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Addis Chamber to announce the upcoming trade shows to multiple stakeholders



By Staff Reporter

Hosting grand trade shows are among the key activities of Addis Chamber that intends to promote trade and investment in Ethiopia. Such events are taking place since the last 25 years connecting businesses and forging networks among local and international businesses.

With the commencing of the Ethiopian new year (2016 EC/2023/24), Addis Chamber has finalized preparation to unveil the annual trade fair events that will be carried out in the months to come. Accordingly, Addis Chamber will host 3 trade fairs including the 14th Addis Chamber Agriculture and Food Exhibition that will be held, December 7-9 2013, the 26th Addis Chamber Trade Fairs, February 22-26 2024 and the 6th Addis Chamber International Manufacturing and Technology Trade fairs from May 23-27, 2024 (MATEX).

Sources from Addis Chamber also said that preparation to host such grand shows are well underway to conduct successful trade shows and the annual trade shows will be held indifferent venues such as Millennium Hall and Addis Ababa Exhibition center.

Addis Chamber Marks End of Year Thanks Giving Day Colorfully



By Ashenafi Mitiku

Addis Chamber, one of the most influential BMOs marks its End of Year thanks giving date colorfully at the Sky Light Hotel, Addis Ababa. Among the attendees include diplomatic communities, government representatives, members of business communities and the press.

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Editorial

Unified organization for a Thriving private sector

Unquestionably, no country has evolved to develop one without the development of institutions. Therefore, a critical task for any society is to develop a set of institutions that enable and constrain members and organizations to behave and act in constructive rather than destructive manner. These kinds of institutions like that of Addis chamber encourages individual businesses to enhance and diversify their businesses, work hard, to save and invest, and for entrepreneurs to take risks and to actively pursue and harness economic opportunities

Since its inception in 1947, Addis chamber experienced changes and challenges in various governments that reigned power in the country. But thanks to the then and current chamber leaders and board of directors and its members that were instrumental in guiding the chamber to continued success. After all, the chamber would not be where it is today without the support of its members and our awesome business community.

The chamber giving due focus to the wider business communities, initiated reform activities to address the need in a timely fashion. In its recent reform process, it has decided to implement so many reform activities in an effort to improve service delivery, modern human resource, institutional building in tandem with its 5-year strategic plan. Among the reform initiatives taken by the Chamber include encouraging the private sector to actively participate as a driving force of the national economy.

In fact, Addis Chamber, with support from its valued members, has registered commendable achievements in voicing the concerns of businesses and providing business development services to the wider private sector. To further bolster its achievements, it is now bracing itself up to build its institutional capacity to render quality services. In just a few months, it succeeded in setting up a new range of services, including Institute of Directors institute(IOD-Ethiopia), Business Innovation Center (BIC) that were developed to help member companies' to better face the recent business competition.

It is therefore, time for our members in particular to do their level best to realize the dream of serving the business community in a strong institutional capacity and facility created by itself and for itself. If really want to envision a vibrant private sector in Ethiopia, there need to create a unified organization and developing coherent implementations modalities embedded on its strategy is essential as it enables the private sector to align allocation of technical and financial resources towards a shared goal to use efficiently and effectively. Without these essentials the chamber and its member's efforts will be fragmented, scattering their resources and missing opportunities as have been witnessed in some occasions.

Unity and aligning resources, avoids duplication of efforts and enhances utilization of resources to the intended objectives. Indeed organizations are formed to bring unity to diverse talents and capabilities – to unite energy and effort towards a common purpose. Ultimately, the power of unity lies in the organizations ability to bring people together and create a sense of shared purpose. By embracing unity, organizations can achieve success that goes beyond individual accomplishments and creates a strong foundation for future growth and prosperity.

The chamber, therefore, strongly urges its members to organize and unified them under the chamber system/ umbrella so that it would be easy and paves the way to efficiently engage with all stakeholders including the government and development partners in a coordinated manner as one voice. The rebuilding of the Chamber has now brought a unique opportunity to reinvigorate its duty, redefining its role and orientation in its service provisions. However, all these redefined new departure activities will not be realized without the support and confidence of our members, business partners and the key stakeholder- the government.

