



Ambasciata d'Italia ad Addis Abeba

SERVIZIO NEWS

02.12.2016

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Office starts construction of Shegole bus depot with half a billion birr

The construction of Shegole bus depot has been launched at a cost of 500 million birr earmarked by the government.

(01.12.2016 - FBC)

The depot to be erected on 52,000 hectares of land will consist of a garage and a fuel station, according to Addis Ababa City Administration Transport Programs Coordination Office.

The China State Construction Engineering Corporation (CSCEC), the contractor company, is expected to finalize the construction of the depot within 21 months.

Translated and posted by Amare Asrat

Addis Ababa, December 2, 2016 (FBC) - The construction of Shegole bus depot has been launched at a cost of 500 million birr earmarked by the government.

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Ethiopia reports 8% growth in 2008EC

Ethiopia's economy has grown by 8 percent in 2008 Ethiopian fiscal year (2015/16), said Dr Yinager Dese, Commissioner of the National Planning Commission of Ethiopia.

(01.12.2016 - FBC)

The projected target was an 11 percent growth, said the Commissioner in his press briefing yesterday.

The growth slowed down due to the worst El Niño-

caused drought which Ethiopia faced last fiscal year, leading to failed harvests which cover 95 percent of the country's *meher* production, he said.

Last year, the agricultural sector accounted for only 36.6 percent of the real Gross Domestic Product (GDP), compared to 44.4 percent five years ago, showing a slight shift from dependency on

agriculture, the commissioner said.

In contrast, the industrial and the service sectors accounted for 16.6 percent and 47 percent of the GDP respectively, showing growth in the sectors compared to the results registered in the past years, Dr Yinager said.

It is to be recalled that Ethiopia has experienced

Ethiopian to start four weekly flights to Victoria Falls

Africa's largest airline group, Ethiopian Airlines, said that it will start four weekly flights to Victoria Falls, site of the most spectacular waterfalls in the world, as of March 26, 2017, with the latest B737-800 New Generation with Sky Interior.

(01.12.2016 - FBC)

Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the world, is the only waterfall in the world with a length of more than a kilometer and a height of more than hundred meters.

Mr. Tewolde GebreMariam, Group CEO Ethiopian Airlines, said "It is a continuation of our efforts

to achieve the goal of connecting Africa to the world, by adding multiple points in Africa and serving air connectivity needs of the continent. Tourist travelers and vacationers from major cities in the Americas, Europe, Asia and Africa will enjoy hassle-free connections to Victoria Falls via our strategic hub at Addis Ababa. Looking forward, we shall continue to expand our network in Africa to better promote and facilitate growth in the business and tourism sectors, as clearly outlined in our fifteen years growth strategy, Vision 2025."

Ethiopian also offers special fares for tour packages to the major

African tourist destinations such as Mombasa, Zanzibar, Kilimanjaro, Dar-Es-Salaam, Johannesburg, Maputo, Nairobi and Cairo.

In its seven decades of operation, Ethiopian Airlines (Ethiopian) has become one of the continent's leading carriers, unrivalled in efficiency and operational success.

Ethiopian commands the lion's share of the pan-African passenger and cargo network operating the youngest and most modern fleet across five continents.

Chinese firm provides scholarship for Ethiopian university students

A Chinese heavy machinery manufacturing firm, Xuzhou Construction Machinery Group (XCMG), has launched a three-year scholarship initiative to financially benefit outstanding Ethiopian university students.

(30.11.2016 - FBC)

The sponsorship, launched on Tuesday, is part of XCMG's global initiative to realize its motto, "XCMG, Making a Better World," in which six countries had been chosen to benefit from the sponsorship project, according to Xiao Xiao, XCMG East Africa Regional Manager.

During a period of three years, the scholarship project will benefit 27 outstanding Addis Ababa University students. Nine

students will be annually selected and share close to 2,500 U.S. dollars.

One of the objectives of the scholarship is to support talented engineering students who could potentially benefit the east African country, said Xiao.

He also noted that the project is designed to encourage more and more Ethiopian students to learn Chinese language and culture, and help to strengthen the Sino-Ethiopian relationship.

Jeilu Oumer, Academic Vice President of Addis Ababa University, said the scholarship recipients will immensely benefit from the scholarship.

