



# Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

PMO Newsletter | July 2024 Issue

## New Horizon of Hope

### Key Activities of the Month

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**On June 1, 2024**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, called on all Ethiopians to seize the opportunity of the ongoing nationwide dialogue process to achieve a comprehensive victory by resolving outstanding issues through discussion. Recalling Ethiopia's past experiences with conflict and missed numerous opportunities for dialogue, the Prime Minister underscored that the remaining path to address the unsolved problems is through dialogue.

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### Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's Visit to South Korea and Singapore

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**On June 2, 2024**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and First Lady Zinash Tayachew arrived in Seoul, South Korea for an official visit.

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**On the same day**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and First Lady Zinash Tayachew were warmly welcomed by the city of Chuncheon where they lay a wreath at the monument of Ethiopian veterans of the Korean War and briefly toured the Memorial Hall. This memorial honors the Ethiopian Kagnew Battalion, which fought alongside South Korean and United Nations forces during the Korean War. The hall serves as a tribute to the sacrifices and contributions made by Ethiopian soldiers and aims to strengthen the historical ties between Ethiopia and South Korea.

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**Also on the same day**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed was received by President Yoon Suk Yeol at the Office of the President of the Republic of Korea where the two sides with their respective delegations held bilateral discussions and signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Ethiopia's Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission and the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission of the Republic of Korea. A significant fruit of the bilateral engagement was the signing of a financing framework agreement in the amount of 1 billion US dollars to go towards projects that will be implemented within the next four years.

Following the bilateral talks, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed thanked South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol for the warm welcoming ceremony. "Our countries share a long history spanning over six decades, rooted in Ethiopia's support during the Korean War. I am confident that we will work together to further enhance our partnership," the premier shared via social media.

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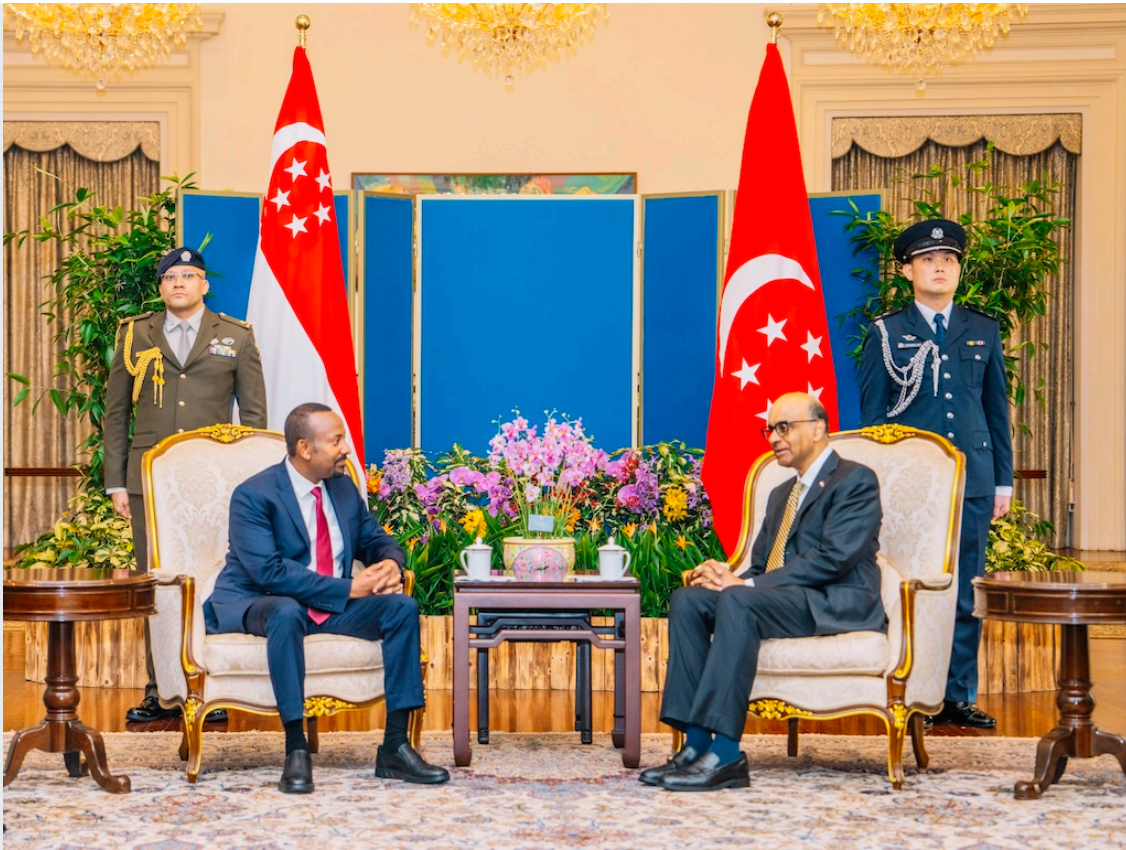
**On June 3, 2024**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed stressed the imperatives of robust reading culture essential for building a community that embraces rational thinking, self-reflection, and the exploration of various ideas as well as developing a society that would believe in the supremacy of ideas. To achieve this goal, several initiatives, including building libraries in major cities such as Addis Ababa, as well as in regional states, and making books more accessible through the digital Ethiopia program, are being undertaken, the Prime Minister wrote on his social media pages.

