



# Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

PMO Newsletter | August 2024 Issue

## New Horizon of Hope

### Key Activities of the Month



**On July 3, 2024**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed met with Marriott International President and CEO Anthony Capuano to discuss growing Ethiopia's travel and hospitality sector. Ethiopia, known for its rich cultural and historical heritage as well as stunning landscapes, has been focused on expanding its tourism industry. Marriott International, a leading global lodging company with 8785 properties worldwide, aims to play a significant role in this development.

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**On the same day**, the Office of the Prime Minister announced that Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed appointed new ministers to Culture & Sports and Trade & Regional Integration. Accordingly, Shewit Shanka has been named as the new Minister of Culture and Sports. Shewit succeeded Mr. Kejela Merdasa, who was also appointed as Advisor to the Prime Minister on Youth and Sports. Meanwhile, Kasahun Gofe has been appointed as the Minister for the Ministry of Trade and Regional Integration.

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**On July 4, 2024**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed appeared at the parliament to respond to questions put to him by members of the House of People's Representatives in connection with the 2023/24 fiscal year performance report of the government. The Prime Minister gave a explanations on the ongoing corridor development, peace and security, cost of living,

macroeconomic affairs, corruption, good governance and development as well as on the implementation of the Pretoria peace agreement.

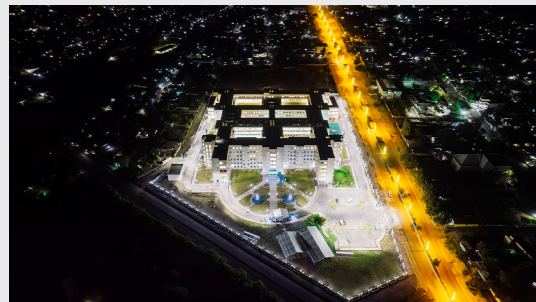
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**On July 5, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed revealed that the government has embarked on numerous immigration service reforms to modernize and offer top-grade services. The premier shared on his social media channels that the Immigration, Nationality and Vital Events Agency has significantly increased its online passport delivery capacity from 900 to 1700 per day.

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**On the same day,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed shared on social media pages that Arbaminch is a sought-after destination endowed with various types of fruits, bird life, mountains, and fresh water bodies, offering astounding potential. Despite bringing great hope, it also evokes regret in that we have done little work to develop it fully until now, according to the Prime Minister. The “Dine for Generations” project includes a timeshare component for Ethiopians, both locally and in the diaspora, to invest in and indulge in this paradise, Premier Abiy indicated.

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**On July 6, 2024**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, with other high-level government officials and invited guests inaugurated Arbaminch University Teaching and Comprehensive Specialized Hospital. In his remarks at the inaugural ceremony, Prime Minister Abiy noted that the Arbaminch University Teaching and Comprehensive Specialized Hospital facility has been built to provide a full range of medical services. He added significant efforts are being made in the health sector to ensure adequate care for our people, although there is still much progress to be made. “We extend our appreciation to the health workers who are providing essential services to citizens. As we continue to modernize our healthcare system, your ongoing contribution and engagement are essential,” the Prime Minister stated.

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**On the same day**, accompanied by Federal and Regional government officials, the premier planted #GreenLegacy seedlings in the town of Selam Ber, South Ethiopia region.

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**On July 8, 2024**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed announced the completion of "Arat Kilo - Kebena - Kenya Embassy" corridor development, with greening efforts in the area clearly visible. The premier appreciated the city administration and the private sector, which has willingly engaged in this remarkable achievement. Parking areas have been created to address the city's parking shortage, and walkways have been expanded to encourage pedestrian use. Prime Minister Abiy further added that it is crucial to focus on cultivating this culture, and everyone should be guardians of what has been created.

