



International Conference
ON
PROSPECTS FOR A HORN OF AFRICA CONFEDERATION
“Integrating our Common Future”



presented by

**The Institute on Black Life, The Center for Africa and the Diaspora,
and The Office of International Affairs
at
The University of South Florida
and
The U. S. Africa Education Foundation**

NOVEMBER 14 - 15, 2002

**EMBASSY SUITES TAMPA
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Hillsborough County Florida

We would like to express our appreciation to the Board of the County Commissioners for their support. Mr. Spencer Albert of the Department of Economic Development also deserves our thanks for all his assistance.

Overview of the Horn of Africa

Situated in lofty and often inaccessible mountains to the north, and extending far into the Gulf of Aden to the east, and the Indian Ocean to the southeast, Kenya to the south and the Sudan to the west, the countries that make up the Horn of Africa roughly occupy 1.88 million sq. km. Principally four countries, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Somalia, make up the Horn of Africa and have a total population of 75 million, which is estimated to reach 144 million in 25 years.

The Horn of Africa is known for its rich history and culture recognized in the Bible, the Quoran and ancient writings including those of the Pharonic, and the Greco-Roman empires. This region owed its importance in ancient times to the fact that it was the source of the mighty Nile and lay beside one of the world's most important international trade routes which linked through the Red Sea, the Mediterranean, and hence the West with Arabia, India, China, and the Far East. The ancient Egyptians who provide our first important testimony on the region knew the area on both counts. The Ethiopian highlands they realized were the source of the Nile, to whose water and silt Egypt owed its very existence. At the Same time the low and arid country towards the coast, perhaps stretching from the Red Sea coasts of Eritrea, through the rift valley depressions of Ethiopia, down to the Indian Ocean coasts of Somalia, constituted the core of the land of Punt, a term coined by the ancient Egyptians, whence the Pharaohs obtained articles of immense value for their devotions and life. On this account, they spoke of the region as "God's land." Trade between the Horn of Africa region and the countries of Arabia and Asia also flourished in ancient times with such exports as raw materials, ivory, myrrh, incense, and spices and imports of cloth, swords, and cinnamon (Pankhrust).

The Horn of Africa is endowed with rich natural resources including agriculture, water, and energy. It is well known that for example, 85% of the river Nile that sustains Egypt originates from Ethiopia. It is a region that has ports on the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean. If developed, its substantial agricultural and water resources could make the region a breadbasket for the benefit of its people as well as the international community.

Being adjacent to the Red Sea, the Horn of Africa is located along one of the most crucial sea lanes for international trade. Its proximity to the oil producing nations of the Arabian peninsula as well as its hosting the headquarters of the African Union, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and several other indigenous and international non governmental organizations renders the Horn of Africa extremely important in terms of geo-political considerations on the international level.

Due to various reasons including devastating conflicts, recurring droughts and a high incidence of HIV-AIDS, the region is currently suffering from serious underdevelopment. High levels of poverty, rampant diseases and frequent bouts of starvation currently characterize the Horn of Africa. Sustained peace and stability accompanied by an accelerated economic development in the Horn of Africa would certainly raise the standard of living of the people in the region as well as benefit the international community in terms of trade and global security.

Conference Objectives

- ◆ To develop the modalities for sustainable economic development;
- ◆ To articulate a new vision of alternative modalities of cooperation and collaboration to effect a Horn of Africa Confederation (Economic, Social, Political);
- ◆ To identify the advantages of a confederation for the Horn of Africa countries (initially Somalia, Djibouti, Ethiopia and Eritrea), focusing on the achievement of peace, stability, accelerated economic development, and democracy; and
- ◆ To initiate sustainable momentum and to define next steps for the establishment of the confederation.

