

39th Anniversary of TPLF Marked in London

24th February 2014

Members and of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) celebrated the 39th anniversary of the founding of the organization on Saturday 22nd February, with a great sense of accomplishment remembering the long and arduous journey that led to the birth of a new democratic Ethiopia.

Fighting shoulder to shoulder with other democratic forces, TPLF paved the way for the establishment of a federal democratic Ethiopia on the basis of the constitution, which guarantees the equality and sovereignty of all of Ethiopia's nations, nationalities and peoples.

The new order, characterised by the opportunities it opened up for citizens and the sense of ownership and empowerment, has registered speedy economic development that has lifted millions out of poverty both in rural and urban areas.

Addressing the gathering, Ethiopian Ambassador to the UK, H.E. Berhanu Kebede, paid tribute to the freedom fighters who paid the ultimate sacrifice to see the emancipation of the people become a reality. He said Ethiopia would continue to achieve the goals of the Growth and Transformation Plan - part of the vision of the Late Prime Minister Meles Zenawi - which set in motion the highly coveted Ethiopian Renaissance.

He said massive projects in the energy, road and rail network, telecommunications, education, health and infrastructure sectors, are the hallmarks of development in present day Ethiopia.

As part of the governing coalition, the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), TPLF should further strengthen its role in deepening democracy and good governance and the economic transformation currently underway in the country.

He called on members and supporters to remain seized of the huge task at hand, the battle against poverty and the realization of a viable and prosperous Ethiopia where equality and justice reign.

In a statement, TPLF urged members and supporters to renew their commitment to the successful implementation of the Government development plan to achieve yet more gains in all spheres of endeavour.

The organization underlined its determination to carry forward the legacy of Ethiopia's truly visionary former leader Meles Zenawi, and vowed to speed up the peace, democracy and development plan from which the people can savour further social, political and economic benefits.

In a message of solidarity on behalf of community and development associations, Mr Nur Hussein, lauded the sacrifices made and the achievements gained by heroes and heroines during the armed struggle and called on compatriots to further enhance equality, democracy and development.

Mr Hussein, who is the Chairman of the Ethiopian Somali Diaspora Forum, noted that Ethiopia has recently been referred to as “the power hub of Africa”, in recognition of the national transformation plan, which has brought tangible changes in the economic status of the country whose economy has been growing in double digits in past years.

A minute of silence was observed in memory of fallen compatriots, candles lit and a musical show was staged as part of the anniversary celebrations.

---ENDS---

For further information, please contact the Press Office on 020 7838 3883/0;
info@ethioembassy.org.uk

Video report can be found on the following link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fzUijbhHJ6g>