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PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF THE ENERGY SECTOR IN ETHIOPIA

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FROM THE EDITOR

The current issue of *Economic Focus* includes papers presented at the round table discussion organised by the Ethiopian Economic Association on "The Problems and Prospects of the Energy Sector in Ethiopia." The main focus of the discussion was the problem of sustainable production and use of energy resources, which is triggered by the current problems in the sector both internationally and domestically.

Desta's paper searches for strategies of sustainable energy development in Ethiopia. Though it does not define sustainability per se, it describes such phenomena by the use of what it calls the energy sustainability matrix. In the process, the paper identifies the strategies required for sustainable energy production and consumption from the supply and demand sides. The paper assesses briefly the current energy policy of the country and concludes by suggesting a shift in policy and planning towards energy systems rather than energy resources, as it has been the case previously. Nebiyelul's paper focuses on the activities that are being undertaken by UNIDO in the country's search for sustainable energy use.

Dr. Taye's presentation, on the other hand, focused on the possible consequences of EELPA's electricity power rationing scheme that was undertaken around the second quarter of the year 2000. The paper tried to identify the effects of such actions on producing units that use electricity as their source of energy, the government, as well as its likely impact on repelling foreign direct investment.

This issue also contains 4 pieces that were sent to our office directly. Mekonnen's paper, which describes the energy sector and provides interesting data on the sectoral energy consumption in Ethiopia, is a very good complement to the presentations made at the round table discussion. The piece by Love calculates farmers' share of coffee prices in Ethiopia, the piece by Fantahun adds to the continuing discussion on the methodology of calculating income taxes for government employees, and Fanuel's paper discusses the advantages and problems of foreign trade (Hope that I have made justice in translating the Amharic versions of topics and ideas).

STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN ETHIOPIA

Desta Mebratu

President, Ethiopian Society of Chemical Engineers

ABSTRACT

Over the last few years, energy development and management has evolved as one of the core elements of sustainable development. In this context, it is critical for countries like Ethiopia to develop a sustainable energy development strategy. This paper attempts to highlight the major elements of sustainable energy development strategies within the Ethiopian context.

1. ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

1.1. Energy Systems

There are various classifications of energy resources depending on the specific characterisation utilised. Some of the major ones are renewable versus non-renewable, flow versus stock, and primary versus secondary energy resources. From sustainability perspective, energy resources constitute just one component of a given energy system.

There are essentially three levels into which an energy system may be divided, namely:

- Energy resource
- Energy carrier, and
- Energy function/services.

At and between each of these stages, there is a complex network of activities that includes extraction/conversion, distribution and consumption processes. This complex network constitutes the following energy system matrix.

Energy resources (also known as primary energy sources) such as oil and coal are processed and converted into energy carriers (also known as secondary energy sources) such as gasoline and electricity. Subsequently, energy carriers are stored for distribution to consumers, who use energy for a host of activities—from lighting to cooking to operating vehicles. The functions that are performed by energy are called energy services or end-uses and final consumers are, in turn, end-users. Ultimately, the functional interest on energy is on the services it provides. Hence, any improvement measures of energy systems should be

directed at all levels of the energy system and take into accounts the interconnections between the different levels of the system.

Until very recently, the negative effects of the fuel-chain on society and the environment have been regarded as peripheral and subsidiary to the overall developmental process. Lately, however, increasing alarm over some of the more infamous and troubling outcomes of the negative interactions between energy, environment and development—such as the global warming phenomenon—have crept to the forefront of contention at the national, regional and global levels. Today, energy's 'negative side' is beginning to be regarded on a life-cycle basis, taking into account the multiple social, environmental and health impacts associated with energy-related activities—from extraction to end-use, and at the many stages in-between.

Table 1. Energy System Matrix

Resources	Water	Oil	Coal
Conversion technology	Dams	Refinery	Power plant
Carriers	Electricity	Gasoline, diesel	Electricity
Distribution	Grid	Tanker, pipeline	Grid
Services	Multi-purpose	Transport	Multi-purpose
End-use technology	Household/industrial	Vehicles	Household/industrial

Table 1 continued

Resources	Natural gas	Solar	Biomass
Conversion technology	Refinery	Solar panels	Fermentation
Carriers	Methane	Electricity	Ethanol, methanol
Distribution	Gas grid	Grid/local system	Tanker pipeline
Services	Cooking	Lighting	Transport
End-use technology	Stoves	Bulbs	Automobiles

Source: Modified from Swisher et al

The sustainability measure of any given system is essentially based upon its functional efficiency in terms of the source and sink function (Desta 2000). Similarly, the sustainability of a given energy system can be measured in terms of its source sustainability and impact sustainability. The source sustainability is

more related to the energy resource component while the impact sustainability is related to the energy carrier and energy service component.

