



**Bi-Weekly Newsletter
Permanent Mission of the State of Eritrea to AU
and UNECA
Press Section**



Message of President Isaias to UN Security Council

President Isaias Afwerki has sent messages to several Heads of State and Government urging them to use their influences in the UN Security Council to redress the injustices perpetrated against Eritrea.

In his message, President Isaias stressed that the UNSC has the obligation, primary responsibility and legal mandate to ensure and promote the security and peace of sovereign countries and thereby guarantee the maintenance of international peace and security.

The President referred to the border war between Eritrea and Ethiopia that raged for two years from May 1998 until June 2000 entailing a huge loss of life and enormous destruction of property. The “border dispute” was a simple ruse as the boundary between the two countries was defined and determined without any ambiguity in colonial times. But Washington feverishly worked at the time, through the State Department, to drive a wedge between the two peoples who have deep historical and strategic ties in order to foment a crisis and micromanage the affairs of the Horn of Africa.

President Isaias went on to highlight that even though the “border conflict” was legally adjudicated on the basis of the Algiers agreement, the US Administration used its clout in the UN Security Council to further exacerbate the crisis and to block the enforcement of

the final and binding arbitral decision.

The final and binding legal Award was not, however, amenable to alterations through diplomatic maneuvering, President Isaias noted. In the event, the US and its allies concocted a fictitious case accusing Eritrea of supporting “Al-Shebab” to impose unwarranted sanctions against the country in December 2009 in the name of the UN Security Council.

Demonization campaigns that have been underway under the bogus pretext of “violations of human rights”; periodic military attacks launched against the country; and organized criminal networks of human trafficking set up to precipitate and incite illicit migration of Eritrean youth are part and parcel of these schemes of harassment, President Isaias added.

President Isaias finally stressed that it is high time that the flouting of the rule of law; the violation of international law; and, the prevalence of the rule of jungle are terminated once and for all. He further reiterated that the UN Security Council is bestowed with the legal obligations and responsibility, above any other body, to remove occupation from our sovereign territories; rescind the unwarranted sanctions imposed against Eritrea without factual substantiation; and, bring to an end the incessant attacks perpetrated against the country through various forms.

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President Isaias Afwerki's Interview on Domestic and Regional Issues

Eri-Tv and Dimtsi Hafash Radio conducted a two-hour live interview with President Isaias Afwerki, on 20 May 2017, on the occasion of the 26th Anniversary of Independence Day.

President Isaias highlighted the warm ties between Eritrea and Egypt; the hollow rhetoric by the Ethiopian regime on the so-called “new policy towards Eritrea”; the implementation and progress of agricultural development programs; affordable housing challenges and the spike in rents, speculative trading practices as well as the imperative of ensuring involvement of Eritreans in the Diaspora on national development programmes.



In regard to the growing ties between Eritrea and Egypt, President Isaias indicated that the bilateral relationship between the two countries has tremendously grown in a short period of time and that this will have significant dividends to the promotion of peace and stability in the region.

President Isaias further stated that Eritrea is pursuing a policy of strategic engagement in the region to ensure stable and healthy neighborhood for the benefit of mutual interest and that the relation between Eritrea and Egypt emanates from that noble vision. He also said that the claim by the Ethiopian regime that the relation between Eritrea and Egypt is targeting the “millennium dam” is unfounded and stems from an unhealthy mind set.

In responding to the underlying motive and objective of Ethiopia's recent pronouncements of a “new policy towards Eritrea”, President Isaias explained in greater detail the strategic mistakes committed by the TPLF regime in the past two decades with costly ramifications to the peoples of Eritrea and Ethiopia as well as the whole Horn of Africa region. President Isaias noted that the regime's hollow pronouncements are largely meant to deflect attention from the quagmire of its own making. He also pointed out that the pointless propaganda will not derail Eritrea from its cherished path of building a prosperous and secure nation.

On domestic issues, President Isaias described in detail GOE programmes of building the water infrastructure, plans laid down to ensure provision of requisite equipment for irrigation and the development of agro-industry, regulatory measures envisioned to curb speculative price hikes in the retail sector, government plans for housing as well as the role of the Eritrean Diaspora in investment in the home country, provision of expert services and advocacy work in their places of residence.

The full text of the interview can be accessed at:

Part I. <http://www.shabait.com/categoryblog/24069-we-must-further-strengthen-the-multi-dimensional-cooperation-between-eritrea-and-egypt-president-isaias->

Part II. <http://www.shabait.com/categoryblog/24079-water-is-at-the-core-of-sustainable-development-and-is-critical-for-socio-economic-development-in-our-country-president-isaias-part-ii>

Part III. <http://www.shabait.com/categoryblog/24100-although-eritrea-may-have-a-variety-of-resources-the-only-resource-we-have-ever-relied-upon-is-the-strength-of-our-people-president-isaias-part-iii-a-final>

Eritrean Government Issued Proclamation on Environmental Protection

The Eritrean Government issued a new proclamation No. 179/2017 and Legal Notice No. 127/2017 on environmental protection, administration and restoration.