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**On June 4, 2024**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed underscored in his keynote address to the South Korea-Africa Summit, the ties between Africa and Korea date back to the Korean War of the early nineteen fifties, fostering a strong partnership rooted in collective security. Ethiopia emerged as a significant ally to Korea, contributing the Kagnew Infantry Battalion to protect freedom of the Korean peninsula during the Korean War.

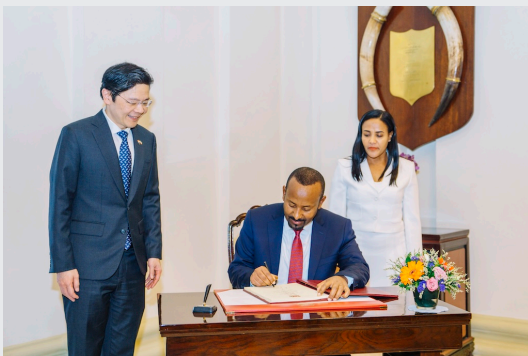
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**On June 5, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed met Singaporean President Tharman Shanmugaratnam at the Istana, where the two leaders exchanged views on political, economic, and social issues. “We agreed on the need to strengthen our bilateral relations and explore new areas of cooperation,” Prime Minister Abiy shared.

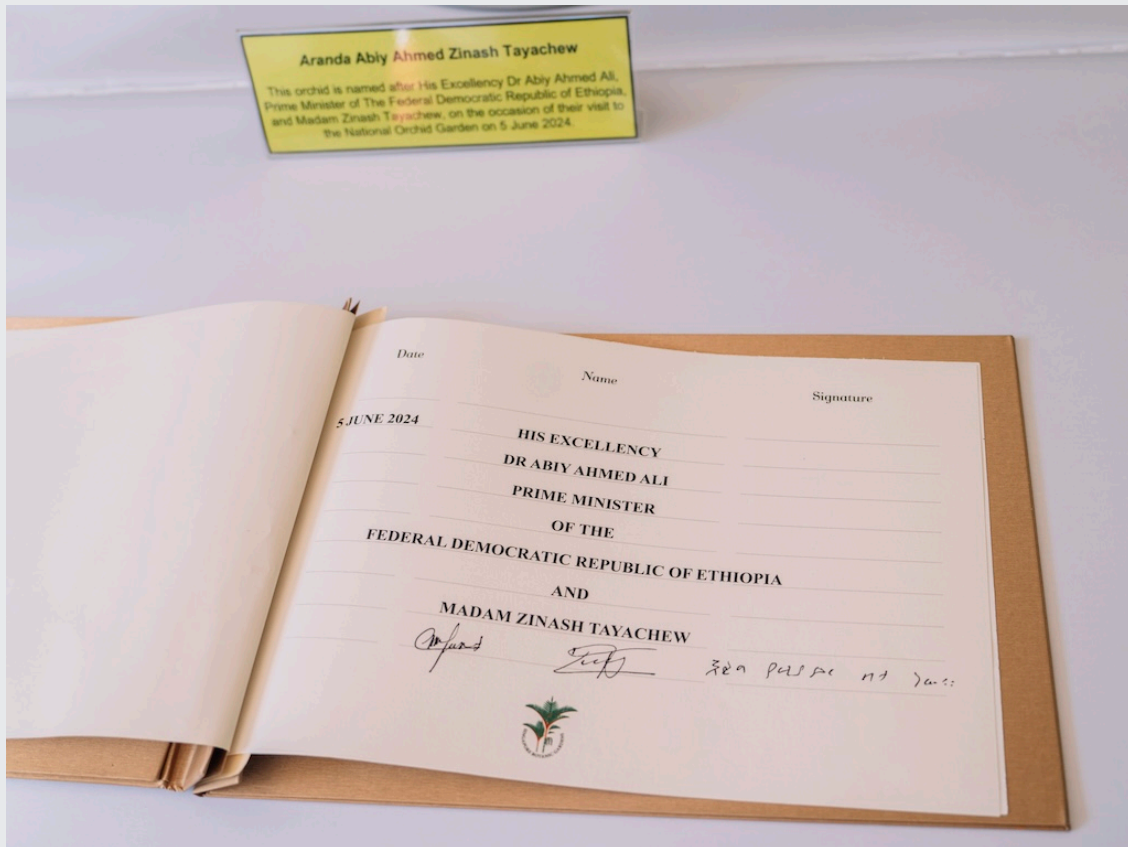
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**On the same day,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed met his Singaporean counterpart Prime Minister Lawrence Wong. He also took the opportunity to congratulate him for recently assuming office and shared “our two nations have a lot to learn from each other and we have agreed with President Wong to enhance our people to people ties; capacity development; civil service cooperation; technology; advanced manufacturing and tourism development,” he said.