Table 2. The Energy Sustainability Matrix

Source sustainability	High		Hydropower	Solar
	Intermediate	Nuclear	Natural gas	Wind
	Low	Fossil fuel	Geothermal	Wave
		Low	Intermediate	High
		Impact Sustainability		

As can be seen from the sustainability matrix, fossil fuel is the least sustainable both in terms of source sustainability and impact sustainability while solar energy scores high sustainability both in terms of source and impact sustainability. There are whole ranges of energy systems with an intermediate score of impact and source sustainability. In this context, although all energy sources have their positive and negative sides, some are considered 'more sustainable' than others, notably those with a relatively small socio-environmental impact, i.e. primarily renewable resources. The future trend is to move away from energy systems with low sustainability score to energy systems with intermediate to high sustainability score.

For instance, photo-voltaic power holds the potential of supplying much-needed basic energy services to communities not served by the electric grid, and provides a realistic alternative to unsustainable energy practices in rural areas in developing nations as well. In Zimbabwe, for example, some 6,000 PV systems have been installed in remote areas for illumination and household purposes (GEF, 1997). Furthermore, in the largest rural electrification effort to date, a joint venture between the South African national Energy Company, ESKOM, and Shell International Renewables (SIR) have initiated an innovative project designed to provide 50,000 rural South African homes with solar-based electricity between 1998 and 2000.

2. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Sustainable energy management is one of the fields that are gaining prominence in the field of energy development and management. This section highlights the major principles, strategies and instruments that are evolving in the field of sustainable energy management.

2.1. The Major Principles

While there are various principles that are applicable depending on the specific energy system to be managed, the following can be cited as the general principles that have to be followed in the process of implementing sustainable energy management.

- Promoting an optimal combination of energy resources in relation to the available energy resource base, energy requirement and their techno-economic viability.
- Improving the efficiency of energy conversion and distribution systems.
- Encouraging continuous improvement of energy consuming technologies and socio-economic activities.

The above principles are essentially directed at the three levels of the energy system, namely: the resource, the carrier and the services level.

2.2. Major Components of Strategies

Energy is a critical input for any kind of socio-economic development. It is also associated with environmental issues of diverse nature. As such, the general objectives of energy sector planning at any level are (Munasinghe, 1995):

- ensuring economic efficiency in the supply and use of all forms of energy in order to maximise growth;
- meeting basic energy service needs of the poor;
- diversifying supply, reducing dependence on foreign sources, and meeting national security requirements;
- contributing to the development of special regions (particularly rural areas), and priority sectors of the economy;
- ensuring price stability, and protecting the environment and reducing risk to human health.

In general, the rationale behind planning and policy-making at the national level is the need to ensure the best use of scarce resources. The aim of this practice is essentially to foster socio-economic development efforts and to improve the quality of life within a country. This goal holds great relevance to the planning of sustainable energy systems, too. Most of the strategies that are being generated in the field of sustainable energy development and management can be categorised under two categories: demand-side management strategies and supply-side alternative strategies.

Demand-Side Management (The Megawatts approach)

It is generally less costly from a socio-economic and socio-ecological perspective to save a kWh of electricity than to produce the equivalent amount (Foell et al, 1997). Conventionally, the marketed energy product (for instance, electricity) is considered as the final utility desired by the consumer. The energy system approach is based on recognising the fact that the end-user is looking for the energy services (or functions) and not for the energy carriers. This provides the basis for demand-side management strategies. When the energy services are included as the final

demand into the systematic approach to find an optimal energy system, the range or variety of potential options for providing these services increases tremendously, as there are several options which can offer the required energy services. The total costs of these services, including their associated externalities, may vary to a great degree (Herz, 1994). Thus, in planning for sustainable energy development, energy-efficiency and other demand-side measures are options which should be considered as priority in meeting at least part of an identified energy demand before increasing generation capacity.

Supply-Side Alternatives and Resource Characterisation

Once demand-side alternatives have been determined, supply-side measures should be addressed, as they may be critical for satisfactorily meeting an identified energy services demand. Alternatives across the board should be considered and should include a mix of conventional and renewable supply systems based on systematic resource characterisation. In order to ensure that energy resources are compared in a fair manner, systems for all relevant alternatives must be characterised through a consistent set of parameters. Factors utilised for characterisation must, therefore, include both direct and indirect effects at the energy-use point, and throughout the fuel-cycle.

Promoting the combined application of demand side management strategies and supply-side alternative strategies provides the basis for sustainable energy management practices that addresses all sides of the sustainable development equation. Over the last few years, a number of major power and utility companies have initiated a major demand-side management programs that enhanced their profitability and provision of energy services with a reduced environmental impact. Such energy management practices lead to win-win-win situation of the economic, ecological and social dimension of energy management.

2.3. Major Instruments

There are numerous analytical and operational instruments that have evolved over the last few years in connection with sustainable energy management. Two of the major instruments are 'Multi-attribute Decision Analysis' (MADA) and 'Total Cost Accounting' (TCA).

