



ETHIO NEWS

Politics

PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER LOOK FORWARD TO A SUCCESSFUL NEW YEAR

Ethiopia's unique calendar calls for new Year celebrations on what in the Gregorian calendar is September 11. A different counting system also results in a slightly different year - 2010 being the most recently celebrated. President Dr. Mulatu Teshome in a New Year message to the nation called on all Ethiopians to help ensure the country's renaissance. He was speaking at the launch of a ten-day program of events across the country to usher in the Ethiopian New Year 2010 which started on September 11, 2017. The program allows for ten separate days of celebrations that began on September 1 to include: Love Day, Mothers' and Children's Day, Elders' Day, Peace Day, Reading Day, Green Development Day, Respect Day, National Feelings Day, Unity Day and Ethiopia Day. President Mulatu said the various events would highlight Ethiopia's significant gains in socio-economic and political sectors over the past decade and help ensure the sustainability of the successes achieved during the past ten years and address the challenges the country continued to face, among them poverty, unemployment and El Nino-induced drought. He noted these would be problems that Ethiopia would continue to have to deal with in the New Year.

Prime Minister Hailemariam Dessalegn, speaking of the special preparations to celebrate the New Year, also wished all Ethiopians a happy New Year and called on people to continue their efforts to actively promote the growth and renaissance process that the country had begun in the coming Ethiopian New Year. He wished all a "new era of peace, prosperity and love." The Government Communication Affairs Office Minister Dr. Negeri Lencho said the celebrations were aimed at cherishing the nation's success in social, economic and political spheres of the past 10 years and addressing any shortcomings and challenges that had appeared. The ten days of events, said Dr. Negeri, would help mobilize the public to actively take part in the nation's versatile and extensive development activities. The Ethiopian Embassy in Berlin and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our supporters and friends for their continued efforts and to wish all a prosperous, profitable and happy New Year for 2010 in the Ethiopian Calendar.

PM HAILEMARIAM DESALEGN IN NEW YORK

Prime Minister Hailemariam Dessalegn led Ethiopia's delegation to the 72nd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York, to participate in the annual general debate. During his visit to United Nations, he met with a number of world leaders and attended dozens of bilateral and multilateral meetings as well as participating in fora on Somalia, South Sudan and other issues of major concern to Ethiopia. The Prime Minister also chaired the UN Security Council open debate on the Reform of UN Peacekeeping as Ethiopia held the UN Security Presidency chair for September.

On his return to Addis Ababa, Prime Minister Hailemariam told journalists that the week's deliberations had been a success. He said Ethiopia's suggestions and proposals on major elements of the session's agenda and in parallel meetings had been welcomed, and in many cases endorsed. At the UN Security Council, the proposed draft resolution on reform of peacekeeping had been unanimously accepted. Production of nuclear weapons had been condemned and Ethiopia had expressed its concern about the confrontation in the Korean peninsula and the threat this posed to peace. The Prime Minister also noted that Ethiopia had been able to de-

tail its position on climate change at various fora, underlining the problems it faced from drought caused by climate change and the impact of hurricanes and floods that had affected other countries. He said the EU, China, Canada, Australia and others had expressed their strong support and partnership for implementing the Paris Agreement. Ethiopia, the Prime Minister said, had firmly defined and delivered the African stand on climate change.

The Prime Minister also pointed out that Ethiopia had been a major actor in the fora to discuss resolution of the crisis in South Sudan. Ethiopia as chair of IGAD had been playing an important role there and its ideas to enhance peace and stability were welcomed and accepted by IGAD members. He mentioned that partners had extended their support to the Rapid Deployment Force that would largely be composed of troops from Ethiopia, Kenya and Rwanda. Ethiopia, he said, had also participated in meetings to discuss ways to extricate Somalia from the terrorist activities of Al-Shabaab. Referring the extension of the mandate for AMISOM, he said he expected that the necessary financial support would be finalized within a short period. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres is expected to hold discussions in Africa to finalize this issue shortly. Foreign Minister Dr. Workneh Gebeyehu also underlined that Ethiopia had been successful in its diplomatic discussions



Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn addresses the UN General Assembly

Photo: mfa



and activities in multinational and bilateral talks on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. He said the Ethiopian delegation had held fruitful discussions with the leaders of other states on continental and global issues, challenges and possible solutions. Dr. Workneh said the discussions held at ministerial and leaders' level under Ethiopia's Security Council presidency in Sep and the decisions taken proved the effectiveness of Ethiopia's diplomacy.