Unified commitment is the shared dedication to the common purpose and vision of the Chamber and members team, reflected in mutual support, commitment to face challenges ahead of us as well as to grab the business opportunity to attain our common goals and contribute to the economic growth of the country. Let's stand tall together with a New Sprit in the New Year to register commendable achievements!

Addis Chamber Marks End of Year Thanks Giving Day Colorfully...



Among the recent reform initiatives taken by the Chamber include encouraging the private sector to actively participate in the national economy.

In fact, Addis Chamber, with support from its valued members, has registered commendable achievements in voicing the concerns of businesses and providing business development services to the wider private sector.

During the day, senior leadership of Addis Chamber and invited guests forwarded keynote address regarding the journey of Addis Chamber.

Accordingly Mesenbet Shenute, President of Addis Chamber in her remark said that “The chamber stood with strong position on the issues that are at the heart of business concerns during this period. At this time we succeeded in providing new range of

services including numerous virtual conferences to help companies to grow their business”

Since its inception the chamber has witnessed various regimes and experiences and this gives us the opportunity to remember, thank our past chamber leaders and its members for continued success, further said the president.

“After all the chamber wouldn’t be where it is today without the support of our members, partners and business communities”, said the president further adding that “Our chamber is now become the member of world chamber federation and has also prominent place in the international chambers. We have recently decided to carry out various reform programs that aim to improve service delivery, modern human resource, institutional building and implementing its five year strategic

plan”

In his address to the audience, Shibeshi Bettemarim, Secretary General of Addis Chamber said “Thanks giving for the time for us to come together in appreciation of the blessings in our lives for the journey we traversed together, for the mistakes we made, for the success we achieved together and for the endurance we exhibited as one business communities. It is a moment to express our gratitude for the many support and opportunities we have received from you, our business members, partners and stakeholders throughout the year”.

He also highlighted that Addis Chamber has managed to create and provide various platforms for businesses to connect and network. Addis Chamber also managed to educate and build the capacity of businesses and their leaders through various training programs. We also managed to resolve contractual

business disputes amongst businesses amicably.

As the core of thanks giving is the act of giving back but we have nothing except our services. As dedicated servants, I wish to renew our commitments and responsibility to continue serving you and your businesses which responsibility we shall think to the highest level of servant leadership in the new Ethiopian fiscal Year, pledges the Secretary General.

“These thanks giving lets also express our joint gratitude to the many public servants and community leaders who help create an environment conducive to our business to their growth and development and their support to small businesses in our cities and our country” passes his gratitude and we have so much to be thankful for our chamber serves as a vital backbone for the business communities, contributing its genuine share and fostering economic growth and prosperity in our city and beyond” extends his gratitude.

While marking the annual thanks giving day, Indian Ambassador to Ethiopia, Robert Shetkintong and representatives of companies delivered a speech concerning their attachment with Addis Chamber and its role for promoting business and economy.

Addis Chamber Extends Social Support



By Yidekachew Alemayehu

Discharging its corporate social responsibilities is one the duties of Addis Chamber thus to reach out destitute and needy people as much as possible. In its latest acts of corporate social responsibility, Addis Chamber has donated food items on the eve of Ethiopian new year 2016 EC.

Food recipients that are based at Bole Sub city, Addis Ababa, have received edible oil and flour to consume it for New Year festivity.

While delivering the food items, Mesenbet Shenkute, President of Addis Chamber said that the idea of donating food items emerged from business communities to reach out impoverished citizens residing in the city.

During the food handing over ceremony, Trade, Industry and Tourism Standing Committee chairperson of the City Council, Dr. Atome Abebe expressed her gratitude for Addis Chamber for its continued support.

In Nairobi, ECA's Antonio Pedro calls on Africa to accelerate climate action and ensure a just transition

Nairobi, Kenya, 4 September 2023 (ECA) - Africa, which has suffered climate change impacts the most, must accelerate climate action through effective strategies to ensure a just transition, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) Acting Executive Secretary, Antonio Pedro has challenged leaders.

“The lack of the right global enabling environment and strong global action on climate would lead to dire consequences for all of us,” Mr. Pedro, said, in closing the three-day 11th Conference on Climate Change and Development in Africa (CCDA), which concluded with technical inputs for the 4-6 September Africa Climate Summit also being held in Nairobi, Kenya.