Thursday, November 14, 2002

9:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.	PLENARY SESSION
<u>Salon E</u>	<p><u>Greetings:</u> <i>Dr. O. Geoffrey Okogbaa</i>, Director, Institute on Black Life, USF</p> <p><u>Opening Remarks:</u> <i>Dr. JoAnn McCarthy</i>, Dean, Office of International Affairs, USF</p> <p><u>Welcome:</u> <i>Dr. S. David Stamps</i>, Provost, USF</p> <p><u>Occasion:</u> <i>Fassil Gabremariam</i>, President, U.S. Africa Foundation</p> <p><u>Special Presentation:</u> <i>Tsegaye Gabre-Medhin</i>, Poet Laureate</p> <p><u>Plenary Address:</u> <i>Zachary Teich</i>, Deputy Director, Office of Eastern Africa Affairs U.S. State Department</p> <p><u>Keynote Address:</u> His Excellency <i>Dr. Kenneth Kaunda</i>, Former President of the Republic of Zambia (1964 - 1991)</p>
10:30 A.M. - 10:45 A.M.	BREAK
10:45 A.M. - 12:45 P.M.	THREE CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS
	<u>WORKSHOP 1: POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES</u>
<u>Salon E</u>	<p><u>Co-Chairs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Earl Conteh-Morgan</i>, Professor, University of South Florida - <i>Walter S. Clarke</i>, Independent Consultant, Strategic & Multidisciplinary Planning <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Dr. Daniel Kendie</i>, Henderson University - <i>Tseggai Isaac</i>, Ph.D., University of Missouri- Rolla - <i>Dr. Abdi Kusow</i>, Oakland University - <i>Dr. Festus Ohaegbulam</i>, University of South Florida - Rapporteur
	<u>WORKSHOP 2: ECONOMIC ISSUES</u>
<u>Magnolia Room</u>	<p><u>Chair:</u> <i>Dr. Assefa Mehretu</i>, Michigan State University</p> <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Dr. Sisay Asefa</i>, Western Michigan University - <i>Michael Wales</i>, FOOD & Agriculture Organization (FAO) - <i>Juliet Elu</i>, Ph.D., Spelman College - Rapporteur
	<u>WORKSHOP 3: HEALTH ISSUES</u>
<u>Citrus Room</u>	<p><u>Chair:</u> <i>Dr. Ahmed Moen</i>, Howard University</p> <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Dr. Mohamed A. Jama & Dr. Abdulahi Mohamed</i>, World Health Organization (WHO) - <i>Dr. Paul Zeitz</i>, Hope for African Children - <i>Dr. Clement Gwede</i>, Moffit H. Lee Cancer Center & Research Institute - Rapporteur
12:45 P.M. - 01:55 P.M.	LUNCH
	<p><u>Keynote Address:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Dr. Ayele Negussay</i>, University of California, Los-Angeles (UCLA)

02:00 P.M. - 04:30 P.M.		WORKSHOPS CONTINUED
<u>Salon E</u>	<u>WORKSHOP 1: POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Dr. Mesfin Araya</i>, City University of New York (CUNY) - <i>Ms. Ebyan Salah</i>, Som-Cam Institute for Research & Development - <i>Ephraim Isaac</i>, Ph.D., D.H.L. (Honorary), Princeton University 	
<u>Magnolia Room</u>	<u>WORKSHOP 2: ECONOMIC ISSUES</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Brian Chigawa</i>, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) - <i>Tegegnework Gettu</i>, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) - <i>Inger Andersen</i>, World Bank (WB) 	
<u>Citrus Room</u>	<u>WORKSHOP 3: HEALTH ISSUES</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Dr. Kopano Mukelabai</i>, (UNICEF) - <i>Eknath Naik</i>, M.D., Ph.D., MSPH, University of South Florida (USF) 	
<u>Thursday, November 14, 2002</u>		
05:00 P.M. - 06:50 P.M.		<u>Business Forum</u>
<u>Salon E</u>	<u>Greetings:</u>	<i>Dr. O. Geoffrey Okogbaa</i> , Director, Institute on Black Life
	<u>Opening Remarks:</u>	<i>Dr. JoAnn McCarthy</i> , Dean, Office of International Affairs
	<u>Welcome:</u>	<i>Dr. Judy Genshaft</i> , President, University of South Florida (USF)
	<u>Plenary Address:</u>	His Excellence, <i>Dr. Kenneth Kaunda</i> , Former President of the Republic of Zambia (1964- 1991)
	<u>Chair:</u>	<i>Fassil Gabremariam</i> , President, U.S. Africa Foundation
	<u>Speakers:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Sam Smoots</i>, Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) ➤ <i>Brian Chigawa</i>, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) ➤ <i>Bryant Salter</i>, Enterprise Florida ➤ <i>Tegegnework Gettu</i>, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) ➤ <i>Inger Andersen</i>, World Bank (WB)
07:00 P.M. – 08:30 P.M.		Dinner

Friday, November 15

08:30 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PRESENTATION BY CHAIRPERSONS OF PRELIMINARY DRAFT REPORTS ➤ DISCUSSION
10:30 A.M. - 10:45 P.M.	BREAK
10:45 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.	THREE CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS
<u>Salon E</u>	<u>WORKSHOP 1: POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES</u>
	Discussions
<u>Magnolia Room</u>	<u>WORKSHOP 2: ECONOMIC ISSUES</u>
	Discussions
<u>Citrus Room</u>	<u>WORKSHOP 3: HEALTH ISSUES</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Dr. Elizabeth Onjoro</i>, President Advisory Council for HIV/AIDS (PACHA) - Discussions
12:00 P.M. - 02:00 P.M.	LUNCH
03:00 P.M. - 04:30 P.M.	PLENARY GENERAL CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS AND REMAINING ISSUES
<u>Salon E</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Kidane Alemayehu</i>, United-Nations (Retired) ➤ <i>Dr. O. Geoffrey Okogbaa</i>, Director, Institute on Black Life, USF ➤ <i>Dr. JoAnn McCarthy</i>, Dean, Office of International Affairs, USF



