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Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia  
**OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER**

**Distinguished members of the diplomatic community,  
Distinguished development partners,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Thank you for joining us today. I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and its Executive Director, my good friend Vera Songwe, for supporting today's gathering.

I am quite delighted to share with you our vision of the newly launched Homegrown Economic Reform agenda. Several months in the making and spearheaded by some of Ethiopia's finest minds, our initiative aims to propel Ethiopia into becoming the African icon of prosperity by 2030.

Catapulting into the future requires us to take stock of the recent past. And as we approach the New Ethiopian Year, I would like to briefly reflect on the progress we have made thus far, and how our MEDEMER philosophy is ushering in an irreversible paradigm shift.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In just over one year, we took a series of measures aimed at shifting the economic growth landscape of Ethiopia. We managed to find a short-term remedy to the inherited macroeconomic and fiscal imbalances. This helped to temporarily stabilize our economy, while my administration diligently worked to develop sustainable measures. Acknowledging that the next chapter of Ethiopia's growth and development requires a more active private sector, we opened up key economic activities to private investments.

I have also been personally leading a national high-level committee formed to drive reforms in investment laws and business climate. This high-level national committee has made progress in facilitating a conducive business environment and removing regulatory obstacles that hamper investments. I have no doubt that the measures we have taken thus far in this regard, will be reflected in Ethiopia's Ease of Doing Business ranking. These are some of the very few organic milestones we have achieved. We moved the needle further than many had anticipated, and we continue to push further with renewed vigor and enthusiasm!

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Today, I am quite pleased as we unveil to you Ethiopia's Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda— a well-coordinated response and blueprint to propel economic progress. The Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda is close to my heart, and I believe it is our bridge to prosperity, enabling us to become a middle-income nation and ensure sustainable development.

This agenda, crafted through a process of taking stock of our successes; an in-depth review of key bottlenecks and design of adequate remedies, outlines macro-economic, structural, and sectoral reforms that will pave the path for jobs and inclusive growth.

To ensure our Homegrown economic reform Agenda is successful, we are tightening our fiscal belts, strengthening our public sector finances, shedding our debts, and increasing domestic resource mobilization. We work towards ensuring financial discipline and sound economic management.

To deliver on one of our MEDEMER aspirations of prosperity, we have prioritized the success of key sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, mining, tourism and information and communications technology. Anchored in the vision of building a prosperous nation, our priority is to create an economic environment that closes the income inequality gap by creating opportunities and access to resources for all.

We also prioritize capacity building to ensure we are truly investing in our people, our youth — scaling up their skills to meet investors workforce needs; ensuring we produce globally competitive graduates, invest in their health and wellbeing and, develop their capacity to take an idea and turn it into a business.

In rolling out Ethiopia's Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda, it does not mean we work alone. We know that we can unlock Ethiopia's untapped potential by working together with our neighbors, development partners, and stakeholders in the spirit of MEDEMER. We have also worked tirelessly to open regional relations previously closed; and have been lending support in stabilizing neighboring nations by brokering peace.

Our active engagement in the continental integration process is demonstrated through our pioneering role adopting the African Continental Free Trade Area. We realize that our interdependence solidifies Ethiopia's geopolitical importance in becoming Africa's gateway to global markets.

As with any transition, we understand that risks and opportunities exist. We know we are all responsible for our actions and inactions. As such, today, I am standing in front of you to tell you that my administration is working tirelessly to make the Ethiopian economy work better for all people and ensure return on investment to our stakeholders. And I also stand here inviting you to support us in crafting the Ethiopian economic miracle.

The Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda is our pro-job, pro-growth, and pro-inclusivity pathway to prosperity. Join us on this path.

I thank you!