Reiterating that without effective strategies at country level and governments not taking responsibility for converting the immense potential of the continent into tangible benefits for

its people, Mr. Pedro said Africa risks being left behind in a world undergoing an unjust transition.

“There is a potential for a horrific scenario where the world fails to reduce emissions to avert the dire projections made by climate scientists,” said Mr. Pedro, adding that, “Yet, even in the event of successful emissions reduction, there could be a troubling outcome: an unjust transition. This scenario would imply that planetary systems are saved on terms that serve today’s elites, while extreme poverty is allowed to persist.” He underscored that the CCDA reaffirmed its pivotal role as a forum for the continent to identify opportunities and solutions in the face of climate and development crises.

Mr. Pedro described the 2023 CCDA as a milestone which has set the tone for the African Climate Summit which seeks to address the increasing exposure to climate change and its associated

costs particularly in Africa. The Summit (4-6 Sept 2023) will serve as a platform to inform, frame, and influence commitments, pledges, and outcomes, ultimately leading to the development of the Nairobi Declaration.

Commenting on the CCDA, Mr. Pedro said discussions have been open, constructive, and encouraging. Furthermore, the discussions underscored that by uniting and engaging in honest dialogue on potential pathways towards a greener, more inclusive Africa, the 21st century will be paved with opportunities for Africa. Mr. Pedro said a dual approach of advocating for climate justice at the international level and actively pursuing concrete solutions at the national and local levels in African countries was needed as ‘This is not a choice between one or the other’.

Strengthening the blue economy as per the Moroni declaration and to

use Africa’s mining sector for green industrialization as well as to leverage carbon markets for monetizing the continent’s natural wealth are all part of an integrated endeavor to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063, Mr. Pedro said. He commended Kenya for paving the way for African voices and solutions to feature prominently at the upcoming SDG Summit and COP28 in the United Arab Emirates in November 2023.

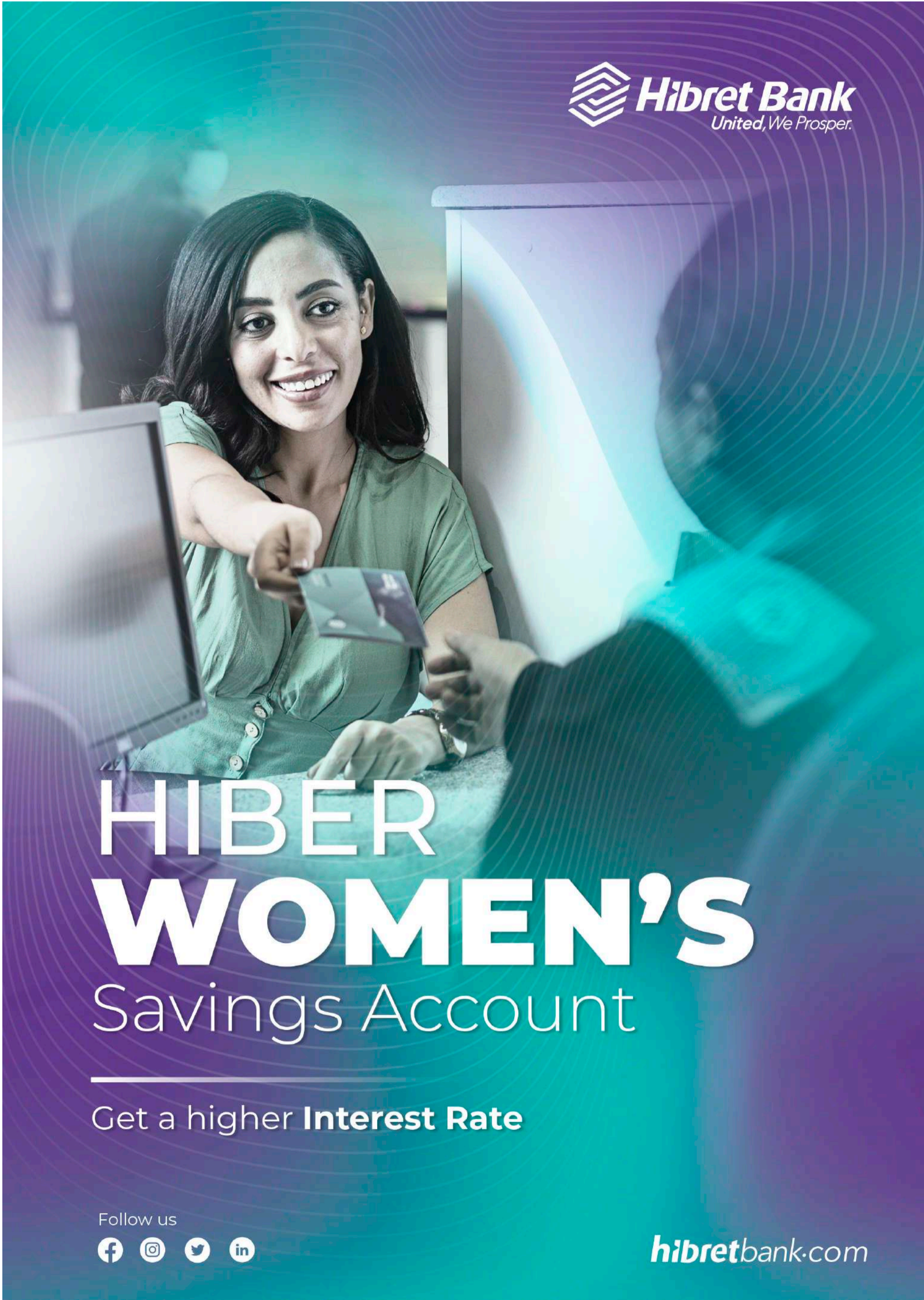
“We are establishing the foundation for a sustained strong African position, carrying on the legacy of COP27,” he said.