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Political and Social Issues



Mesfin Araya
York College, City University of New York

Problems and Prospects for a Horn of Africa Confederation

There are indeed strong cultural, economic, and political reasons to treat the Horn of Africa as a single region; not only does it have intra-regional cultural ties, particularly in the border areas, but also major common problems-ranging from drought, recurrent famine, environmental degradation, poverty, disease to political instability: major problems whose solutions require collective concerted efforts. The need for, and significance of, a confederation, therefore, could not be argued more. The hard question is -when and how?

Focusing on the nature of the state and the role it has assumed in the region, this study tries to highlight the formidable problem that any attempt at a socially meaningful confederation is bound to confront; it strongly underlines the fundamental need to treat a confederation project as primarily a process that must be cultivated from below rather than as a thing that could easily be manipulated from above; the study concludes by outlining some suggestions that may improve the prospects.

The historical tragedy in the Horn is that there is no social group solidly anchored in the productive process to entertain- largely driven by class interest- a broader, regional, vision; nor sadly enough is there an individual political figure that could command moral and intellectual authority. On the contrary, what we have is a social condition where the state has become highly prized, as it is the major instrument of private capital accumulation; politics, in other words, has become, above and beyond everything else, the primary social activity- a condition necessarily generating social tensions, factionalism, authoritarianism, and recurrent violence. It is not a mere accident, or coincidence that the countries in the Horn of Africa are violently torn apart from within and from each other. The notion of statesmanship, visionary leadership, has been reduced to the politics of fiefdom, to the politics of the belly. Apparently, unmanageable crisis of governance has prevailed; this problem of the state and the role it has assumed may be a post-colonial African phenomenon, but it is extremely manifested in the Horn with all its distractive social ramifications. As long as the politics of private fiefdom is widely entertained as the highest political virtue, let alone a confederation even the survival of the countries as nation-states may be doubtful.

For peace, social development, and sustainable confederation to reign, a profound change of the nature and role of the state in the region is a vital precondition. The study explores three closely-related building- blocks that may improve the prospects : (1) Democratization of the region: Authoritarian political culture could not sustain a confederation , the 1998-2000 Ethio-Eritrean war ought to be instructive; (2) Fostering coordination and institutional linkages of intra-regional civil society activities- the purpose being to cultivate a new regional political culture of diversity and tolerance- a critical missing link in the Horn; (3) Expanding and strengthening intra-regional trade-there is, indeed, a de-facto regional economic community represented by the long-standing "Unofficial", "illegal", intra-regional trade that has thrived in peace as well as in war; appropriate mechanisms to strengthen this tradition need to be explored. Expanded resources and market opportunities may, in the long run, help produce more economic and less political animals- a necessary foundation for a sustainable confederation.

Ephraim Isaac, Ph.D., D.H.L. (Hon.)
Princeton University



Tsegai Isaac, Ph.D.
University of Missouri-Rolla

Confederate Communities: A Step at a Time

The creation of confederate communities for the promotion of peace and stability has a long tradition in the scholarship of states. Scholars of integration theory long prophesized that nation-states would opt for common bond when and if they were provided with the requisite tools that would bring them together. What is needed, they argued, is the adoption of effective measures that would highlight issues of commonality while erasing causes for conflict. The introduction of a confederate system offers a good first step to community integration.

When integration theory was first introduced, its ardent advocates foretold of the possibilities of the nation-state's transformation into a "security community." A security-community in this case was defined as "one in which there is real assurance that the members of that community will not fight each other physically, but will settle their disputes in some other way. If the entire world were integrated as a security-community, wars would be automatically eliminated" (Deutsche, Karl W. 1957). A security community would evolve into an integrated community with little interest in war and much given to tranquility and peace. Borderlines would be erased, and the nation-state would evolve into an idyllic amalgam of integrated citizens who have foresworn their nationalist idiosyncrasies for a community of political brotherhood.

The idea of "community" was part of the conceptual lexicons that constituted integration theory. Advocates of the theory invoked the concept of confederation as the preliminary step towards integration. To that effect, when Deutsche and his colleagues spearheaded the theory, they made a modest prediction. They stated that some regions would make headway in eliminating conditions for war by creating confederate features that would engage citizens, economic factors, and social organizations into mutually supportive trans-border establishments. Time has proven them right, and the robustness of their theory can be found in the integration of Western Europe through the Euro, in the disintegration of the Eastern Bloc, and in the onset of democratic rules in the former members of the Warsaw Pact. However, the theory of community security does have some weaknesses. Its application in Third World settings reveals that political integration without the requisite tools for economic integration is meaningless. It may even foster suspicion among members leading to the escalation of conflict. This paper will spell out the preliminary steps needed for the onset of a full-blown confederate system in the Horn of Africa. The prospects of widening its scope into neighboring states will be discussed in details.



