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Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia **OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER**

PMO Newsletter | April 2021 Issue

Cementing Ethiopia's economic success story: Midway through the Economic Reforms

“In this transition, there is an unequivocal understanding that markets alone cannot facilitate sustainable modes of economic growth. The economic reforms are aimed to correct any imbalance that arose in the past decade's rapid growth – not an economic revolution with foresworn ideas. The government continues to proactively address gaps to both sustain the growth and address imbalances. It pioneers untapped opportunities to release new potentials and de-risks opportunities for the private sector.”

Read the full Editorial: <https://bit.ly/3fxYyTY>

Key Activities of the Month:



On 6 March 2021, the Prime Minister's book 'Yemedemer Menged' (Path to Medemer) was inaugurated in the presence of higher government officials and guests of honor. Available in Amharic and Afaan Oromo languages, the book explores the path of the reforms and Medemer.

On 7 March 2021, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Demeke Mekonnen launched construction of the Durbete-Qunzela-Golgola-Metema roads in Debub Achefer Woreda of Amhara region. The roads are of a total 250km length and will cost Birr 5.3 billion. When completed, it will accelerate business for local farmers as well as the rest of the community.

The same day, the Gorgora development project, which is one part of the 'Dine For Ethiopia' initiative, was also launched.

On 8 March 2021, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed reviewed the progress of the construction of a 380m bridge that connects Gojjam to Gonder which was launched in August 2019. The bridge expected to be completed in a year, will enhance the productivity of the export corridor by providing an alternate and modern transport route.

On 12 March 2021, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed presided over a signing ceremony of a memorandum of understanding between the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, acting through the Ministry of Finance, and the Abu Dhabi future energy Company PJSC-Masdar. The signing of the MOU was initiated during the State Visit of Prime Minister

Abiy Ahmed to the United Arab Emirates, where representatives of the Government of Ethiopia and the Government of United Arab Emirates agreed to jointly develop 500MW PV projects in Ethiopia.

On 13 March 2021, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed together with Former Prime Minister Hailemariam Dessalegn and Federal and Regional leadership inaugurated the Yirgalem Integrated Agro-Industrial Park. The first phase of the park which is being developed by the Sidama National Regional State Industrial Parks Development Corporation is now completed enabling partial production to commence. Out of the 11 production sites built so far, 4 are under production. Currently, those active are engaged in avocado oil, honey and coffee capsule processing.

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed also visited wheat cluster farming at Shopa Woreda, Arsi Zone and the Kegna Agricultural Equipment Manufacturing Site in Shashemene. In Shopa Woreda, 300,000 farmers have successfully cultivated 160,000 hectares out of the planned 300,000 hectares this year. In a joint venture between government and private investors, 737 tractors have been assembled and distributed to farmers through the Kegna Agricultural Equipment Manufacturing site. With these tractors, it is planned to farm 1.3 million hectares of land in Oromia Region.



On 20 March 2021, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed launched the Wenchi development project which is part of the Prime Minister's 'DineForEthiopia' initiative.

On 22 March 2021, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed took part in the Fifty-Third session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

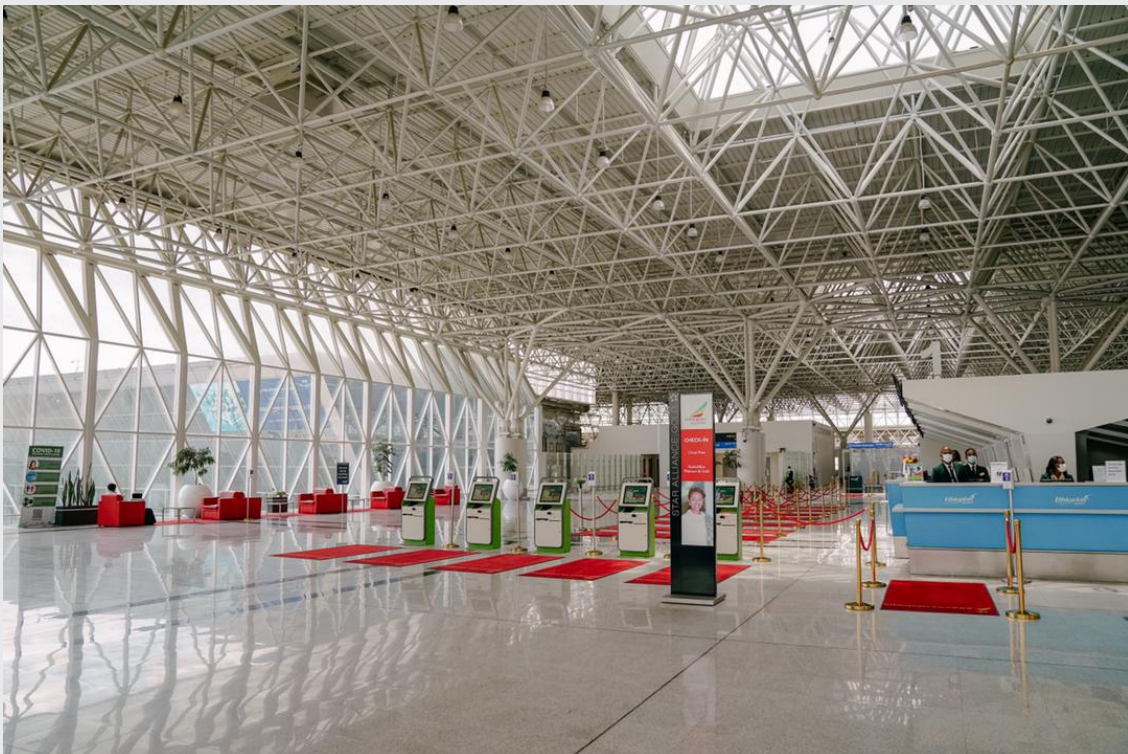
Watch his full speech here: <https://bit.ly/3sT1AWV>