Paying tribute to participants and partners, including the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank and the host government of Kenya, Mr. Pedro called for productive and outcome-driven engagements at the Africa Climate Summit (4-6 September), building on the results of the 11th CCDA.

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BRICS in Welcoming new members, restructuring world order!



By Ashenafi Mitiku

During the last week of August 2023, the BRICS bloc of developing nations reached to a consensus on to admit Saudi Arabia, Iran, Ethiopia, Egypt, Argentina and the United Arab Emirates in a move aimed at accelerating its push to reshuffle a world order it sees as outdated.

While deciding on admitting additional member countries, the bloc's first in 13 years, BRICS leaders left the door open to future enlargement as dozens more countries voiced interest in joining a grouping they hope can level the global playing field.

In an exclusive interview with Addis Business, Getnet Debebe, business consultant and advisor said that joining BRICS for Ethiopia will be vital to get an alternate source of financing in addition to the conventional sources such as IDA and AfDF. Access to Western-backed financial institutions, including IMF and WB groups, is not often easy due to specific stringent requirements that countries may not fulfill due to national misalignment with their national priorities. Funding from the BRICS is most likely to be less stringent to access.

Further adding on the importance of joining the BRICS, Getnet said that it is instrumental to play a better role in global issues. The BRICS block is huge in population (more than 40%) and represents more than 27% of the world economy.

It will also counter balance the growing dominance of the West. It will be a significant global block competing with the G7, and its decision will significantly impact world politics and the economy.

Ethiopia will play a role in influencing such global decisions. It is also an opportunity for Ethiopia to be a member of a block where some of the members were not part of regional economic and political blocks where Ethiopia is a member. There have been several instances where the Arab League often passed decisions against the interest of Ethiopia when there were issues between Ethiopia and one of its member states. BRICS is an opportunity for Ethiopia to promote its causes and collaborate economically and politically with major Arab countries such as Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Ethiopia has an added value for BRICS said Getnet and attributes the following factors. Ethiopia is one of Africa's fifth most significant economies, and it has also grown steadily for the last couple of decades, it has the largest population in Africa, Next to Nigeria. Ethiopia has historically played an essential role in the African continent. It is the headquarters of international organizations, including AU and ECA, and has potential influence in African politics.

The country also maintained an independent position in the polarized world politics. It has strong ties with Russia and China. Ethiopia may receive sympathy from the block members due

to the growing pressure (including the sanction) from the West in connection with the political crises in the country. Its geographical position in Eastern Africa and its proximity to the intended economic zone encompass the Middle East and Africa, remarks the advisor.

While reflecting on the potential economic advantages of joining BRICS, Getnet said that South Africa claimed economic growth after joining the BRICS. The contribution to economic growth was increased foreign direct investment, tourism, and increased trading within the BRICS members.

