



Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

PMO Newsletter | February 2021 Issue

Key Activities of the Month:



On January 14, 2021, the Press Secretariat Unit at the Office of the Prime Minister held its monthly Addis Weg Round Table discussion on the development journey of highland and pastoralist communities. The 'Addis Weg' discussions are intended to cultivate a culture of dialogue. Bringing differences to the proverbial table and hall, 'Addis Weg' aims to narrow contestations through dialogue, nurture plurality of ideas, and encourage the development of innovative solutions to old and new challenges.

The January discussion explored the existing livelihood of pastoralists, the benefits and challenges of the policies implemented over the years, and the ongoing efforts to ensure sustainable development and benefit the community.

Read the full summary here: <https://www.pmo.gov.et/news/>

Legislative/Policy Updates:

During its 94th regular meeting, the Council of Ministers discussed the draft proclamations on Ethiopian overseas employment, justice related cooperation agreements between Ethiopia and Uganda, visa waiver agreements between Ethiopia and South Africa, the fee for accounting and auditing board services, amendment of the Ethio Telecom Establishment Regulation, and the 5th round implementation of the developmental Safety Net Credit Agreement.

- The Overseas Employment Proclamation amendment is intended to address the gaps in the implementation of the previous proclamation.
- The agreement on legal cooperation between Ethiopia and Uganda aims to extradite wanted suspects and address criminal cases in a collaborative manner by creating a legal framework and facilitating justice towards cross-border and organized crimes.
- The agreement signed between Ethiopia and South Africa on visa-free travel for service and diplomatic passport holders not only strengthens historical and diplomatic ties, but also saves time consumed by completing visa and related procedures.
- Payment for accounting and audit board services is subject to government-mandated rates, and the proclamation that includes research-based billing system has been approved by the Council of Ministers.
- The revised Ethio Telecom Establishment Regulation that allows the institution to keep pace with the rapidly growing and dynamic nature of the sector and provide related additional services has also been approved for implementation.

The proclamation regarding the 5th round implementation of the Developmental Safety Net Program that allows \$200 million loan agreement with a 6-year relief and 38 years of installment has also been submitted to the House of Representatives for endorsement.

Policy Matters:

Policy Matters is a conversation platform which aims to provide reasoned analysis and context to the activities, reforms and policies of the Federal Government of Ethiopia. Exploring various reforms, the government is undertaking, the conversation platform aspires to enable nuanced and

informed understanding.

In the month of January, Policy Matters featured:

1. The 10-year National Perspective Plan with Fitsum Assefa (PhD), Minister of the National Planning Commission:
<https://bit.ly/39VB3Qh>
2. The New Media Law Proclamation with Getachew Dinku (PhD), Director General of the Ethiopian Broadcast Authority:
<https://bit.ly/2Nvx08>
3. The draft Stock Exchange Proclamation with Melesse Minale Tashu, Senior Macroeconomic Advisor, National Bank of Ethiopia and PMO:
<https://bit.ly/2Y65yNZ>
4. Digital Ethiopia with Myriam Said, Digital Economy Advisor, Office of the Prime Minister: <https://bit.ly/3iZlon3>

Quote of the Month

“There are many things in our country that are used for destruction. Many tools have been used to pit people against one another; to create divisions. There are many laws and practices; institutions and systems. It was the wickedness of mankind that turned water into a plague. It is human evil that has turned these laws, practices, and institutions into weapons of mass destruction. We need to transform these tools to bring about public safety, national unity, human rights of citizens, Ethiopia’s prosperity and growth.”

– Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed

Photo of the Month





Summer wheat yields expected to substitute imports

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