Daniel D. Kendie, Ph.D
Henderson University

Problems and Prospects for a Horn of Africa Confederation/Federation

“Men never tend to do evil so completely and cheerfully as when they do it from religious convictions.”
Pascal, Pansées

A confederation is an association of sovereign states, which surrender specific powers for particular purposes. All other powers are retained by the original states, which otherwise enjoy relative independence. Members cooperate in matters of defence and foreign affairs. The forum for solving conflicts by peaceful means can be provided. Members also enjoy the advantages of free trade and economic cooperation in a wider area. Confederation is therefore a step towards a higher level of political and economic integration, including federation. The four neighbouring countries of the Horn of Africa - Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia – have close historical, cultural, strategic, economic and political relations. Although they operate as four separate states, they are, in many ways, interdependent and complementary. In so far as Ethiopia is the natural hinterland of Djibouti, Eritrea, and Somalia, the three states in turn are Ethiopia's natural outlets to the sea. The history of the Horn of Africa, without doubt, has been characterized by destructive conflicts. Although different interpretations have been provided to the conflicts in the past, they have been driven by economic and strategic interests, by competition to control scarce resources, and by super-power rivalry to dominate the sub-region. Islamic fundamentalism should now be included as the new threat to the peace and security of the Horn. Given intelligent leadership, these countries have the potential to move from interdependence to integration. While the idea of confederation is commendable, the problem is that the objective and subjective conditions are not ripe for it, but for change of regimes. Ethiopia does not have a government worthy of its name. The Ethiopian people are anxiously waiting for the removal of the anachronistic regime and its replacement by a regime that is driven by Pan-Ethiopian nationalism, and that is inclusive and democratic. Somalia does not even exist as a state. Djibouti has to grapple with Afar and Issa rivalry, and everybody is running away from the regime in Asmara. Moreover, these states are at logger-heads with one another. What kind of confederation does one make of this state of affairs? There is also the question of normalization of state relations, which by itself would be no small a task. This paper suggests the building of the common infrastructure to facilitate communications and trade between these countries, so that on a case-by-case basis cooperative agreements can be negotiated. This is so because what is appropriate, let us say, for Eritrea and Ethiopia would not necessarily be appropriate for Somalia and Ethiopia. Should Ethiopia and Eritrea establish a common market? Should Djibouti and Ethiopia go for a customs union? How feasible is a free trade area for Somalia and Ethiopia in which quotas, tariff barriers and discriminatory taxes would be removed? In this respect, the establishment of an Institute for Horn of Africa Studies that can conduct research on these and on a variety of other issues would be highly commendable. Even some measure of development cooperation can create possibilities for political accommodation, and once the benefits of cooperation, however limited, are demonstrated, they can have multiplier effects. The envisaged cooperation can assuage internal frictions, minimize external interference, especially that of Islamic fundamentalism in the affairs of the sub-region, and create propitious conditions to help address the various questions of the sub-region, including the overlapping problems of nomadism and incessant drought. It will also facilitate the wide-spread mobilization of resources for growth and development.

Ms. Ebyan Ladane Salah

Som-Can Institute for Research and Development (SOMCAN)



Horn of Africa Women: “Rebuilding A Future Together”

Women’s empowerment and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society including participation in the decision-making process and access to power are fundamental for the achievement of equality, development and peace.

Beijing Declaration (Para 13) (United Nations, 1996).

The world is experiencing a period of profound and rapid change. Borders are shifting, communication gaps are shrinking, and new roles are being defined for Governments, institutions and individuals. In this process, in general, women’s contributions might not be visible, but women are driving forces - and sometimes the leaders - in these changes (Somcan 1999:39).

The International communities have been slow coming (to say the least), and precious time has been wasted already over the last decade or so to prevent and support peace and security in the Horn of Africa. Those who remain skeptical have lot of justification to feel that way. Now, after the September 11, 2000, the world is talking and saying that a dialogue about Confederation of Horn of Africa is desirable, indeed essential. But, is the Horn of Africa region ready for this challenge?

This paper examines the concept of Human Security “Women, Peace and Security” in the context of the Horn of Africa regions, mainly Ethiopia, Somalia, Eritrea and Djibouti. This paper aims to provide a common base for debate and analysis at the challenges and opportunities for women in the Horn of Africa on this new agenda of (Confederation).

At the end, I will draw some important points that Diaspora community from the region and the international community would do to help the situation?

