



# Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

PMO Newsletter | March 2023 Issue

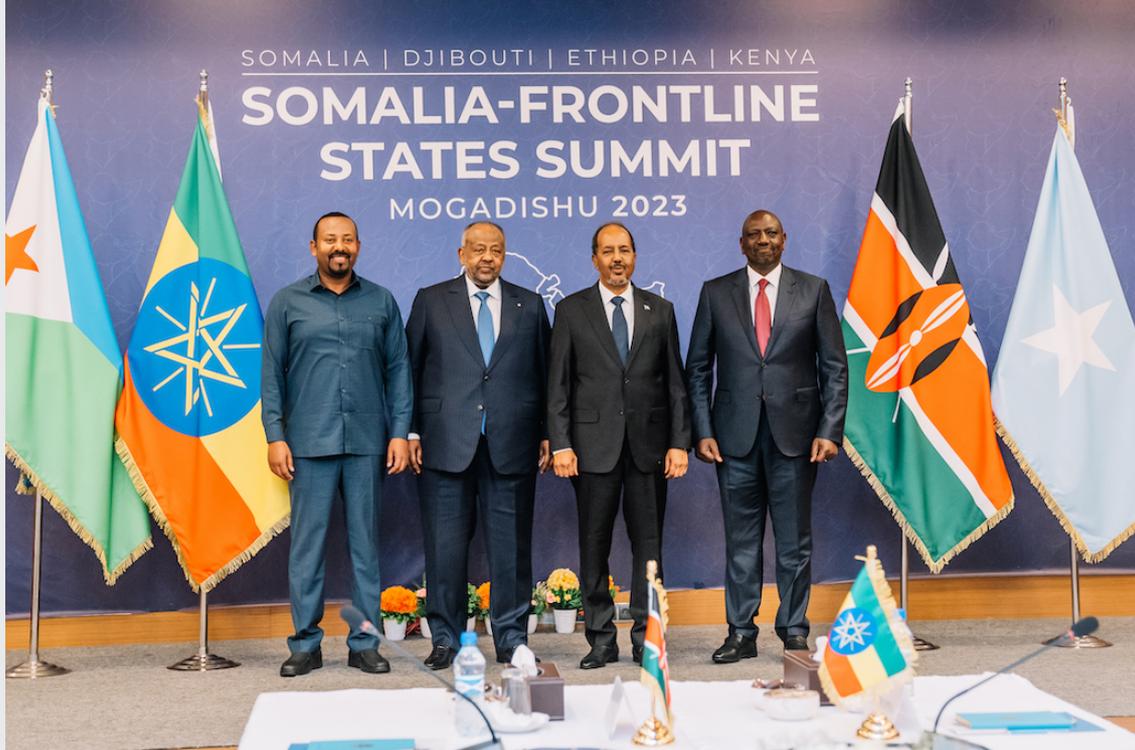
## Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's Key Activities of the Month

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**On 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed convened a first-of-its-kind Prime Ministerial Advisory Group that is tasked with bringing forth-solid inputs for consideration and implementation on various issues.

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**On February 1<sup>st</sup> 2023**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed left for Mogadishu, Somalia to participate in the Somalia-Frontline States Summit convened to strengthen the campaign against the terrorist group Al-Shabaab in East Africa. During his stay, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed also conferred with various leaders on ways of providing regional solutions to regional problems.

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On the sidelines of the Somalia-Frontline States Summit which was conducted on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed held talks with Kenyan President William Ruto that intended to deepen bilateral ties through infrastructure development, increasing trade and investment as well as regional issues.