Multi-Attribute Decision Analysis (MADA)

MADA assists decision-makers in the complex task of analysing the benefits and trade-off of certain energy choices. When conventional and renewable energy options are compared, the problem becomes further complicated. In general, the largest portion of environmental impacts from renewable energy technology

occurs at the manufacturing stage (with some exceptions, such as the transportation and combustion of biomass fuels), whilst use-stage effects are often very difficult to quantify (including aesthetic and noise impacts). On the other hand, the impacts of conventional energy are felt along the fuel chain, from extraction to distribution and energy conversion. However, when comparing conventional to renewable energy, there is essentially one fundamental question. That is how do we balance higher marginal costs for renewables with associated reductions in significant local, regional and global socio-environmental impacts? It is in these respects that multi-attribute decision analysis has an 'upper hand' over traditional evaluation methods such as cost-benefit analysis (Berdoulli 1998).

Total Cost Accounting

When the costing of energy demand and supply options is conducted, the calculations should go beyond purely conventional costing. This means the calculation should include the costs for which the energy company will, either in the short- or long-term, be responsible. These would include contingent, liability, hidden (e.g. safety or waste disposal costs) and less tangible (such as image benefits, increased market share or losses) costs. It should be noted that, in some cases, internal environmental costs are treated in the Economic Analysis component. The Total Cost Accounting approach enables to go beyond the conventional cost-benefit analysis and provides sound basis for the development of sustainable energy strategies.

3. ETHIOPIA'S ENERGY POLICY

Over the last three to four decades, numerous attempts have been made to develop the national energy policy of the country. The most recent initiative led to the issuance of the national energy policy of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia in 1994. This section focuses on reviewing the existing energy policy from sustainable energy management perspective.

3.1. General Observations

The current energy policy is composed of six major articles covering the preamble, rationale for the policy, policy objectives, general policy, priorities of the policy and main policy issues. The articles dealing with the policy objectives (Article 3), general policy (Article 4) and the priority of the policy (Article 5) contain useful general policy statements that indicate the overall direction of energy development and management in the country. Almost all of the articles contain sub articles that underscore the importance of ensuring the environmental soundness of energy development and management practices in the country. Sub-article 3.6 specifically states that one of the policy objectives is 'to ensure that the development and

utilisation of energy is benign to the environment'.

The main policy issues that are covered under Article 6 of the energy policy have structural similarities with the energy matrix that has been presented under Table 2. Three of the first three sub-articles under Article 6 deal with energy resource development (resource level), energy supply (carrier level) and energy conservation and efficiency (service level). These being the strong side of the policy document, it has also some weaknesses. For instance, some of the policy statements go in contradiction with some of the basic principles of sustainable energy management. For instance, Article 3.2, under Policy Objectives, reads as: "to ensure and encourage a gradual shift from traditional energy sources use to modern energy sources." This policy statement as a general policy objective implies that all forms of traditional energy resources have to be replaced by modern energy resources. Although there is a need to shift the burden from traditional energy resources to modern energy resources, traditional energy resources with different forms will continue to hold a significant position in sustainable energy management practices.

Another example is Article 5.1 under 'Priority of the Policy' which reads as "To place high priority on hydropower resource development, as hydrological resources are the most abundant and sustainable energy forms." Although it is understandable to put more emphasis on hydropower resource development in the Ethiopian context, to promote it as the dominant strategic direction under the blanket of being the 'most sustainable' does not go in line with sustainable energy management principles for two reasons. Firstly, even if it is more sustainable from fossil fuel based power generation, hydropower development still has a significant social and ecological impact and cannot be declared as the most sustainable energy resource. Secondly, one of the principles of sustainable energy management is to promote the appropriate mix of energy resources rather than relying on single energy resources. The above brief discussion shows that there is a need to fine-tune the existing energy policy with some of the basic principles of sustainable energy management.

3.2. Strategic Measures

Proposing an appropriate mix of strategic measures will require a more detailed study of the existing energy systems and the projected energy demand in the country. Nevertheless, the following major strategic measures can be proposed as general measures.

Supply-Side Alternative Strategies

- Improve the efficiency of conversion and distribution of current energy systems.
- Promote hydropower development on the basis of an appropriate mega-micro mix.

- Promote adaptive management strategies that ensure sustainable use of biomass fuel.
- Develop the institutional mechanism that addresses the bottleneck for the shift towards renewable energy resource.

Demand-Side Management Strategies

- Improve energy efficiency of household equipment, such as 'Mitad'.
- Improve the lighting efficiency of residential areas.
- Improve urban transportation planning and infrastructure.
- Promote the use of blended fuels that have improved performance and reduced environmental impact.
- Promote continuous improvement of energy efficiency in industries.

Enabling Institutional Instruments

In conclusion, one of the fundamental prerequisite for sustainable energy development and management is to achieve a shift of analytical and planning focus from energy resource to energy systems. Such a shift of focus can be achieved by giving due consideration for the issues that have been raised in this paper. It is believed that adopting this approach will make significant contribution for promoting sustainable (industrial) development in Ethiopia.

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PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF THE ENERGY SECTOR IN ETHIOPIA

Nebiyelul Gessese
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It is for me a personal honour and privilege to address the Ethiopian Economic Association round table discussion on the problems and prospects of the Energy sector in Ethiopia.

The timing of this meeting is most appropriate as it coincides with what UNIDO is currently doing in the country with respect to energy.