"We hope that the partnership will go beyond this step to University-Industry partnership," he added.

Mesfin Zemed, a four-year mechanical engineering student, said the scholarship is important for him to effectively pursue his education and his future career as an engineer.

Ethiopia is the only African country selected by XCMG's global sponsorship project. The remaining others are Iran, Thailand, Indonesia, Cambodia and Bangladesh.

As part of its social responsibility endeavor, XCMG has recently inaugurated a water cellar project in Oromia Regional State of Ethiopia. The project was made to address water shortage of Oda Nebee Primary School, about 30 km south of capital Addis Ababa.

Bagir begins first trouser exports from Ethiopia factory

Israel-based tailored clothing manufacturer Bagir Group has shipped the first trouser exports from its new factory in Ethiopia - a move the company's CEO has told just-style is a game-changer for the business.

(30.11.2016 - FBC)

"We are the first to manufacture and export tailored garments from Ethiopia," Eran Itzhak explains, adding that the company is currently making 600 trousers in export quality per day and intends to increase this to 3,000 trousers per day in the next 18 months, with jacket lines to follow.

Indeed, production at the facility is seen rising to 4,000 suits a day within three years, in line with Bagir's goal to develop Ethiopia as its main production base during this time.

The move is part of an ongoing restructuring at

Bagir, which supplies customers in the US, UK, Europe, Australia and South Africa, including the UK's Arcadia Group, whose brands include Burton and Topman.

The business is now debt-free for the first time in nearly a decade, has refocused its manufacturing base on Ethiopia, Egypt and Vietnam, and is fighting back with new products and a return to innovation.

"Africa, to my understanding, is the next best thing, and you will see that more and more brands and manufacturers understand this, and you can already see huge investments coming from China to Ethiopia," Itzhak says.

"Yes there are issues like the infrastructure, transportation, the lack of tradition, the need to bring people from Sri Lanka and Bangladesh to manage the lines - but this is part of the sourcing

game. I don't see them as difficulties; I see them as challenges. And there is a big prize waiting for the ones who are willing to meet these challenges."

Bagir has spent more than two years getting up to speed in Ethiopia, where it invested \$1.5m to buy a 50% stake in Nazareth Garments, whose factory produced uniforms for the Ethiopian police and Ethiopian airlines.

As well as bringing in its own general manager, CTO and quality manager, the company opened an on-site training school because "no-one in Ethiopia knew how to make suits at Bagir standards."

Despite recent unrest in Ethiopia, Itzhak is firm in his belief the country has "all the key elements," including duty-free rules, preferential market access to the EU through the Everything But Arms (EBA) scheme, and duty-free access to the US through AGOA (the African

Growth and Opportunity Act), competitive labour costs, government support and huge potential to grow further.

"We are managing business as usual at our

factory and will continue our plans. We expect to get \$3-4m from Ethiopia next year and are not changing our focus or expectations."

He adds: "I'm not preparing any back-up plan for Ethiopia for the simple reason that there is no country that can offer the same advantages and benefits."

Ivanka Trump's Shoe Factory Is Moving From China To Ethiopia Because Labor Costs There Are Much Cheaper

Donald Trump has pledged to bring long-lost American manufacturing jobs back from China. But he may be too late - even for products that bear his family name. A Chinese company that makes shoes for his daughter's fashion line is moving production to Africa, where labor is much cheaper.

(30.09.2016 - Daily Monitor)

The billionaire tycoon has frequently accused China of stealing US jobs through unfair trade practices and currency manipulation, while

simultaneously relying on the country to make Trump-branded goods. But the kind of work that goes into making such products may never return to **America, says the** president of major footwear producer Huajian Group. Zhang Huarong, speaking in his office in the southern factory hub of Dongguan, said: 'Some manufacturers can't even survive in China anymore.'

His company has made about 100,000 pairs of Ivanka Trump-branded shoes over the years, according to spokesman Liu Shiyuan. In August it filled an order for 20,000

pairs, just weeks after Trump accepted the Republican nomination, with a speech in which he vowed to bring jobs back to the US. Trump said he planned to impose a 45 per cent tariff on Chinese-made goods.