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## **Official Visit to Europe by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed**

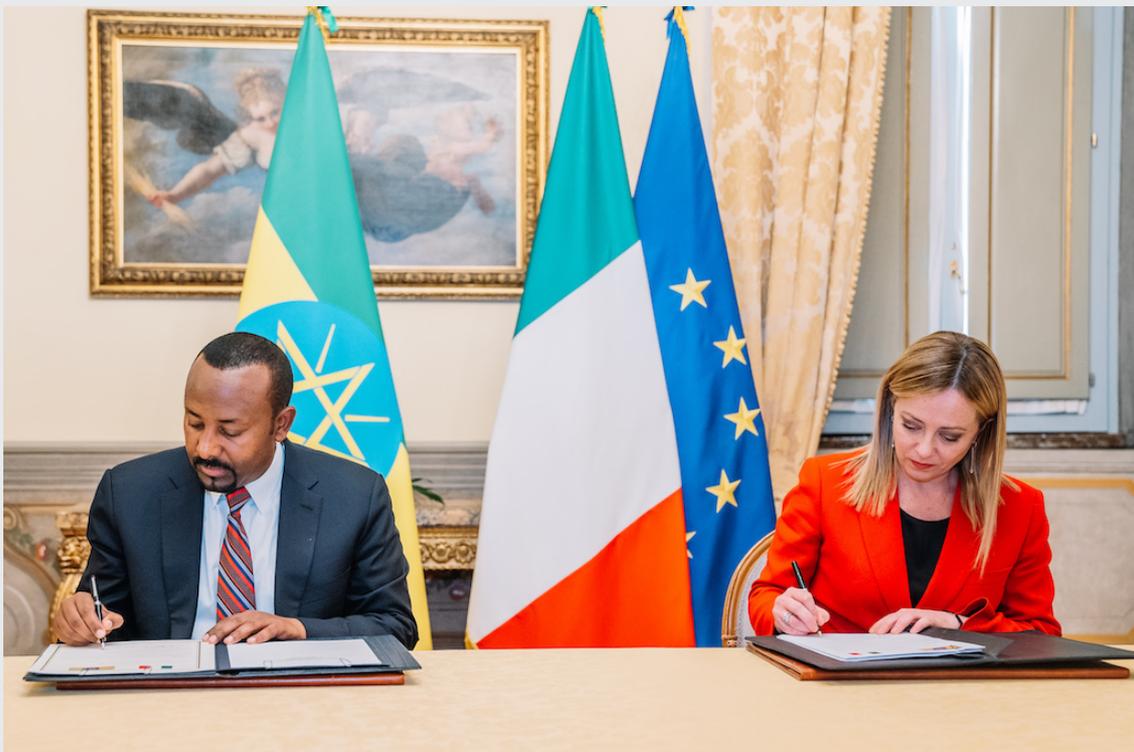
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On February 6<sup>th</sup> 2023, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and a delegation comprised of high-level government officials conducted a working visit to Europe from 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023 to 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 beginning the official visit in Rome, Italy.

Following his arrival in Rome, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed first conferred with President Sergio Mattarella and the two sides discussed continued relations between Ethiopia and Italy among other current global as well as regional issues.

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On the same day, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and his Italian counterpart Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni also signed the 'Ethiopian-Italian

Cooperation Framework 2023-2025 agreement which contains a financial commitment with a total outlay of 180 million Euros. The financial commitment of both soft loans and grants will be allocated towards key activities within the scope of economic development and job creation in the agriculture and industry spheres and basic services delivery like in the health and education. After the premiers concluded their engagement; they expressed renewed commitment in a joint press statement to strengthen partnerships.

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**Continuing** the trip as part of the Europe official working visit, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and First Lady Zinash Tayachew were warmly welcomed by Prime Minister of Malta, Robert Abela on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023. Moreover, the two leaders and their respective delegations held a bilateral meeting during which they thoroughly explored the relations between Ethiopia and Malta in order to enhance cooperation in the areas of trade, investment, tourism, maritime, logistics and security.

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Following the conclusion of the Malta leg of the Europe trip, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and his delegation arrived in Paris for a meeting with President Emanuel Macron of France on February 8<sup>th</sup> 2023. The two leaders held discussion on ways of strengthening bilateral relations between Ethiopia and France. They also discussed increased private sector investments in Ethiopia's strategic and priority sectors.

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**On February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed held a discussion on current affairs of the country with senior government officials.

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**On February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023** employees of the Office of the Prime Minister undertook a discussion on current issues.