I conclude with a summary of the issues mentioned above and pose questions for considerations and concrete recommendations, to assist in setting the course of future actions.



Dr. Abdi Kusow
Oakland University

Social Inequalities and Political Confederation in the Horn of Africa: A Sociological Analysis

Economic Issues

Inger Andersen

Sector Manager

Water and Urban Division, Macro-Economic Department, Poverty Reduction Management
World Bank (WB)



Sisay Asefa

Western Michigan University

Challenges to Economic Integration and Development in the Horn of Africa: Implications for Ethiopia*

The purpose of this paper is to review some concepts and policy issues related to the challenges and opportunities for economic integration and development in the Horn of Africa with a focus on Ethiopia. The central thesis of the paper is that Ethiopia and the other states of the Horn need to overcome *internal structural challenges* to economic development, and integration, and stability in order to have any chance to bring about successful economic integration that may be of mutual benefit to the peoples of the Region.

The paper pursues this objective by reviewing some basic concepts of economic development, integration and globalization including some of the challenges to economic development and integration in contemporary Ethiopia. With some 60 million people, which constitute about 83 percent of the Region's population, Ethiopia is the largest state in the Horn. It is also one of the most populated states in the Africa, and it is home to all the other peoples of the Horn. Thus, any proposed confederation must be based on a significant internal political and economic reform aimed at strengthening Ethiopia to serve as a role model for the Horn. A democratic system of governance at individual state level is a pre-requisite for sustainable economic integration in the Horn of Africa.

Specifically, a democratically re-constituted and strengthened Ethiopia is especially crucial for a viable and stable confederation of the Horn. Ethiopia may have to play a similar role as Nigeria in Economic Organization of West African States (ECOWAS), if the proposed Horn Confederation is to have viability that may lead to stable economic integration for the benefit all the peoples of the Horn. A weak Ethiopia is likely to lead to a massive instability and violence in the Region. The paper will focus on the challenges and prospects of integration in Horn of Africa, with the role and implications for the economy of Ethiopia in that process. The paper is tentatively organized into the following sections:

- ◆ *Introduction*
- ◆ *Economic Integration and Globalization concepts*
- ◆ *Multinational Agreements & Institutions*
- ◆ *Regional Integration Experiences in Africa*
- ◆ *Recent & Emerging Regional Agreements & Institutions in Africa*
- ◆ *Ethiopia's Trade with the Horn & the Rest of Africa*
- ◆ *Challenges & Prospects for Economic Integration in the Horn of Africa: The Role of Ethiopia*
- ◆ *Conclusion and Policy Implications*

Brian Chigawa

Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)



COMESA IN BRIEF

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) is a regional integration grouping of twenty (20) African states which have agreed to promote regional integration through trade development and to develop their natural and human resources for the mutual benefit of all their peoples.

The Member States of COMESA are Angola, Burundi, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

COMESA was established in 1994 as a successor to the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA), which had been in existence since 1981 within the framework of the Organisation of African Unity's (OAU) Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos. PTA was established to take advantage of a larger market size, to share the region's common heritage and destiny and to allow greater social and economic co-operation, with the ultimate objective being to create an economic community with high standards of living for its people. Currently, COMESA is one of the regional organisations that the African Union and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) recognise as a vehicle and a building block for Africa's development, especially from the point of view of developing the continent's infrastructure.



Juliet Elu, Ph.D.
Spelman College

Education, Gender, And Growth In Sub-Saharan Africa

In the economic literature, investment in education and human capital has always been perceived as a mechanism in which to enhance productivity, promote growth, and alleviate poverty. As the universal campaign of how to deal with global poverty particularly sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) continues to frustrate policy makers, the recognition of how to effectively integrate gender issues into development theory has been revisited by bilateral and multilateral agencies. The acknowledgment between education and poverty relief in the rural sectors of SSA has consistently been emphasized. For example, studies conducted by World Bank in 1994, suggested that return on investment in human capital is higher for women than it is for men in developing countries, particularly in the area of primary education.

The previous studies on the rate of return on education have focused on the macro measurement which is basically the GDP growth rate, however, the invaluable contribution of women is so large that any reasonable valuation would lead to a fundamental change in the premises on which today's economic, social and political structures are found. The micro labor market estimates the monetary return to schooling in terms of cost-benefit analysis. Gender based-asset inequality especially in the area of access to secondary education continues to hinder SSA and other developing countries and has served as an impediment to growth and poverty reduction. The intent of my discussion and paper is to measure the micro variables and the rate of return on education in the labor market for women in SSA which has not been adequately addressed. Social, economic, and political harmony can be achieved in Africa if gender issues are effectively integrated into the development paradigm.