Numerous activities have been undertaken in various countries during the past decades to generate awareness for a cost-effective and rational use of energy. A variety of alternatives to fossil fuels were identified, e.g. through the utilisation of renewable sources of energy that could also usefully be applied to small- and medium-scale enterprises (SME).

Most of these enterprises were built when the price for imported fossil fuels was low, capital was scarce and additionally required expenditure for energy efficiency measures was not available. Instrumentation to measure and control of energy consumption and its efficient use was not introduced. Data to compare the specific energy consumption per product produced were not available. Consequently, opportunities for a more rational use of energy were not explored.

Recent awareness on energy conservation and reduction of environmental impact issues has brought to the forefront the importance of examining the use of resources at various stages of the process of industrial production. Activities aimed at promoting resource recovery and utilisation as

well as promoting the development of environmentally friendly technologies are on the increase. While a lot of emphasis has, in the past, been placed on the recycling of resources after they have left the production process, enterprises are starting to pay more attention to ways of reducing inputs into the production process. One of the inputs that has received attention in recent years is energy. While rational use of energy has been recognised as a key element for sustainable industrial development, most of the emphasis in previous efforts has been placed on technical aspects and related to large enterprises. This emphasis needs to be extended to the enterprises under direct involvement of their technical and managerial staff. Specialised training on the development of competence in cost-effectiveness assessment as well as the identification, formulation and implementation of remedial measures should be arranged.

The energy component, as sub-component of the UNIDO Integrated Programme for Ethiopia, deals with the expansion of activities in the areas of industrial energy efficiency and the sustainable utilisation of traditional energy sources in the long-term. In the short- to medium-term, however, emphasis is given to address energy inefficiency at all levels (in industry, as well as in the public and private sectors). The entire approach will, therefore, endeavour to ensure a sustainable balance between development and the environment.

At present, it is well recognised, but not quantified, that in most of the

SMEs (small- and medium-scale enterprises) a considerable amount of the energy supplied is not properly utilised for the following reasons:

- Lack of awareness of the need to conserve natural resources and the environment
- Inappropriate institutional capacity to implement government energy policy;
- Lack of capacity for barrier identification and formulation of proposals for barrier removal;
- Lack of effective approach for improving the performance in energy consumption and in reduction of environment pollution;
- Lack of adequate physical infrastructure for energy distribution;
- Lack of skills to properly operate the plant and equipment, including equipment maintenance;
- Poor combustion efficiency;
- Steam and condensate leaks;
- No load and power factor correction measures applied;
- Poor electrical installation and use of outdated high energy consuming components;
- Amount shown on the energy bill does not seem to be significant in relation to the total cost to operate the company.

These cause increased cost, increase of wasted resources and a negative impact on environment. Lack of awareness of cost-effectiveness of rational use of energy and lack of capability of some responsible bodies to directly assist small- and medium-scale enterprises (SME) in formulating and implementing energy conservation measures seem to aggravate the problem.

Taking all the above-mentioned barriers for the proper utilisation of Energy into account, UNIDO launched a project on rational use of energy in small- and medium-scale enterprises (SMEs) as one component of its Integrated Programme for Ethiopia. Basic Metals Engineers and Industrial Agency (BMEIA) with the support of the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MoTI) has been selected as the implementing counterpart. After publishing the first results, BMEIA will be able to promote rational energy utilisation through the assistance of a separate consulting group.

These will be achieved through strengthening Basic Metals Engineers and Industrial Agency (BMEIA) which would enable it to carry out plant audits, provide and co-ordinate training, provide energy auditing and monitoring services to SME and eventually other sectors of the economy at their own cost after the project's completion. This institute will later co-ordinate energy audits and other activities related to the rational use of energy. The primary target group will be enterprises of different sizes and ownership, including larger-scale companies and SME as one of the major utilisers of energy in the manufacturing sector.

The successful implementation of all those initiatives aims at environmental protection and rational energy utilisation. The immediate aim of the project is the reduction of energy consumption and rational use of energy in selected enterprises, both in larger-scale companies and SMEs through conservation practices and efficiency-oriented management.

The ultimate aim is to achieve sustainability of the project activities and to multiply the immediate effects through BMEIA to most enterprises in the country and to introduce measures on rational use of energy, energy management and reduction of negative environmental impacts on a country-wide scale. It is anticipated to set up an "Energy Management Consulting

Team" as a focal point for all energy-related matters.

The actions and activities of the Energy Management Consulting Team will create an initiative not only for those enterprises directly surveyed and advised, but also the industrial sector of Ethiopia as a whole, by showing the immediate profitability of energy conservation measures and making it attractive for others to apply. In addition, these activities may also have positive impact on other sectors of the Ethiopian economy by promoting the rational use and the conservation of energy.

