diverse tourist attractions, it offers a wealth of experiences for history enthusiasts, nature lovers, and adventure seekers. Throughout the year, visitors can experience the vibrant cities, bustling markets, and traditional food, music, and handicrafts.

However, as the number of tourists increases, it is essential to balance the excitement of these experiences with sustainable practices that prioritize environmental protection, social responsibility, and the preservation of national heritage. Fortunately, Eritrea is committed to developing a sustainable tourism strategy that not only generates revenue but also prioritizes social justice, cultural preservation, and environmental protection.

With a forward-thinking approach to tourism development, the Eritrean government is committed to taking the sector to new heights, driving innovation and progress while promoting sustainable and responsible practices. By prioritizing environmentally friendly and culturally sensitive tourism management, the government seeks to unlock the sector's full potential, ultimately creating a lasting legacy

that benefits the industry, the local community, and the environment. And by adopting sustainable tourism practices, it can help prevent long-term ecological and social damage that would harm the country's environment, heritage, and local communities.

The government is taking a comprehensive and inclusive approach to ensuring the long-term sustainability of its development programs by engaging local communities, promoting awareness of sustainable practices, and establishing robust regulations and laws. This comprehensive approach empowers communities to take ownership of sustainable development, ensuring that their interests are safeguarded. By weaving sustainability into the fabric of the nation's development, Eritrea is creating a resilient and thriving future that benefits all its citizens and the environment as a whole.

Traditional conservation practices have been an integral part of Eritrean life for centuries, with local communities developing and enforcing regulations and levies to protect surrounding agricultural areas and forests, ensuring that those harming the land are held accountable, and promoting a culture of sustainable land use and environmental protection. These long-standing community-led efforts have helped maintain the country's rich ecosystem.

By continuing and reinforcing the efforts of the Eritrean people, the government has made a remarkable commitment to preserving the natural and cultural treasures, ensuring the long-term well-being of the nation, and safeguarding its rich heritage. This is particularly evident in the establishment of various protected areas and the implementation of conservation schemes, which go beyond mere regulatory measures to a bold and empowering initiative that actively safeguards the country's precious heritage and ensures its long-term preservation. In particular, initiatives to preserve and protect the country's forests and marine areas aim to conserve biodiversity and provide habitat for a diverse array of plant and animal species. The successful implementation of these initiatives has yielded impressive outcomes, resulting in a significant increase in the country's wildlife populations and demonstrating substantial capacity for environmental resilience. This success has provided a solid foundation for further conservation efforts, setting

a positive precedent for protecting and preserving Eritrea's natural and cultural resources.

For Eritrea, its rich cultural and natural heritage is a powerful symbol of national pride, playing a significant role in shaping the national identity. The government's commitment to sustainable development is built on a profound understanding that the nation's future is deeply rooted in the choices made today. By embracing sustainable development practices from the outset, it is possible to create a lasting legacy that reflects national identity, values, and aspirations.

Sustainable development practices are not just a set of rules and regulations, but a way of life that prioritizes the well-being of people

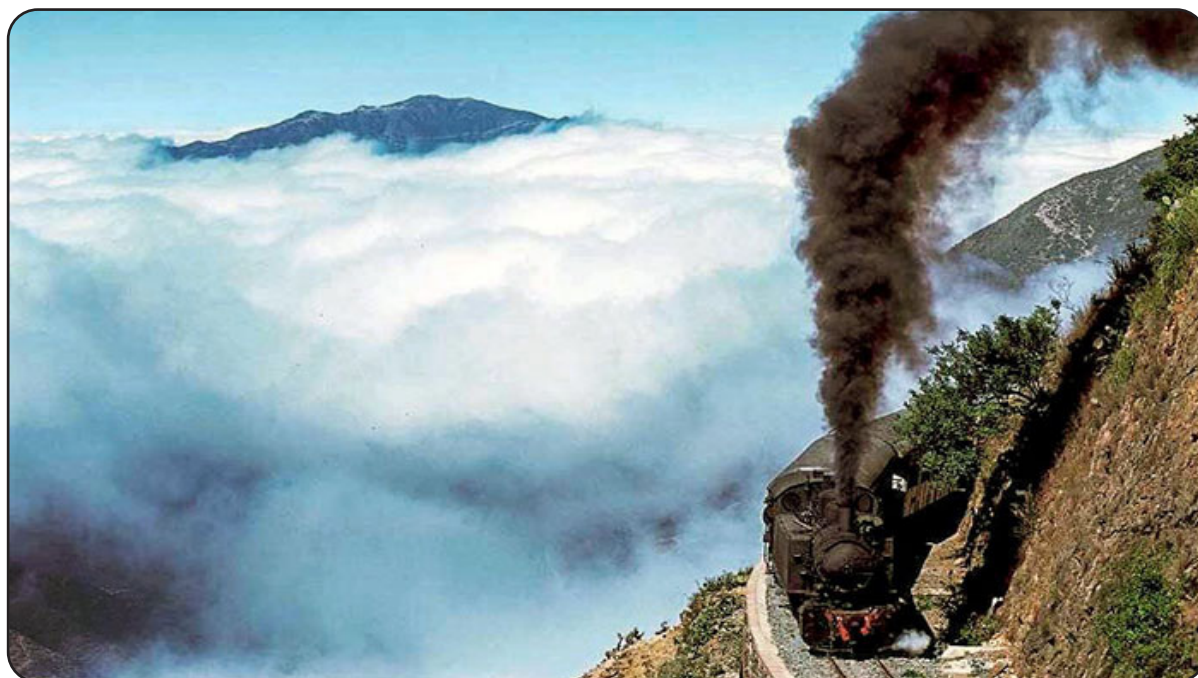
and the planet, embodying a holistic approach that cultivates a culture of responsibility, stewardship, and harmony with the environment. By supporting such activities, communities can reap a wide range of benefits, including economic growth, social development, job creation, the protection and preservation of precious heritage sites, and a strong sense of national identity and shared pride. As such, sustainable tourism development in Eritrea offers a fascinating and rewarding opportunity for all stakeholders to work together to build a brighter future.