Tegegnework Gettu
United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

Economic Trends in the Horn of Africa

- Look into what led to the decline of the economy of the Horn in the past decades; why development management stumbled;
- The general trends and the way forward
- The need for economic integration, conditions for region wide economic integration such as elimination of conflict, growth triangle, promotion of social cohesion, responsive institutions, improving the governance system etc. and areas of UNDP's possible assistance to facilitate this effort.

In economic we cannot talk of economic confederation as political confederation but of economic integration to facilitate political confederation or a kind of political unity that brings or leads to peace and prosperity.



Assefa Mehretu
Michigan State University



A Geographic Appraisal for Regional Integration in the Horn of Africa: A Vision toward a more Enlightened Mode of Cooperation for Peace and Development.

The purpose of this paper is first to argue for a more constructive and progressive discourse on the cultural, political and economic relations in the horn, and second to point out the various geographic complementarities for development that would be realized with regional integration in the region. It is also argued that the second objective can only be realized if the first problem is successfully addressed. The current discourse on cultural, political economic relations in the region, which began to form over four decades ago, was centered on more narrow and uninspired application of postmodernist notions of difference and identity whose eventual resolution produced clan-based fission and conflict throughout the region. Because of its lack of principled positions and expedient distortions of history, exaggerated stereotypes, this position is characterized as *divisionary revisionist*. *Divisionary revisionism* was a discourse of choice by the radical elements ranging between the pseudo-left on the one hand and the ethnic fundamentalists on the other. Without any credible challenge, *divisionary revisionism* succeeded in destroying the social and cultural capital of the peoples of the region and squandered the vital economic resources in decades of internecine conflicts it engendered. Opposed to this is the position of *progressive deconstructionist*, which while it subscribes to a more enlightened use of postmodernist ideas of difference and identify, it would avoid political and economic paralysis that would result from zero-sum tugs of war between particularized, balkanized and impoverished entities. The appeal of *progressive deconstructionism* is its intellectual defense of postmodernist deconstructionist logic for redress of social injustices of the past and construct egalitarian and democratic systems without recourse to parochialism and ethnic fragmentation..

The *progressive deconstructionist* approach would unleash forces of integration in the region and would enable the people to use their collective energies for their own progress and development. Recent histories of political centrifuge notwithstanding, the countries of the Horn possess numerous geographic complementarities that would produce significant dividends to all peoples of the Horn. The countries of the region share ethnic identities and cultures. The borders between these countries are colonial and do not represent homogenous ethnic or cultural closures. The people have had a long history of living together and are deeply familiar with each other's cultures and ethos. The physical characteristics such as climates, soils and rivers of the region are important factors of complementarities. Ethiopian highlands supply the lowlands of the surrounding countries with water and alluvial soils. The climatic and topographic variations offer opportunities for diverse agricultural and industrial development and exchange potentials. The three countries on the coast in the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean are the natural outlets for Ethiopia with potential in natural resource development of their own allowing for mutual benefits from the infrastructure of roads, rails, airlines and ports for regional as well as international exchange. The natural hinterland and the source of food security for all of the Horn and especially for the coastal regions is Ethiopia with its large population, vast agricultural resources, and extensive markets with opportunities for common-market based industrialization and product exchange. Ethiopia's and Eritrea's public and commercial institutions have been among the best developed in Africa although they have experienced decay in recent years. But the opportunity for resilience is evident especially with regional cooperation. Regional integration based on *progressive deconstruction* would render traditional forces of dismemberment irrelevant and antiquated.



Michael Wales
Food Agriculture Organization

Agriculture and Food Security Aspects

The Horn of Africa is one of the most food insecure regions in the world, with as many as 40 million people suffering chronic hunger. Over half the population survive on less than US\$1 per day. The principal causes of hunger, according to the work of a recent UN Secretary General's Task Force, are drought and conflict. There have been three or four major droughts in the last 30 years, and international and internal conflicts have blighted the region. Other causes are the narrow and fragile natural resource base, poor technology with few modern inputs and limited irrigation development, large and growing incidence of HIV/AIDS which debilitates rural areas, and a generally poor enabling environment including bad governance, dependence upon humanitarian assistance, poor infrastructure, weak markets, limited access to credit and rural financial services, and few social services, especially health and education.

Efforts to enhance food security in the region need to start at the national level and there are many avenues for development that remain to be explored. Regional collaboration in many different forms can strengthen development initiatives, and this is one of the cornerstones of NEPAD. The potential benefits of regional collaboration have so far eluded the intergovernmental organisation IGAD. Confederation in the region might be one way of realising such benefits, but it is not clear whether it is the only route. By far the most important benefit of better collaboration in the region would be peace and security that would allow ordinary farmers to pursue their livelihoods uninterrupted. It could also contribute to agricultural development and enhanced food security through promoting trade, better control of trans-boundary human and animal diseases and crop pests, financial market integration, resolution of international water rights to enable irrigation development, regional infrastructure development especially roads and telecommunications, and more efficient technical collaboration on research and early warning systems.