The immediate objective of the project is to improve the capability of resource management and energy conservation in industry with the following main outputs:

- ♦ Needs assessment,
- ♦ Capacity building in practical methods and techniques for preparation and execution of energy conservation measures and dissemination of information. This will be achieved through sensitisation seminars:
 - for energy-related measures;
 - managerial and financial aspects of energy conservation and efficient plant operation;
 - efficient use of oil, gas, electrical energy as well as process water and steam;
 - load and power factor correction to improve the efficiency of the use of electrical energy;
 - standardised training materials and methods for strengthening energy conservation project analysis and evaluation through application of UNIDO's developed didactic and audio-visual aids;

- ♦ Energy audits, including:
 - a) plant audits;
 - b) advice on energy management in industry
 - c) recommendations on energy conservation methods and on energy-efficient technologies and equipment including the financial implication of their application;
 - d) advice on environmental impact of wasted energy and on the possi-

ble mitigation of the impacts

♦ Developing sustainable energy conservation mechanism related services at the cost to its members through advice and development of methodologies and guidelines for:

- a) the preparation, implementation and evaluation of plant audits for energy conservation measures;
- b) advising enterprises to formulate and implement concepts for self-financed restructuring of the plants, based on the findings and recommendations of the plant audits.
- c) opportunities within the existing fiscal framework and financial mechanisms to motivate enterprises to invest in energy conservation related projects
- d) collection of data on rational use of energy and energy conservation technologies to be used by the SMEs.

The expected output by the end of the project will be:

1. To provide advisory services related to rational use of energy at the cost of the enterprises;
2. To provide basic guidance for project formulation to introduce low energy consuming measures;
3. To introduce system of collection and dissemination of data relevant to rational use of energy and energy conservation technologies;
4. To develop operation of an "Energy Conservation Data Bank" as a basis for "Environmental and Energy Maintenance and Information networking;

Finally, I would like to stress that UNIDO actively supports the development of rational use of energy in SMEs in developing countries. UNIDO believes that there is room for collaboration in efforts to develop this sector and the professional body is welcome at any time for discussions on development assistance.

Thank you for your attention and wish you a very fruitful deliberation.
September 22, 2000. ■

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ከዶ/ር ታዬ ብርሃኑ

የኢትዮጵያ ግል ኢንዱስትሪዎች ማህበር ዋና ዐሐፊ

የኢትዮጵያ ኢኮኖሚክስ ባለሙያዎች ማህበር የኃይል ችግርና የወደፊት ሁኔታ በኢትዮጵያ በሚል ርዕስ ውይይት እንዲደረግ ይህን ዝግጅት በማድረግ ሊመሰገን ይገባል። የኃይል ችግር በተለይም በትርብ ጊዜ የመብራት ኃይል ፍጆታ አገልግሎት በተራ እንዲሆን መደረግ የኢትዮጵያ ግል ኢንዱስትሪዎች ማህበር አባላትን የጎዳና ያሳሰበ ስለነበር በዚህ ዙሪያ ማህበራችን የተነጋገረበት ከመሆኑም በላይ፡ ይህን መሰል ዝግጅትም ለማድረግ እንዳቀድን የዛሬው ውይይት መጠራት የችግሩን አሳሳቢነትና ትክክለኛነት ይበልጥ የሚያረጋግጥልን ሁኖ አግኝተነዋል።

በመሠረቱ፡ ኃይል(የኤሌክትሪክ፡ የነጻጅ፡ የክሰል፡ የድንጋይ፡ የዐሐይ ይሁን የሌላ) ለአንድ አገር ኢኮኖሚ ዕድገትና ልማት ወሳኝ ከሆኑት የመሠረተ-ልማት አውታሮች አንዱ ነው። ያለተቋረጠ፡ ቀልጣፋና በቂ ኃይል መኖር ለኢኮኖሚ ልማት እጅግ አስፈላጊ ከመሆኑም ሌላ፡ የውጭ መዋዕለ ንዋይ ለመሳብም ቀደምት ሚና አለው።

በሌላ አነጋገር ማለትም በአሁኑኛው መልኩም የኃይልን አስፈላጊነት መግለፅ ይቻላል። ይኸውም አንድ አገር ያለውን ዕምቅ የኃይል ምንጭ በአግባቡ ለመጠቀም ያለመቻል ወይም በስርጭትና በአጠቃቀም ረገድ ደካማ ሁኖ መገኘት የአንድ አገርን ማህበራዊና ኢኮኖሚያዊ ዕድገትን ወደኋላ መጎተት ማለት ነው።

ከዚህ አጠቃላይ ሁኔታ በመነሳት ኃይል ለኢንዱስትሪ ህይወቱ ወይም ቁልፉ ነው። ኢንዱስትሪ በፋብሪካ የሚሠራን ወይም የሚመረትን ሂደትና ውጤት የያዘ ሲሆን፡ ይህም ዕውን የሚሆነው በኃይል አማካኝነት ነው። ኢንዱስትሪና ኃይል የአንድ ሳንቲም ሁለት ገፅታ ናቸውና ከቆ

