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DPFZA's firm stance leaves licensed Ethiopian MTOs in limbo

By our staff reporter

The Djibouti Ports and Free Zones Authority (DPFZA) has adopted a renewed stance that prohibits licensed Ethiopian Multimodal Transport Operators (MTOs) from operating at its border, raising significant concerns

among industry stakeholders. This decision contradicts the operators' expectations to begin services by the deadline set by their own regulator.

In a letter issued two weeks ago, the DPFZA reaffirmed a position it first established about 20 months ago, creating fresh uncertainty for

the newly licensed companies.

The conflict originated from a decision made in March 2024 when the Ethiopian Maritime Authority (EMA) granted licenses to six new MTOs to disrupt the monopoly held by the state-owned Ethiopian Shipping and Logistics (ESL) in

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ECX mandates centralized payments for oilseeds, pulses exports

By Eyasu Zekarias

In a pivotal move to enhance transparency and safeguard foreign exchange earnings, the Ministry of Trade and Regional Integration (MOTRI) has issued Directive No. 1115/2025, mandating that all exporter payments for oilseeds and pulses route exclusively through the Ethiopian Commodity Exchange (ECX). This amendment to Directive No. 1026/2024 eliminates direct bank transfers between exporters and suppliers, addressing longstanding vulnerabilities in these critical export sectors.

Oilseeds and pulses generated over \$610 million in the past fiscal year, comprising 7.35% of Ethiopia's \$8.3 billion export revenue, second only to coffee in agricultural contributions. Previously, direct payments fostered non-payment defaults, tax evasion, smuggling, product waste, and quality degradation along extended supply chains. The new system positions ECX as a central guarantor: exporters deposit funds into a dedicated pay-in account, with transfers to suppliers' pay-out accounts executed within one working day upon joint written request.

Minister Kassahun Gofe highlighted systemic gaps in direct marketing—initially introduced to cut logistics costs and intermediaries—that eroded sector competitiveness and imposed financial strains on suppliers. "This reform closes loopholes, ensures accurate transaction

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Whatever the outcome, war will devastate

The recent rise in tensions between Ethiopia and Eritrea serves as a stark reminder of the precarious state of peace in the Horn of Africa. Ethiopia's demand for direct access to the Red Sea—a critical necessity for its economy and people—has intensified international concerns about the potential resurgence of a devastating regional conflict. History and reality both highlight a painful truth: any renewed conflict will lead to destruction and suffering for both nations. The only viable path forward is through dialogue, negotiation, and a sincere commitment to peace.

Ethiopia's pursuit of access to the Red Sea is not a new issue, but it has become increasingly urgent for a country that has been landlocked since Eritrea gained independence in 1993. With a rapidly growing population nearing 150 million and aspirations for economic development, Ethiopia cannot afford to be cut off from essential maritime trade routes. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has rightly identified this as a matter of survival and dignity, advocating for international mediation and warning that conflict over Eritrea's strategic port of Assab will be "inevitable" if dialogue does not occur.

Conversely, Eritrea's leadership views Ethiopia's demands with deep suspicion, perceiving them as a threat to its sovereignty and territorial integrity. Eritrea's Information Minister has accused Ethiopia of trying to "ignite an unjustified war." This mutual distrust is rooted in decades of hostility and conflict, from their border war in the late 1990s to Eritrea's military involvement in Ethiopia's Tigray conflict. Eritrea's strategic alliances and military presence along disputed borders have only heightened fears of a broader conflict.

Both nations are ensnared in a complex web of grievances and security concerns, yet it is the people who suffer most from prolonged instability. For decades, Ethiopians and Eritreans have faced cycles of conflict that disrupt lives, hinder economic progress, and fracture families. The scars of past wars are evident in devastated towns, displaced communities, and an atmosphere of fear. The region has experienced too many missed opportunities for peace, with agreements failing and negotiations stalling as tensions rise once more.

The recent escalation in hostile rhetoric and accusations—ranging from Ethiopian claims of Eritrean support for rebel factions to Eritrean denunciations of Ethiopian provocations—only deepens the divisions. Armed clashes in disputed border areas and the ongoing presence of foreign troops on Ethiopian territory highlight the fragility of any ceasefire. International warnings, including those from Human Rights Watch and regional experts, stress that the risk of renewed atrocities is alarmingly high.

The cost of another war would be catastrophic. Beyond the immediate loss of lives, the economic devastation would extend far beyond borders, disrupting vital trade routes for both countries and the broader Horn of Africa. The Red Sea is not merely a local asset; it is a critical artery for global commerce and security. Instability in this region jeopardizes not only Ethiopia and Eritrea but also regional and international economic interests.

Even a short conflict could undo years of painstaking peace-building efforts, including the landmark 2018 peace agreement that raised hopes for lasting reconciliation between the two nations. This agreement, celebrated internationally and recognized with a Nobel Prize, has unresolved underlying issues—particularly Ethiopia's landlocked status and Eritrea's fears of encirclement—that require honest and patient negotiation.

The international community, particularly the African Union, South Africa, the United States, and regional stakeholders, must intensify diplomatic efforts to facilitate a sustainable solution. Effective mediation that acknowledges Ethiopia's legitimate aspiration for maritime access while respecting Eritrea's sovereignty can pave the way for pragmatic cooperation rather than confrontation.

Pragmatism must take precedence over rhetoric. Ethiopia should explore negotiated arrangements, such as leasing or sharing Eritrean ports, coupled with economic partnerships that benefit both nations. For instance, Ethiopia's offer to supply Eritrea with energy from the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam can foster aligned interests instead of zero-sum competition.

Simultaneously, both governments must commit to confidence-building measures that reduce military tensions and enable humanitarian relief to reach affected populations. The next generation of leaders—and citizens—deserve more than a perpetual cycle of suspicion and hostility.

Most importantly, the voices of ordinary Ethiopians and Eritreans, who have endured decades of war, must be central to peace efforts. The people are weary. Their livelihoods depend not on military posturing, but on stability, development, and the opportunity to prosper.

This moment calls for bold leadership that favors negotiation over war and dialogue over destruction. The stakes are incredibly high: the future of two nations, the stability of the Horn of Africa, and the well-being of millions hang in the balance.

The world watches anxiously, but Ethiopia and Eritrea have the power to choose peace. They must do so, for the true cost of war will ultimately be borne by their people—and that cost is unbearable.



■ By Rachel Marsden

COMMENT

Here's why nobody asked the EU when coming up with the Ukraine peace plan

Someone leaked a 28-point peace plan for Ukraine, attributing it to the US and Russia. Apparently, no one bothered keeping the EU in the loop. But it wasn't long before they were busy proving precisely why they've been avoided.

But the screeching from the EU big top tent was so distracting that Secretary of State Marco Rubio had to go over to Geneva on Sunday in the same way that a parent has to go calm down their toddler having a tantrum in the supermarket aisle because everyone's rolling their eyes and staring.

The unelected European Commission President, 'Queen' Ursula von der Leyen, said on Sunday that the EU's "centrality" has to be recognized in any peace plan. And that "Ukraine must have the freedom and sovereign right to choose its own destiny. They have chosen a European destiny."

Who is she, Ukraine's mom? Talk about helicopter parenting. Why did Queen Ursula say earlier in the week, in the immediate wake of the leak, that she was going to "reach out to Zelensky to discuss the matter"?

She keeps saying that he's a big boy, and that Ukraine is sovereign and independent. Which must be why she's talking like she's waiting for a phone call from a 12-year old to let her know what time he's going to be home so he doesn't break curfew.

The EU was waiting by the phone alright – but it wasn't ringing. European Council President Antonio Costa had said that he had no idea what was in the proposal because they hadn't even been told about it. Well, now you know. Feel better? Of course not. Rubio had to go all the way over to Geneva to pay lip service to the idea that you jokers have anything to contribute beyond slogans and demands to pursue a course of war until you can get around to figuring out exactly how you can parlay that into profiting and sticking it to Putin.

But what's really the EU's big fear with this new deal? That Ukraine is going to get shafted? Or that the European Union gets left out of a bargain in which everyone else profits and they get stuck with the bill.

Deal points reportedly include mutual Russia-US ventures and profits as sanctions get dropped against Moscow, and the US getting dibs on Ukrainian reconstruction deals. And the only thing that it looks like the EU would get is the opportunity to donate \$100 billion to Ukraine to put their money where their big mouth is. And then to continue to use that big mouth to keep whining about Russia after it has effectively become a business joint venture partner of Washington under this proposed new deal.

Then there's the German foreign minister who's acting like the arbiter of what a real peace plan looks like. Because he's done exactly how many of these? "From my point of view, it is not a real plan, but simply a list of topics," Johann Wadephul told AFP. "It will be Ukraine that decides what compromises it makes," he added. Like a college kid who 'decides' what courses to take while his parents either accept or refuse to let him live under their roof, right?

Seems that the main talking point that went out to EU officials is that this proposed deal is 'about Ukraine without Ukraine,' some variation of which has been repeated by the likes of Queen Ursula, the Czech foreign minister, and his Norwegian counterpart.

Quick question though, guys: Exactly how much free stuff does Ukraine have to get in before it's finally about Ukraine? Christmas is 'about the children' because they're the ones getting showered with cash by everyone else. Same with Kiev.

One thing this peace deal isn't about is Europe, though. So they're trying to shoehorn themselves in. "Our position hasn't changed," said EU chief diplomat Kaja Kallas. "For any peace plan to succeed, it has to be supported by Ukraine, and it has to be supported by Europe."

Your position hasn't changed? You don't say! The whole idea of a peace plan is to change the position – from war. So I guess perhaps that explains the lack of progress, huh?

The Europeans are acting like Ukraine is part of the EU starter pack – conjoined twins, basically. Except the EU is whining way more than even the twin stuck living with some dude she didn't even want to marry because her sister said yes.

These people literally act like they're at war with Russia themselves. Putin's coming in 2030, they say. Gotta shove some tuna cans in your purse for an emergency and let the government blow all your tax money on weapons to prepare.

Don't want to? Well, guess you'd better just get ready to die for being too cheap, then! Is that not scary enough? Well then how about if the military industrial complex directly threatens your kids. Will that work? Looks like a top French general is giving that one a go. "All knowledge, all economic and demographic power must be directed toward containing the Moscow regime," said General Fabien Mandon. "Our country could fail because it is unwilling to accept the loss of its children."

As you might imagine, this guy has totally inspired the French to go fight Russia just so the EU can avoid looking like the slackjawed idiot left holding the bag after the fighting ends.

It's clear that the EU leaders are banking on a war economy. So just imagine how much it would really suck for them if a peace economy suddenly broke out with prearranged business deals – and the only thing left for Europe is the opportunity to blow all the billions that they promised to Ukraine with no clear return on investment.

What a downer peace would be for them at the very moment that European defense giant, Airbus Group, has just started using the conflict as a pretext to peddle the idea of churning out nuclear weapons for Europe, whose delivery systems Airbus is involved in making.

Why should the tank and missile makers and bomb shelter peddlers have all the fun? Why can't nukes get in on the grift? That should be great for humanity in the long run.

Adding insult to injury, Poland says that it'll buy \$100 million worth of weapons for Ukraine. From the US. The EU wants to call the shots to Moscow and Washington, but can't even manage to avoid getting cucked by the Poles as they hop into bed with the US weapons industry to the detriment of Europe's own.

For the EU, this is less about Ukraine and more about not being the schmuck stuck holding everyone else's shopping bags during the post-war clearance sale.

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SCAN ME



Ahadu Bank achieves birr 502.1 million profit amid regulatory changes, economic challenges

By Eyasu Zekarias

Ahadu Bank S.C. reported a remarkable gross profit before tax of Birr 502.1 million for the 2024/25 fiscal year, demonstrating resilience through a period of significant national economic reforms, tightened monetary policies, and geopolitical instability.

The announcement came during the bank’s fourth annual General Shareholders’ Meeting, where officials highlighted strong growth across key financial metrics despite restrictive conditions. These included a 14% credit growth cap imposed by the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), a decrease in silver’s purchasing power due to a market-driven exchange rate shift, and mandatory use of the Fayda digital ID system for account opening.

The bank’s total assets surged 56.5% compared to the previous year, reaching 10.1 billion birr. This growth was supported by accumulated deposits totaling 7.88 billion birr, with new deposits amounting to 3.22 billion birr—an impressive annual increase of nearly 70%. The customer base expanded to over one million, reflecting rising public trust and service outreach.

Ahadu Bank’s loan and prepayment portfolio also grew healthily, hitting 4.43 billion birr. The bank showed a strong contribution to Ethiopia’s foreign exchange reserves, reporting \$88.2 million in foreign exchange earnings—a 10.3% increase from the previous year—underlining its key role in supporting international trade and remittances. Total revenue for the fiscal


year was Birr 2.16 billion.

Recent regulatory reforms by the NBE include the introduction of policy rates and open market operations aimed at controlling inflation, forecasted to fall to 13.9% by June 2025. The country’s GDP is projected to grow 6.6%, driven by robust private and public investment, while the global economy is expected to grow 3.0% in 2025.

A landmark regulatory update, Banking Commerce Proclamation No. 1360/2025, now allows Ethiopian banks to acquire shares in foreign competitor branches, subsidiaries, or local banks. Additionally, liberalized foreign exchange holding rules and the removal of mandatory export fund repatriation as of July 2024 have intensified competition and operational risks for banks, especially newer entrants.


In response, Ahadu Bank strategically diversified its revenue streams and accelerated digital transformation. About 60.6% of its revenue comes from non-interest income sources, including foreign exchange gains. Digital transactions, empowered by QR services and the proprietary School Pay system, accounted for more than 42% of total transactions.

Chairman Anteneh Sebsebie noted the bank’s adaptability amid shifting social, political, and economic conditions. “We have turned challenges into opportunities and laid a strong foundation for sustainable growth,” he said. CEO Mulugeta Beza credited the bank’s profitability to collective commitment



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and teamwork during tough times.

However, Ahadu Bank faces a critical regulatory hurdle: increasing its paid-up capital from the current 1.13 billion birr to meet the NBE’s new minimum

of 5 billion birr. This capital expansion is vital to ensuring long-term stability and enhancing the bank’s capacity for inclusive financial intermediation and future growth.

Family businesses face major challenges in finance and innovation

By Eyasu Zekarias

Ethiopia’s family businesses, long recognized as the backbone of the country’s private sector for their sustainability and longevity, are grappling with critical gaps in finance and innovation that hinder their growth potential, according to the 2025 Annual Family Business Survey.

Launched at the third Ethiopian Family Business Forum (EFBF) 2025 under the theme "Embracing Change for Growth and Innovation," the report, conducted by HST Consulting, draws on input from 32 family firms across manufacturing, retail, trade, logistics, agriculture, and services sectors. It reveals that while these businesses remain stable and resilient, many struggle to accelerate expansion due to limited access to capital.

Access to funding emerged as the largest

barrier, with 21 percent of respondents naming lack of finances as the primary constraint on growth. Solomon Gizaw, CEO and Chairman of HST, highlighted that family businesses’ natural resilience contrasts with their financial limitations. “They are growing but capital access has not kept pace with their ambitions,” he said.

Most companies continue to rely on internal funds, slowing their ability to enter new markets and adopt technology. Bank loans remain the preferred financing option, followed by retained earnings and equity. Less conventional approaches like public offerings and crowdfunding are rarely pursued, reflecting limited awareness and perceived risks.

The economic backdrop compounds these challenges. Ethiopia’s inflation is projected at around 25% by 2025, and

government efforts to reduce spending and improve domestic revenue through credit rationing may further restrict family businesses’ access to external capital.

Beyond financing, the survey uncovers a disconnect between family firms’ stated commitment to innovation and its practical application. While 79 percent regard innovation as vital to long-term competitiveness, only 25 percent have formal innovation initiatives, and 31 percent maintain structured processes to support innovation. Digital technology adoption is growing but has yet to deliver transformative results.