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**On the same day**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed shared through his social media channels that cluster farming is expanding, with large-scale efforts underway to meet farming targets in the rainy season. He also emphasized on the need for strengthening those efforts. The Prime Minister also disclosed the plan to cultivate over 24 million hectares this year, racing against the rain to achieve this goal. Noting that embracing modern methods is crucial for our success, the premier said these combined efforts will enable us to achieve food self-sufficiency.

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**On July 9, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed arrived in Port Sudan early in the morning, continuing his commitment to finding sustainable solutions for Sudan's stability.

Following his visit, Prime Minister Abiy said: “the problem of our brother Sudanese people is our problem, their peace is also our peace, so we will work hard for the Sudanese people's peace and prosperity journey like yesterday.” He further revealed that since the challenges faced by the people of Sudan are also our challenges, and their peace is our peace, we are committed to working towards the relief and prosperity of the Sudanese people.

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**On July 10, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed honored some 11 media outlets for upholding Ethiopia's national interests. In his message to the media organizations, the Prime Minister urged them to prioritize Ethiopia's national interest, peace, and love in media efforts since Ethiopia is in an era where caution is necessary. He also congratulated those media organizations recognized for their work in promoting national development and cohesion as well as national interest.

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**On July 11, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said that as we progress into our Green Legacy season, public spirit for planting is high, and we are off to a good start in reaching our target. “As we planted apple trees in Chaka this morning, what's different about this year is that the area we are

planting at was filled with eucalyptus trees, which have since been removed to make way for traditional terracing practices,” he noted. According to him, people from Harar and Konso have brought their timeless skill and practice of terracing to help with soil preservation. By collectively intensifying our Green Legacy within cities, the premier elaborated that Addis Ababa’s green coverage can increase, creating a balance between green and grey.

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**On the same day,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and other government officials assessed the progress made on “Clean Ethiopia.” “When we called on our citizens, many enthusiastically joined the Clean Ethiopia initiative,” the Prime Minister wrote shared. “Our main objective is to revolutionize the culture of toilet usage by creating a welcoming environment”, he said, adding that “we are on-site to assess the progress made possible through the invaluable contributions and trust of our citizens.” By using durable materials and ensuring high-quality finishing, we are committed to building up-to-standard public toilets, the premier said.” He also pledged to expand this initiative nationwide.

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**On July 13, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed inaugurated Gorgora Eco-Resort, one of the national projects of his “Dine for Ethiopia” initiative. Gorgora Eco-Resort project is part of Prime Minister Abiy’s “Dine for Ethiopia” initiatives that made substantial strides in developing tourism destinations in Ethiopia like the Halala Kella, Chebera Churchura and Wonchi, each highlighting the unique natural endowments of their respective areas.

These efforts aim to boost tourism, create jobs, and enhance the quality of life in surrounding communities, all while prioritizing sustainability and environmental preservation. Tourism plays a crucial role in the global economy, generating substantial foreign exchange earnings and supporting millions of jobs worldwide. Its economic impact is also evident in its direct contribution to GDP. In Ethiopia, tourism is a cornerstone of the government’s Homegrown Economic Reform Program, forming one of its five key pillars. Initiatives like Prime Minister Abiy’s “Dine for Ethiopia” seek to develop and upgrade destinations to catalyze the tourism sector, attract more visitors, stimulate economic growth, and foster employment opportunities.

The inauguration of the Gorgora Eco Resort signifies Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed’s commitment to developing four world-class destinations under the ‘Dine For Ethiopia’ initiative and marks his delivery as pledged in 2020. His vision has since expanded to include the ambitious ‘Dine For Generations’ flagship project, which aims to develop seven additional sites currently under construction.

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**On July 18, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed received the Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Affairs and Defense Minister of Ireland, Micheal Martin, and his delegation for bilateral discussions.

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**On July 19, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and Deputy Prime Minister Temesgen Tiruneh joined staff members of the Prime Minister’s Office in planting indigenous Green Legacy seedlings within the Chaka compound. The process of uprooting eucalyptus trees and replacing them with indigenous varieties has continued.