ሊነጣጠሉ አይችሉም።

የኃይልንና የኢንዱስትሪን ጣምራ ስናነሳ ማየት የሚገባን ጉዳይ የኢንዱስትሪ ዕድገት ማለት ሁለንተናዊ ልማት ደረጃ መድረስ ማለት ነው። የኢንዱስትሪ እድገት ከሌለ ሁለንተናዊ ዕድገት አለ ብለው ማሰብ አይቻልም። በመሆኑም፡ ለኢንዱስትሪ እድገት ወሳኝ የሆነው ኃይል ከሌለ የኢንዱስትሪ ዕድገት የለም። የኢንዱስትሪ ዕድገት ከሌለ ደግሞ ልማት የለም ማለት ነው።

በአጭሩ በዘመናችን በተለይም ዓለም ከደረሰችበት የሳይንስና ቴክኖሎጂ ውጤትና የኢኮኖሚ ዕድገት ደረጃ አኳያ ኃይል ለማንኛውም ማህበራዊና ኢኮኖሚያዊ ኑሮና ሥራ ወሳኝና አስፈላጊ መሆኑን ልንገነዘብ ይገባል።

በአገራችን ከዚህ ጠቅላላ ካለ ኢኮኖሚያዊ ትንታኔ ባሻገር በሕግም ቢሆን "የኃይል አገልግሎት" እጅግ አስፈላጊ ሁኔታ ከሚቆጠሩ የመሠረተ-ልማት አውታሮች አንዱ ሁኖ ይገኛል።

የአሠሪና ሠራተኛ ሕግ አዋጅ ቁጥር 42/85 አንቀፅ 136 "የኤሌክትሪክ ኃይል" ለጎብረተሰብ ሳይቋረጥ የሚሰጥ እጅግ አስፈላጊ አገልግሎት እንደሆነ አስፍሯል። እጅግ አስፈላጊነቱንም በዚሁ አዋጅ አንቀጽ 157(1) እና በአንቀጽ 157(2) ይበልጥ ጎልቶ ይገኛል። ይኸውም በአንቀጽ 157 መሠረት የሠራተኞች የሥራ ማቆም አድማና የአሠሪ የሥራ መዝጋት መብቶች በኤሌክትሪክ ኃይል አገልግሎት ሰጭዎች ላይ ተግባራዊ ሊሆኑ እንደማይችሉ ተደንግጓል።

የኃይል አስፈላጊነትን ከኑሮ፡ ከዕድገትና ከሕግ አንፃር ለማየት የተሞከረውና የተጸሰሰው ችግሩን ስናነሳና መፍትሄውን ስንገኝ ይህን

መሠረታዊ ግንዛቤ በአይምሯችን ይዘን መንዝ የሚያሻ መሆኑን ለመጠቆም ያህል ነው።

ርዕሱ በጣም ሰፊ በመሆኑ ብዙ ጥናት ብዙ ሥራና በተለይም የተለያዩ አግባብነት ያላቸው ባለሙያዎችን ምርምርና ተዋዕለ የሚጠይቅ በመሆኑ በዚህ ውይይት ሁሉንም ማለትም ዋና ዋናና ተጓዳኝ ጉዳዮችን እንሰቅ ለመነጋገር መሞከር አዳጋች ነው።

ስለዚህ ንግግራ በውይይቱ ርዕስ ሥር ከቀረቡት ነጥቦች መካከል በትርብ ጊዜ የኤሌክትሪክ ኃይል አገልግሎት በተራ መለቀቅ በኢንዱስትሪዎች በተለይም "በኢትዮጵያ ግል ኢንዱስትሪዎች ማህበር" ሥር በታቀፉ አምራቾች የደረሰውን አሉታዊ ተፅዕኖ ወይም ችግር ላይ ያተኮረ ይሆናል። ይህም ንዑስ ርዕስ ለዋናው ርዕስ የወደፊት ጥናት ምርምርና ተግባራዊ እንቅስቃሴ በታሳቢነት ሊያዙ የሚገቡ ነጥቦችን እንደሚያስጨብጥ ይታመናል።

በዘመናችን አቆጣጠር አምና ይባል እንጂ ከጥቂት ጊዜያት በፊት የኢትዮጵያ ኤሌክትሪክ ኃይል ኮርፖሬሽን የኤሌክትሪክ ኃይል ፍጆታን በተመለከተ የተለያዩ እርምጃዎችን መውሰዱ ይታወቃል። ለምሳሌ መጀመሪያ፡ በተራ ከ15 ቀን 1 ቀን በየአራተኛ ቀንና በየሦስተኛ ቀን፡ እና ለአምራቾች ማታና አሁድን ጨምሮ የኤሌክትሪክ ኃይል አገልግሎት እንዳይሰጥ ተደርጓል።

ለእነዚህ እርምጃዎች የተሰጡት ምክንያቶች በዋነኝነት የተጠቀሱት አንደኛ በበለግና በከረምት ጊዜያት በቂ ዝናብ ባለመዝነቡ የቆቃና የመልካ ዋክና ግድቦች በቂ ውጥ ያለመያዛቸው እና ሁለተኛው ደግሞ በቆቃ ግድብ የተከማቸው የአሸዋና

