

President Isaias Afwerki concludes visit to the Sudan



President Isaias Afwerki conducted a 2-day official visit to the Sudan on the invitation of Lt. General Abdul Fattah al-Burhan, President of Sudan's Sovereign Council. President Isaias met and held discussions with the leadership of the Sudan on bilateral relations, regional developments and other issues of mutual concern. During his meeting with President Isaias Afwerki, Lt. General Abdul Fattah al-Burhan thanked President Isaias for his long-awaited visit and expressed readiness to enhance all-round cooperation and relations between the two countries.

President Isaias on his part expressed his pleasure of visiting Sudan, and congratulated the leadership and people of the country for their historic achievement in bringing an end to the painful chapter that lasted for three decades. He also said that the people of Eritrea will never forget the support the Sudanese people extended during the struggle for independence.

The two sides expressed determination to recoup the lost opportunity and agreed to promote economic, trade, political, diplomatic as well as security and military cooperation. They also agreed to work together for effective regional integration. President Isaias Afwerki also met and held discussion with Prime Minister of the Transitional Government of Sudan, Dr. Abdalla Hamdok. Both leaders underlined the good neighborly and historic ties of the peoples of Eritrea and Sudan and agreed to cement these ties through economic, social, cultural and political cooperation.

President Isaias Afwerki departed to Khartoum in the morning hours of September 14 for an official two-day visit to the Sudan. President Isaias was accompanied by Foreign Minister Osman Saleh, and Presidential Adviser Mr. Yemane Gebreab.

President Isaias Afwerki and his delegation were accorded warm welcome by Gen. Abdul Fattah al-Burhan and senior Sudanese dignitaries upon arrival at the Khartoum International Airport.

In a six-point communiqué issued to the press in Khartoum on 16 September, Eritrea and Sudan agreed to enhance cooperation in economic, cultural, military, security, diplomatic and regional matters.

Eritrea and Sudan have further established a High Level Committee for the follow-up and implementation of the six-point agreement the two Governments have reached following the official visit.

President Isaias returned home on 16 September concluding a two-day visit.

President Isaias on 15 September addressed members of the Eritrean community in Khartoum and its environs at the Corintia Hotel.

The meeting was attended by religious leaders, members of the Eritrea-Sudan Friendship Association as well as Eritrean nationals residing in Khartoum and its environs. Noting that the meeting is historic for it is conducted in a new era of peace, President Isaias said that the promising peace prospect is a result of the struggle and perseverance of the peoples of Eritrea and Sudan.

At the event, Mr. Amin Hassan, Director of the Office of the President, read to the audience the six-point communiqué reached between Eritrea and the Sudan.

At the meeting Mr. Osman Saleh, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Presidential Adviser Mr. Yemane Gebreab were present. Eritrean delegation composed of Mr. Osman Saleh, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Presidential Adviser Mr. Yemane Gebreab, yesterday, 17 September met President Salva Kiir of the South Sudan in Juba and delivered letter from President Isaias Afwerki.

The message of President Isaias