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**On July 22, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed discussed with political party representatives to forging a consensus on national issues of importance for all. Earlier in April, the premier met with political party representatives to discuss cooperation on national issues. A direction was set for discussions to continue at various levels. “Today, we met again as a continuation of the April meeting, working toward forging a consensus on national issues of importance for all,” Prime Minister Abiy emphasized.

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**On July 23, 2024**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed launched the 5 Million Ethiopian Coders” program which is a collaborative digital skills initiative between the Governments of Ethiopia and the UAE, designed to empower the next generation of Ethiopians to actively participate in the growing digital economy.

In his remarks at the launching ceremony, the Prime Minister stated that Ethiopia has hope through a forward-thinking youth population. Prime Minister Abiy highlighted that the 5 Million Ethiopian Coders Initiative is a great opportunity and he called upon everyone to encourage the youth to register for the program, gain skills, and acquire international certification. He also extended his greatest gratitude to the government of the United Arab Emirates for the partnership in this large-scale capacity-building project. These 5 million coders will not only create innovative local solutions but also become a beacon of hope for our continent.

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**Also on the side lines** of the “5 Million Ethiopian Coders” launch program The Ethiopian Executive Leadership Training Program was announced with the aim of training senior leaders from various government institutions over six months. The training is being provided through the cooperation between the Governments of Ethiopia and the United Arab Emirates.

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**On this day**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed announced the deployment of a Federal Disaster Prevention Task Force to the Gozdi Kebele in the Southern Ethiopia region where over 231 citizens died because of a landslide. The premier also said he is deeply saddened by this terrible loss. Premier Abiy shared: “In Gofa Zone, Geze Gofa Woreda, Kencho Shacha Gozdi Kebele, a sudden landslide has claimed the lives of many citizens. I am deeply saddened by this terrible loss. Following the accident, the Federal Disaster Prevention Task Force has been deployed to the area and is working to reduce the impact of the disaster.”

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**On July 27, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and First Lady Zinash Tayachew paid their respects in person to the families and community of victims of the Gofa Zone landslides which claimed the lives of a confirmed 231 people.

The Prime Minister and First Lady together with Former Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn and Former Speaker of the House Abadula Gemedo and other Federal Government officials travelled to the site where they were received by Regional authorities and the grieving community.

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**In the evening of July 27th**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed witnessed the progress made on Koysha Gibe 4 hydroelectric dam. Following his visit, the Prime Minister said that Koysha Gibe 4 hydroelectric dam is the largest project after GERD, with thousands of dedicated Ethiopian youth working in day and night shifts. “I have come once again for my 14<sup>th</sup> follow-up review, witnessing significant progress since the last review at the end of 2023,” Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed underscored.

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**On July 28, 2024**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed announced that Ethiopia has embarked on full implementation of its macroeconomic reform program.

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On July 29, 2024, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and Deputy Prime Minister Temesgen Tiruneh attended the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the discovery of “Lucy” - the hominid bones discovered in Ethiopia and later classified as *Australopithecus Afarensis*. In his remarks during the ceremony, he shared “Lucy’s discovery, was a ground-breaking event that captivated both the scientific community and the world at large, providing invaluable insights into the evolution of life on Earth. It answered many questions while also prompting new inquiries that continue to drive research and exploration.”



**The same afternoon** the Premier addressed university lecturers of 28 universities across the nation that converged online to begin training on enhancing quality education.

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**On July 30, 2024** the Premier announced that the “renovation of Fasil Ghebbi has commenced in Gonder city and is progressing very well. In no time, Fasil will be elevated to its former glory.”

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## Statements

- **Macro-Economic Reform Program Policy Statement**  
<https://bit.ly/3yhik1P>
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## Video of the Month



Discover the incredible outcomes of the 'Dine for Ethiopia' initiative!

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