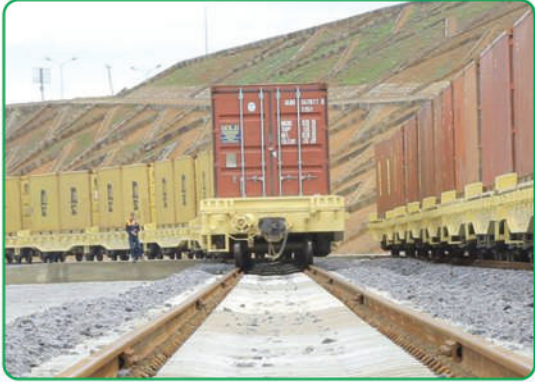
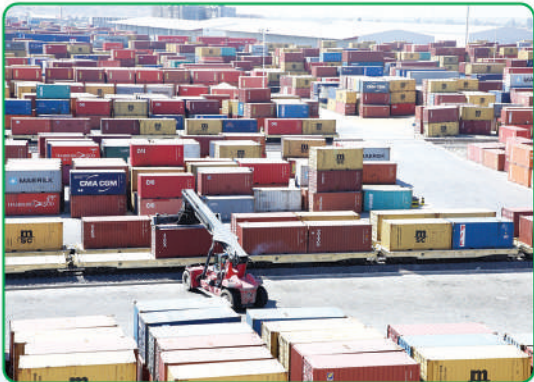
Nearly half of the businesses surveyed (47 percent) have not yet clarified the role of the next generation in innovation, revealing challenges facing often first-generation companies in

leadership succession and engagement. Encouragingly, 31 percent report active involvement of younger family members in new ideas and practices.

Solomon Gizaw emphasized the need to integrate younger leaders to ensure continued innovation and longevity. Speaking at the forum, Tilahun Esmael, CEO of ESX, stressed family businesses’ critical role in driving Ethiopia’s capital market growth.

Organized by HST Consulting, the forum underscored the importance of modernizing management practices, improving financing access, and supporting innovation to secure family businesses’ futures. The survey sends a clear message to business leaders and policymakers: transforming today’s established family enterprises into resilient market leaders requires targeted policy and practical support.

AUCTION RESULT Thursday, November 27, 2025		The 37 th OMO auction result for Liquidity-Absorbing Open Market Operation	
Auction No.	OMO-Auction No.37	Total allotted amount (in Millions of Birr):	100,250.00
Date of Auction	November 27, 2025	Fixed Interest Rate	15%
Type of Operations	2-Weeks-Deposit Taking Operation	Start date of the operations	November 27, 2025
Total amount of bids submitted by participants (in Millions of Birr)	100,250.00	Maturity date of the operations	December 11, 2025
Number of bidders	4	Settlement Date	November 27, 2025



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Abandoned since 1967, Ethiopian Monastery in Jordan Valley to undergo renovation

By our staff reporter

An Ethiopian monastery, abandoned and damaged during the 1967 Six-Day War, is set to be restored and reopened to the public.

The Holy Trinity Monastery, located in the Jordan Valley east of Jericho at Qasr al-Yahud, holds profound spiritual and historical significance.

Ethiopia's ambassador to Israel, Tesfaye Yetayew, announced that the Ethiopian Orthodox Church has obtained the necessary permissions to renovate and reactivate the site.

He noted that the primary challenge to its restoration was the presence of landmines, a situation that has now been resolved, facilitating the reconstruction process.

Melake Selam Gebrekidan Ejegu, the monastery's treasurer, explained to Capital that the initiative was previously halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent regional conflicts.

He also highlighted that the site's designation as an active military zone had prevented any restoration efforts until now.

Thanks to a British-led demining operation conducted about five years ago, the area is now accessible for religious observances, such as Epiphany, after being sealed off for over fifty years.

While the Ethiopian Orthodox community has had a presence in Jerusalem for centuries, the Holy Trinity Monastery is a relatively modern addition, built on the banks of the Jordan River.

Ethiopia is unique as the only sub-Saharan African nation with churches and monasteries in the Holy Land, owning seven properties in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and Jericho, including the pioneering Dar al-Sultan Monastery.

The monastery's location is of great significance, situated near the traditional site where John the Baptist is believed to have baptized Jesus.

Established in 1933, it was championed by Empress Menen Asfaw, the wife of Emperor Haile Selassie I.

Moved by the austere living conditions of the Ethiopian monks, who previously worshipped in a simple "reed church," she personally acquired the land and funded the construction of the monastery.

Following the 1967 conflict, the entire area was declared a military zone and heavily mined.

The Six-Day War, which occurred from June 5 to 10, 1967, was the third conflict in the Arab-Israeli wars, resulting in Israel's decisive victory and the capture of significant territories, including the Sinai Peninsula, Gaza Strip, West Bank, Old City of Jerusalem, and Golan Heights. The status of these territories has since been a major point of contention in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

A 1994 peace accord between Israel and Jordan laid the groundwork for the region's rehabilitation.

Recent extensive clearance of explosives has gradually reopened this sacred landscape to the public and pilgrims, restoring a vital destination for Christians visiting the Holy Land.

Horticulture sector transforms Avocado exports with strategic shift to sea freight

By Eyasu Zekarias

Ethiopia is embarking on a major transformation in its horticulture sector by shifting avocado exports from costly air freight to more sustainable and high-volume sea freight. This strategic move is spearheaded by the Ethiopian Agriculture Authority (EAA) and the Ethiopian Horticulture Producers and Exporters Association (EHPEA), in partnership with the Netherlands' Development Partnership, the Centre for the Promotion of Imports from Developing Countries (CBI), and the Transitioning Ethiopian Horticulture to a Sustainable Export Alternative (To SEA) project.

A key milestone in this initiative is the release of the Avocado Export Guide, a tool designed to standardize export processes and help domestic small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) adapt to global maritime freight systems.

Milco Rikken, CBI's business export coach for fresh fruits and vegetables and owner of ProVerde BV, emphasized that transitioning to sea freight is the project's central goal. "Our approach involves working with companies to develop crops suited for maritime transport

markets," Rikken said. The project's next phase involves organizing test sea shipments to Europe and Gulf markets, likely in the coming year, to refine procedures and implement the new export guidelines.

"These test shipments are learning opportunities," Rikken noted. "They help identify areas for improvement so we can establish sustainable sea export routes, eventually shipping the bulk of products by sea containers."

Beyond cost efficiency, the shift to sea freight responds to increasing sustainability demands in key export markets. A vital component of this strategy is the upcoming Mojo Cool port, under construction at Ethiopia's main inland port, which will serve as a cold chain logistics hub crucial for handling temperature-sensitive sea freight. Rikken expressed optimism about the port's potential: "Although construction is ongoing, we expect it to open within a year or two, providing foundational support for growing Ethiopia's avocado exports."

Despite these advances, the sector still faces significant challenges. Tewodros Zewdie, EHPEA president, pointed out that Ethiopia's avocado export performance remains low compared to regional competitors,

underscoring the need for continued capacity building. The newly launched Avocado Export Guide aims to strengthen stakeholder understanding of export processes and improve coordination among port operators.

To build a thriving horticulture export industry that alleviates rural poverty, EHPEA is committed to deepening its partnership with the CBI. Milco Rikken also identified a skill gap among local exporters, stressing the importance of mastering fast, accurate communication and incorporating customer feedback into farm operations. "You must start exporting to learn exporting," he said, highlighting the need for resilience and continuous improvement.

Compliance with international standards remains a critical hurdle. Rikken underscored that Global GAP certification is mandatory for accessing the European market, without which companies remain confined to niche segments.

The To SEA project, extending through 2026, has already enabled several companies to achieve their first exports this year, primarily to the Middle East, reflecting improved export readiness.



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68		2.3		3.8		2.6		60	
(4%)		(64%)		(2.6%)		(98%)		(72 %)	

EthSwitch unveils ambitious 15-Year digital payment vision in strategic overhaul

By Eyasu Zekarias

Ethswitch S.C., Ethiopia’s national payment switch, has launched its second five-year strategic plan and an ambitious 15-year roadmap aimed at transforming the country’s financial landscape. The announcement, made at a formal signing ceremony, marks a bold step toward Ethswitch’s vision of becoming “the best payment network in Africa by 2035.”

CEO Yilebes Addis underscored the importance of a clear, forward-looking strategy in solidifying the center’s role within the market. Reflecting on the achievements of the first strategic phase, he said, “The initial five-year strategy was key to defining our mission—promoting interoperability, developing local payment systems, providing national gateways, and building shared infrastructure. We have successfully fulfilled those goals.”

The new strategy aligns closely with Ethiopia’s national development priorities, including the Digital Ethiopia initiative, the

National Financial Access Strategy, and the National Digital Payment Strategy 2.

Following a competitive Request for Proposals process, Ethswitch selected Genesis Analytics, an internationally renowned consulting firm, to develop the next phase of its plan. Richard Ketley, partner and director at Genesis Analytics, praised Ethiopia’s rapidly growing financial sector, calling the National Payment Center’s role in everyday digital payments “magic.” He pledged to leverage global best practices to accelerate Ethswitch’s growth over the coming 15 years.

A landmark outcome of this strategic renewal is Ethswitch’s historic partnership with global payments leader Mastercard. This agreement integrates Ethswitch directly into Mastercard’s network via the Mastercard Interface Point (MIP) and Mastercard Global Payment Gateway Services (MPGS).

The partnership enables Ethiopian businesses to accept international payments,



PHOTO: Anteneh Akilu

boosting cross-border trade and e-commerce opportunities. It also allows local banks to issue co-branded international currency cards for use at ATMs, point-of-sale terminals, and online merchants worldwide.

Yilebes described the agreement as “a major milestone in Ethiopia’s digital transition,” spotlighting its role in enhancing the security and sophistication of the national financial ecosystem with globally accepted next-generation payment solutions.

Shehryar Ali, Senior Vice President of Mastercard East Africa, highlighted Mastercard’s commitment to supporting a reliable, inclusive digital economy. “By integrating international standards and advanced cybersecurity, this partnership helps consumers, banks, and businesses confidently engage in the global marketplace,” he said.

Ethswitch’s progress is reflected in the latest AfricaNenda Foundation report—the 2025 State of Inclusion of Instant Payment Systems in Africa. The report elevated Ethswitch from “Basic” to “Progressed” on the AfricaNenda Inclusivity Spectrum.

Launched in February 2024, Ethswitch’s Instant Payment System (IPS) is rapidly expanding and integrating with other payment platforms to enable cross-border transactions. Key collaborations include a merger with the UAE Central Bank’s Aani platform, covering Dubai and Abu Dhabi, and ongoing talks with the Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS) and Ghana Interbank Payment and Settlement Systems (GhIPSS).

The report notes Ethswitch’s use of ISO 20022-compliant APIs, facilitating seamless integration across payment participants.

Reappointing Dr. James Wani Igga: President Kiir’s Defining Political Move of 2025

In one of the most symbolic political decisions of 2025, President Salva Kiir Mayardit has reinstated Dr. James Wani Igga as Vice President, marking the return of one of South Sudan’s most experienced and enduring statesmen to the country’s top leadership circle.

Dr. Igga, known for his decades-long service within the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM), previously held the vice presidency multiple times. His reappointment is widely viewed as a deliberate choice—an appeal to stability, predictability, and institutional memory at a moment when the nation faces rising political uncertainty.

A Trusted Hand Returns

For years, Igga has been regarded as a stabilizing force in national politics. Colleagues often describe him as a calm, measured, and diplomatic figure—one who avoids confrontation, chooses his words carefully, and works diligently within established political boundaries. These qualities have earned him a reputation as someone President Kiir can rely on during turbulent times.

Political analysts say the reinstatement reflects Kiir’s desire for “safe hands” in a high-stakes

year, where delicate political processes demand both seniority and restraint.

An Academic and Political Veteran

Beyond his political longevity, Dr. Igga brings with him a distinguished academic background. He completed his Master of Science degree at Greenwich University in the United Kingdom and later earned a PhD with distinction from Bulacan State University. His academic credentials reinforce his image as one of the SPLM’s most intellectually grounded and professionally seasoned leaders.

A Symbolic Return to the ‘Original Site’

For many South Sudanese, Igga’s return carries symbolic weight—what some describe as “the cow arriving back at the original site.” It is a metaphor that reflects not only familiarity but also the restoration of a trusted figure at a time when stability is paramount.

Whether this move will reshape the political landscape of 2025 remains to be seen. Yet one thing is clear: in bringing Dr. James Wani Igga back to the vice presidency, President Kiir has made a bold statement about continuity, confidence, and the value of experience in guiding the nation forward.

DPFZA's firm stance . . .

Continued from page 1

the logistics sector, which includes operations in Djibouti, Ethiopia’s primary outlet.

However, the DPFZA quickly countered this move. In a notification dated March 17, 2024, and signed by Chairman Aboubaker Omar Hadi, the Authority stated that Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers (NVOCCs) are not permitted to function as MTOs within Djibouti.

The DPFZA clarified that Bills of Lading (BL) issued by NVOCCs are not recognized in Djibouti’s ports and trade corridors due to their legal status.

The Authority expressed concerns that NVOCCs cannot ensure full payment for logistics services throughout the supply chain, which poses risks to security, cargo traceability, and financial accountability.

This decision faced criticism from industry experts, who argued that it conflicts with international maritime and trade laws.

In response, senior Ethiopian government officials visited Djibouti, and in May of the previous year, the two nations agreed to establish a joint committee to address the issue amicably.

This committee was charged with reviewing longstanding bilateral agreements, including the ‘Ethio-Djibouti Utilization of Port of Djibouti and Services to Cargo in Transit Agreement’ from 2002.

Experts noted that the original multimodal agreement from 2006 was signed when ESL was the only operator, and the landscape has changed with the licensing of six new MTOs by Ethiopia’s Ministry of Transport and Logistics.

Despite these diplomatic efforts, the DPFZA’s

latest letter, dated November 10 and addressed to the Ethiopian Diplomatic Mission in Djibouti, firmly reiterates its original position.

The letter, which was made public a week ago, requests the Ethiopian Embassy to communicate its clarification to the relevant authorities.

It explicitly states: “A NVOCC does not own nor operate vessels at sea. Accordingly, the DPFZA emphasizes that a BL issued by NVOCCs is not recognized within the Djibouti Ports and Corridors due to their legal status.”

The Authority maintains that only Bills of Lading issued by MTOs that are also vessel-operating shipping lines are considered legally valid for cargo transport within its jurisdiction.

This development has become a top priority for logistics sector actors in Addis Ababa.

Sources indicate that the newly licensed MTOs are now appealing to the Ethiopian government for a resolution. The urgency is heightened as the EMA set an October 2025 deadline for these operators to commence services.

The six companies that received MTO operational licenses in March 2025 are Gulf Ingot, Panafric Global, Tikur Abay Transport, Cosmos MTO, Ethio-Djibouti Railway Standard Gauge Share Company (EDR), and Ethiopian Railway Corporation.

Notably, EDR, a joint venture between the two countries, has been allowed to operate, leading other licensees to believe they would also be permitted to begin their operations. Some had even started preparatory work for their customers before the recent letter from Djibouti emerged.

ECX mandates centralized . . .

Continued from page 1

recording, and provides verified pricing for export applications,” the ministry stated in a memorandum urging ECX, export executives, and regional bureaus for swift implementation.

ECX’s integrated clearing and settlement, already featuring next-day (T+1) payments via partnerships with banks like Commercial Bank of Ethiopia and Dashen Bank, guarantees supplier payments while offering exporters precise quantity and quality data. Experts note this curbs money laundering, boosts revenue tracking, and reduces risks, fostering a competitive environment amid

global demand projected to rise from \$82 billion in 2025 to \$143 billion by 2035.

The directive aligns with broader reforms, including market-driven exchange rates, foreign investor access, and agro-processing emphasis, positioning Ethiopia as a pulses and oilseeds leader. Ethiopia Pulses and Oilseeds Exporters Association (EPOSEA) stresses value chain enhancements for quality, sustainability, and traceability. Initiatives like AGRA partnerships aim to lift domestic edible oil production from 2% to 50% by 2028, empowering smallholder farmers.

ICO Indicator prices (US cents/lb) 26-Nov-25

<div>I-CIP</div> <div>326.66</div> <div>-0.82%</div>	<div>Colombian Milds</div> <div>407.42</div> <div>-0.76%</div>	<div>Other Milds</div> <div>407.78</div> <div>-0.76%</div>	<div>Brazilian Naturals</div> <div>376.88</div> <div>-0.78%</div>	<div>Robusta</div> <div>209.17</div> <div>-1.01%</div>
*1lb=0.45kg				

Ethiopia faces critical HIV service disruptions amidst funding challenges

By our staff reporter

Ethiopia’s fight against HIV/AIDS is facing significant headwinds in 2025 as funding cuts continue to disrupt essential prevention, testing, and treatment services. Although the country has made important gains towards

controlling the epidemic, recent financial constraints threaten to undermine progress and jeopardize the health of millions of Ethiopians living with or at risk of HIV. According to the latest UNAIDS report, Ethiopia continues to grapple with a heavy HIV burden, but has seen steady

improvements in treatment coverage and reductions in AIDS-related deaths over the past decade. By the end of 2024, over 75 percent of people living with HIV in Ethiopia were receiving antiretroviral therapy, and efforts were underway to reach global targets of 95 percent diagnosis, treatment, and viral suppression.