Prime Minister Hailemariam spoke to the General Assembly on September 22 in its annual high-level debate. He congratulated Assembly President Miroslav Lajčák on his election and welcomed the appointment of Antonio Guterres as UN Secretary-General, supporting the Secretary-General's call for a surge in diplomacy for peace to address the many crisis situations in the world today. The Prime Minister highlighted the way geo-political tensions reminiscent of the cold war were increasing; that proliferation of weapons of mass destruction were posing real threats to global peace and security; and that climate change, terrorism and violent extremism continued to wreak havoc across different parts of the world. He emphasized that climate change was not a fiction but it was "real and we are witnessing its devastating consequences for humankind and the planet." He said firmly: "It is high time to act, and act urgently and decisively, to combat the adverse impacts of climate change, particularly its disproportionate adverse effect on the most vulnerable countries. Now is not the time to doubt the devastating impacts of climate change while millions of our fellow humans are losing their lives and their hard-won development achievements."

The Prime Minister agreed with Secretary-General Guterres insistence that global problems certainly required global solutions. That, he said, was "why commitment to multilateralism and adherence to principles that underpin it have never been as urgent as they are today". That was what made the United Nations and its convening power all the more indispensable in mobilizing the world in support of the cardinal goal of collective security and prosperity.

The Prime Minister referred to the major peace and security reviews that had recently been carried out and which, if implemented, would allow the United Nations to respond effectively to any new and emerging peace and security challenges in a comprehensive, systematic and coordinated manner. They also underlined that the primacy of politics should be the hallmark of United Nations' approach to the resolution of conflict. Indeed, he said, there was no way of resolving the many conflict and crisis situations around the world except by political means. This was not only true in South Sudan but also in

Syria, Yemen and the Korean peninsula. The Prime Minister called on world leaders to reaffirm their commitment to the letter and spirit of Chapter VI of the UN Charter, for peaceful settlement of disputes to provide for an effective response to global peace and security challenges. Indeed, he went on, "without political will and commitment by conflicting parties to find a political solution through dialogue and negotiation, peace is bound to elude us." Current global security dynamics required a stronger and effective global-regional partnership in the service of conflict prevention and peace. Without this and support from the principles of complementarity and coherence, no meaningful progress could be achieved.

Prime Minister Hailemariam noted Ethiopia's strong belief in the Secretary-General's aspirations to reform the Organization in three interrelated areas, development, peace and security and management. In this context, he expressed his own and Ethiopia's gratitude to all who had participated in the High Level Open Debate of the Security Council on the Reform of UN Peacekeeping Operations, on September 20. As one of the leading troop-contributing countries, Ethiopia attached great importance to strengthening the role of United Nations peacekeeping to address challenges to international peace and security. It welcomed the unanimous adoption of the draft Security Council resolution reaffirming the central role of United Nations peacekeeping as one of the most effective tools available to the World Body in the promotion and maintenance of international peace and security.

He emphasized that the inter-linkages between peace, security and development had long been recognized. More peaceful and inclusive societies created an environment conducive to sustainable development. In other words "sustainable peace is both an enabler and an outcome of sustainable development." He said 2015 was a seminal year in this regard, when the General Assembly had made a commitment to the transformative 2030 Agenda. The Sustainable Development Goals were further reinforced with the adoption of the Paris Climate Accord. While the SDGs had been endorsed with much optimism at the time, the subsequent global situation had scarcely been conducive even to produce reasonably effective implementation. That was a major disappointment for all who had been hoping to see a renewed global partnership in the spirit of the 2030 agenda.

In the case of Ethiopia, Prime Minister Hailemariam stressed, it had certainly started to register encouraging initial results in implementing the 2030 Agenda. He went on: "We have continued to invest in our people to improve their well-being. To achieve structural transformation and diversify our economy, the government

is expanding the manufacturing sector and infrastructural facilities that have continued to attract increasing amount of domestic and foreign investment... to finance our ambitious national projects, we are mobilizing domestic resources while maximizing the positive impacts of foreign assistance". Expressing appreciation of the support from bilateral and multilateral partners, he also emphasized that Ethiopia would continue to implement its national strategy of building a green and resilient economy. Indeed, by implementing integrated pro-poor policies, he said, Ethiopia was reducing poverty, enhancing the quality of life, and sustaining rapid and inclusive economic growth. It was, indeed, projected to be the fastest growing economy in the world this year. This was an additional reason to redouble determination and effort to accelerate full implementation of the program of national development in which the SDGs were integrated.

In conclusion, Prime Minister Hailemariam underlined that implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda in countries like Ethiopia did require an enabling international environment to succeed in the fight against poverty. Ending poverty, achieving prosperity for all and preserving the planet was attainable, he said, but poverty and economies that fail to produce employment opportunities were not fertile ground for nurturing peace. Time, he said, was of the essence, and acceleration was necessary to ensure no one was left behind.