During Prime Minister Abiy's stay at the Istana in Singapore, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on bilateral consultations and a Statement of Intent between Ethiopia's Ministry of Transport and Logistics and Singapore's Ministry of Transport were signed, with both leaders presiding over the ceremony.

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**Earlier on their first day** in Singapore, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and First Lady Zinash Tayachew also attended an Orchid naming ceremony at the National Orchid Garden where an orchid hybrid was named after them (Aranda Abiy Ahmed Zinash Tayachew) as a gesture of friendship to promote goodwill between Singapore and Ethiopia.

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**On June 6, 2024 and upon return to Ethiopia,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed met with representatives of a high-level investment delegation from Saudi Arabia, concluding their three-day visit to Ethiopia. Discussions focused on investments in agriculture, housing, and tourism, with a special emphasis on local fertilizer production. This visit by the high-level delegation, comprising 79 investors, resulted from bilateral talks between Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in November 2023 during the Saudi-Africa Summit.

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**On June 7, 2016,** the Minister of Councils in the presence of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed in its 34<sup>th</sup> regular session, passed decisions on various draft bills.

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**On June 8, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed witnessed the inauguration of the Ashenafi Kebede Performing Arts Center at the Yared School of Music. Noting that Ashenafi Kebede was not only an artist but also the first director of the Yared Music School, the Prime Minister stated that the new center's director, Girma Yifrashewa, serves as a bridge between the past and the future of music in Ethiopia.

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**On June 10, 2024,** the completion of one of the five corridor development works and the opening of new roads to the public marked a significant achievement. From Arat Kilo to Ras Mekonon Bridge; from Degol Square to Qayybaahr condominium and from Mahmoud Music House to Tedros Square, these enhanced corridors now provide improved accessibility and connectivity. Following the completion of the project, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, alongside First Lady Zinash Tayachew and high-level government officials, visited the newly developed corridors. They inspected the infrastructure, admired the beauty of the green development, and appreciated the renovation works. This visit underscores the government's commitment to enhancing transportation infrastructure and creating more livable, sustainable communities.

Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed noted that we promised that the next corridor review would be on the streets. "I'm pleased to share that we've finished the Piassa and Arat Kilo routes in three months, right on schedule," the Prime Minister underscored.

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**On June 11, 2024,** The Council of Ministers, chaired by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, commenced its 100-day performance evaluation meeting, initiating proceedings with a comprehensive review of key sectoral performances. Alongside this session, a book chronicling the decisions of the Council of Ministers from Ethiopian calendar 2010 to 2015 (2018-2023 GC) was launched. This publication meticulously highlights the pivotal policy decisions formulated during that period. Produced as part of the ongoing documentation efforts of the Press Secretariat Unit of the Office of the Prime Minister, this book represents an addition to the body of annual documentation works. These limited-edition prints have been disseminated to essential Federal and Regional institutions, while the digital version also was made publicly available on the Office of the Prime Minister's website.