የአፈር ደለል የዝናብ ውሃ ወደ ግድቡ እንዳይገባ በመከላከል የሚሉት ሲሆኑ ከኃይል አሠራራቸው የተከሰቱ ችግሮች ደግሞ ቴክኒካዊ እንደሆኑ ተጠቅሷል።

ለችግሩ መከሰት የተጠቀሱት ምክንያቶች እንደተጠበቁ ሁኔታዎች ማለትም በዚህም ሆነ በዚያ የኢ.ኤስ.ት.ሪክ ኃይል መቋረጥ በድርጅት፣ በመንግሥትና በአገር አቀፍ ደረጃ ግዙፍ ችግሮችን አስከትሏል ለማለት ያስደፍራል። የችግሮችን ሚዛን በአሃዝ በተደገፈ ማሰራጀት በጊዜው ለማቅረብ ባይቻልም፣ የደረሱና ሊደርሱ የሚችሉ ችግሮች እንደሆኑ ግን ያለጥርጥር በእርግጠኝነት ማስቀመጥ ይቻላል። የትናንቱ ችግር ዛሬ ወይም ወደፊት ከተደገመ የሚከተሉትንና ሌሎች ችግሮች እንደሚያስከትል መዘንጋት የለበትም።

1. በድርጅት ደረጃ

1.1. ላልተሠራ ሥራ ለሠራተኛ ደመወዝ መክፈል ይህ ችግር እንደ ድርጅቱ ሰፋት ላለ ይችላል። ይኸውም በአንድ፣ በሁለት ወይም በሦስት የሥራ ፕሮግራሞች የሚሠሩ ድርጅቶች የተጠቀሰው ችግር እንዳለ ሁኖ እንደየአደረጃጀታቸው የችግሩ ክብደት ይለያያል። ለምሳሌ ከድርጅቶች መካከል ከ26፣ ከ52፣ እና ከ78 የሥራ ቀናት አቆጣጠር፣ 8 ቀናት፣ 16 ቀናት ወይም 24 ቀናት መብራት የሚያጡ አሉ። በዚህም ምክንያት ለ100 ሠራተኞች ለአንድ ሠራተኛ ከሚከፈል አንስተኛ አማካኝ የቀን ደመወዝ ስሌት እንደየአደረጃጀታቸው በትንሹ ብር 12000፣ 24000 ወይም 36000 ያለሥራ ደመወዝ ወጭ ያደርጋሉ።

1.2. የጥሬ ሀብት መከማቸት አንድም ለቦታ መጣበብ ወይም እንደ ጥሬ ሀብቱ ባህርይ የመበላሸት ዕጣ ሊያጋጥም ይችላል።

1.3. በወቅቱ ሠርቶ የማሰራጨት ግዴታን የመወጣት ብቃት ያሳጣል። በዚህ ምክንያት በውለታ አለማክበር ተመዝጋቢነትንና ብሉም ደምበኝነትን ያሳጣል። የድርጅቱን ስምም ያሳድፋል። ግንኙነቱ ከውጭ ገበያ ጋር የተያያዘ ከሆነ የድርጅቱ ድክመት እንደአገር ድክመት ይታይና በአገር ደረጃ መጥፎ ስም ያስያዛል።

1.4. ገበያ ማጣትን ያስከትላል።

1.5. ላልተሰራ መክፈል የጥሬ ሀብት በወቅቱ ጥቅም ላይ ያለመዋልና ገበያ ማጣት ተጻምረው የድርጅት ክስረት ይሆናሉ።

1.6. የባንክ ዕዳ ያለበት ወርሃዊ ግዴታን መወጣት ያዳግትና ባንክና ተበዳሪን ወደ አስፈላጊ ውዝግብ ያመራል።

1.7. ድርጅትን ለማስፋፋት ያለን ፍላጎትና ዕቅድንም ያቀጭላል ወይም ያሳጣል።

2. በመንግሥት ደረጃ

2.1. በታክስ መልክ የሚገኝ ገቢ ይቀንሳል።

2.2. ድርጅቶች ሠራተኞችን የመቀነስ እርምጃ እንዲወስዱ በመገደዳቸው እነሰ በዛ የሥራ ቁጥርን ይጨምራል። ይህም የማህበራዊና ኢኮኖሚያዊ ችግርን የሚያባብስ በመሆኑ የመንግሥትን ኃላፊነትና ሜና ይበልጥ ውስብስብ ያደርጋል።

3. የውጭ መዋዕለ ንዋይ ስበት

በተራ የኢ.ኤስ.ት.ሪክ ኃይል አገልግሎት መጥፋት ወይም ማግኘት የውጭ ባለሀብትን የሚያስበረግግ ነው። ዛሬ አገሮች የውጭ ባለሀብቶችን ለመሳብ የተጠጠፈ ውድድር በሚያደርጉበት ወቅት ወሳኝ በሆነ የመሠረተ-ልማት አውታር ችግር መከሰት ማለት የውጭ ባለሀብቶችን ለመሳብ ያለን ፍላጎትና ጥረት ማዳከምና አቅጣጫ ማስቀየር ማለት ነው።