However, disruptions in funding from key donors, including PEPFAR and multilateral initiatives, have resulted in declines in testing availability and prevention services in parts of the country. Clinics experienced service interruptions, while funding shortages forced some community organizations to scale back or halt outreach activities critical for vulnerable populations such as adolescent girls, young women, and key populations at high risk.

One area of concern is the reduced availability of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), a highly effective HIV prevention tool. Data indicates a notable decrease in the number of individuals accessing PrEP in Ethiopia during 2025, mirroring broader regional trends. This decline places additional strains on efforts to prevent new infections, especially among young women who constitute a disproportionate share of new HIV cases.

Further challenges include reports of increased out-of-pocket costs for services that were previously free, such as post-exposure prophylaxis for survivors of sexual

violence. Such financial barriers risk reducing timely access to essential interventions and exacerbate health inequities.

Despite these setbacks, Ethiopian health authorities and their partners remain committed to maintaining treatment programs and revitalizing prevention efforts. Recent initiatives include integrating innovative digital health platforms to improve monitoring, expanding community-led support models, and strengthening the country’s health workforce capacity.

Ethiopia’s Ministry of Health continues to collaborate closely with international agencies, civil society, and community groups to navigate the funding environment and prioritize high-impact interventions. The government is also fostering local ownership through increased domestic financing for HIV response programs, which is crucial for long-term sustainability.

The UNAIDS report underscores that Ethiopia’s HIV response cannot be decoupled from broader socio-economic factors such as gender inequality, stigma, and poverty. Efforts to address these underlying determinants—through comprehensive education, empowerment, and social protection—are essential components of concerted strategies to end AIDS.

As World AIDS Day 2025 draws attention to the global fight against HIV, Ethiopia faces both the urgency of ongoing challenges and the promise of continuing progress. Strengthening international solidarity, ensuring sustainable funding, and empowering affected communities are pivotal to safeguarding gains and advancing toward the goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

Ethiopian Media Council proposes fund to support struggling media outlets

By our staff reporter

The Ethiopian Media Council has initiated discussions on establishing a Media Fund to provide financial assistance to media institutions grappling with economic difficulties. The announcement comes amid growing concerns over the sustainability of both private and public media outlets vulnerable to closure, and the precarious situation faced by unemployed journalists.

The Council convened a forum focused on the Fund’s purpose, potential funding sources, and management frameworks. Deputy Chairman of the Council’s Executive Committee, Tamerat Hailu, spearheaded the session by presenting a comprehensive study informed by international experiences.

The newly proposed Media Fund aims to provide critical financial lifelines to media organizations, helping them combat mounting costs, including administrative overheads, satellite fees, and employee salaries. “Establishing this fund will help media organizations weather the financial crisis and preserve independent voices and institutional diversity,” Tamerat explained.

Drawing parallels with developed countries where the loss of any media outlet is recognized as a loss of public discourse diversity, Tamerat emphasized the importance of government and stakeholder

support in maintaining a vibrant media ecosystem. The Fund is envisioned to revive print newspapers that have suspended publication and restore satellite broadcast services that have ceased operations.

International precedents highlight varied approaches to Media Funds, with management models ranging from fully government-run to multi-stakeholder collaborations. The Ethiopian Media Council has committed to founding and overseeing the Fund’s operations, with rigorous monitoring mechanisms to ensure transparency and appropriate disbursement.

Potential fund contributors include the Ethiopian government, international donors, and private sector stakeholders. The ongoing dialogue forms part of the Council’s broader mandate to strengthen the media sector and ensure press freedom, professionalism, and sustainability.

The proposal was intensively deliberated during the Inter-Media Dialogue, a biweekly forum of media stakeholders addressing sectoral challenges. The Council has presented the plan to relevant government bodies as part of efforts to formalize and implement the Media Fund.

This initiative marks a significant step toward safeguarding Ethiopia’s media landscape at a time when financial hardships threaten the survival of independent journalism.

Growing threat from climate change on health and development

By our staff reporter

Ethiopia, like many African nations, is increasingly vulnerable to the severe health and socioeconomic impacts of climate change, a recent Lancet report reveals. While contributing minimally to global greenhouse gas emissions, Ethiopia endures rising climate-induced extreme weather events—droughts, floods, and heatwaves—that exacerbate public health challenges and threaten sustainable development goals.

The report highlights climate change’s multifaceted effects on Ethiopia’s population health, including increased burdens from infectious diseases, food and nutrition insecurity, respiratory ailments, and the mental health impacts of environmental stress and displacement. Notably, Ethiopia experiences frequent drought conditions that have led to widespread food insecurity and malnutrition, undermining livelihoods and overburdening health systems.

Economic losses from climate-related health impacts hamper Ethiopia’s progress toward poverty reduction and universal health coverage. These losses also strain the country’s capacity to respond effectively to emergencies and maintain essential services amid growing environmental pressures.

While Ethiopia has significant potential to harness renewable energy—especially hydropower, now accounting for over 90% of its electricity supply—challenges remain

in transitioning to clean, sustainable energy sources at scale. Poor air quality due to biomass fuel use and exposure to secondhand high-emission vehicles compound health risks, particularly in urban centers.

In recognition of these threats, Ethiopia has committed to several climate and health adaptation strategies aligned with the African Union’s Agenda 2063 and global sustainable development goals. This includes advancing climate-smart agriculture, improving water security, and mainstreaming climate resilience into national health policies. However, financial resources and technical capacities to fully implement these initiatives remain limited.

The Lancet Countdown Africa initiative is working closely with Ethiopian experts and policymakers to generate localized data on climate impacts and guide evidence-based strategies. Building regional research capacity and enhancing public and political engagement are vital next steps to protect Ethiopian populations and build systemic resilience.

As climate change intensifies, Ethiopia faces an urgent need for scaled-up, equitable financing and innovation in climate adaptation and mitigation. Integrating health-specific responses into all sectors and ensuring vulnerable communities’ protection will be essential to safeguard human well-being and support sustainable development in Ethiopia for decades to come.

unicef



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR

The Rehabilitation/Reconstruction of 03 Schools in Amhara Region.

LRFP-2025-9201474

Topic- UNICEF (Ethiopia) wishes to request eligible bidders to participate in a Request for Proposal (LRFP) for **Rehabilitation/Reconstruction of 03 schools in Amhara region.**

Details of this bid's requirements and eligibility criteria can be found in the bid document.

Interested and eligible bidders can get the bid document with the below links; **2merkato.com** – **<https://tender.2merkato.com/tenders/6925a2420a538a5b2b000001>**

Any query or clarification regarding this bid shall be sent through an email to **eth-supplyQAconstruction@unicef.org** before or on **11 December 2025**. There will be a pre-bid meeting on **04 December 2025 @ 2:00 PM**. Bid clarification will be communicated on the same website at **2merkato.com** to the public. While sending your request for clarification, please ensure that you specify the LRFP number in the subject email, and provide the name of your company, contact person, and email.

The due date for submission of proposals/Bids to the UNICEF Addis Ababa Office is on or before 2:00 PM (East African Time) on **15 December 2025**. Please read the LRFP for detailed requirements and due dates.

Please quote the respective LRFP (request for proposal) numbers with the request for **The Rehabilitation/Reconstruction of 03 schools in Amhara region.**

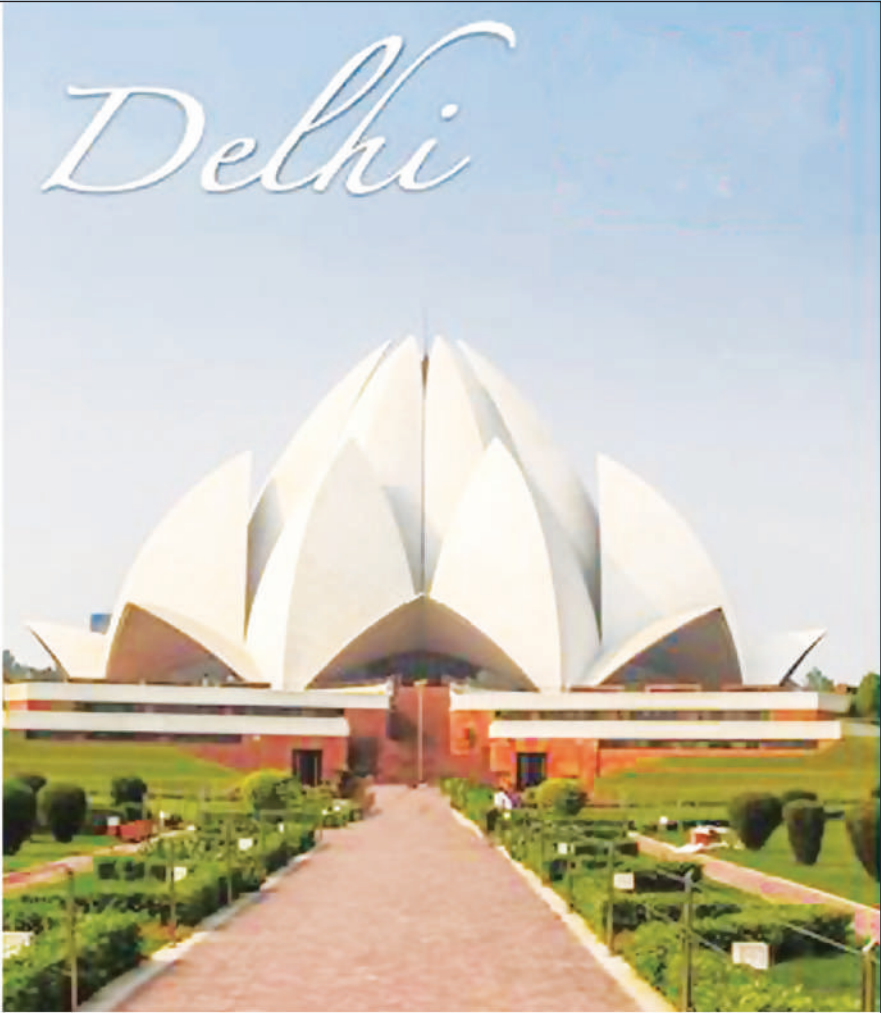
Submission of bids should be done as per the below requirements.

a. Technical bid submission should be with a separate email from the Financial bid submission

b. RFP reference and whether Technical or Financial submission should be indicated on the Subject of the email.

c. ONLY email submissions are acceptable.

d. To reduce the risk of late delivery emails should be sent in good time before the deadline of the bid submission.



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3D Printing Technology Was Introduced for RITM-200 Reactor Plant

Rosatom’s Experimental Design Bureau of Mechanical Engineering has received a permission to manufacture elements for the RITM-200 reactor plant using 3D printing technology. The RITM-200 reactor unit was created taking into account more than 60 years of experience in the operation of nuclear-powered vessels combined with the use of all modern achievements in 3D design, calculation programmes and supercomputers.

This groundbreaking development saw the production of the first 3D element – a terminal box for nuclear power plant pumping equipment. Notably, this marks the very first time that components for reactor units have been produced via 3D printing within the Russian nuclear industry. The strategic adoption of additive manufacturing in this sector is poised to enhance the service life of products, boost economic efficiency, and substantially reduce labour costs.

(Press release)

Assessing Progress on Africa’s Agenda 2063

In line with Africa’s enormous potential as a youthful population, emerging market, and hub for technological and cultural innovation, the African Union (AU) set out a vision and strategy of what the continent could become when marking the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

Agenda 2063 envisages a continent with a vibrant economy, the eradication of poverty, greater interregional integration, the entrenchment of the rule of law and democratic governance, and peace and security. ... Among the flagship projects designed to bring these aspirations to life are the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM), the African Passport and free-movement policy, the Grand Inga hydropower project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and digital and scientific platforms required to propel Africa into a knowledge-based economy. Ultimately, Agenda 2063 represents not only a roadmap but also a call to action. It requires visionary leadership, institutional resilience, and above all, the active ownership of African citizens and the diaspora. If these conditions are met, by 2063 Africa will not only have achieved its aspirations but also assumed its rightful place as a prosperous, democratic, and globally influential continent.

(Africa Center for Strategic Studies)

The Case of Africa's 'Vanishing' Carbon Deals

When Liberia's government signed an agreement with a little-known Dubai company run by a royal sheikh in 2023, the "carbon credit" deal promised to protect vast tracts of forests and offset big polluters' emissions. It was one of a flurry of deals UAE-based Blue Carbon signed that year covering millions of hectares of forests across Africa — with one in Zimbabwe covering

a fifth of the country's landmass. African governments would safeguard forests for a share of revenues from carbon credit sales. There would be benefits for communities and help to fight deforestation. It was promoted as a win-win. But more than two years on, Liberia's Blue Carbon deal has stalled. Other accords across Africa and elsewhere have also gone nowhere, while the UAE company itself appears to have fallen silent, according to a joint investigation by AFP and Code for Africa, an investigative organisation. ... Today the company appears to have no global registration and no operational footprint in any recognised global carbon market system, according to a digital investigation by Code for Africa, a South Africa-based operation whose iLAB is Africa's largest forensic data investigation unit. ... Carbon credit projects, particularly those involving forest protection, have frequently run into problems ranging from failing to protect designated forests to links with rights violations of local residents. Efforts are currently under way to improve oversight and regulation of crediting schemes.

(AFP)

UAE Pledges \$1B in AI Investment into Africa

The UAE plans to invest \$1 billion in artificial intelligence in Africa. The initiative was announced over the weekend at the G20 summit in Johannesburg by Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, who led the UAE delegation to the talks. (The UAE isn’t a member but an invited guest). Spending will support African countries in delivering projects in education, agriculture, health care, digital identity, and climate

adaptation. The UAE is pouring billions into becoming a global AI leader and has already signed digital infrastructure agreements with several African countries, including Egypt and Kenya. Now the fourth-largest investor in Africa, the UAE has thus far focused on developing renewable energy, logistics, and critical minerals. Its bilateral trade with the continent in 2024 reached \$107 billion, a 28% increase from the previous year, Reuters reported.

(Semafor)

Term of the Day

IRREVOCABLE LETTER OF CREDIT (ILOC)

» Definition

An irrevocable letter of credit (ILOC) is a bank-issued document guaranteeing that a buyer's payment to a seller will be honored. This payment assurance becomes crucial in international trade, providing security for both buyers and sellers. Once issued, ILOCs cannot be canceled or altered without the consent of all parties involved, including the buyer, the seller, and the bank. These guarantees enhance trust and facilitate transactions across borders, reducing associated risks.



INVITATION FOR BID

The International Rescue Committee hereinafter referred to as “the IRC”, is a non-profit, humanitarian agency that provides relief, rehabilitation, protection, resettlement services, and advocacy for refugees, displaced persons and victims of oppression and violent conflict.

The IRC - Ethiopia Program has been working in Ethiopia since 1999 and is implementing integrated community-managed programs aimed at improving the quality of lives and recovery of livelihoods of disaster-affected populations through promoting individual participation, strengthening institutions, and emergency response.

IRC Ethiopia Program has been operating in Gambella, Benishangul Gumuz, Tigray, SNNPR, Sidama, Somali and Oromia regions on refugee assistance and livelihood since its inception. The IRC now invites sealed bids from all eligible bidders that are qualified, technically competent and have valid license for current Ethiopian FY 2018/2025 for **Supply and Installation of Solar Water pumping Systems.**

Lot 1

Supply and Installation of Solar Water Pumping System at Dolu Selama Kebele, Kersa Woreda, East Hararge Zone, Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia (Borehole 2).

Lot 2

Supply and Installation of Solar Water Pumping System at

Kufan-Ziq Kebele, Kersa Woreda, East Hararge Zone, Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia.

Lot 3

Supply and Installation of Solar Water Pumping System at Dolu Selama Kebele, Kersa Woreda, East Hararge Zone, Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia (Borehole 1)

You may obtain Further information from the International Rescue Committee, Ethiopia program Addis Ababa Office, Jacros to Salite Mihret Church Road around Robera Coffee Sets Building 5th floor Tel: 0116638302/0116636735/6.

The Complete set of bidding documents in English for the activities can be obtained from IRC, Ethiopia program Addis Ababa Office, Jackros to salite Mihret Church Road around Robera Coffee, sets Building 7th floor during working hour **from December 01, 2025, to December 16, 2025**, at the address mentioned above. The prospective bidder shall present his/her company’s name and sign to acknowledge receipt of the bid documents.

The bid should be submitted to the address mentioned on or before **10:30 AM December 16, 2025**, Late bids will not be accepted. Bids will be opened at **11:00 AM December 16, 2025**, in the present of bidders and their representatives.