The Proclamation comprises 7 Chapters and 42 Articles including general regulations, objective, administrations and control of environment, National Assembly for environmental administration.

The Legal Notice comprises 4 Chapters and 17 Articles including evaluation on environmental influence and permits, environmental pollution control among others.

In an interview with local media outlets on 01 June, Mr. Tesfai Gebreselasie, Minister of Land, Water and Environment, indicated that the new proclamations will serve as guidelines to properly administer and conserve as well as restore the environment.

Minister Tesfai pointed out that every citizen has the right to use resources as well as the responsibility to readdress the environment.

He further said that every member of the society and the concerned institutions have the duty to guard and take corrective measures against those involved in activities damaging the environment due to lack awareness or deliberately.

The Minister also stressed that prior to implementation of any project, appraisal on its environmental and social influence as well as the interest and rights of future generations should be taken into consideration.

Likewise, the Ministry of Land, Water and Environment indicated that environmental sanitation popular campaigns have been conducted on 04 June in all cities and semi-urban centers in the country on the occasion of June 5, International Environment Day.

Eritrea Launched a 5-year Health Sector Strategic Plan

The Ministry of Health of Eritrea, on 02 June, launched a health sector strategic plan for 2017-2021 period in a meeting attended by heads of line ministries, representatives of national associations and international organizations based in Eritrea.

At the occasion, Ms. Amina Nur-Husein, Minister of Health, commending the integrated efforts conducted to prepare the Plan, said that the Strategic Plan will

provide guidance and priorities to move from policy to action and sets the overall objective, strategies and targets that are to be attained in the coming five years.

A briefing was provided in regard to the general content of the Plan, monitoring and evaluation mechanism as well as the role of the relevant national institutions and international partners.

Asmara's Bid for Inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List Gains Momentum

The UNESCO World Heritage Committee recently adopted the recommendation and draft decision to inscribe Asmara on the UNESCO World Heritage sites list. Asmara's nomination will be examined by the Committee at its 41st session to be held from 2-12 July 2017, in Krakow, Poland.

For more information: on Facebook: **Asmara for World Heritage** and, on Twitter: **@AsmaraForWH**



‘Russian-Eritrean Relations are Friendly and Dynamically Developing’ - Russian Ambassador to Eritrea

*Excerpts from a letter by
H.E. Mr. Azim Yarakhmedov, Ambassador
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian
Federation to the State of Eritrea, on the occasion
of Russia Day 2017.*

“Russia is building relations with the State of Eritrea. Today it is no exaggeration to say that Russian-Eritrean relations are friendly and dynamically developing. I should underline a great role of the two leaders - President of Russia Vladimir Putin and President of Eritrea Isaias Afwerki, who target their governments to intensify bilateral and multilateral mutually beneficial cooperation for the benefit of Russian and Eritrean peoples.



*H.E. Mr. Azim Yarakhmedov, Ambassador
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian
Federation to the State of Eritrea*

“Today the Russian-Eritrean relations are developing in various areas, including economy, finance, industry, trade and education. The positions of Russia and Eritrea on the topical international issues are similar or very close.

“A new impulse of Russian- Eritrean relations was achieved in January 2017 during the visit of the high-ranking Eritrean delegation led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Osman Saleh, to Moscow. The Russian and Eritrean sides have achieved agreements



in the fields of trade and economy. As for the bilateral relations between Russia and Eritrea, I would like to note that our country’s leadership has repeatedly stressed the importance of the development of mutually beneficial and long-term relationship. So, President of Russia, Vladimir Putin, in his message to President of Eritrea Isaias Afwerki on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of Eritrea’s independence day expressed confidence “that the relations of friendship and cooperation between Russia and Eritrea will continue to actively develop for the benefit of our peoples and in the interests of ensuring stability and security on the African continent”.

“Taking this opportunity, I would like once again to congratulate the Eritrean people on the 26th Anniversary of Independence of Eritrea.

“Today I would like to express my gratitude to all friends of Russia and colleagues who joined us to celebrate our National Holiday – Russia Day. I wish the friendly Eritrean people happiness, prosperity, and new success in building a prosperous nation.”

To read the full text of the letter, please go to:

<http://www.shabait.com/categoryblog/24121-russia-day-2017>

**In Pictures:
Official Ceremony of the 26th Anniversary of
Eritrean Independence Day Celebrations, 24 May 2017, Asmara Stadium**

