Experience of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia In Diaspora Engagement in Investment, Trade, skill and Technology Transfer

Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ethiopian Diaspora Affairs Directorate General

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Introduction

➢ In Ethiopia the issue of engaging Diaspora is a recent phenomena, with a lifespan of about a decade.
➢ It was undertaken institutionally in 2002.
➢ The issue was undertaken with a small Research Unit under the then Directorate General of Press, Information and Documentation to respond to requests emerging from Ethiopian Diaspora.
➢ Shortly after, Unit was raised to a status of General Directorate and consequently Diaspora offices were opened both at regional and focal unit at Federal levels and two city administrations.
Responsibilities of the Directorate General

- Implementing and Following the Ethiopian Diaspora Policy.
- Serving as a liaison between Federal, Regional Diaspora offices and Ethiopian Diaspora.
- Handling requests of Ethiopian Diaspora.
- Disseminating information to Diaspora through Ethiopia Diaspora website and different media outlets.
continued...

- Encouraging Diaspora to play active role in the socio-economic activities of Ethiopia;
- Mobilizing the Ethiopian community abroad for a sustained image building in line with the government policies and strategies.
- Following up the implementation of various privileges given to Diaspora.
- Working jointly with Federal and Regional Diaspora offices and providing them the necessary feedback.
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- Establishing close working relationship with the Diaspora on issues of national interest.

- Coordinating Diaspora through Ethiopian missions abroad in Participating Investment, Trade, Tourism, Remittance as well as knowledge and technology transfer.
continued...

- Supporting the Ethiopian missions in the implementation of the Diaspora policy abroad.
- Establish working relationship with returnee Diaspora and rendering assistance to their engagement at home as per the law of the land.
- Coordinating efforts of Ethiopian missions abroad to encourage Diaspora in forming associations like community, Development, Professional, alumni, etc.
continued...

- Collecting and maintaining data's of Diaspora and disseminate it to the relevant bodies.

- Identifying, organizing, collecting and disseminating information it to the Diaspora.
continued...

- Coordinating, Supporting and following up services rendered to Diaspora at home and abroad.

- Organizing meetings on issues related to Diaspora engagement at home and abroad in collaboration with stake holders.
Measures taken by the Ethiopian Government to encourage Diaspora Engagement in investment, trade, knowledge, skill and technology transfer.

- Ethiopian Government formulated Diaspora policy with the participation of Diaspora.

- Provided them incentives.
continued...

- Encouraged the Diaspora to invest in any investment opportunities.

- Facilitate and prepare project proposals to encourage and involve the Diaspora individually or in collaborations to invest in their areas of focus and investment priorities.
continued...

- Provided the Diaspora to serve in governmental institutions with their profession and experiences in temporary or permanent basis.

- Rendered incentives for professional Diaspora who want to serve their country.
continued...

- Provide and facilitate internship programs in governmental institutions for young Diaspora students attending their higher education overseas.
- Encouraged Professionals who have skills interest to work on research and consultancy that the government gives priorities.
- Crafted mechanism that could build confidence on returnee Diaspora to come home with their entire capital and property.
Major Achievements

- Diaspora participation in Investment, trade, technology and knowledge transfer increased.
- An issue of Diaspora become an important theme of public discourse.
- Diaspora participation on Image buliding increased from time to time.
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- Medical instruments were granted to different hospitals.

- Diasporas are teaching in different files at different Universities.

- Different groups of medical doctors from Diaspora gave medical services to local in different Hospitals they also gave training and shared their experiences to Ethiopian physicians.
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- The Inflow of remittance increased from time to time.

- Opening foreign currency account by Diaspora opened increasing at an alarming rate.

- Ethiopian Diaspora have also expressed their backing for the successful completion of the Ethiopian Great Renaissance Dam.
Thank you