The International Rescue Committee reserves the right to reject any or all bids.



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HEALTH OUTBREAKS *in* RESHAPING THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

■ Alazar Kebede

When a pathogen begins to spread, the first images that come to mind are full hospital wards, masked faces, and overwhelmed health workers. But behind these human tragedies lies another story - one of national economies destabilized, global supply chains distorted, and long-term development trajectories rewritten. Health outbreaks are not merely medical emergencies; they are economic events with consequences that reverberate for years, sometimes decades.

In a globalized economy, a virus travels nearly as quickly as capital. A single infected travellers can do more damage to a national GDP than a failed trade agreement. As we saw with COVID-19 and before that with SARS, Ebola, Zika, and countless less-publicized outbreaks economic systems are far more fragile than most policymakers admit.

A significant outbreak triggers an abrupt contraction in economic activity. People stay home, businesses scale back, and governments reallocate budgets toward emergency health responses. Tourism collapses almost instantly. Consumer confidence erodes. Investment slows as uncertainty rises.

Even the most routine sectors feel the strain. Restaurants lose patrons, transport

companies see fewer passengers, and manufacturers struggle to source basic materials when supply chains seize up. Agricultural economies suffer when labor shortages prevent harvesting and planting. For countries dependent on commodity exports, any disruption in production or transportation sends ripples through the global market.

In nations without strong safety nets or diversified economies, these shocks are not temporary dips - they are existential threats. Once the outbreak subsides, the emotional urge is to declare victory and move on. Economies, however, rarely rebound so easily. Lost academic years, permanently shuttered small businesses, and disrupted workforce participation can leave lasting scars.

Productivity declines when long-term illness affects working-age populations. Child mortality shocks can alter demographic patterns, increasing dependency ratios years later. Investor perceptions of a country's resilience impact sovereign credit ratings and long-term financing costs. And trust, between citizens, between institutions, between trading partners, takes much longer to rebuild than it does to destroy. Outbreaks are therefore not simply an acute problem; they create chronic vulnerabilities.

Health crises expose and amplify inequalities

globally and within countries. Wealthy nations absorb shocks more easily, with mechanisms to stabilize financial systems and support industries. Poorer nations face a cruel paradox: they shoulder the heaviest human toll while also experiencing the most severe economic fallout.

Dependence on informal labor, fragile healthcare systems, limited fiscal space, and heavy debt burdens restrict the ability to mount a robust response. While the world often rallies behind global health initiatives, financial solidarity is rarely commensurate with the scale of economic damage endured by vulnerable regions.

A persistent misconception among policymakers is that health programs are a cost center. In reality, public health is a form of economic infrastructure, just as essential as roads, electricity, or telecommunications.

Investing in resilient health systems pays dividends. Rapid-response mechanisms reduce the duration of outbreaks. Strong surveillance capabilities prevent small problems from becoming crises. Universal access to healthcare ensures early treatment and minimizes workforce disruption. Digital health tools enhance coordination and reduce inefficiencies. Simply put: preparedness is cheaper than recovery. The return on investment in public health is not an abstraction - it is an

economic fact.

To protect economies from the next health emergency, political leaders must abandon the short-term thinking that characterizes much of global economic governance. Three priorities stand out: Build stronger health systems not just hospital capacity but disease surveillance, diagnostics, and community health networks; strengthen economic shock absorbers, from emergency cash-transfer programs to contingency financing for low-income nations; secure and diversify supply chains, particularly for critical goods such as medical equipment and pharmaceuticals. A resilient economy is one that can withstand biological shocks without collapsing into crisis.

Health and wealth are not separate domains. They are intertwined, interdependent, and inseparable. A virus anywhere can destabilize markets everywhere. Our global economy is only as healthy as the most vulnerable health system within it.

If national leaders truly care about economic growth, job creation, and long-term stability, they should prioritize pandemic preparedness with the same urgency they give to interest rates, inflation, or trade policy. Ignoring health risks is no longer simply a public health failure - it is an economic gamble that nations can no longer afford.

The Cost of Conflict: Why the Private Sector Must Bank on the National Dialogue

■ By Tadesse Biru Kersmo

Ethiopia stands at a critical juncture. To the casual observer, the nation's challenges appear as a series of disjointed security crises or resource disputes. However, for the astute investor and the economic analyst, the root cause is far more systemic. We are witnessing a profound "battle of ideas" - a clash of historically constructed narratives that is acting as the ultimate market disruptor.

For the business community, the current political fragmentation is not merely a social grievance; it is an economic bottleneck that stifles Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), creates volatility in the foreign exchange market, and hampers the logistics chains essential for trade. As we navigate this uncertainty, the National Dialogue Commission (NDC) emerges not just as a political necessity, but as a critical infrastructure project for the nation's economic survival.

The Economics of Polarisation

The source of our paralysis is a deep-seated elite polarisation, fuelled by two irreconcilable historical brands. One narrative sells Ethiopia as the 'Cradle of Civilisation' - a unified, ancient state. The competing narrative markets the nation as a 'Prison of Nations' - an oppressive empire requiring ethnic liberation. This clash drives the fragmentation of our national elite, fracturing the communication networks required for a functional state and a cohesive market.

The economic cost of this divide is quantifiable. Our political landscape is dominated by parties organised almost exclusively along ethnic lines. When

over 95% of regional parties operate as centrifugal forces, political capital is spent on identity politics rather than programmatic economic policy.

For the private sector, this is disastrous. Instead of debating fiscal policy, industrialisation strategies, or liberalisation measures, the political discourse is consumed by a zero-sum struggle for group-specific benefits. This creates an unpredictable regulatory environment where long-term business planning becomes an exercise in futility. When politics is weaponised as an 'ethnic security dilemma,' capital - which is notoriously cowardly - flees to safer harbours.

Dialogue as Risk Mitigation

In a marketplace of non-negotiable identity claims, conventional majoritarian politics fails. It leads to a cycle of conflict that drains the exchequer and destroys infrastructure. In this context, the NDC must be viewed by the business community as a mechanism for risk mitigation.

The dialogue process is effectively a restructuring of the national merger. It offers an arena where these contested narratives can be audited and renegotiated. The goal is to move beyond the binary of 'Cradle' vs. 'Prison' to co-create a shared national story. For the economy, a shared narrative translates into a unified market, predictable rule of law, and the social trust necessary for credit and contract enforcement. Without this "soft infrastructure" of shared understanding, no amount of physical infrastructure can guarantee stability.

The NDC: An Imperfect Vessel for Necessary Change

The establishment of the NDC is a formal recognition that military solutions cannot solve market failures caused by social fractures. It is designed to mediate the polarised discourses that currently make Ethiopia a "high-risk" investment destination.

However, like any major venture, the NDC faces a crisis of confidence. There is a palpable trust deficit among key stakeholders - from opposition figures to civic nationalists. Concerns regarding the Commission's independence and the timing of the dialogue amidst active conflict are valid. The perception that the NDC might be a closed loop for the ruling Prosperity Party to "dialogue with itself" threatens to render the process insolvent before it begins.

For the NDC to yield a return on investment, it must demonstrate radical independence. It must be willing to tackle the "legacy liabilities" of the state, including constitutional disputes and territorial claims. It must ensure that the process is inclusive, bringing in voices from conflict-affected regions. If the NDC is perceived as a partisan instrument, it will fail to stabilise the market, leading to further entrenchment of divisions and continued economic stagnation.

The Private Sector's Responsibility

Here lies the imperative for the Ethiopian private sector. Business leaders, investors, and chambers of commerce can no longer afford to view the National Dialogue as a purely political event occurring in a vacuum. It is the prerequisite for the resumption of normal commerce.

Indifference is a luxury we cannot afford. To withhold support for the NDC is to tacitly endorse a status quo characterised by

violence, displacement, and anemic growth. Rational economic self-interest demands that we pursue solutions through discourse. The NDC, despite its flaws, is the only institutional alternative to the battlefield.

Therefore, the private sector must become an active shareholder in this process. We must advocate for the Commission's inclusivity and hold it to the highest standards of impartiality. We must contribute to the agenda, ensuring that economic integration and resource sharing are part of the national conversation.

The Peace Dividend

We are at a fork in the road. One path leads to a renegotiated social contract, where political contests are settled by ballots and debate, creating the stability required for tourism to rebound, manufacturing to expand, and wealth to be created. This is the path of the National Dialogue.

The alternative is a continued descent into a fragmented polity, where the "narrative wars" are fought with kinetic weapons, destroying human capital and physical assets alike.

Supporting the NDC is an investment in the ultimate public good: peace. It is the vessel through which we can secure a predictable, prosperous future. For the sake of our balance sheets and, more importantly, our future generations, the business community must lend its full weight to ensuring this dialogue succeeds. The cost of failure is simply too high to bear.

Tadesse Biru Kersmo is Interdisciplinary Doctoral Degree in Social Sciences and can be reached via tkersmo@yahoo.com



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Nib Insurance Company (S.Co.)

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Nib Insurance Company (S.Co) invites competent and qualified applicants for the following vacant posts.

SN	Positions	Grade	Minimum qualification and experience		Place of work
			Education	Experience	
1	Senior Human Resource Administration Officer	IX	BA Degree in Human Resource Management or Management or Public Administration or in related fields	6 years relevant experience, of which 4 years in Human Resource Officer II or in a similar position	Addis Ababa
2	Senior Strategic and Change Management Officer	VII	BA/BSC Degree in Banking & Insurance or Management or Economics or Marketing or in related fields	4 years relevant experience in planning, monitoring and evaluation, and in research areas	
3	Executive Secretary (Administrative Assistant)	VII	BA Degree in Administrative Science or in related fields or Diploma (Level IV) with Certificate of Competency (COC) in Secretary Science or Administrative Office or Administrative Service Management or Secretarial Science and Office Management or Administering Office and Secretarial Technology or Accounts and Budget Service or Secretarial Science or Customer Contact and Secretarial Operations or Secretarial Technology	4 years relevant experience after BA Degree or 6 years relevant experience after Diploma (Level IV), of which 2 years as Secretary III or in similar position.	
4	Senior Claims Officer	VII	BA/BSC Degree in Banking & insurance or Management or Accounting & Finance or Economics or Statistics or Mathematics or in related fields	4 years relevant experience, of which 2 years as Claims/ Underwriting Officer II or in a similar position	
5	Senior Underwriting Officer	VII	BA/BSC Degree in Banking & Insurance or Management or Accounting & Finance or Economics or Statistics or Mathematics or in related fields	4 years relevant experience, of which 2 years as Claims/ Underwriting Officer II or in a similar position	
6	Research and Product Development Officer II	VI	BA Degree in Banking and Insurance or Management or Marketing or Economics or in related fields	2 years relevant experience as Research and Product Development Officer I or in a similar position	
7	Human Resource Officer II	VI	BA Degree in Human Resource Management or Management or Public Administration or in related fields	2 years experience as Human Resource Officer I or in a similar position	

Terms of employment– Permanent, after successful completion of the probation period.

Salary and benefit– as per the Company’s salary scale and benefit packages.

Interested applicants who fulfill the above requirements are invited to submit their CV and copies of non-returnable credentials along with application letter within seven working

days from the date of this announcement to the following address:-

Human Resource Management Department
Nib Insurance Company (S.Co.)
Dembel City Center, 11th floor
(Please use lift No. 2 or 3)
Addis Ababa

Congratulations!

Our bank’s President, Ato Abie Sano, has been honored as “IRBA CEO of the Year 2025” at the 11th International Islamic Retail Banking Awards ceremony.



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Commercial Bank of Ethiopia

Congratulations!

Our bank has been named the “Best Islamic Banking Window in East Africa 2025” at the 11th International Islamic Retail Banking Awards ceremony.

We sincerely appreciate our CBE Noor customers’ sustained trust and support, which made this achievement possible.



I N T E R V I E W

Longstanding Commitment to Ethiopia's Sustainable Development



In an exclusive interview with Capital, Dr. Rita Bissoonauth, UNESCO's Representative to Ethiopia, outlined the organization's extensive partnership with Ethiopia and the African continent. She emphasized UNESCO's commitment to strengthening education, preserving cultural heritage, advancing sustainable development, and promoting gender equality. Dr. Bissoonauth detailed key initiatives ranging from educational reforms and digital transformation to safeguarding Ethiopia's rich world heritage sites, highlighting UNESCO's collaborative efforts with the Ethiopian government and local stakeholders to build resilient, inclusive, and prosperous communities. Excerpts;

Capital: Could you elaborate on UNESCO's current priorities and projects in Ethiopia, particularly in the areas of education and cultural heritage?

Dr. Rita Bissoonauth: UNESCO is a specialized United Nations agency dedicated to strengthening our shared humanity through the promotion of education, science, culture, and communication. We set standards, produce tools and develop knowledge to create solutions to some of the greatest challenges of our time, and foster a world of greater equality and peace.

In Ethiopia, the UNESCO Liaison Office covers all the four sub-sectors of education: early education, primary and secondary education, including Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET), entrepreneurship and higher education. In addition, education deals with two cross cutting thematic: digital transformation and ecological transition. Overall, throughout our priority areas, gender is also our major marker while implementing our programmes and projects.

Capital: How is UNESCO supporting Ethiopia in its efforts to preserve

and promote its rich cultural and archaeological sites?

Dr. Rita Bissoonauth: Ethiopia has the highest number of UNESCO world heritage sites (WHS) in Africa, with 13 UNESCO Tangible WHS, whilst also having significant number of intangible heritage and biosphere reserves.

As underlined in the UNESCO culture conventions, the responsibility of protecting and preserving cultural heritage is the prime responsibility of the state. However, UNESCO supports the effort of the government. Our office is supporting Ethiopia as follows:

➔ UNESCO supported the implementation of the culture conventions ratified by Ethiopia. For instance, UNESCO supports the efforts of the government in promoting world heritage sites by mobilizing the diplomatic community for a visit to world heritage sites, which are undertaken to Lalibela, Aksum, Tiya, Bale Mountains and very soon to Harrar.

➔ UNESCO supports capacity building program for the development and registration of Ethiopian Geo- Park sites by UNESCO. This year Ministry of Tourism supported registering two

sites on Geo- Park List of UNESCO. We also work closely with the National Library and Archive to promote and register literary heritage on the Memory of the World.

Capital: What initiatives has UNESCO recently implemented to strengthen education systems in Ethiopia?

Dr. Rita Bissoonauth: To better address the issues of unemployment of youth and offer decent work to young people, UNESCO Liaison has implemented two spotlight projects and worked closely with the Ministry of Labor and Skills and the Ministry of Education. The first project, namely **Better Education for Africa Rise (BEAR)**. The Better Education for Africa's Rise (BEAR) project is a joint initiative between UNESCO and the Republic of Korea to improve TVET system and the Ministry of Labor and Skills. BEAR Project aims to give young people in Africa including Ethiopia a better chance of accessing decent employment or of generating self-employment through improvements in the TVET systems of the beneficiary countries. In Ethiopia, the BEAR project was focused on two domains: Agro-processing and Digital

Transformation of TVET. Starting in 2021, the BEAR project will end by December 2026. The second project is the China Fund in Trust initiative titled: **Higher Technical Education in Africa for a Technical and Innovative Workforce**. The CFIT III project responds to challenges of youth unemployment and skills mismatch by equipping youth with the skills needed for sustainable development. Implemented in Ethiopia from 2021 to 2025, through two beneficiaries' institutions, Addis Ababa Science Technology University and Federal Technical Vocational Institute (FVTI) has reached thousand of students.

Regarding digital education, UNESCO Liaison Office has implemented this project with the Ministry of Education. The project is titled: "Technology enabled Open Schools System, TeOSS". This UNESCO-Huawei Funds-in-Trust project aims to build technology-enabled crisis-resilient school systems that will connect school-based and home-based learning, to ensure the continuity and quality of learning no matter whether it is normal or crises situations. In Ethiopia, the project has been deployed within 24 schools in 10 regions with the donation of ICT equipment for the Ministry of Education and the Regional Education Bureaus. 71

➤ **Capital: Could you share insights on UNESCO’s involvement in promoting sustainable development and gender equality in Ethiopia?**

Dr. Rita Bissoonauth: In Ethiopia, UNESCO Liaison Office is addressing gender issues in education system, through the Education for Health and Wellbeing (EHW) Programme. The initiative promotes comprehensive life skills in schools and teacher training colleges. This equips both students and educators with knowledge on reproductive health, gender equality, consent, and personal safety. In addition, the program strengthens safe and inclusive learning environments by addressing school-related gender-based violence (SRGBV). UNESCO has supported the development of national manuals and guidelines to help schools prevent and respond to violence, ensuring that every girl can learn in a safe and supportive space. Furthermore, the initiative emphasizes community and religious leader engagement. By working with influential local figures, the EHW program helps shift cultural and social norms that perpetuate early marriage and gender-based discrimination.