Health Issues



Dr Mohamed A. Jama
Deputy Regional Director, EMRO

Dr Abdullahi M. Ahmed
Coordinator, WHO, Horn of Africa Initiative



WHO's Strategic Approach to Health Co-operation in the Horn of Africa

The Horn of Africa countries (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia) face common crises and vulnerabilities, including drought, floods, environmental degradation, armed conflicts, acute food shortages, mass displacements, and poor access to health services for vast numbers of people, especially communities living along the borders, refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and pastoralists.

The four countries have an estimated population of 75 million, expected to reach over 100 million by 2010, and are among the poorest countries in the world. The major causes of morbidity and mortality are those related to nutritional deficiencies and communicable diseases. Among the communicable diseases that contribute to health burden and high mortality in the sub-region are HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. The sub-region also has two of the last ten countries in the world where poliovirus is still circulating. Moreover, health services at border areas and health information system are weak.

The paper will highlight WHO approach in dealing with the Horn Region as one epidemiological block and summarizes recent activities. In 1996 and 1998, WHO organized two Public Health Conferences for the Horn of Africa attended by the Ministers of Health and program managers for communicable disease control. In 1998, the Ministers of Health signed a protocol of cooperation on communicable disease control and polio eradication focusing vulnerable populations, such as refugees, IDPs and pastoralists living in remote border areas.

The Ministers requested WHO to facilitate the implementation of the recommendations of the protocol of cooperation. On that basis, WHO established the HOA Initiative to foster health collaboration among the countries with the following strategies:

- Strengthening health services at border districts
- Polio eradication and surveillance and control of communicable diseases at cross border areas
- Strengthening of communication network of border districts and exchange of information on epidemics
- Promotion of health activities as bridge for peace

The paper will summarize ongoing cooperation activities between the countries in HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria control, as well as in polio eradication. It will also discuss attempts made in promoting joint meetings and health activities aimed at confidence building and bridge for peace. The WHO approach proved to be an innovative initiative that involves other UN partners and NGOs and it can be an umbrella for further strengthening of health cooperation in the Region. Lastly, it will present opportunities and challenges for future cooperation in disease control, nutrition, family health and operational research.



Elizabeth A. Onjoro, Ph.D.
 Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA)

“HIV/AIDS as a Security Issue”.

Infection rates of the HIV/AIDS continue to increase in the developed and developing world alike. In September 2002, the National Intelligence Council (NIC) in its report, “The Next Wave of HIV/AIDS,” identified HIV/AIDS as a major future security issue. Considering estimates of the alarming increase in infection rates in China, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Russia and India, the NIC predicts that the most devastating effects of HIV are yet to come. This paper will look at the socioeconomic impact of HIV/AIDS on human survival in less developed nations, with a focus on Africa.

Ahmed A. Moen, DrPH, MPH, MHA
 Howard University



A Regional Paradigm For Control of Communicable and Infectious Diseases

The Horn of Africa includes the poorest and the most debt burdened region in Africa. The region is not only insulated from technological information and trade barriers, but also devastated by endemic violence, a failed state, drought and decadent health infrastructures. The development goals seem far out of reach of these countries because of the overwhelming poverty. In addition, the magnitude of disease burden set these region decades behind the rest of the world. This session is not meant to impose or propose superstructure structure as suggested by the title of the conference, but rather to explore workable paradigms for sustainable partnership for development. Each country is independent to set its own political and social goals and work to ensure that its own population has the sovereign rights to determine how to control and eradicate poverty and diseases. The missing link is what form of collaboration between independent partners works and how this mechanism will in the end control and eradicate poverty, communicable and water-borne disease diseases across in the region.

The discussants will attempt to explore common grounds for cooperation and collaboration. There is no ready-made panacea to solve complex social, cultural and political differences in one forum. The discussants, however, have the expertise, information and understanding of the socio-economic dynamics while seeking workable paradigms. The objective realities on the ground suggest that bridging differences is germane to sustainable health and development paradigm. In the final analysis, to combat the vicious cycle of poverty, violence and ill health will demand voluntary partnership and collective will of the development community to assist the region to seek workable solutions for its own problems. Sustainable development is an opportunity that must not be passed to make a difference in the quality of life of millions of poor peoples.

The consensus among the development community is to rid the Horn of Africa from diseases, famine, ignorance, conflicts and violence and promote an environment of sustainable health, peace and development. The questions are: What are the alternatives approaches to alleviate the vicious cycle of poverty and diseases in the Horn of Africa? How do we deal with the triple evils of violence, disease and poverty cannot be separated from colonial legacies and intrinsic identity crisis surrounding the newly emerging states in Africa? What are the democratic mechanisms to trigger interdependent arrangements for countries at various levels of political and socio-economic stages? Are the common historical, cultural, religious and political denominators valid entry point to influence voluntary partnership under diverse political arrangements?