promotion of Eritrea's unique cultural identity, safeguarding its rich heritage and ensuring that its traditions, customs, and values are protected, cherished, and celebrated for all time.

Exemplifying the potential of conservation efforts, the growth of elephant populations in protected areas of the Gash Barka region demonstrates the impact that community-led conservation initiatives can have on promoting eco-tourism and supporting local economic development. On its journey to safeguard the country's marine ecosystem, the government has demonstrated its profound commitment to a people-centered approach, working closely with local communities to harness their indigenous knowledge,

in conservation and environmental protection. Eritrea's commitment to sustainable marine development and environmental stewardship is set to propel its blue economy growth, with a focus on sustainable fishing practices, marine conservation and protection, tourism and livelihoods, innovation and technology, and, more importantly, social security.

The Afar people's remarkable conservation story, marked by a deep respect for and a profound connection with the land, is a powerful testament to the transformative potential of community-led conservation efforts. In the southern Red Sea region, particularly in areas with wildlife reserves, the Afar people have traditionally played a vital role in protecting their environment, demonstrating the value of indigenous



and the planet, embodying a holistic approach that cultivates a culture of responsibility, stewardship, and harmony with the environment. By supporting such activities, communities can reap a wide range of benefits, including economic growth, social development, job creation, the protection and preservation of precious heritage sites, and a strong sense of national identity and shared pride. As such, sustainable tourism development in Eritrea offers a fascinating and rewarding opportunity for all stakeholders to work together to build a brighter future.

The national festival held annually at the Expo grounds in Asmara is a vital celebration of Eritrea's vibrant cultural heritage, showcasing its diverse traditions, customs, and art forms. This spectacular event serves as a platform for local communities to proudly showcase their talents, share their skills and cultural practices with visitors, and promote cross-cultural understanding and appreciation. At the heart of this festival is the preservation and

practices, and traditional laws for sustainable management of marine life. This unwavering partnership has not only protected the environment but also fostered deep cooperation and mutual understanding between the government and local communities.

Furthermore, by adopting a comprehensive regulatory framework, Eritrea has successfully protected its islands and coasts from pollution and waste dumping, a testament to its commitment to maintaining the world's most pristine marine ecosystem. This bold, far-reaching collaborative effort has been a shining example of the country's unwavering commitment to preserving its marine heritage.

Drawing strong parallels with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, Eritrea's unwavering commitment to the stewardship of the marine environment stands in stark contrast to the concerning situation in other countries. It is a valuable lesson for fellow nations looking for models of best practices

knowledge and traditional practices in safeguarding natural habitats.

Ultimately, to achieve a truly effective and sustainable approach to tourism development, it is crucial that all stakeholders - the government, non-governmental organizations, religious organizations, the private sector, civil society groups, and local communities - work together in a collaborative, inclusive manner. This collaborative approach has the potential to revolutionize the tourism industry, making it more sustainable, equitable, and resilient in the face of climate change, environmental degradation, and other challenges.

This transformative approach to tourism requires a profound commitment to sustainability, innovation, and learning from past successes and challenges. By prioritizing both the social and environmental aspects of tourism and embracing a culture of continuous improvement, Eritrea can harness the power of tourism to drive positive change and build a resilient future for its people and planet.