UNESCO promotes sustainable development through programs in water security, climate resilience, biosphere reserves, geoparks, and sustainable agriculture. Gender equality is supported by creating opportunities for women and girls in STEM, research, and decision-making roles.

UNESCO’s work spans from promoting free flow of information through strengthening norms and capacities on freedom of expression, access to information, media development to strengthening public resilience to digital challenges via media and information literacy and support for digital transformation. Our interventions also extend to protecting, preserving and promoting of Ethiopia’s rich documentary heritage and empowering community media. In all of these, we advance gender equality as priority both in the media and through media.

Capital: How does UNESCO collaborate with the Ethiopian government and local stakeholders to ensure the success and sustainability of its programs?

Dr. Rita Bissoonauth: UNESCO works closely with Ethiopia’s ministries, universities, research institutions, and local communities, in all the sectors that its mandate covers. UNESCO is a laboratory of ideas as we develop instruments, tools and standards adopted for all member states. We localize these tools and instruments and implement them in collaboration with local partners.

We collaborate in capacity building, policy development and awareness raising. An example is the celebration of the World Press Freedom Day in Ethiopia. Since hosting the Global Conference of World Press Freedom Day in 2019 in Addis Ababa, we have continued to collaborate with the government and media institutions to advance freedom of expression and related rights. Each year, we commemorate the Day in Ethiopia by contextualizing the global theme to national priorities and realities. In 2025, for example, the national commemoration focused on the theme of Artificial Intelligence and the media. Building on this momentum, we are now working with the Ethiopia Artificial Intelligence Institute to assess the country’s overall readiness for AI.

We also ensure ownership by empowering stakeholders from the grass roots level: community in engaging them in program implementation as a means for ensuring success and sustainability. Examples are the UNESCO WHS, in biosphere reserves, agroecology, and geopark development, ensuring programs align with national priorities and are sustainable.

Capital: What challenges does UNESCO face in advancing its cultural and educational projects in Ethiopia, and how are these being addressed?

Dr. Rita Bissoonauth: The global crisis like COVID and financial crisis have impacted UNESCO regular program budget to implement its program.

Shortage of experts, particularly in the field heritage restoration is a challenge, which UNESCO makes an effort to support in capacity building.

The conflict in some parts of the country have disrupted the flow of tourists which in turn impacted on the livelihood of the community and practices of the intangible cultural heritage.

Capital: Can you tell us about upcoming UNESCO events or programs in Ethiopia that aim to further enhance the country’s human development goals?

Dr. Rita Bissoonauth: Planned initiatives include:

- Capacity building for teachers and education stakeholders in the areas of digital transformation in TVET;
- Enhance Ethiopia’s capacity to mainstream climate change adaptation and environmental sustainability into education sector plans, budgets and strategies as well as to enhance education ministry capacity for cross-sectoral coordination on climate and environment-related policy and programming.
- R&D survey training with AUDA-NEPAD;
- Women in Science Initiative;
- and the launch of the JFIT-supported Apiculture Industry Project.

Capital. How is UNESCO working to increase awareness and build capacity among Ethiopian educators and cultural practitioners?

Dr. Rita Bissoonauth: UNESCO delivers workshops, knowledge-sharing platforms, and field programs in water science, biodiversity, and climate adaptation, enhancing scientific literacy, data-driven decision-making, and applied research skills among educators and communities.

UNESCO supports the Cultural and Creative Industry at different levels from monitoring and advice on policy and strategy implementation to developing capacity of the sector practitioners. To mention few examples UNESCO supported three projects, two of which are still ongoing.

Support for the preparation of **Quadrennial Periodic Reporting** is to monitor the implementation of the regulations and 2005 Convention on the protection and promotion of cultural diversity.

In collaboration with the Ministry of culture and film associations, UNESCO supported the development of **implementation strategy and institutional framework** for film policy. While also there is on-going initiatives to develop cultural statistics to monitor the contribution of culture for economic development.

Artists supported through different mechanism, such as the organization of International Jazz Day

To mention ongoing projects supported by UNESCO through IFCD (International Fund for Cultural Diversity) each for 100,000 USD;

- Selam Ethiopia benefited for **‘Strengthening intellectual property rights (IPR) in Ethiopia**
- Ethiopian Policy Institute supported for **‘Strengthening stakeholder engagement in Ethiopia’s children’s literature ecosystem’**



3040 Cornwallis Road • PO Box 12194 • Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2194 • USA
Telephone 919.541.6000 • Fax 919.541.5985 • www.rti.org

INVITATION FOR BID

RTI is an independent organization dedicated to conducting innovative, multidisciplinary research that improves the human condition. Founded as a centerpiece of the Research Triangle Park in North Carolina in 1958, RTI offers innovative research and development and a full spectrum of multidisciplinary services. It has a worldwide staff of more than 6,000 people.

Feed the Future Ethiopia Transforming Agriculture (FTF-ETA) invites all eligible manufacturers to submit their detailed company profile, including their experience in producing similar machinery. We are seeking qualified manufacturing, importing, and wholesale companies with the necessary technical and financial capacity, and a valid business license for the current Ethiopian fiscal year (2017). Qualified bidders are invited to collect the RFQ/RFP from the RTI International website at <https://www.rti.org/current-opportunities>.

Commodity/ Service Required:	Purchase of Enset Dough Processing Machine	
Type of Procurement:	Hydraulic press machine: Machine size: 1200x6000x600mm, Pressing capacity: 554 kg kocho and bulla dough/ day	
	Kocho and bulla dough dryer machine: Machine size: 2500x150x1200mm, Drying capacity: 554 kg kocho and bulla dough/ day	
	Enset flour miller with sucker: Machine size: 3000x1200x600mm, grinding capacity: Grinding at least 360 Kg kocho flour/ day	
	Enset flour sieving machine: Machine size: 2000x1000x1000mm, grinding capacity: Grinding at least 360 Kg kocho flour/ day	
	Type of Contract:	One – time contract of fixed price
Term of Contract:		One Time
Contract Funding:		Department of State
This Procurement supports:		Department of State - Ethiopia Transforming Agriculture
Submit Proposal to:		InkindProcurement.ETA@transforming-agriculture.org
Date of Issue of RFP:		December 1, 2025
Date Questions from Supplier Due:		December 12, 2025, 17:30 East Africa Time (EAT)
Date Proposal Due:		December 22, 2025, 17:30 East Africa Time (EAT)
Approximate Date Purchase Order Issued to Successful Bidder(s):		TBD
Method of Submittal:		
Respond via e-mail InkindProcurement.ETA@transforming-agriculture.org with attached document in MS Word / Pdf format. Please provide digital brochures as deemed necessary to support your offer.		
Solicitation Number:		ETA-AA-25-028C-GRT

The RTI- FTFETA project reserves the right to reject any or all bids.



MOENCO GOFA BRANCH

It is with great pleasure that our company, MOENCO, announces the opening of its fourth Toyota and Suzuki vehicle spare parts retail center in Addis Ababa. The new center is located on the 1st floor of the Selassie Building at Gofa Gabriel Square.



Location

MOENCO GOFA BRANCH -
Gofa Gabriel Square area, 1st floor of Selassie Building



www.moencoethiopia.com





As the G+20 meets in South Africa, Africa must confront its food system crisis and the weight of debt

By Dr. Million Belay

When global leaders gather in South Africa for the G+20 meeting, the world will be watching for solutions. This might be a good opportunity to draw the attention of the most powerful leaders in the world to the plight of the food system in Africa.

From where I stand, as part of a social movement working alongside farmers, pastoralists, Indigenous communities, women, and youth across the continent, one thing is clear: the agenda must change. It must be rooted in honesty, courage, and an understanding of the lived realities of African people. Above all, it must place food systems transformation and debt justice at the centre of global decision-making.

For too long, food, climate, and debt have been treated as separate issues by global institutions. In Africa, they are intertwined. You cannot talk about hunger without talking about debt. You cannot discuss climate resilience while ignoring the structural traps that keep African nations dependent on food imports, fertiliser cartels, and the dictates of international financial institutions. And you cannot claim global leadership while the countries most affected by these crises remain excluded from the spaces where decisions about their futures are made.

The G+20 meeting in South Africa offers a rare moment for reflection and change, if leaders are willing to listen.

Across Africa, more than 282 million people are hungry. Not because the continent cannot feed itself, but because the global food system prioritises markets over people. Africa imports nearly \$50 billion worth of food annually, much of it food we can grow. This dependency was engineered through structural adjustment policies, land liberalisation, and Green Revolution programmes that sidelined small-scale farmers, weakened territorial markets, and eroded Indigenous seed systems.

For me, food systems transformation is not about simply increasing yields or adopting more technological fixes. It is about reclaiming sovereignty, recovering our seeds, our soils, our markets, and our power. It is about supporting the small-scale farmers who already produce most of Africa's food. It is about protecting biodiversity and investing in territorial markets that keep food close to home and allow communities to thrive. This is what agroecology offers: a pathway shaped by justice, rooted in African realities, and grounded in ecological wisdom.

But none of this is possible while Africa is being suffocated by debt.

Today, more than half of African countries are in or approaching debt distress. Debt repayments now exceed spending on health, education, and climate adaptation combined. This crisis is not accidental. It is the result of predatory lending, unfair credit ratings, currency volatility, and a climate

catastrophe financed by high-interest loans. Under this system, African governments spend more servicing debt than supporting the farmers who feed their nations.

If the G+20 is serious about building stability, fostering development, or addressing climate justice, it must put debt cancellation, fair restructuring mechanisms, and an end to austerity at its core. Without debt justice, there can be no food system transformation, no resilience, and no real progress.

Through AFSA's work across the continent, I have witnessed extraordinary ingenuity. I have seen farmers regenerate soils without chemicals, pastoralists restore degraded lands, Indigenous communities conserve seeds that carry centuries of memory, and women lead food sovereignty movements with unwavering determination. These are the solutions the world should be learning from. But they require political space, public investment, and freedom from crushing debt burdens.

African civil society has been consistent:

- ➔ Invest in agroecology, not industrial models.
- ➔ Protect farmer-managed seed systems, not corporate seed laws.
- ➔ Strengthen territorial markets, not import dependency.
- ➔ Ensure climate finance comes as grants, not more debt.
- ➔ Reject false solutions, GMOs, fertiliser lock-ins, digital enclosures, and carbon markets that deepen inequality.

South Africa, as host, carries a special responsibility. It must ensure that the G+20 agenda reflects African priorities, not donor preferences or corporate pressures. It must champion the structural changes required to address global inequality and climate vulnerability.

As the G+20 meets on African soil, I call on leaders to:

1. Place food systems transformation at the centre of their discussions.
2. Deliver meaningful debt relief and reform a financial system that punishes the poor.
3. Support agroecology and food sovereignty, the most resilient path for the continent.
4. Ensure African civil society and frontline communities shape the policies that affect their lives.

Africa is not short on solutions. What we need is justice financial, ecological, and political. We need a global architecture that allows us to build the food systems our people deserve.

The world is watching the G+20. The question remains: Will it finally listen to Africa?

Million Belay is General Coordinator, Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA)

Entrepreneur PROFILE:

RESUME

Name: Wubshet Merkebu

Education: Grade 10

Company name: Ras Emru Woodwork Association

Title: Owner

Founded in: 2002/2003

What it does: General Woodwork

Hq: Addis Ababa, St. John's Church area

Number of Employees: 13



STARTUP CAPITAL

150,000 birr

CURRENT CAPITAL

6,000,000 birr

BIG PICTURE

Reason for starting the

Business: Passion for woodwork

Biggest perk of ownership:

Achieving high recognition

Biggest strength: Giving 100% to the work

Biggest challenge: Providing work result or product of quality and comfort to customer

Plan: Innovating new ideas

First career: None

PERSONAL

Most interested in meeting:

President Vladimir Putin

Most admired person:

None

Stress reducer: Walking

Favorite pastime: Sharing my knowledge with people

Favorite book: Fikir Eske Mekabir

Favorite destination: England

Favorite automobile: Toyota Land Cruiser

DAILY EXCHANGE RATE

Nov. 21, 2025

EUR (€)	177.22	178.99	± 1.77
AED (د.ا.)	41.66	42.07	± 0.41
SAR (ر.س.)	40.79	41.20	± 0.40
AUD (\$)	99.83	100.83	± 0.99
CAD (\$)	108.92	110.01	± 1.08
USD (\$)	153.02	154.55	± 1.53
KES (KSh)	1.17	1.21	± 0.03
INR (₹)	1.71	1.72	± 0.01
DJF (Fdj)	0.85	0.88	± 0.02
DKK (kr)	23.72	23.96	± 0.23



UNICEF ETHIOPIA INVITATION TO BID

PROCUREMENT OF SANITARY PADS

LITB-2025-9201415

UNICEF INVITES QUALIFIED LOCAL MANUFACTURERS TO SUBMIT BIDS FOR THE SUPPLY OF SANITARY PADS UNDER A LONG-TERM ARRANGEMENT (LTA)

ONLY OPEN TO MANUFACTURERS OF SANITARY PADS

Interested and eligible bidders can access the bid document through the following link: <https://tender.2merkato.com/tenders/6921ebd70a538a077e000001>

Submission of bids should be done as per the below requirements:

A. Acknowledgement of receipt of Solicitation Document. Bidders are requested to inform UNICEF as soon as possible by * **ETH-SupplyQAgoods@unicef.org** * that they have received this Solicitation Document.

B. Any query or clarification regarding this bid shall be sent via email to **ETH-SupplyQAgoods@unicef.org** before or on the deadline for receipt of any questions is **Thursday 11 December 2025**. When sending your request for clarification, please ensure that you specify the LITB number in the subject email and provide the name of your company, contact person, email, and mobile number.

C. Submission Deadline: The deadline for submission of Bids is as follows **Monday 22 December 2025 at 08:00 AM** (East Africa Time) Bid must be submitted only to **ETH-Tendergoods@unicef.org**

D. Bid must be submitted with two separate PDF bid documents IN ONE EMAIL with a subject email of the LITB Number.

➤ **Technical Proposal:** -must consist of clearly scanned legal and credential documents, technical compliance sheet, product catalog, and additional Documents as outlined in the ITB. The PDF attachment must be titled # **LITB-2025-9201415 -Technical Proposal-(Company Name)#**.

➤ **Financial Proposal:** - must include price before VAT, delivery date, validity date, and availability of stock. The PDF attachment must be titled #**LITB-2025-9201415 -Financial Proposal- (Company Name)#**.

IMPORTANT: ANY BIDS SENT TO THE INDIVIDUAL OR UNICEF STAFFS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. ANY BIDS RECEIVED BY UNICEF AFTER THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE WILL BE REJECTED.



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Nib Insurance Company (S.Co.)

INVITATION TO BID

For the supply of 4WD Hybrid Automobile Vehicle

Bid No. PPFMS 0014/2025

Nib Insurance Company (S. Co.) invites sealed bid from eligible bidders for the supply of 4WD Hybrid Automobile Vehicle.

Interested bidders can collect the bid document up on presentation of renewed trade license, VAT Registration certificate, Taxpayers Registration certificate (TIN),Commercial Registration Certificate, Tax Clearance certificate and payment of non-refundable birr **100.00 (One Hundred birr)** from Procurement, Property & Facility Management Service, located at Dembel City Center, 11th Floor office number 1101(Please use Lift No. 2 or 3), during office hours (morning from 8:30am to 12:00am, afternoon from 1:00pm to 5:00pm) starting from **December 01, 2025**.

All bid must be accompanied by a bid security of **birr 200,000.00 (Two Hundred Thousand Birr)** in the form of a Cash Payment Order (CPO).

Bid closing date: **December 16, 2025 at 10:00 am**

Bid opening date: **December 16, 2025 at 10:10 am**

The Company reserves the right to accept or reject all or parts of the bid.

Nib Insurance Company (S. Co.)

Tel:011 554 01 76

011 554 49 99

Addis Ababa



INVITATION TO BID FOR

Long Term Agreement for 24+12 months for Procurement of Stationery Items

LITB-2025-9201491

Topic- UNICEF (Ethiopia) wishes to request eligible bidders to participate in a Invitation to Bid (LITB) for the **Long-Term Agreement (LTA) for Procurement of Stationery**

Interested and eligible bidders can get the bid document with the below links. **2merkato.com** - <https://tender.2merkato.com/tenders/692991940a538af994000001>

Any query or clarification regarding this bid shall be sent through an email to **eth-supplyQAgoods@unicef.org** before or on **12 December 2025 @11:00AM**. While sending your request for clarification, please ensure that you specify the LITB number in the subject email, and provide the name of your company, contact person, email, and mobile number.

