

Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

PMO Newsletter | November 2023 Issue

## New Horizon of Hope

#### Key Activities of the Month



**On October 1<sup>st</sup> 2023**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed laid a foundation stone for development of Denbi Lake Lodge - part of the "DineForGenerations" initiative to be completed in 1.5 years' time by Midroc Ethiopia. The site location maximizes on the rich natural endowments of the area.

**On October 3rd 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed met with the National Dialogue Commission in an update on the works undertaken by the National Dialogue Commission, including institution building, stakeholders' engagement, crafting a dialogue process, identifying dialogue participants as well as pending tasks and challenges requiring assistance for a successful dialogue process.

**On October 6th 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed extended best wishes for the celebration of Irrecha. In his message, Prime Minister Abiy noted that Ireccha is a festival of justice, equality, love and unity that demonstrates fraternity and solidarity among the people.



**On October 9th 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed attended the official opening of the joint session of the third year and sixth tenure of the House of Peoples' Representatives of Ethiopia and the House of Federation.

**On the same day,** President SahleWork Zewde presented some of the key social, economic and political directions and plans to joint session that the government will pursue in the new Ethiopian fiscal year, which started on 12th September 2023.



**On October 10th 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed launched the National Tourism and Hospitality Exhibition. The exhibition at the Science Museum aims to showcase Ethiopia's tourism assets.

Prime Minister Abiy shared on this occasion that tourism is one of the main pillars for the economic sector. "The Tourism and Hospitality exhibition launched today gives visitors an opportunity to see a sample of what makes Ethiopia an ideal destination," the Prime Minister further elaborated. He also called upon all Ethiopians to explore what their country offers to extract the potential, promote and serve in the interest of positioning Ethiopia as a destination with many splendors.



**On October 11th 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy held discussion with the Duchess of Edinburgh at his office. The two sides exchanged views on multiple development issues. Prime Minister Abiy also lauded the Duchess for her initiative adding that: "Great appreciation to the Duchess for her support to charitable initiatives within the country."



**On 12th October 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed attended the 2015 Ethiopian calendar fiscal year taxpayer recognition and award program to honor taxpayers who faithfully performed their national duty.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister called upon the private sector and other sections of society to support initiatives to improve the revenue base, restrain from corruption, contraband and illegality by ensuring order, predictability and accountability. Government offices in charge shall modernize the tax payment system and procedures, Prime Minister Abiy underlined. He also encouraged the private sector to introduce new technology to their works in modernizing their endeavors.

**On 13th October 2023,** a documentary entitled "From a Drop of Water to Sea" in which Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed gave a presentation to the members of the House of People's Representatives about the importance of sea gates was aired in all media outlets.

Prime Minister Abiy's Visit to China and participation at the 3rd BRI Form



**On 16th October 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and his delegation arrived in Beijing, China on an Official State Visit. On the same day, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed was received by Premier Li Qiang in an official welcoming ceremony demonstrative of the strong relations between the two countries.

During their bilateral meeting, the two leaders discussed ways of enhancing economic cooperation between Ethiopia and China. Premier Li Qiang highlighted that both countries are developing and emerging economies that can seek ways of growing together. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed on his part shared the multifaceted growth objectives of the government and development achievements gained thus far. He further emphasized the need to expand trade partnership with China.

Following the bilateral meeting, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and Premier Li Qiang presided over the signing of 12 cooperation agreements and 2 letters of intent in various fields.

Moreover, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed shared his appreciation for Premier Li Qiang for the warm welcome to China and stated "As we know Ethio-China relations have set a constructive model for China-Africa and South-South cooperation. We can build on this model to effectively address our current and future development challenges in the new era"



**On 17th October 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and President Xi Jinping held a bilateral meeting at the Great Hall of the People together with their respective delegations.

During the bilateral meeting President Xi congratulated Prime Minister Abiy on Ethiopia's accession to BRICS and announced the elevation of partnership between the two countries from Comprehensive and Enduring Strategic Cooperative Partnership level to an All-Weather Strategic Cooperation Partnership level. He further commended Ethiopia's achievements through the Green Legacy program citing its alignment with China's green development policy and affirmed it will be an integral part of a green belt and road.

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed on his part indicated the importance of Chinese investments in Ethiopia's economy and encouraged more investments into the five key pillars of agriculture, manufacturing, ICT, mining and Tourism.