On 23 March 2021, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed responded to questions put to him by Members of House of People's Representatives where the 10-year national development plan has been ratified. His responses focused on Ethiopia's relation with neighboring countries, the GERD, the homegrown economic reform, peace and stability, Ethiopia's external debt burden, as well as the progress witnessed in the various sectors.



On 25 March 2021, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and his delegation traveled to Asmara, Eritrea to confer with President Isaias on bilateral relations and regional issues. Following the meeting, the two leaders agreed upon the withdrawal of Eritrean troops from the border areas in the Tigray region.



On 30 March 2021, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, accompanied by members of the Council of Ministers, visited the new infrastructure site at the Bole International Airport. The construction, which focuses on biosphere and biosecurity, includes a new terminal, a VIP terminal, a business lounge, and other facilities.



On March 30 and 31 2021, the Press Secretariat Unit at the Office of the Prime Minister held a quarterly Addis Weg discussion on "Peace and Security during Elections." The three-part Addis Weg explored first the characteristics and criteria of peaceful elections, the role of indigenous and modern institutions in promoting peace during an electoral period and lastly, preventing the negative effects of disinformation towards enabling peaceful elections.

Featured Article:

This month's feature article attempts to respond to some questions around the impact of previous distortions in the fuel market as well as on-going reforms the government is undertaking to address these price distortions and other challenges in the fuel sector.

Read the full article: <https://bit.ly/3m9BrjQ>

Updates on Tigray Region:

In a March 3, 2021 state, the Government of Ethiopia provided updates on the Tigray Region rule of law operations.

Read the full press release here: <https://bit.ly/3cGhuhG>

In a March 19, 2021 press release, the Government of Ethiopia gave a final notice to senior TPLF military and political leaders suspected to have played a key role in crimes that led to the law enforcement operation to

surrender peacefully to law enforcement agencies. The government also called upon natives of the region allied with TPLF outlaws to distance themselves from the clique and return to their regular lives.

Read the full statement here: <https://bit.ly/3fvONWh>

Sectoral Tidbit:

Increase in Mining Sector Exports



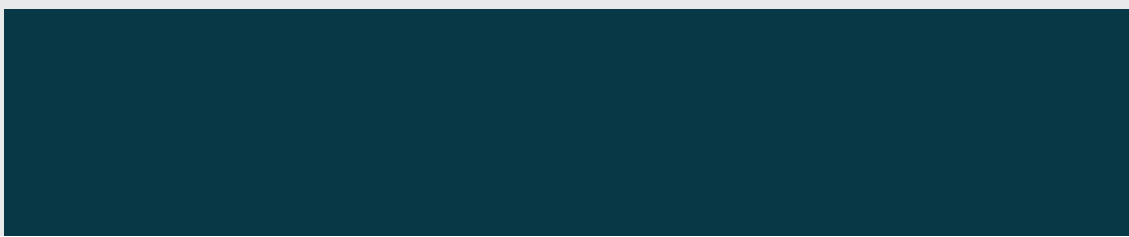
Quote of the Month

“There is no country without conflict; there is also no family without conflict. What makes it grave in Ethiopia is that every ethnic group, every family, every individual speaks as if they they have been uniquely oppressed.

No one thinks to ask of themselves for a moment whether he/she is the oppressor. No matter which corner of Ethiopia one goes to, all have an issue to complain of; to sue; and to be bitter about. Yet no one asks of themselves what they have themselves have done. This is what makes forgiveness so precious to us.”

– Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed

Photo of the Month





Summer wheat development for import substitution

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