The due date for submission of BID is through dedicated email **eth-tendergoods@unicef.org**, before 2:00 PM (East African Time) on **15 December 2025**.


Please read the LITB for detailed requirements and due dates.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Submission of bids must adhere to the following requirements:

Subject Line the LITB reference number must be indicated in the subject line of the email.

Timely Submission To reduce the risk of late delivery, emails should be sent well in advance of the bid submission deadline.



Save the Children

INVITATION TO TENDER

For the Water Trucking Service

Tender Reference - SCI-ET-2025-030

Save the Children International (SCI) invites qualified and experienced suppliers to submit sealed bids to participate on the water trucking operation planned to be affected to fulfil the demands of 5 health care facilities and one sub-kebele for 30 days at selected locations found in **Sawena, Rayitu, Lega Hidha, and Guradamole Woredas of East Bale Zone and Bale Zone**.

Mandatory Requirements:

➤ Be legally registered and have a valid business license, TIN and VAT for the sector

➤ Provide proof of experience in supplying similar services

➤ Submit at least two recommendation letters or work certificates from government or international NGOs.

The detailed criteria are included in the bid document. Thus, interested companies are invited to get the tender document from save the children Addis Ababa, Ethiopia office.

Tender document

➤ Potential bidders may obtain tender documents against payment of a non-refundable amount of **ETB 100 from** SCI offices in Addis Ababa Country office starting from **December 01, 2025, up to December 10, 2025**, during working hours.

Address

➤ Save the children Ethiopia Country Office, close to Meskel Square, near the Hyatt Regency Hotel

Bid Submission

➤ Tenders must be submitted in Separate sealed envelopes with official company seal, and clearly marked by the "bidders' name, address, and the tender reference

➤ The tender must be submitted in the bid box prepared for the purpose at SCI offices in Addis Ababa Country office on or before December 10, 2025, 3:00 PM.

SCI reserves the right to accept or reject this bid, in partial, or in its entirety



NOTICE OF 18TH ANNUAL ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Lion Insurance Company (S.C.) invites its esteemed shareholders to the 18th Annual Ordinary General Meeting, scheduled for Saturday, December 27, 2025, at 8:00 AM, at the Hilton Hotel, Addis Ababa. This meeting is convened in accordance with Articles 366(1), 367(1), 393(2), and 370 of the FDRE Commercial Code and Article 14 of the Company’s Memorandum of Association.

1. KEY COMPANY INFORMATION:

- 1.1. Head Office Address:** Addis Ababa, Bole Sub-City, Wereda 04, House No. 049 (Lion Insurance Building), P.O. Box: 26281/1000, Email: lioninsurance@ethionet.et, Website: www.anbessainsurance.com
- 1.2. Business Registration Number:** RK/AA/3/0002724/2006
- 1.3. Authorized Capital:** ETB 1.2 Billion
- 1.4. Subscribed and Paid-Up Capital:** ETB 562.43 Million
- 1.5. Nature of the Company:** A composite insurance provider offering both general and long-term (life) insurance services.

2. AGENDA FOR THE 18TH ANNUAL ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING:

- 2.1. Approval of share transfers and admission of new shareholders effected after the 17th AGM.
- 2.2. Consideration and approval of the Board of Directors’ Annual Report for FY 2024/25.
- 2.3. Consideration and approval of the External Auditors’ Report for FY 2024/25.
- 2.4. Deliberation and resolution on the allocation and distribution of net profit for FY 2024/25.
- 2.5. Determination of the Board of Directors’ monthly allowance for FY 2025/26 and annual compensation for FY 2024/25.
- 2.6. Consideration and resolution on the adjustment of the external auditors’ compensation.
- 2.7. Election of members of the Board of Directors.

3. IMPORTANT NOTES:

- 3.1. Shareholders who are unable to attend the meeting in person may participate by proxy. To do so, they must submit a signed proxy form, available at the Company’s Head Office, no later than three days before the meeting, or provide an authenticated power of attorney. Each shareholder may appoint only one proxy.
- 3.2. Attendees must present a valid Ethiopian ID card, or passport, or driver’s license (original and copy).
- 3.3. Attendees must present a valid Ethiopian ID, passport, or driver’s license (original and copy).

Lion Insurance Company (S.C.)
By Order of the Board of Directors

Why Africa Must Accelerate Policies for Gender-Safe Media

■ By Yemisi Akinbobola

Across Africa, media organisations have publicly expressed their commitment to gender equality for decades. From pledges to amplify women’s voices, to newsroom charters on safety and inclusion, to regional frameworks developed by bodies such as the African Union, the intent has never been in short supply. What is in short supply is implementation.

The gap between what is promised and what is practiced continues to place women journalists, women sources, and women audiences at risk. As we prepare for AWiM25 at the African Union Headquarters in Addis Ababa, our focus is clear. It is time to move beyond commitments and accelerate the adoption of gender-responsive policies that create truly gender-safe media environments.

A media ecosystem that is safe for all genders is not just a pipe dream. Whether or not women may completely, safely, and meaningfully engage in the media sector is determined by a practical, quantifiable fact. It establishes if editorial choices take gendered impact into account, whether women are fairly and truthfully represented, and whether harassment—online or offline—is addressed rather than accepted.

Policies meant to keep women safe in these places are often old, inadequate, or not even there at all. Many media houses operate without clear anti-harassment guidelines, without gender-sensitive editorial frameworks, and without accountability mechanisms when harm occurs. As a result, women continue to restrain themselves, leave the profession, or endure hostile workplaces that limit their contributions to journalism.

UNESCO and the International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) found in their landmark 2021–2023 study that 73% of women journalists face online violence, yet only 25% of news organisations worldwide have any safety protocols specific to gendered threats. The UN Women and WAN-IFRA 2022 Gender in Newsrooms Report similarly showed that fewer than one in five African newsrooms have a formal gender policy or internal mechanism for addressing harassment.

Beyond policy, the gaps run deep. Less than 30% of journalists surveyed across Sub-Saharan

Africa said they had received training on trauma-sensitive reporting, interviewing survivors, or covering gender-based violence ethically. Across AWiM’s editorial work this year, including our gender-focused project with Fojo Media Institute and the Violence Against Women and Girls reporting fellowship in partnership with AWDF and UNESCO, the pattern held. Not a single journalist we mentored encountered a newsroom framework that could support them through the emotional, ethical, and safety complexities of reporting these stories.

This year’s conference theme, “Beyond Commitments: Advancing Policies for Gender-Safe Media,” responds to this urgency. Africa does not lack the knowledge, evidence, or moral imperative to act. What we need now is accelerated policy adoption, alignment, and enforcement. Moving beyond commitments requires shifting from voluntary promises to institutional structures that guarantee safety, equity, and dignity for all.

Policy is one of the most powerful levers of change available to us. When a newsroom adopts a gender-sensitive stylebook, it reshapes the narratives that reach millions and allows for ethical representation in media content. When a regulatory body embeds gender-safe guidelines into its licensing standards, it sets industry-wide expectations. When governments enact legal protections for women journalists, it strengthens press freedom for everyone. And when organisations document, monitor, and report on gender-related risks, they build cultures where safety and respect are the norms rather than exceptions.

At AWiM, our work across the continent shows that effective change happens when policy, practice, and partnership intersect. This is why AWiM25 is designed to be a strategic platform bringing together policymakers, editors, academics, development partners, media owners, and journalists to align actionable pathways for reform. Our partnership with the African Union reinforces a continental commitment to creating environments where women can thrive and where media institutions contribute to gender justice, rather than perpetuating inequality.

To move the needle, we must also acknowledge the depth of structural and cultural barriers.

Gender-based harassment in newsrooms remains alarmingly underreported. Online violence against women journalists is escalating, with severe mental health and professional consequences. In UNESCO’s The Chilling study, 26% of women journalists reported negative mental health impacts from online abuse, and 12% had sought medical or psychological help due to sustained harassment. Professionally, 11% missed work, 38% reduced their visibility (e.g., using pseudonyms or avoiding bylines), 4% quit assignments, and 2% left journalism altogether (UNESCO). In a report by African Women in Media in 2020 and 2021, the second-highest reason that constituted a barrier to entry for women journalists was this same sexual harassment, and this led 38% to leave/consider leaving an organization. 54% of respondents said sexual harassment negatively affected their career at entry, during the profession, or when seeking promotion. Some also mentioned this problem as a reason for poor pay, set to push women journalists desperate for a livelihood to accept advances from superiors.

Women experts remain underrepresented in media, both as sources and in decision-making, strengthening narratives that marginalise their expertise: globally, men occupy over 70% of board and top management roles, while in Africa, only 22% of news subjects are women (Global Report on the Status of Women in the News Media, 2011; GMMF, 2021). We’ve all read the 2024 report by the Reuters Institute, which found that while women make up around 40% of journalists in 12 markets, only 24% of top editors are women, up slightly from 22% in 2023. However, when examining individual countries, the picture is more concerning. In Japan, women continue to hold 0% of top editorial positions between 2020 and 2024. Kenya experienced a sharp decline, dropping from 30% in 2020 to just 13% in 2024. Similarly, South Africa saw a decrease from 60% in 2020 to 29% in 2024, highlighting persistent and uneven gender gaps in newsroom leadership across the globe. And in many countries, such as Nigeria, India, Ghana, and Papua New Guinea, gender policies exist on paper but lack the leadership will or institutional capacity needed to enforce them. These statistics highlight that increasing the number of women in leadership is not enough on its own without systemic reforms and supportive policies.

This is why multi-stakeholder collaboration is non-negotiable. The media cannot achieve gender safety in isolation. Regulators, unions, technology companies, civil society organisations, and national governments all play critical roles. AWiM25 creates the space for these actors to collectively examine the policy

gaps and identify concrete commitments, not rhetorical ones, that lead to structural change.

More important is the need to resist the bias that advancing gender-safe media is just a women’s issue. It is a media development issue, a governance issue, and a democracy issue. When women journalists are unsafe, stories go untold. When harmful gender stereotypes dominate reporting, public understanding is distorted. When only a narrow group shapes media narratives, society loses the pluralism that strengthens democracy.

A gender-safe media environment strengthens trust, accuracy, diversity, and public participation. Finland’s media, known for robust protections for women journalists, produces reporting that is widely trusted and inclusive. In Rwanda, the strong presence of women in politics and particularly newsrooms is supported by African Women in Media’s research on the barriers facing women journalists, which helped drive the formation of an anti-sexual harassment committee and national newsroom policy. These developments later informed AWiM23’s Conference in Kigali and ultimately shaped the Kigali Declaration on the Elimination of Gender Violence in and through Media, ensuring that media coverage increasingly reflects ethical, safe, diverse, and equitable perspectives. Even in Namibia, efforts to protect and promote women journalists have made the media more representative and responsive. These examples show that protecting women in media isn’t just about equity; it’s central to building credible, participatory journalism.

As we count down to the AWiM25 Conference, my message to our sector is simple: the time for promises has passed. The time for policy is now. Let us accelerate the adoption of gender-responsive frameworks that protect women, strengthen journalism, and reflect the Africa we are building, which is an Africa where the media not only reports change but embodies it.

At AWiM, we remain committed to supporting media organisations with tools, research, training, and resources to achieve this vision. But meaningful transformation requires leadership across the ecosystem. I call on media owners, policymakers, regulators, donors, and journalism associations to use this moment to formalise, implement, and monitor gender-safe policies. Let us move beyond commitments towards accountability, action, and lasting impact.

This is the work ahead of us. And this December in Addis Ababa, we take the next bold step together.

Yemisi Akinbobola is CEO of African Women in Media (AWiM)

The SACCO Paradox: Your Savings Inflate Your Debt

■ By Befikadu Eba

I ran into an old friend of mine the other day at a coffee shop in Addis, the rich aroma of beans filling the air as we caught up. Our conversation, as it often does with those of us in my line of work, quickly turned to matters of finance. He runs a small retail business for spare parts. To fuel his inventory purchases, he is a borrower with one of the many Savings and Credit Cooperatives, or SACCOs that have proliferated across the city. He spoke highly of the experience at first - the sense of community, the accessibility compared to the imposing marble lobbies of commercial banks, the fact that they saw potential in him where traditional lenders saw only risk.

But then he leaned in, his tone shifting from praise to puzzlement. He explained his latest loan, detailing a practice I have come to recognize as a common, yet poorly understood, feature of cooperative lending. He was required to deposit a significant chunk of the loan amount, say twentyfive percent, back into the SACCO as a mandatory savings component. This is a familiar concept, a forced discipline to build a buffer. The confusion, and indeed the crux of the issue, arose with the interest calculation. He was under the impression that the interest he paid was calculated solely on the net amount he received. But as we discussed deeper, a different picture emerged. He was being charged interest on the entire approved loan amount, effectively paying for the privilege of borrowing money he never actually laid his hands on, money that was, in fact, locked away in his own savings account right there in the same institution.

This, my friend argued with a mix of frustration and feeling of betrayal, was a hidden cost. The "low lending rate" advertised so prominently suddenly seemed like a magician’s trick, a hand that made an effective interest rate much higher than the stated one. His story is not an isolated

one. It is a narrative that plays out in countless SACCO meetings and small business back offices, and it calls for a deeper investigation into the mechanics of these vital yet sometimes opaque entities. There is no denying the profound role SACCOs play in our financial ecosystem. In a market where traditional banks often fall short, tangled in collateral requirements and risk-averse policies that can strangle small ventures at birth, SACCOs offer a lifeline. Their flexible service offerings and a more communal, less stringent approach to credit assessment make them the default choice for many individuals and SMEs who are otherwise left on the financial sidelines.

The value proposition is compelling on the surface. You have mandatory savings that bear interest, a lending rate that appears competitive, and the prospect of an annual dividend from being a shareholding member. It is a powerful message that fosters a sense of ownership and mutual benefit. This is financial inclusion in its purest form, reaching the unbanked and the underbanked, building capital from the ground up. And because of this social mission, they are often viewed more as community service organizations than as purely profit-driven business entities. We can understand, then, the government’s intention to nurture them, to consider their positive contribution to the economy. Cooperatives, if managed with integrity and transparency, can genuinely change the lives of many, and by extension, lift the fortunes of the country.

But this very perception - the idea of the SACCO as a benevolent community group - creates a dangerous blind spot. It can foster an environment where financial clarity is sacrificed at the altar of accessibility. The critical question my friend’s experience raises is a simple one: shouldn’t there be a mandatory, crystal-clear pre-lending information session to explicitly inform borrowers that they will be charged interest not only on the borrowed funds but also on their own

locked savings? This isn't defaming the practice itself; from a pure accounting and liquidity management perspective, one can construct an argument for it. The SACCO uses the entire loan amount as the base for its interest calculations because, in a way, that capital is earmarked and deployed. The forced savings act as a security, reducing the net risk for the cooperative.

The problem is not necessarily the financial model, but the communication - or the profound lack thereof. When a carpenter or a young graduate starting a boutique marketing firm sits down to calculate their cost of capital, they are working with the stated interest rate. They are not factoring in the opportunity cost of the forced savings, nor the interest paid on money they cannot use. Their own accounting, the very foundation upon which they will build their business forecasts and personal budgets, is fundamentally flawed from the start because they are not in possession of all the facts. This opacity extends to the other side of the SACCO's balance sheet, to the very savings members diligently contribute. It is an open secret in financial circles that these same cooperatives take the pooled member savings and place them in time deposit accounts at commercial banks, where they earn significantly higher interest rates - more than double the rate that is then accrued and paid back to the individual saver members. This spread is, of course, a primary source of revenue for the SACCO, and a legitimate one, but it remains a largely invisible transaction to the member whose capital is being deployed.

This is where the proponents of financial literacy have a monumental role to play. Our efforts cannot be confined to teaching people how to budget or save. We must equip them with the tools to deconstruct financial products, to ask the probing questions that reveal the true cost of credit and the true yield on their savings. What is the effective interest rate when you account for the compulsory deposit? And on the flip side, what is the institution earning on my savings versus what it is crediting to me? These are the concepts that bridge the gap between basic numeracy and genuine financial empowerment. Leaving members in the dark, however unintentionally, creates a distorted sense of value. A borrower might rejoice at a fifteen percent lending rate while unknowingly shouldering an effective cost

that edges closer to or more than twenty percent. Savers might be content with a seven percent return, unaware their capital is generating more than fifteen percent for the cooperative in a bank vault. They might later receive a dividend, yes, but that is a sharing of the SACCO’s net profits at the end of the day, a partial return of the value their own capital created. The streams of cost and benefit are often mentally conflated, blurring the lines and making a true cost-benefit analysis impossible for the average member.