Dr. Kopano Mukelabai,
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)



The Global Roll Back Malaria Initiative; Its impact on malaria prevention and control in countries in the Horn of Africa.

Malaria is endemic in countries in the Horn of Africa. These include Ethiopia, Somalia, Djibouti, Eritrea and Yemen. These countries are also often affected by malaria epidemics which result in increased mortality and morbidity in both children and adults. The situation of malaria in these countries including its economic impact will be discussed; strategies to control malaria will be outlined. The paper will discuss in detail feasible and cost effective strategies and interventions to control and prevent malaria such as: the use of Insecticide Treated Nets (ITNs) including the new technology of Long Lasting Insecticide Treated Nets as part of vector control to prevent malaria; the prevention of malaria during pregnancy; improving early diagnosis and access to treatment including early referral; and improving epidemic preparedness and effective response to malaria epidemics including in complex emergencies. The paper will conclude with the need for improved partnerships; importance of early detection of malaria epidemics; creating the enabling environment to prevent malaria; better emergency preparedness to save lives; and the provision of adequate resources to prevent and control malaria. Local capacity building is critical to provide on going care and prevention of malaria, especially during emergencies and epidemics. RBM partners will be called upon to strengthen National Health Systems, improve resource allocation, and to integrate malaria control within the existing National Health Systems.



Eknath Naik, MD, PhD., MSPH
University of South Florida

The Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS in Africa

Africa has the highest number of HIV/AIDS infected people in the world. Approximately 3.5 million Africans were newly infected with HIV in the year 2001 bringing the total number of infections to 28.5 million. Of the worldwide total of 3 million AIDS related deaths, 2.2 million were in Africans. Approximately 11 million African children have lost one or both parents to AIDS. The epidemic toll continues to mount causing a severe developmental crisis in each of the affected countries. Countries in the sub-Saharan belt, especially in the southern cone of the continent, are most affected, with at least one adult in five living with HIV. The only countries showing signs of success in controlling the AIDS epidemic on the African continent is Uganda and to some extent Zambia. Africa faces serious financial and socio-political challenges in facing the AIDS epidemic. (Based on UNAIDS report).



Dr. Paul Zeitz
Hope For African Children

Lessons learned while creating a public-private partnership to deliver programs to children affected by AIDS in Sub- Sahara Africa

The Hope for African Children Initiative (HACI) is a partnership initiative mobilizing additional resources to support community-based actions for children affected by HIV/AIDS and their families in Sub-Sahara Africa whilst placing vulnerable children's issues at the center of national and international policy discussions. Establishing trust and building consensus among and between partners demand considerable investment in time and efforts - sometimes a painful but necessary process. Translating partnership objectives into grassroots realities is a challenging participatory exercise requiring patience, flexibility, trust, and understanding.



Business Forum

WELCOME

Dr. Judy Genshaft, President of the University of South Florida

Keynote Speaker

His Excellence, *Dr. Kenneth Kaunda*, Former President of the Republic of Zambia (1964-1991)

PANEL

- *Sam Smoots*, Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC)
- *Inger Andersen*, World Bank (WB)
- *Brian Chigawa*, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- *Bryant Salter*, Enterprise Florida
- *Tegegnetwork Gettu*, United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

The speakers will address the following subjects:

- Investment opportunities in Africa
- New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)
- Trade policies and Regulation in Southern and Eastern Africa



University of South Florida

THE INSTITUTE

The Institute on Black Life was established in the fall of 1986 by the Office of the Provost to serve as a bridge between the University and the community. Its main purpose is to be a vehicle for the utilization of faculty, staff, and student expertise in addressing University and community needs for research, training, and program development. Meeting these needs will enhance the University as well as the economic, educational, social, political, and religious life of the community.

The Institute on Black Life operates as a resource center on the African American Community and other Peoples of the World African Community, and also for those issues that affect their interaction with the larger world Community. In pursuit of this mission the Institute conducts and promotes interdisciplinary research University/community based programs, faculty and student development programs and activities related to social and economic initiatives to enhance the quality of life of all People.

The Institute has an active research program with faculty representation from all disciplines. It serves as a center for generating and supporting research and creative activities.

Dr. O. Geoffrey Okogbaa, Director
Dr. Marvin Moore, Assoc. Director
Ms Cherie Edwards, Coordinator
Mrs. Clara Cobb, Program Assistant
Dr. Humphrey Regis, Faculty Associate
Mr. Michel Louissaint, Computer Specialist
Mr. Patrick Sandji, Student Liaison
Mr. Braulio Colon, Student Liaison
Ms. Leila Sethom, Student Liaison