The New Development Bank (NDB) financed 96 projects worldwide, mainly in the BRICS countries. South Africa received financing for 12 projects worth USD 5.2 billion. Ethiopia will benefit from the financing of the NDB.

He said that BRICS has a Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA) established at a capital of 100 billion USD. The fund aims to protect against global liquidity pressures, including issues where global financial pressures adversely affect the national currency. In the short run, it is unlikely that Ethiopia will benefit from this framework, as the use of this fund is based on capital contribution to the fund. He however said that "I don't think Ethiopia will contribute to this fund in the coming few years. The smallest contribution comes from South Africa, which was USD 5 billion. Rather he said Ethiopia will benefit as BRICS promotes cooperation in tourism, science and technology,

education, and institutional connectivity among the members.

When established, Ethiopia will benefit from the BRICS payment system, which allows countries to settle transactions by their national currency. If realized, establishing a common currency will be an excellent opportunity for countries like Ethiopia, which has been challenged by foreign currency shortages for decades.

Speaking on the advantage of transforming the Ethiopian private sector, he said that hoping that the current political crises will be over, the private sector will benefit in various forms. Such as access to markets within the BRICS block, potential for partnership and joint venture opportunities from investors from the BRICS member countries, procurement opportunities from new projects in Ethiopia financed by the New Development Bank among other benefits.

The private sector needs to be ready for potential competition from the BRICS countries if Ethiopia should liberalize its economy to comply with BRICS principles. The manufacturing and construction sectors are struggling with a short supply of foreign currency and cost escalation. Partnership, equity financing, joint ventures, and other growth strategies must be explored so that the local private sector can benefit from the BRICS. He however urges for sound preparation to fully to be active player in the bloc.

Nairobi Declaration makes strong push for accelerated climate action and financing mechanisms

Nairobi, Kenya, 7 Sept. 2023 (ECA) - African leaders, calling for urgent action by developed countries to reduce carbon emissions, have proposed a new financing mechanisms to restructure Africa's crippling debt and unlock climate funding.

In a call to action, African leaders attending the inaugural Africa Climate Summit held in Nairobi, Kenya, stressed the importance of decarbonizing the global economy for equality and shared prosperity. They called for investment to promote the sustainable use of Africa's natural assets for the continent's transition to low carbon development and contribution to global decarbonization.

"We call for a comprehensive and systemic response to the incipient debt crisis outside default frameworks to create the fiscal space that all developing countries need to finance development and climate action," African leaders said in the Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change and Call to Action, adopted at the conclusion of the Africa Climate Summit.

The Africa Climate Summit (ACS) brought together global leaders, intergovernmental organizations, Regional Economic Communities,

United Nations Agencies, private sector, civil society organizations, indigenous peoples, local communities, farmer organizations, children, youth, women and academia to discuss Africa's climate change challenges and formulate sustainable solutions.

The leaders expressed concern that many African countries face disproportionate burdens and risks from climate change-related, unpredictable weather events and patterns. The impacts have included prolonged droughts, devastating floods, wild and forest fires, which cause massive humanitarian crisis with detrimental impacts on economies, health, education, peace and security, among other risks, the leaders said, acknowledging that climate change is the single greatest challenge facing humanity and the single biggest threat to all life on earth.

Underlining that Africa was not historically responsible for global warming, but bore the brunt of its effect, impacting lives, livelihoods, and economies, the leaders emphasized that the continent possessed the potential and the ambition to be a vital component of the global solution to climate change.

"We note that multilateral finance reform is necessary but not sufficient to provide the scale of climate financing

the world needs to achieve 45 percent emission reduction required to meet the Paris 2030 agreements, without which keeping global warming to 1.5% will be in serious jeopardy," the Declaration said, noting that, "Additionally, that the scale of financing required to unlock Africa's climate positive growth is beyond the borrowing capacity of national balance sheets."

The African leaders further called for the acceleration of on-going initiatives to reform the multilateral financial system and global financial architecture including the Bridgetown Initiative, the Accra-Marrakech Agenda, the UN Secretary General's SDG Stimulus Proposal and the Paris Summit for a New Global Financing Pact.