Mr Zhang said he can hire five Ethiopians for the price of one Chinese worker. That is why the company is building a 'light industrial city' shaped like a woman's shoe in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa, he said. The sprawling campus will feature factories, dormitories, a hotel and a hospital, all bounded by a replica of the Great Wall.

Chinese bus company eyes Ethiopian market

Zhongtong Bus Holding Co., Ltd., a Chinese bus manufacturing company, is set to supply latest public transport buses to the Ethiopian market.

(30.11.2016 - FBC)

“Ethiopia will be our main market destination since it

has a large number of population,” John Xiang, Director of Market Study at Zhongtong Bus Holding Co, told FBC today.

According to the Director, the company will supply its latest model buses via private transport associations.

In addition to supplying buses, the company is also making preparation to open maintenance center.

Zhongtong Bus Holding Co., Ltd made a profit of 800 million US dollars in 2015.

Ethiopia, Kenya willing to elevate ties

The bilateral exchanges between Ethiopia and Kenya will see a major boost as Foreign Affairs Ministers of the two neighboring nations discuss on further strengthening ties.

(30.11.2016 - FBC)

Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. Workneh Gebeyehu received his Kenyan counterpart Ambassador Dr. Amina C. Mohamed at his office early today where they exchanged views on ways of further cementing bilateral relations between the two countries.

“We discussed ways of elevating bilateral and people to people ties as

well as increasing cooperation on regional security,” remarked Dr. Workneh.

He added: “the relation between Ethiopia and Kenya goes beyond its historical significance, setting example to other countries. The strong infrastructure link is a plus to that exemplary relation in Africa.”

Ambassador Dr. Amina, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya on her part said: “we have talked about our bilateral relations which has you know relations that are very mature, very enhanced, and we meet very frequently to make sure that we keep them

moving in the right direction.”

“We have also discussed regional issues in the neighboring countries, in the region, in the whole continent and of international issues as well,” added the Kenyan Minister.

Dr. Amina also extended her gratitude for the support she received as a candidate for the African Union (AU) Commission Chairmanship.

The two sides also exchanged views on the situation in Somalia and South Sudan and support mechanisms to improve the crisis in that part of the region.

Continental free trade area in focus at Africa Trade Week

Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) and Africa's trade relations with external parties are among the major issues in focus during a week-long event dubbed "Africa Trade Week" at the African Union (AU) Headquarters in Addis Ababa.

(29.11.2016 - FBC)

Involving two main events, namely, the Africa Trade Forum, from Nov.28 to 30, and the High level Trade Facilitation Forum from Dec.1 to 2, the Africa Trade Week is said to be a

platform for advancing intra-African trade dialogue among multi-stakeholder groups.

The Africa Trade Week is jointly organized by the AU and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

The issues raised during the event include the relationship between Africa and the United States following the election of Donald Trump as President-elect, the changing architecture of global trade, AGOA (African Growth and

Opportunity Act) implementation, trade partnerships, the CFTA, trade facilitation and related issues, according to ECA.

African CFTA aims to create a single continental market for goods and services, free movement of business persons and investments and expand intra-African trade, among other things, while enhancing competitiveness at the industry and enterprise levels on the continent.

Despite downturn in tractor sales globally, imports are up in Ethiopia

Despite the downturn in tractor sales in almost all major countries, farm machinery officials do see new growth in the market from Ethiopia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Cambodia.

(29.11.2016 - FBC)

While Europe, China and Brazil indicate continued declines in tractor sales, industry experts at the International Exhibition of Agricultural Equipment last month report that sales are also up in India.

EIMA officials said the downturn is related to the crisis in farm incomes,

which is caused by excess production and the resulting decline in the prices of major commodities. This phenomenon "is at the root of the decline in machinery purchases," an EIMA press release stated.

The setback involves many of the major countries, but does not affect the positive trends seen in some emerging markets that represent the new frontier of agricultural mechanization.

From 2010 to 2015, imports of tractors grew 400 percent in Vietnam,

for a value of \$124 million, 250 percent in Ethiopia and 240 percent in Kenya, the study revealed.

The most notable case is Cuba, which in 2015 alone saw an increase of imports by more than 800 percent as trade barriers eased.