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and First Lady Zinash Tayachew on the same evening attended the Belt and Road Initiative welcoming banquet hosted by President Xi Jinping.



**On 18th October 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed addressed the 3rd Belt and Road Forum during the Opening Session.

In his address, the Prime Minister shared the genesis of Sino-African relations and the strong basis for cooperation set by the BRI in infrastructure development within the African continent. He further highlighted Africa's growing influence citing the importance of ensuring multilateralism is inclusive.



**On the same day,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed met and conferred with President of the New Development Bank, Dilma Rousseff on the sidelines of the Belt and Road Forum.

Moreover, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed in his address to the participants of the 3rd BRI High Level Forum on the theme of "Connectivity in an Open Global Economy," shared the successes of the Belt and Road Initiative in Ethiopia. The Prime Minister called for deepening agriculture sector cooperation and intensifying industry centered development cooperation.

Noting that Ethiopia has a rich history and a strategic geographical location, the Prime Minister pointed out that his country has long positioned itself as a gateway between Africa, Asia, and Europe. "The Belt and Road Initiative provides us with a unique opportunity to leverage this advantage and further strengthen our role as a regional hub for trade, investment, and connectivity", he underscored.



**On 19th October, 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed visited the Shanghai Stock Exchange and Huawei Center in Shanghai city. Similarly, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed visited the Yangshan Port in Shanghai on the same day.



**On October 20th 2023,** the Prime Minister and his delegation visited the green city of Chengdu located in the Sichuan province of China. The third largest city after Beijing and Shanghai, Chengdu's ties with Ethiopia include direct flights to the city from Addis Ababa, education and medical cooperation as well as trade ties.

During his stay in Chengdu, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed visited the Tianfu New Area, the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding, and the Tianfu Agricultural Expo Park. In a lunch banquet held for him by the China Communist Party head of the Sichuan Province, discussions were held on potential areas of furthering collaboration.

**On 21st October 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed along with his delegation returned home successfully concluding his official visit to China where he attended the third Belt and Road Forum (BFR) for International Cooperation



Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed on **22nd October 2023** handed over another completed sports facility constructed in the Lideta sub-city and intended for children and youth in the area.

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**On 26th October 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed attended the 116th National Defense Day program held at Meskel Square. Speaking at the commemoration of the 116th National Army Day at Meskel Square, Prime Minister Abiy said that the Ethiopian National Defense Force (ENDF) has been reformed in a way that fits the greatness of Ethiopia that would shield the country's honor and sovereignty.

He added that the national defense force is a symbol for Ethiopia's resilience and it has a historical foundation. ENDF has been tirelessly working in safeguarding the peace and ensuring the prosperity of the country.

**On 27th October 2023,** the Council of Ministers convened by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed passed various decisions in its 25th regular session.



**On 28 th October 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and his delegation arrived in Afar region for review of development initiatives and to officially launch summer wheat production. In Dubti Woreda of Afar region, the community is getting prepared to cultivate summer wheat on 8,000 hectares of land. Nationally, Ethiopia is preparing to cultivate 3 million hectares of summer wheat this year.

Commonly known for pastoralism and prior sidelined in provision of agricultural inputs, the Afar region is now progressing greatly in national agricultural productivity of wheat, cotton, bananas and many other goods.



In the second tour of development initiatives in the Afar region, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed visited the Afar Bentonite Mineral Mining and Production Factory in Warenso woreda. Bentonite is a natural mineral considered a "miracle mud" and "clay of a thousand uses," with its application in the making of ceramics, paint and other uses.

Finally, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed launched the Niin Lee Palm Spring Lodge project in Afar Region as part of the 'Dine for Generations' initiative. The Niin Lee Palm Spring Lodge project is one of seven tourism destinations to be built through the third 'Dine' Prime Ministerial initiative.

**On 31st October 2023,** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed received Yvan Gil Pinto, the Foreign Minister of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

### Statements

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# Video of the Month



Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's soccer game while handing over a youth sports facility <u>https://bitly.ws/YZBW</u>

### **Quote of the Month**

"If we say we need access to the sea, we need access to the Red Sea, we need access to the Indian Ocean. It is important to explore all options. Is our option one and only one? It is important to explore alternatives by looking into various options as it will enable us to comprehend the matter better."

– Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed

# Photo of the Month



Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and his son at a sports facility handed over by the Premiere

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