"We urge world leaders to rally behind the proposal for a [global] carbon taxation regime including a carbon tax on fossil fuel trade, maritime transport and aviation, that may also be augmented by a global financial transaction tax (FTT) to provide dedicated affordable and accessible finance for climate positive investments at scale and ring fencing of these resources and decision making from geopolitical and national interests," the leaders urged.

The Summit proposed a new financing

architecture responsive to Africa's needs including debt restructuring and relief and the development of a new Global Climate Finance Charter through the United Nations General Assembly and the COP processes by 2025.

"We call for collective global action to mobilize the necessary capital for both development and climate action, echoing the statement of the Paris Summit for a New Global Financing Pact that no country should ever have to choose between development aspirations and climate action," they said, emphasizing the need for concrete action and speed on proposals to reform the multilateral financial system currently under discussion specifically to build resilience to climate shocks and better deployment of the Special Drawing Rights liquidity mechanism.

The Nairobi Declaration was adopted to be the basis for Africa's common position in the global climate change process to COP 28 and beyond. It was also noted that the Africa Climate Summit should be established as a biennial event convened by African Union and hosted by AU Member States, "to set the continent's new vision taking into consideration emerging global climate and development issues".

India: Key Development Partner of Ethiopia, Robert Shetkintong, Indian Ambassador to Ethiopia



By Ashenafi Mitiku

Ethiopia is the first country in Africa to establish diplomatic ties with India. This year the two countries mark the 75th anniversary of diplomatic ties. During all these long decades we have achieved a lot in bolstering the diplomatic ties of the two countries. For instance we have achieved in political diplomacy however our trade and investment ties outweighs and

I call upon all businesses to tie with Indian businesses and our embassy in Addis Ababa is ready to answer your request regarding trade and investment issues.

Addis Chamber and its achievement is commendable and the diplomatic ties of Ethiopia and India dates back to many years almost equal to the establishment of Addis Chamber back in 1947. We are happy today to hear that Ethiopia has joined BRICS. While

marking the chamber's annual thanks giving day, the prime ministers of the two nations, India and Ethiopia met to discuss on how to strengthen bilateral trade and diplomatic issues between the two countries. Such meetings of the two prime ministers were dealt with on how to facilitate trade relationships. While marking the thanks giving day India has launched a satellite to moon and become the fourth state in the world to launch.

The India Business Forum was founded in Ethiopia in 2005 and such platforms were ideal to promote FDI in Ethiopia. For instance as a result of the India business forum, more than 100 Indian businesses invested in Ethiopia and most of the Indian businesses are delighted for being investing in Ethiopia.

Addis Chamber has done a

commendable work by hosting the India Africa ICT Expo in August 2013, one of the best events held in Addis Ababa.

Currently more than 300 Indian companies are operating in Ethiopia sharing their contribution for the socio economic development of Ethiopia at the same time. Cumulatively such investments worth about 5 billion USD. While talking about employment opportunity Indian businesses have created more than 75,000 jobs for local citizens and for instance a single textile industry at Bole Lemi Industrial park hired about 9000 jobs.

In the academic sector the role of India in Ethiopia is immense due to the fact that Indian professors are teaching at various higher learning institutes in Ethiopia support education.

A GLIMPSE OF ADDIS CHAMBER



By Staff Writer

Embracing thousands of business communities, Addis Chamber has persisted to be one of the renowned and influential business membership organizations in Ethiopia serving business communities to thrive. Thanks to its dedicated members, Addis Chamber has continued its journey looking forward better society and economy.

With new strategic thinking and leadership, Addis Chamber has become a knowledge hub, disseminates business information, and provides timely training, consulting and engaging members and government on various economic development and business issues. Adding on this, the concluded budget year 2022/23 witnessed success stories, challenges and potential opportunities to look in to it.

THE 16TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The aftermath of the 75th years of anniversary of Addis Chamber was pursued by the 16th General Assembly that elected BoDs for the next tenure. Here the roles of its members were highly commendable to realize fair and transparent election. The new BoDs coordinated with management and staff has gained achievements in carrying out the strategic objectives of the chamber. The leadership of Addis Chamber in cooperation with its dedicated staff and BoDs made enormous tasks to serve the

business communities in one way or the other. Such outstanding task ranges from sharing policy briefs to forging partnership with Addis Ababa City Administration, supporting destitute and needy people as well as recruiting goodwill ambassadors in a newest form.