PM Hailemariam with Denmark's PM Lars Løkke Rasmussen
Photo: mfa

During his time in New York Prime Minister also took part in a number of high level meetings with other foreign leaders. He met with Danish Prime Minister, Mr. Lars Løkke Rasmussen in on September 20 and discussed on ways of forging partnership in the joint launch of the new global initiative 'Partnering for Green Growth and the Global Goals 2030 (P4G)'. On September 21 he held bilateral talks with Somali Prime Minister Hassan Ali Khayre. The Somali Prime Minister commended Ethiopia's tireless support to the Government and people of Somalia. He said his government would not allow



PM Hailemariam with Somali Prime Minister Hassan Ali Khayre
Photo: mfa

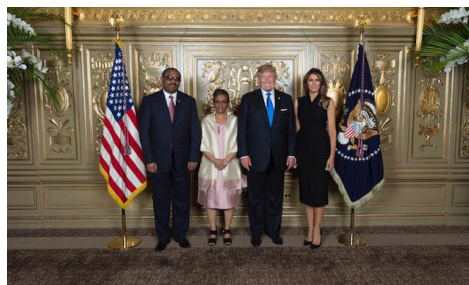
anyone to destabilize Ethiopia as the two countries' destiny is intertwined. The two prime ministers underscored the need for working together on Horn of Africa integration. They exchanged views on their joint commission, expected to be held next month.



PM Hailemariam and Bill Gates at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Photo: mfa

Prime Minister Hailemariam also met the Chairman of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Mr. Bill Gates on September 21, to discuss facilitating a joint review and planning of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP), with a focus on the implementation of the 2014 AU Malabo Declaration for agricultural transformation in Africa.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S LUNCH FOR AFRICAN LEADERS



PM Hailemariam and US President Donald Trump with their first ladies
Photo: mfa

On September 20, Prime Minister Hailemariam was one of the nine African Heads of State or Government at a working lunch with US President Trump. President Trump said he could see part-

ners for promoting prosperity and peace on a range of economic, humanitarian, and security issues, and emphasized that the US hoped to extend its economic partnerships with countries that are committed to self-reliance and fostering opportunities for job creation in both Africa and the United States. He underlined the tremendous business potential available among those fastest-growing world economies to be found in Africa. He stressed that increasing American trade and investment across diverse industries, including agriculture, energy, transportation, healthcare, travel, and tourism, would further transform lives throughout the continent. He said Secretary Tillerson and the U.S. Millennium Challenge Corporation were already considering an investment worth hundreds of millions of dollars in Côte d'Ivoire. He also hoped that African firms would consider making investments in the United States, mentioning Sasol, as an example, which is building a \$9 billion petrochemical plant in Louisiana.

The President also emphasized that health was necessary for prosperity. He said, "We will continue our partnership on critical health initiatives", noting the strides Uganda had made in the battle against HIV/AIDS, the successes in Guinea and Nigeria against Ebola and Namibia's increasingly self-sufficient health system.

Above all, President Trump said, prosperity depends on peace. He said the United States would partner with the countries and organizations, like the African Union, that lead successful efforts to end violence, to prevent the spread of terrorism, and to respond to humanitarian crises. He commended African troops currently serving in the field as "very brave." Too many people, he said, were suffering from conflict in Africa, in the Central African Republic, the Congo, Libya, Mali, Somalia, and South Sudan. Terrorist groups, such as ISIS, al-Shabaab, Boko Haram, and al Qaeda threatened African peace. The United States, he said, was proud to work with African leaders eradicate terrorist safe havens, cut off finances, and discredit their ideology. He added that several of the leaders present had told him the previous evening that the US had been doing a very good job over the previous six or seven months. The President underlined his particular concern over the ongoing violence in South Sudan and in the Congo and added: "real results in halting this catastrophe will require an African-led peace process and a really sincere commitment of all parties involved." He said he was sending Ambassador Nikki Haley to Africa to discuss avenues of conflict and resolution and, most importantly, prevention.

He spoke of the enormous security threat from North Korea and said, "We must all stand together and be accountable in

implementing United Nations' sanctions and resolutions in response to North Korea's hostile and menacing actions." The President said, "We believe that a free, independent, and democratic nation, in all cases, is the best vehicle for human happiness and success." Africa, he said, was a continent of tremendous potential. He again congratulated his listeners for the fast economic growth of their countries; they had done a terrific job, despite some tremendous obstacles.

Education

ETHIOPIAN CONSUL GENERAL AT MANNHEIM UNIVERSITY



Consul General Mr. Mehreteab Mulugeta (2.f.l.) and vice president of Mannheim University Prof. Dr. Dirk Simons (3. f.l.)
Photo: cons

Consul General Mr. Mehreteab Mulugeta paid a courtesy visit to the University of Mannheim and had a meeting with the vice president of the university Prof. Dr. Dirk Simons in the Mannheim Palace. The Consul General briefed the vice-President and his colleagues about the current Social, Economic and Political situations and the rapid expansion and growth of educational sector in Ethiopia.

During the discussion they emphasized on the importance of nurturing the good existing relations between Ethiopia and Germany in general and the existed excellent cooperation in the area of educational sector in particular. They further discussed on having institutional partnerships with Ethiopian Universities as well as students exchange programs. The vice-President expressed his interest and importance of cooperation in the mentioned areas.