The Philippines and Cambodia, the study also showed, are the countries with the highest growth rates of imports - respectively, 190 percent and 210 percent in six years - followed by Vietnam and Ethiopia, at 128 percent and 117 percent.

Premier appoints new head for Development Bank of Ethiopia

Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn has appointed Getahun Nanna President of the Development Bank of Ethiopia (DBE).

(29.11.2016 - FBC)

In a Facebook post, DBE said "Getahun Nanna, Vice Governor Financial Institutions Supervision Cluster of the National Bank has been appointed

to lead the Development Bank of Ethiopia (DBE) by the Prime Minister earlier this morning."



Le patron d'Azerbaïdjan Airlines reçu par le chef de l'Etat

Le président Ismaïl Omar Guelleh a reçu en audience hier au palais de la République le PDG d'Azerbaïdjan Airlines, Jahangir Askerov accompagné de notre ambassadeur à Moscou et à Bakou, Dr Mohamed Ali Kamil. Le président de l'APZF, Aboubaker Hadi, a également assisté à l'entretien entre le Président et le haut responsable azerbaïdjanais.

(30.11.2016 - La Nation)

Le PDG d'Azerbaïdjan Airlines, Jahangir Askerov, qui est en visite de travail ces jours-ci à Djibouti, a été reçu hier en milieu de matinée par le président Ismaïl Omar Guelleh. Le

président a souhaité la bienvenue au visiteur et lui a fait part de sa volonté de développer les relations d'amitié et de coopération avec son pays dans de nombreux domaines. M. Askerov s'est dit heureux pour sa part de pouvoir inclure Djibouti dans les capitales mondiales que dessert sa compagnie. L'entretien entre le Président et le visiteur a en effet porté surtout sur le partenariat dans le domaine de l'aviation civile.

L'ambassadeur de Djibouti à Moscou et à Bakou, l'ancien ministre de la Santé Mohamed Ali Kamil ainsi que le président de l'Autorité des ports et des zones franches, Aboubaker Omar Hadi, ont

assisté à l'entretien entre le chef de l'Etat et le patron d'Azerbaïdjan Airlines. M. Hadi devait, une demi-heure après l'audience, signer avec M. Askerov une convention de partenariat dont la principale clause prévoit un vol hebdomadaire d'Azerbaïdjan Airlines entre Bakou et Djibouti.

Ce pays musulman du Caucase de près de dix millions d'habitants et la République de Djibouti sont en effet liés depuis ces dernières années par des partenariats dans de nombreux domaines. Bientôt, le président de l'Assemblée nationale y effectuera une mission à l'invitation des autorités du pays.

Italian Cultural Institute program for the month of December, 2016

2016



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DECEMBER PROGRAMME

Thursday - 1

Movie

Lunga vita alla signora / Long live the lady!by **Ermanno Olmi**, 1987 – 115 min

English subtitles

6:30 pm

Friday - 2

Painting Exhibition - Opening

2-5 December - Exhibition Hall, Italian Cultural Institute

pARTitionsby **Monia Jaber**

Opening by invitation only

20:00 pm

Tuesday - 6 and Thursday - 8**Dining in the dark**Organized by **Together!**

More information and tickets at the Italian Cultural Institute

6:00 pm

Friday 9 - Saturday 10

In collaboration with Addis Foto Fest

Canon Street Photography Workshop

Reserved to APF students

9:30 am - 3:30 pm

In collaboration with the Italian Embassy in Addis Abeba

lettera 27  **Friday 9 – Tuesday 13**

Art workshop

At-Work Addis Ababa

www.at-work.org

Selected students only

Thursday 15 - Saturday 17**Addis Foto Fest Portfolio Reviews**

Reserved to APF students

8:30 - 12 :00 am

Friday - 16**At-Work Public Lecture**by **Simon Njami** and **Elena Korzhenevich**

Auditorium "Giuseppe Verdi"

Free entrance and refreshments

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Saturday 17

Opening

17- 21 December - DinQ Gallery

At-Work exhibition

12:00 am

Tuesday - 20

In collaboration with "Centro Nazionale del Cortometraggio"

Short movies

Il giorno più corto / Short Film Day

English subtitles

6:30 pm