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On February 12<sup>th</sup> 2023, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed visited Bale Zone in Oromia region to preside over the national wheat export launching program. Recall that Ethiopia has been planning to halt import of wheat and begin to export its own wheat production to the global market.

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On February 16<sup>th</sup> 2023, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed welcomed Guinea-Bissau's President Umaro Sissoco Embaló for a two-day official State Visit to Ethiopia.

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**On February 17<sup>th</sup> 2023**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed held a phone conversation with President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan sending a message of condolences to Türkiye over the loss of lives and destruction following the devastating earthquake.

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## **The 36<sup>th</sup> African Union Summit**

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Ethiopia has also successfully hosted the 36th Ordinary Session of the African Union (AU) Assembly and the 42<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council from February 16, 2023 to February 19, 2023 here in the capital Addis Ababa.

On the sidelines of the AU Summit, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed conferred with leaders of African countries and many officials from other continents and international organizations.

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**On February 18<sup>th</sup> 2023**, Prime Minister Abiy met with Rwandan President, Paul Kagame, President Felix Tshisekedi of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), President Hassan Sheikh Mohamed of Somalia and President Evariste Ndayishimiye of Burundi to discuss regional and bilateral issues of mutual interest.

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**On the same day**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed welcomed Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN), Antonio Guterres to Ethiopia. The two sides

conducted bilateral meeting on the margins of the AU Summit and discussed progress on the peace agreement and how to the UN further enhance its support to Ethiopia

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The Prime Minister also met with the President of the Islamic Development Bank, Dr. Muhammad Al Jasser. The two sides discussed ways of exploring support for the new momentum of Ethiopian development in various areas.

Similarly, the Prime Minister also held a bilateral meeting on the same day with U.S Assistant Secretary of State, Mary Catherine Phee on the margins of the AU Summit where they discussed progress made on implementation of the Peace Agreement.

**On this same day**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed met the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Director-General, QU Dongyu on the sidelines of the AU Summit. During the discussion, Ethiopia was described as the country which is making key progress in agricultural productivity that the world is noticing.

He also met the State Minister of Qatar, Sultan Bin saad Al-Murairhakhi and discussed bilateral relations between Ethiopia and Qatar.

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**On February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023** Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and Djibouti President Ismaïl Omar Guelleh inaugurated and opened the new Djibouti Embassy built in Addis Ababa. The ceremony brought together ambassadors and diplomats, including IGAD Executive Secretary, Dr. Workneh Gebeyehu.



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**Later that morning**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed attended the Pan-Africanism Forum, prepared by the African Leadership Excellence Academy. In his keynote address to the forum, the Prime Minister stressed the need for Pan-Africanism to flourish as an idea of cooperative integration, global competitiveness and peaceful coexistence.

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Continuing a series of bilaterals on the margins of the AU Summit, the Prime Minister met with Charles Michel, President of the European Council during which the two discussed progress made by the Government of Ethiopia on the peace agreement signed in Pretoria, South Africa in November 2022 between the Federal Government and the TPLF. They also discussed development endeavors and the relations between Ethiopia and the European Union (EU).

The Premier also met with the President of Tanzania, the Vice President of Libyan Presidential Council as well as the State Minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

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**On February 20<sup>th</sup> 2023**, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed received Vice President Maj Aupo Jessia Rose Epel of Uganda, exchanging views on regional and bilateral issues of mutual interest.

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On February 21<sup>st</sup> 2023, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed inaugurated the newly built sports venue in the area of Sar Bet in Ledeta sub-city, Addis Ababa. The sports venue aims to develop future sportspersons and to create and see a well-developed generation in various areas.

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On February 27<sup>th</sup> 2023, the Premier presided over the 17th ordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers during which decisions were endorsed on issues related to the education sector.

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On February 28<sup>th</sup> 2023, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed awarded high school students who recently earned high scores in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade national exams.

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## Quote of the Month

*“Until Africa tells her own stories, her image will remain distorted – a distortion that affects not just, how others view us but also how we view ourselves. We owe it to ourselves and to our children that Africa’s truths need to be told as they are, untainted with external interests and biases.”*

**– Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed**

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