The success of the cooperative movement hinges on trust and mutual benefit. That trust is eroded when members feel, rightly or wrongly, that the terms of their engagement are not fully transparent. The solution is not to discourage these crucial institutions but to elevate their practices. It calls for a new standard of disclosure, one that is mandated not just by regulation but by a collective ethical commitment. Loan officers should be trained not merely as processors of applications but as educators, tasked with ensuring that every single member understands the financial commitment they are making, down to the last birr of effective interest and the real value of their saved birr. My friend left the coffee shop that day with a clearer understanding of his loan, but also with a sense of disillusionment. He still values the SACCO, still needs its services, but the relationship has changed. He now sees it as a necessary financial partner, not a communal brotherhood. That shift in perception is a loss for the cooperative spirit. The great promise of SACCOs is to democratize finance, to put power back into the hands of the people. But for that power to be real, it must be exercised with full knowledge. The ledger books of our small businesses and households must reflect the true cost of capital and the genuine yield on savings, not a sanitized version of it. Only then can we truly say that these remarkable institutions are not just providing access to finance, but are building a foundation of genuinely informed and empowered economic citizens.

Befikadu Eba is Founder and Managing Director of Erudite Africa Investments, a former Banker with strong interests in Economics, Private Sector Development, Public Finance and Financial Inclusion. He is reachable at befikadu.eba@eruditeafrica.com.

From a Billion Trees to a Billion Voices

Ethiopia’s Decade of Climate Leadership — From the Green Legacy Initiative to COP 32 — Signals a New Era of Ecological Sovereignty for the Greater South

By Getahun Garedew Wodaje

With COP 30 in Belém, deep within the Amazon, now concluded, it's essential to recognize that this COP was not solely about the Amazon; it was held in the Amazon. As negotiations wrap up, the global focus shifts beyond Belém to the next chapter: COP 32 in Africa.

The confirmation that Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, will host COP 32 in 2027, along with the formal introduction of Gedion Timotiwwos as the COP 32 President-Designate, marks a pivotal moment for African climate diplomacy and the broader aspirations of the Greater South.

Over the years, the COP process has revealed cracks in credibility and inclusiveness, with decisions often influenced more by power imbalances than by urgent planetary needs. Many in the Greater South have grown disillusioned with unfulfilled commitments, fragmented financing, and a system that struggles to align justice with ambition. Ethiopia’s presidency presents an opportunity to mend these fractures — to restore trust, rebalance voices, and reinvigorate a shared purpose in multilateral climate governance.

For the first time in years, the global climate negotiation table seems ready to prioritize Africa’s needs — from adaptation and resilience to just transitions and ecological sovereignty.

Ethiopia’s role as host is not merely ceremonial; it is a significant opportunity for the continent and the South to assert leadership, promote Ecologically-Driven Development (EDD), and reshape global climate governance in favor of justice, equity, and collective sovereignty.

Ethiopia’s Proven Climate Leadership

Before earning the opportunity to host COP 32, Ethiopia had already established itself as one of the most proactive and credible voices in the Greater South.

- Hosted the Second African Climate Summit (ACS-2) in September 2025, aligning Africa’s vision for green industrialization and climate resilience.
- Chaired the Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group under the UNFCCC, representing 46 vulnerable nations.

- Hosted and chaired AMCEN (the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment) for two years and remains a Bureau member of UNEA, the world’s leading environmental body.
- Pioneered the Climate-Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) strategy integrating adaptation, mitigation, and green growth long before such frameworks gained global traction.
- Submitted both its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS) ahead of COP 27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, becoming the first African nation to do so.
- Anchored global finance discourse in 2015 by hosting the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) a UN framework that laid the groundwork for financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

This continuity from the AAAA on financing to COP 32 on implementation highlights Ethiopia’s unwavering commitment to transforming global pledges into actionable change.

The Green Legacy Initiative: Nature in Action

Launched by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed in 2019, the Green Legacy Initiative (GLI) is among the world’s most ambitious reforestation and ecosystem restoration efforts.

In just five years, Ethiopia has planted over 32 billion seedlings, restoring degraded landscapes, recharging watersheds, and strengthening rural livelihoods.

The GLI serves as a living model of nature-based solutions (NbS) linking reforestation, soil and water conservation, and agroecology to climate adaptation and mitigation.

It illustrates that Africa’s solutions are already in motion, grounded in community participation and indigenous ecological wisdom.

Why Hosting Matters

- Symbolic and Diplomatic Milestone The African Group of Negotiators (AGN) unanimously supported Ethiopia's bid over Nigeria, and the decision has now been formally endorsed. Following COP 27 in

Sharm El-Sheikh, Addis Ababa’s selection reaffirms that Africa’s leadership in global climate diplomacy is not just episodic but enduring, showcasing the continent as not merely vulnerable but also visionary.

- Agenda-Setting Power As the host, Ethiopia will assume the COP Presidency, granting significant influence over the agenda and outcomes (Indian Express). This allows the Global South to elevate core priorities, including adaptation finance, loss and damage, just transitions, and ecological sovereignty.
- Platform for the Greater South and EDD The timing coincides with calls for Ecologically Driven Development, which integrates climate, environment, economy, and social justice. COP 32 provides a collective platform for Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia-Pacific to present a united voice.
- Domestic and Continental Leverage — The event will accelerate green industrialization, investment, and diplomatic visibility, strengthening institutions such as the African Union, OSC, and regional financial mechanisms.

Strategic Opportunities for the Greater South

- Advance Loss & Damage and Climate Finance Advocate for predictable, accessible financing tailored to the realities of the Global South.
- Elevate South-South Partnerships Transform Addis Ababa into a hub for renewable energy, green manufacturing, and technology transfer.
- Embed Ecological Sovereignty Institutionalize resource justice and decolonized climate narratives in COP outcomes.
- Institutionalize the EDD Agenda Launch regional investment hubs, sovereign green funds, and biodiversity-industrial initiatives grounded in Africa’s natural wealth.
- Create a Lasting Legacy Establish a Pan-African Climate Innovation Centre to connect research, policy, and implementation.

Risks and Strategies to Navigate

Risks: Resource strain, greenwashing, and

elite capture may occur if local voices are excluded.

Strategies: Ensure inclusivity, embed accountability, and translate dialogue into action from carbon markets to community resilience initiatives.

Turning Momentum into a Movement

As a climate change negotiator and advisor actively involved in EDD frameworks, I view Ethiopia’s presidency as a pivot point for the Global South to reclaim its narrative and future.

Key actions:

- Develop a Greater South COP 32 Roadmap Align governments and civil society across Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia-Pacific.
- Integrate EDD into COP 32 Strategy Weave ecological integrity, social justice, and sovereign development into negotiations.
- Create a South Solidarity Pavilion Highlight innovations in renewable energy, regenerative agriculture, and community resilience.
- Establish an African Climate Sovereignty Fund Based in Addis Ababa, this fund will finance Southern-led innovation and adaptation.

Ethiopia’s hosting of COP 32 is not just a logistical achievement; it embodies a statement of principle and purpose. Built on a decade of home-grown climate action, from the CRGE and Green Legacy Initiative to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and AMCEN leadership, and now bolstered by the appointment of Gedion Timotiwwos as COP 32 President-Designate, it signals that Africa is ready to lead.

If leveraged strategically, Addis Ababa 2027 can bridge the financial vision of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda with the climate ambition of COP 32, marking a turning point where the Global South transitions from pledges to sustained action moving from vulnerability to sovereign resilience and context-specific responses.

Getahun Garedew Wodaje (PhD) is an environmentalist and policy expert currently serving as the Director of the Office of Climate Action and Resilience Enhancement at the Organisation of Southern Cooperation. He previously held positions as Ethiopia’s State Minister of Education and Director General of the Environmental Protection Authority.

Africa Must Treat Energy Efficiency as Its “First Fuel”

By Nickson Bukachi Onger

Africa is standing at a critical moment in its energy journey. As the continent strives toward the Pan-African vision of prosperity and peace, one truth has never been clearer: we cannot meet our development goals without transforming the energy supply system.

That is why the African Union Commission (AUC), through the African Energy Commission (AFREC), together with Ethiopia’s Ministry of Water and Energy, is hosting the first-ever African Energy Efficiency Conference from 8 -11 December 2025 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Convened under the umbrella of the African Energy Efficiency Alliance launched at COP 29 and endorsed by the African Heads of State and Government in February this year, the conference is a long-overdue milestone that should command the attention of every policymaker, investor, and citizen.

For decades, Africa’s energy conversation has been dominated by how to generate more power. Today, more than 70% of Africans live in energy poverty, while the continent’s energy demand is expected to more than double by 2050. Population growth, urbanisation, and expanding industries will only intensify the pressure. We cannot build our way out of this

challenge through generation alone. Energy efficiency must therefore become our first fuel, the cheapest, quickest, and cleanest energy source available.

The numbers are glaring. Comparatively, for every unit of energy consumed, Africa produces only half the Gross Development Product (GDP) of advanced economies. This is not a mark of low potential but a sign of immense opportunity. Across our power systems, transport networks, industries, buildings, agriculture, and appliances, energy efficiency measures can unlock billions in savings, strengthen African economies, and cut carbon emissions while enabling universal access to modern energy.

If we consider simply one example under the appliances and equipment markets. By adopting and enforcing Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS), the continent could save more than 40 gigawatts of power by 2040, roughly 15% of Africa’s total installed generation capacity. These savings would prevent the construction of new power plants, thereby freeing scarce public resources for health, education, and other critical services. They also represent “negawatts” that could help bring electricity to the more than 600 million Africans projected to remain without access beyond 2030.

Several African countries are already proving what is possible. Over 18 nations have introduced MEPS for lighting, cooling, and other appliances. Ghana’s pioneering labelling programmes for refrigerators and lighting have saved hundreds of gigawatts of energy, while Ethiopia’s “Quality Village” initiative is raising the performance of locally manufactured products for both local and international markets. Regional blocs such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Eastern Africa Community (EAC) are harmonising standards with support from partners, a crucial step toward opening markets and supporting free trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

AFREC on the other hand is currently running a comprehensive programme to support Member States in implementing the harmonised MEPS while building human capacity across the continent.

The opportunities extend far beyond appliances. Africa’s building floor area is expected to more than double by 2050, which means building codes and incentives can deliver significant savings. Algeria, Tunisia, and South Africa are showing leadership in this space. Morocco and Ethiopia are pushing ahead promoting vehicular efficiency with electric mobility, while Kenya is enabling private investment

in industrial efficiency through smart policy design. These are encouraging signs, but they remain fragmented and insufficient to deliver continent-wide impact.

That is why the establishment of the African Energy Efficiency Alliance, endorsed by African Heads of State and launched at COP29, is so important. The Alliance brings together not just AU Member States and organs but also global partners including CLASP, the International Energy Agency, Partnership for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (PEEB), Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL), United Nations Environment Programme, and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). This kind of coalition, spanning across governments, development agencies, the private sector and civil society, is exactly what Africa needs to scale energy efficiency from scattered initiatives to systemic transformation.

The inaugural African Energy Efficiency Conference is more than an event; it is a clear statement that Africa is ready to make energy efficiency the foundation of its energy future. If we succeed, we will not only cut waste and emissions. We will strengthen economies, attract investment, and accelerate the creation of a continent-wide electricity market capable of powering Africa’s ambitions.

Energy efficiency is not an abstract technical fix. It is our first line of defense in addressing Africa’s energy crisis, and one of the smartest investments we can make for current and future generations.

Nickson Bukachi Onger is a Senior Policy Officer in Charge of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency at the African Energy Commission (AFREC) of the African Union (AU)

INVITATION TO BID FOR BULK PARTS SALES FOR VARIOUS IVECO MODELS

The Automotive Manufacturing Company of Ethiopia (AMCE) invites eligible bidders to participate in the bidding process for the sale of various IVECO model spare parts.

- 1. Bid Participation:** Interested bidders may collect the list of spare parts by making a non-refundable payment of **Birr 500.00 (Five Hundred Birr)** at the Purchasing and Logistics Department. The collection period is from **December 01, 2025**, office working days from Monday through Friday, from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM morning time and 1:30 PM to 5:30 PM afternoon time.

2. Required Documentation: Bidders must submit a copy of their renewed Trade License, TIN, VAT certificate, and tax clearance along with their bid offer.

3. Initial Bid Offer: Birr 4,300,000.00 (Four Million Three Hundred Thousand Birr) before VAT, covering all parts listed in the TOR document.

4. Submission Requirements: All required documents (including financial offers indicating whether they are before or after VAT, renewed licenses, TIN and VAT certificates, tax clearance, and CPO) must be submitted in a sealed envelope corresponding to the specific bid.

5. Submission Location: Bids should be submitted to the Purchasing and Logistics Department at the Automotive
- Manufacturing Company of Ethiopia (AMCE).

6. Bid Bond Requirement: Bid must be accompanied by a bid bond of Birr 100,000.00 (One Hundred Thousand Birr) in the form of a CPO only.

7. Compliance: Bidders are expected to comply with all bid requirements outlined in this invitation.

8. Submission Deadline: The deadline for submitting bid documents is **December 08, 2025, at 10:00 AM**. Bids will be opened on the same day, **December 08, 2025, at 10:30 AM** in the AMCE Meeting Room in the presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend.

9. Discretionary Rights: AMCE reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids at its discretion.

10. Further Information: Interested bidders may obtain additional information from the Purchasing and Logistics Department at the following contact details:

➤ **Telephone:** 011 646 33 11 / 011 646 33 46

➤ **Email:** eskinder.wsenbet@ivecogroup.com



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

No.	Post	Contract Type	PROCUREMENT REF. NO.	Brief Job/Consultancy Description & Web-link for detailed advert	Submission deadline
1	RFP-National Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) or NGOs: Provide Inclusive Voter Education in Preparation for 7th General Election in Ethiopia	RFP	UNDP-ETH-00635	https://procurement-notice.undp.org/view_negotiation.cfm?nego_id=41153	08 December 2025.

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➔ UNDP does not charge a fee at any stage of its recruitment or procurement process. All information related to these processes is published on the national or global UNDP websites.

- ➔ UNDP does not request or issue personal bank checks, Money Grams, Western Union or any other type of money transfer at any stage of its procurement or recruitment processes.

➔ UNDP does not request any information related to bank accounts or other private information prior to formal registration as a vendor.

➔ UNDP does not offer prizes, awards, funds, certificates, scholarships or conduct lotteries through telephone, e-mail, mail or fax.

➔ Related queries can be sent through **scam.alert.et@undp.org**.