STRATEGIC PARTNRESHIP

Boosting partnership is one of the key strategic choices of Addis Chamber. Such quality of leadership allowed the institution to tie with governmental and non-governmental organizations. Dubai Chamber of Commerce, the Export and Investment promotion organization of Turkey, MUSIAD, the Canadian firm, CESO, and ministry of foreign affairs of Ethiopia, international chamber of commerce, local chambers and giant media firms operating in Ethiopia are some of the key partners.

While walking the talk, the strategic partnership between Addis Chamber and the Indian government is bearing fruits as the recently held ICT Expo is a land mark for connecting businesses. With more than 30 IT exhibitors from India and African countries such as Ethiopia, the two-day event, that is jointly organized by Addis Chamber, the Ministry of Innovation and Technology and Telecommunications Equipment and Services, New Delhi, connected ICT entrepreneurs, tech companies and various technology owners to deal business and forge networking. The 5th Manufacturing and Technology

Exhibition and the 25th Addis Chamber International Exhibition are also commendable undertaken by Addis Chamber.

POLICY INFLUNCING AND ADVOCACY

Committed to become champion the voice of the business communities, Addis Chamber has made remarkable effort to voice major concerns of the business communities. Accordingly, it has carried out numerous panel discussions to dwell on key thematic issues among other includes capital market, the essence of electronic procurement , IFRS, Property Tax, Forex liberalization , illegal cash flows , tourism vs. VAT , promoting circular economy and SDGs, the essence of peace for business and national dialogue among the few to remind.

LAUNCHING OF NEW SERVICES

With new strategic bearing and management, Addis Chamber has launched new services to transform the business landscapes of Ethiopia. Thus the launching of Business Innovation Centre and Institute of Directors can be considered as landmark initiatives.

BIC/IOD Events VISIBILITY

Using its multimedia outlets, the communication and media department of Addis Chamber, teaming up with senior leadership, has made enormous promotional and outreach campaign to build the image of the institution and voiced major concerns of the business communities and private sector in general. Such initiatives range from hosting media day to uncovering stories hosted by Addis Chamber in various

occasions.

ARBITRATION

The Arbitration Institute of Addis Chamber is entitled to resolve disputes that might be emerged within business communities so far the institute rendered 70 legal advisory services to resolve disputes that are emerged between businesses. FIDIC Services for the construction sector is such a unique product.

IMPACTS OF PROJECT AND RESEARCH

The research and project department of Addis Chamber jointly with development partners such as DI, GIZ, and ADELPHIE has made wider project interventions to improve agribusiness, capacity building for BMOs and promoting green economy and green growth among others. Such interventions are remarkable in envisioning resilient business communities and sustainable business in Ethiopia.

STRATEGY AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT

This is a new initiative dedicated to ensure annual plans of Addis Chamber are executed accordingly with time and budget. Due to such intervention, Addis Chamber embarked on quality management and received recognition for Non-Conformity ISO 9001, 2015.

CURRENT ENGAGEMENTS

Addis Chamber envisions to carry out grand plans of the year among others include, marking March 8, Media Day, End of Year Cocktail, general assembly with special focus on bolstering trade fairs, HQ Building ,launching of community FM Radio and digitalization.

International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP) is key to promote businesses in Ethiopia



(U.S Embassy in Addis Ababa): The private sector is key to Ethiopia's development and business associations are vital leaders in development and economic reform.

The U.S. government is sponsoring a ten-day International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP) exchange for the leaders of nine Ethiopian business associations. Among the

Visitors Leadership Program include the Secretary General of Addis Chamber, Shibeshi Bettemariam

The IVLP experience will give these national, regional and industry-specific business association leaders' opportunities to build their networks, sharing best practices, and enhancing their capacity.

Witnessing about Addis Chamber



Solomon Gizaw , CEO , HST

In his statement delivered during the annual thanks giving day Solomon Gizaw , CEO of HST and longtime member of Addis Chamber said that “ I am a member of Addis Chamber since the last twenty years really amazed about the activities of the chamber. The advocacy effort of Addis chamber is vital not only for its members but also for the entire business communities in general. The chamber is acting as a collective voice for all of us”.