**On June 13, 2024,** the Ministry of Industry handed over the sample single pick-up cars that have been converted into safari cars locally to the Office



of the Prime Minister, following the direction set by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed to the Ministry of Industry in the March 2024 100-day Council of Ministers evaluation for the production of safari cars. Through this conversion process, local manufacturers have gained the experience to mass convert these cars to meet local demand. In the course of the handover ceremony, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed directed those engaged in the production with pertinent inputs on scaling up the production process.

As tourism is one of the priority sectors identified through Ethiopia's home-grown economic reform program, enhancing facilities, services and experiences is a key area of intervention. With many national parks filled with natural and wildlife endowments, safari experiences are key to attracting tourists.

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**On the same day**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed welcomed Mahamoud Ali Youssouf, the Foreign Minister of Djibouti to his office. Minister Youssouf came bearing a message from President Ismail Omar Guelleh, the Prime Minister wrote on X. He added that such exchanges serve as vital channels for dialogue and cooperation, fostering mutual understanding and collaboration on bilateral and regional matters of shared interest.

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**On June 14, 2024,** the Council of Ministers discussed various issues and passed decisions during its 35<sup>nd</sup> regular session.

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**On the same day,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed extended his best wishes to Muslims on Eid al-Adha, one of the religious holidays of Muslims across the globe that they celebrate every year.

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**On June 20, 2024,** the Council of Ministers discussed various issues and passed decisions during its 36<sup>th</sup> regular session.

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**On June 21, 2024**, the Green Legacy pre-launch program was held at the Office of the Prime Minister. During the program, Ethiopia's Forest Cover report was launched, followed by the premiere of an international documentary film that captures the essence and impact of this significant national initiative through human stories.

For the past five years, Ethiopia has diligently pursued an annual planting program under the Green Legacy Initiative, initiated by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed in 2019. Today, we mark the beginning of the 2024 planting cycle, reflecting collectively on the impact of our efforts over the past five years. Ethiopia's Forest Cover report indicates that by 2023, our forest cover had increased to 23.6% from 17.2% in 2019. In his remarks, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed emphasized the need to continue building on this progress.

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**On June 22, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed officially opened the Local Medical Products Manufacturing and Innovation Exhibition at the Millennium Hall in Addis Ababa. Prime Minister Abiy stated that considerable attention has been directed towards the sector, beginning with policy reforms aimed at the domestic production of medical supplies and medicines. For Ethiopia, with a population exceeding 120 million, producing its own medicines is an urgent priority, he said.

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**On June 27, 2024,** Council of Ministers in its regular ordinary session has approved bills and policies aimed at reforming various sectors of the country's economy and governance.

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**On the same day**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed inaugurated the newly renovated Mexico-Sar Bet route as part of the ongoing Addis Ababa corridor development endeavors. “Today, we reveal the second corridor area from Mexico to Sar Bet, marking a key milestone in our city-building efforts. Enhancing infrastructure, workmanship, walkways, and vehicle paths are essential to our urban growth,” the premier posted on X. The Prime Minister added that demolishing shanty parts of our towns is a necessary step for a better future for generations. “We must not grow comfortable with them. Sustaining our progress is critical as our city’s growth is just beginning. With our collective efforts, we can achieve a brighter future,” Prime Minister Abiy stated.

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**On June 28, 2024**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and Deputy Prime Minister Temesgen Tiruneh met with former African footballers known for playing in the English Premier League and various European clubs, famous artists from the continent, influencers, and renowned designers who arrived in Ethiopia to participate in the Shenan Africa Festival.

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**On June 29, 2024**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Today, toured the development projects in and around the city of Dessie and met with residents of the city. He also launched this year’s Green Legacy planting cycle in the Hayk City of South Wolo Zone, Amhara Region where after

together with the Deputy Prime Minister and his delegation, they reviewed the Logo Hayk project, which aims to make the Wollo and surrounding areas a tourist destination.

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**On June 30, 2024,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed held a friendly match morning with some of Africa's football legends at Friendship Square 2.

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## Statements

- **35<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers**  
<https://bit.ly/4covM2I>
  - **36<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers**  
<https://bit.ly/4btCd38>
  - **37<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers**  
<https://bit.ly/45JgG5q>
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## Video of the Month



Green Legacy Pre-Launch

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