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የዳሸን ባንክ አ.ማ. ባለአክሲዮኖች 32^{ተኛ} (ሰላሳ ሁለተኛ) መደበኛ እና 28^{ተኛ} (ሃያ ስምንተኛ) አስቸኳይ ጠቅላላ ጉባዔዎች በኢ.ፌ.ዲ.ሪ የንግድ ሕግ አንቅጽ 366(1)፣367(1)፣370፣393 እና 400፣ እንዲሁም በባንኩ መመስረቻ ፅሁፍ እና መተዳደሪያ ደንብ መሠረት ታኅሣስ 16 ቀን 2018 ዓ.ም. ከጠዋቱ 2:00 ሰዓት ጀምሮ በቅደም ተከተል በሚሊኒየም አዳራሽ ስለሚካሄድ ባለአክሲዮኖች ወይም ወኪሎቻቸው በተጠቀሰው ቀን፣ ሰዓት እና ቦታ በስብሰባው ላይ እንዲገኙ የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ ጥሪውን ያቀርባል።

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የአክሲዮን ማኅበሩ ዓይነት
የአክሲዮን ማኅበሩ የተፈረመ ዋና ገንዘብ
የአክሲዮን ማኅበሩ የተከፈለ ዋና ገንዘብ
የአክሲዮን ማኅበሩ የምዝገባ ቁጥር
የአክሲዮን ማኅበሩ ድረ-ገፅ
የአክሲዮን ማኅበሩ ዋና መሥሪያ ቤት የሚገኝበት ቦታ

ዳሸን ባንክ አ.ማ.
የባንክ ሥራ ውስጥ የተሰማራ የአክሲዮን ማኅበር
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www.dashenbanksc.com
አዲስ አበባ ፣ ልደታ ክ/ከተማ፣ ወረዳ 07፣ የቤት ቁጥር አዲስ

የመደበኛ ጠቅላላ ጉባዔ አጀንዳዎች

1. የጉባዔውን አጀንዳውን ማፅደቅ
2. አዳዲስ ባለአክሲዮኖችን መቀበልና የነባር አክሲዮኖችን ግዥና ዝውውሮችን ማሳወቅ
3. የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድን ዓመታዊ ሪፖርት ማዳመጥ እና ተወያይቶ ማፅደቅ
4. የውጭ አዲተሮችን ሪፖርት ማዳመጥ እና ተወያይቶ ማፅደቅ
5. የውጭ አዲተሮችን መሾምና ክፍያቸውን መወሰን
6. በዘመኑ የተጣራ ትርፍ አደላደል እና አከፋፈል በዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ በቀረበው የውሳኔ ሃሳብ ላይ ተወያይቶ መወሰን
7. የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ ሹመት ፖሊሲ እና የአሠራር ሥርዓት ላይ ተወያይቶ ማፅደቅ፤
8. የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ አባላትን ክፍያና አበል መወሰን፤
9. የጉባዔውን ቃለ-ጉባዔ ማፅደቅ፤

የአስቸኳይ ጠቅላላ ጉባዔ አጀንዳዎች

1. የጉባዔውን አጀንዳውን ማፅደቅ፤
2. የዳሸን ባንክ አ.ማ. የመመስረቻ ፅሁፍ እና መተዳደሪያ ደንብን በማዋሃድ የተሻሻለው የመመስረቻ ፅሁፍ ላይ ተወያይቶ ማፅደቅ፤
3. የባንኩን ካፒታል ስለማሳደግ በቀረበው የውሳኔ ሃሳብ ላይ ተወያይቶ መወሰን፤
4. የጉርሻ አክሲዮኖችን (Bonus Shares) በተመለከተ ተወያይቶ መወሰን፤
5. የጉባዔውን ቃለ-ጉባዔ ማፅደቅ፤

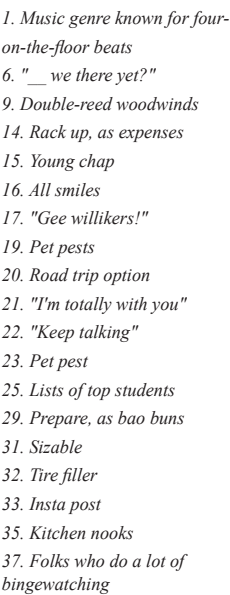
ማሳሰቢያ

- በጉባዔው ላይ በግንባር መገኘት የማይችሉ ከሆነ ከኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ባንክ ፊት ለፊት በሚገኘው የዳሸን ባንክ ዋና መስሪያ ቤት 14 ተኛ ፎቅ የቦርድ ፅሕፈት ቤት በመቅረብ የውክልና ቅፅ በመሙላት ከስብሰባው ከሶስት ቀን በፊት ማቅረብ የሚችሉ መሆኑን በአክብሮት እናሳውቃለን።
- በባንኩ ዋና መሥሪያ ቤት ቀርባችሁ ውክልና የምትሰጡ ሆነ በጉባዔው በአካል የምትገኙ ባለአክሲዮኖች ማንነታችሁን የሚያሳይ የታደሰ መታወቂያ ወይም ፓስፖርት ዋናውን እና ኮፒ ይዛችሁ እንድትቀርቡ እንዲሁም በሠነዶች ምዝገባና ማረጋገጫ አገልግሎት የተረጋገጠ ሕጋዊ ውክልና ይዛችሁ ለምትቀርቡ ተወካዮች የወካዎችሁን ማንነት የሚያሳይ የታደሰ መታወቂያ ወይም ፓስፖርት ኮፒ ይዛችሁ እንድትቀርቡ እናሳስባለን።
- በዕለቱ ሁሉም ባለአክሲዮኖች የብሔራዊ (የፋይዳ) መታወቂያችሁን እንዲሁም የግብር መክፈያ መለያ ቁጥራችሁን (Tax Identification Number) ይዛችሁ በስብሰባው እንድትገኙ እናሳስባለን።
- ባለአክሲዮኖች በሥራ ላይ ያሉ የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ አባላት እና የባንኩ ሠራተኞች በባለአክሲዮኖች ጉባዔ ላይ እንዲሳተፉና ድምጽ እንዲሰጡ መወከል አይችሉም።
- የመመስረቻ ፅሁፍ ማሻሻያና የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ ሹመት ፖሊሲ እና የአሠራር ሥርዓትን በተመለከተ የተዘጋጀውን ሠነድ ከባንኩ ድረ-ገፅ (www.dashenbanksc.com) ላይ ወይም በዳሸን ባንክ ዋና መሥሪያ ቤት 14ተኛ ፎቅ ላይ ከሚገኘው የቦርድ ፅሕፈት ቤት በአካል በመቅረብ ማግኘት ይቻላል።

የዳይሬክተሮች ቦርድ
ዳሸን ባንክ አ.ማ.



ACROSS



DOWN


34. *Body-lifting exercise that may be done in a doorway*
35. *Buns, bobs, and beehives*
36. *"My Cousin Vinny" Oscar winner Marisa*
37. *Spanish house*
38. *Tethered*
39. *__ pressure*
40. *"To __ it mildly"*
45. *Changes with the times*
46. *Story told in installments*
47. *Bistro, e.g.*
49. *Olympic swimmer Ledecky*
50. *Ye olde rascal*
51. *Support for a drawing board*
52. *"Huzzah!"*
56. *Short snoozes*
58. *Old hoops gp.*
59. *"Hello, ewe!"*
60. *Startled cry*
61. *Watery expanse*

Solution: see below



WEEKLY HOROSCOPES




 This is a very busy time that encourages good communication. Do your best to be accountable for any changes in what others expect from you. This period is especially powerful for anyone working as an advocate for children, the elderly, or the disabled. Events support team building, especially with things as simple as bringing in snacks or allowing people to share a meal and talk in a more relaxed atmosphere.




This is a lucky time to shine with superiors or make a good impression in a job interview. Events bring powerful forces to the surface. You would be smart to keep your head down and avoid making cutting or caustic remarks. Patience and a willingness to do a thorough job are necessary. Some situations will require compromise. You'll have to search for outside resources for any plan or project. Do your best to be a team player.



 This is a lucky time for finding a new job or improving your current position. Dress your best and speak with confidence! You can be a source of encouragement in a stressful situation. There is the potential for a breakthrough in a stubborn problem now. Get as much done as you can before an anticipated slowdown. Hidden tensions could come to the surface, especially if you're in a management position. This period is lucky for a new start.





These are busy days. It may be that you'll need assistance in order to field questions and find all the information that needs to be exchanged. This period encourages good working relationships. Do what you can to identify customer needs. You could be especially concerned about material security or improving your salary. You naturally feel better making money. You mustn't beat yourself up if your resources are limited. Be hopeful and generous to co-workers.



This is a powerful time to start a partnership or apply for a new position. A casual conversation can have unexpected results. It's possible that an unclear or unfair situation at the management level could influence everyone's attitude. Expect things to be more settled later. This is a good time for any work that takes you outside. This is a lucky time for any grand opening or start of a project.



 This period could bring you to a crossroads in your work life. If you want to see change, you need to take steps and then be patient. You may not see the results of your efforts or requests right away. Events bring powerful forces to the surface. Don't blame others for your disappointments. This is a time when unique approaches can work out for the best. This is a powerful period for teamwork and training on the job.




It's important to believe in yourself now. This is a very lucky time to apply for a new job or ask for what you want in your current job. Part of this period could be a stressful, as the actions of larger corporate forces could mean unwelcome changes. The secret is to be brave even if you feel afraid. These days are positive for training or teaching to improve your skills. This is also a positive time to upgrade any technology you use regularly.




This is likely to be an extremely busy period. It can see you running short on errands and getting easily distracted by multiple demands. These are great days for team building. Anything that lets you feel smart or supports more education, training, or technology will be especially enjoyable. Don't try to manipulate others with fast talk. There might be a conflict between corporate goals and your personal interests.



 This is a lucky time for an interview in order to improve your position or find something new. This can be a stressful period, as forces that seem beyond your control may be determining your future. Network as much as possible now. You can move in constructive new directions. These days are positive for legal matters and developing good working partnerships. Share your enthusiasm with confidence.




This is a lucky time to apply for a new or better position. Legal issues and questions of fair play can be very distracting. Expect some issues with people in positions of authority. You'd be wise to do your best to avoid making critical comments. Not everyone is as sensible as you. Be patient in any emotionally charged situation on the job. Your ability to focus on problem solving will be appreciated. Events could demand a career choice.



This is a powerful time for sharing ideas. Stay focused on what is most important. It can be easy to become distracted. Events are likely to bring a slowdown that requires additional patience. It might be necessary to speak to a difficult employee about his or her behavior. You'll be happiest if you're allowed to be self-sufficient and you feel respected by others. It's possible to feel dominated or pushed into taking action before you're prepared.



 This can be a very busy period. Focus on building good customer relationships. Events will challenge your ability to be the master of your emotions. If you're in a supervisory position let people work independently. You must at least appear confident, because appearing needy or emotionally dependent can cripple good working relationships. This is a lucky time to build good relationships with female co-workers or customers.



Sudoku

The game is easy, the rules are simple. All you have to do is make sure you fill every 3x3 box every row and every column, without repetition, using the number 1-9.



INVITATION TO BID

Sale of unserviceable Server and accessories, Televisions, Displays, LCD and Generators.

REF. PRO32-3-738-PMU/25-4-1

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) invites interested bidders to participate in a closed bid exercise for the Sale of unserviceable Server and accessories, Televisions, Displays, LCD and Generators. The bid is to be sold “as is, where is” without recourse to warranties of any kind. Bid with some information will be available from **17 November 2025 – 15 December 2025** on UN working hours and days from Monday to Thursday morning time between **9:00 AM to 12:30 PM** afternoon time **15:00 PM to 17:00 PM and on Friday 9:00 AM to 13:00 PM.**

For any queries regarding this bid, please contact the Bid Officer, **Tel. 0115445779** extensions **(35779).**

For physical inspection purposes, please contact the Inventory Control Unit of ECA in person or by telephone at **0115-443115**, extension **33115.**

Physical inspections will be conducted on **November 17,19,21, 24, and December 10, 12 and 15** between **9:00 AM and 12:30 PM.**

Interested bidders may collect the bid document from the Procurement Unit, in **Room no. NG.4S.03** of its Secretariat Building (Niger) 4th floor in the ECA compound at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, during working hours, starting from **17 November 2025 – 15 December 2025** from Monday to Thursday morning time between 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM afternoon time 15:00 PM to 17:00 PM and on Friday 9:00 AM to 13:00 PM on UN working hours and days only.

The closing date of the bid submission will be **15 December 2025 at 16:00 PM**, and the opening will be on **16 December 2025 at 10:00 AM.** No Proposal shall be received after this deadline.

Please deposit Birr 200 in United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) account **No 1000090977858** and collect bid document from Supply Chain Management Section Procurement unit **4th floor Room No. NG.4S.03.**

Bidders will be expected to submit a bid bond of 10% of the total bid amount in the form of CPO as a guarantee to participate in closed bid exercise.

The 10% Bid bond will not be returned to the awarded bidder who failed to collect his/her award.

Submission of bid on the basis of another bid is strictly prohibited.

The Economic Commission for Africa reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received whenever such rejection is in the interest of the organization.



Field	Details
Client	SRS Urban Development and Construction Bureau (SRS UDCB)
Project Name	New Building for Justice Bureau G+6 and Site Work
Description	Construction of a G+6 building including full structural, architectural, electrical, sanitary, and site work components. Contractor must complete the project within one year and must show experience with similar or larger multi-storey buildings.
Procurement Category	Works
Market Type	National
Procurement Method	Open
Funding Source	Treasury
Governing Laws	Ethiopian Procurement Proclamation
Invitation Date	Nov 20, 2025
Bid Submission Deadline	Dec 18, 2025, 2:00 PM
Bid Opening Date	Dec 18, 2025, 2:30 PM
Participation Fee	3,000 Birr
Bid Security	150,000 Birr (CPO or Bank Guarantee) Valid for 90days from bid opening
Technical Document Submission Requirements	Original Technical offer and 2 copy sealed in an envelope labelled "THE Technical OFFER DOCUMENT." Both placed inside one large outer envelope and wax-sealed. Outer envelope must show submission address and be marked "TO BE OPENED ONLY IN THE PRESENCE OF THE TENDER COMMITTEE." Financial offer must be deposited in a secure box in the presence of an auditor or authorized body.
Project Duration Requirement	Contractor must complete the project within one year from commencement date.
Contractor Experience Requirement	At least one completed project or higher building project of similar or greater value within the last 10 years. Must show ability to complete time-bound projects within 12 months.
Technical Requirement	Adequate equipment, qualified technical staff, and verified past performance.
Financial Capacity Requirement	Demonstrated financial resources to support project without relying only on advance payment.


Legal Qualification

- ➔ Nationality in accordance with ITB Clause 4.2
- ➔ No conflict of interest as described in ITB Clause 6
- ➔ Valid tax clearance certificate
- ➔ VAT registration certificate
- ➔ FPPA Supplier Registration
- ➔ Not debarred by FPPA
- ➔ Valid trade license or business registration certificate
- ➔ GC4 and Above


N.B the Bureau deserves the right to reject or accept any or all parts of the BID

Address

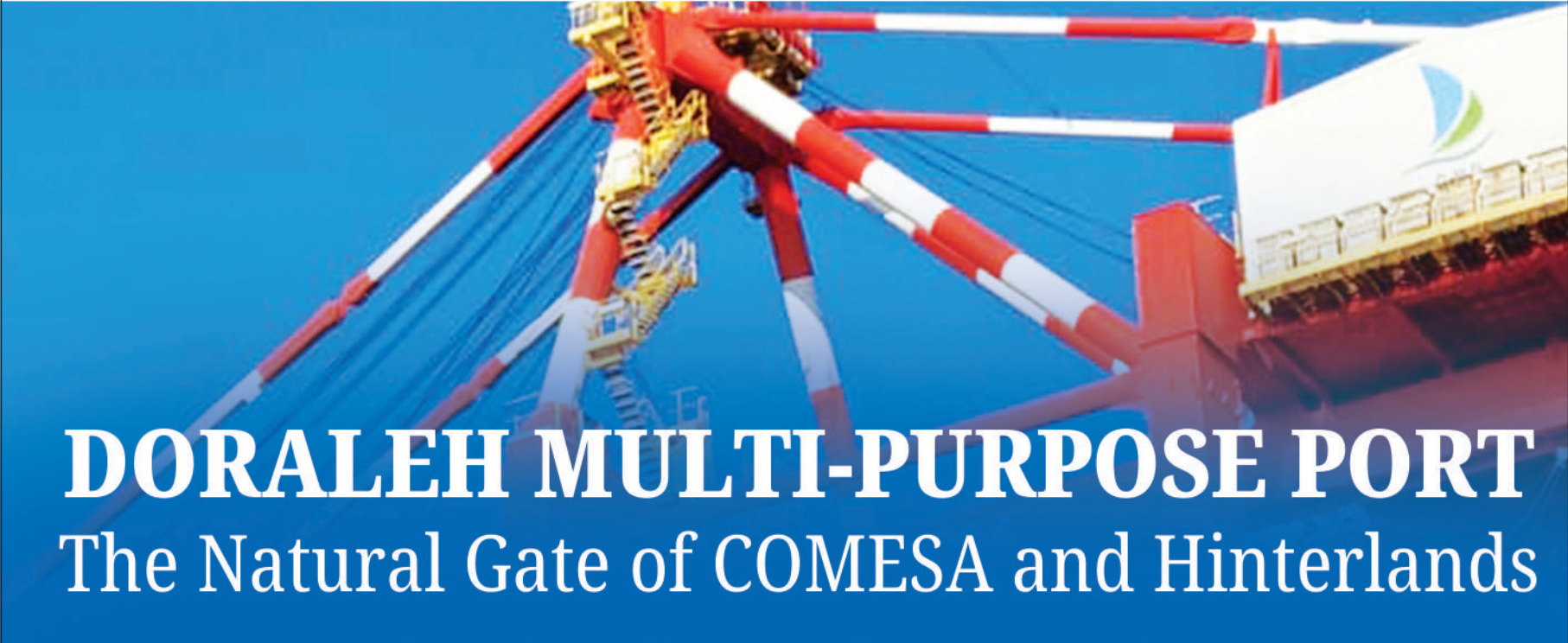
Somali Region Urban Development & Construction Bureau
2nd floor Room 5
Contact: Eng. Ahmed Abdi kelif
Tel: 0921651697



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MULTI-PURPOSE
PORT**



PORT DE DJIBOUTI S.A.



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