Over the last twenty years, he said Addis Chamber for instance has been undertaking massive effort in developing skill and knowledge for numerous professionals. The business service that is being provided by Addis Chamber is commendable. For instance the arbitration institute and its service are instrumental in providing legal advice to solve disputes among businesses. Such kinds of services are provided professionally and I would like to thank Addis Chamber at this moment.

Regarding the networking and business development service, Solomon Gizaw said “Addis Chamber is key player to serve the business communities. We need to have chamber of commerce due to the fact that it will enhance our collective bargaining power. Individually we don’t have power to negotiate or bargaining our cause rather we need chamber to reflect our collective concern and to make influence on policy issues”.

Individual business will be in a position to get difficulty to get best practices for small and medium sized businesses. Without the support of Addis Chamber it is difficult to collaborate and bring together

industries to form synergy.

Regarding the research dissemination works, Addis Chamber is doing a remarkable job. This is so special for business companies to get research outputs because individual companies cannot afford to undertake research by their own so that local, regional and international trade information are properly researched at Addis Chamber.

Regarding policy regulations and guidance, he said that the Chamber is the right choice and in terms of international trade support, the chamber is the ideal institution to find out global markets for our businesses. In addition to finding markets, Addis Chamber is key player in match making and connecting businesses.



Harsh Kothari, CEO, MOHAN GROUP OF COMPANIES

In his remark Harsh Kotari , CEO of Mohan Group of Companies and longtime member of Addis Chamber said “We are the proud members of the Addis Ababa Chamber of Commerce and this is the third generation to become a member. My grandfather was a member, my father and now I become. Our relationship with the chamber of commerce is very deep”.

“I would like to congratulate countries of southern hemisphere for countries like India and Ethiopia

to join BRICS business ecosystem. In addition Ethiopia and India has connected in various bilateral engagements, said the speaker.

Coming to the role of Addis Chamber, the institute plays remarkable role in enhancing the capacity of its members in various disciplines, witnesses Kotari. “For instance I remember a training known as finance for non-financiers and I was benefitted a lot from that training and I have learnt a lot from the training that are given by Addis Chamber. Such trainings are essential to decide on finance as managers and not only me have I had a number of my staff trained at Addis Chamber and the chamber”.

Such kinds of trainings are remarkable to capacitate company workers to be effective and productive in their respective duties. Such services have to be well publicized and promoted to reach out for many. CEOs of companies and managers have to take the training opportunities being provided by Addis Chamber.

Addis Chamber is also devoted in providing trade fairs as well as hosting grand business panels to promote sustainable business that considers the ecosystem, extends his testimonies. While conducting such platforms, the role of Addis Chamber is commendable in creating networks and connections and MOHAN GROUP OF COMPANIES have benefitted a lot from such kinds of opportunities. The fee I paid to Addis Chamber returned with tenfold, said Kotari.

“Apart from such duties, Addis Chamber has been advocating constantly to lobby the government for creating an ease of doing business environment, such as its advocacy effort on commercial license registration , such opportunities are key to unite the different sectors and businesses together” commends the role played by Addis Chamber.

At the end, he said that the unification of the business communities through Addis Chamber is remarkable. Addis Chamber is working to ensure businesses to have consensus of shared value and in enhancing the

economic.

Finally he extends his gratitude to Addis Chamber for its commendable role in providing various services for business communities and I call upon businesses to join Addis Chamber



Ahmed Mohammed, Deputy Country Director, CIPE

The last testimony was brought by Ahmed Mohammed, Deputy Director of CIPE, East Africa Region. “I am honored to be part of this event representing CIPE and the role of Addis Chamber is key in Ethiopia and the rest of the world”. Addis Chamber is the oldest chamber not only in Ethiopia but also in Africa has become valuable partner for CIPE for many years”.

While witnessing about Addis Chamber he said that CIPE works to ensure the capacity of chamber of commerce and business associations in leadership and governance, advocacy engagement, organizational management, member service among others.

“In our assessment result, Addis Chamber is always very far ahead in its performance not only in Ethiopia but also in Africa as key player in facilitating trade and investment serving as crucial link between government and private sector. So as to undertake such services, Addis chamber employs various services to accomplish its goals”.

It is also an amazing organization truly committed to its members. Addis Chamber also hosts various events throughout the year which are great way for businesses to connect with each other and learn about the latest trends in doing business, concludes his testimony.