ማጠቃለያ

ለችግሩ መከሰት የተሰጡት ምክንያቶች ምን ያህል አጥጋቢ ናቸው ወይም አይደሉም የሚለው ብዙም ሊያነጋግረን ሳይችል ይችላል። ምክንያቱም፣ በአንድ በኩል ያለበት የዕድገት ደረጃ እጅግ ዝቅተኛ በመሆኑ ዝናቡ ሲታጣ መቸገር፣ ዝናቡ ሲበዛም መቸገር ሊኖር የሚችል ጉዳይ ነው ብለን እንውሰድ።

ይሁንና እንዲሁ ሁኔታው በተፈጥሮ ምክንያት አሳባን ከአቅማችን በላይ

ነው የምንለውም አይሆንም። ቢያንስ ቢያንስ ችግሩን ቀደም ብሎ መተንበይ የሚያስችል ዕውቀት በአገሪቱ ይጠፋል ብሎ ማለብ ያዳግታል። የዝናብ መጥፋት ወይም መቀነስና የደለል ችግር ከፕሮጀክት ሥራዎች ጋር ከጅምሩና በሂደቱ ተያይዞ የሚታዩና በሚገባ የሚዳሰሱ ናቸው የሚል አጠቃላይ ሳይንሳዊ ግምት ወይም እምነት አለን።

ስለዚህ ባጭሩ ችግሩ አንድም ተፈጥሯዊ አንድም ሰው ሠራሽ ናቸው ማለት ይቻላል። ተፈጥሯዊነቱ ከዝናብ ማነስ ጋር የሚታይ ሲሆን፣ ሰው ሠራሽነቱ ግን፣ ከስትራቴጂክ ዕቅድ አወጣጥና አተገባበር፣ ከሥራ አመራርና ከዕውቀት ጋር የተያያዙ ናቸው። ሌላው የተጠያቂነት ሁኔታ ሥር ሰዶ ያለመገኘቱ ነው። የተጠያቂነት ሁኔታ ከሕግ አንፃር ብቻ ሳይሆን ከዜግነት ግዴታ አንፃር ጭምር ለማለት ነው። በእርግጥ ተጠያቂነት ዕውን ሊሆን የሚችለው በኅብረተሰብ የመጠየቅ፣ የማወቅ፣ የማረም፣ የማሳረም፣ መብቱን በአግባቡ መጠቀም ሊችል ነው። ስለዚህ በሁለቱም በተጠያቂም በጠያቂም ክፈተቱ ካለ በሰው ሠራሽ ችግርነት የሚፈረጁትን ለማስወገድ አስቸጋሪነት አለው።

የዛሬው ሆነ ቀጣይ ወይደቶች አቅጣጫና አካሄድ ሊሆን የሚገባውን ችግሩ ለምን ተከሰተ? በችግሩ ምክንያት ምን ጉዳት ደረሰ? የሚለውን ለመስማት ብቻ መሆን የለበትም። ትልቁ ቁም ነገር ተመሳሳይ ችግር እንዳይከሰት ለወደፊቱ ምን ይደረግ? በሚል ዙሪያ መሆን ይኖርበታል።

ከዚህ አኳያ ፡-

1ኛ/ ለኃይል አገልግሎት የሚሰጠው ትኩረት ከፍተኛ ሁኖ ሁኔታዎችን ችግሮችንና ፍላጎቶችን ያገናዘበ ፖሊሲና ስትራቴጂ እንዲነደፍና እንዲወጣ ቢደረግ፤

2ኛ/ በፖሊሲና በስትራቴጂ ነደፋ ላይ የግሉ ክፍለ ኢኮኖሚና በአጠቃላይም የኅብረተሰቡ ተሳትፎ የሚኖርበት ሁኔታ ቢመቻች፤

3ኛ/ ችግሮች የሁሉም ችግሮች መሆናቸው ታውቆ ችግሮቹ ከመከሰታቸው በፊት ለተሻለ አማራጮች እምራችች

የሚኖርበት ሁኔታ ቢመቻች:

3ኛ/ ችግሮች የሁሉም ችግሮች መሆናቸው ታውቆ ችግሮቹ ከመከሰታቸው በፊት ለተሻለ አማራጮች አምራችች እንዲዘጋጁበት በቂ ጊዜ ቢሰጥና እንዲያውም ባለሀብቶች በተሻለ ወይም አማራጭ የኃይል ስርጭት ሥራ አገልግሎት እንዲሳተፉ ለማበረታታት በከፍተኛ የትምህርት ተቋማት በሚመለከታቸው አካላትና የተጠኑ ውጤቶችን በተለይም የእገርን ዕምቅ ሀብት ከመጠቀም አኳያ የሚበጁትን ማስተዋወቅ:

4ኛ/ ችግር ሲከሰት የሚወሰድ እርምጃ እንዲያውም የአስጠንቃቂና የእርምጃ ወሳኝ ኃላፊነትን ስሜት ብቻ የሚያሳድር እንዳይሆን ችግሩ የጋራ መሆኑን በሚያስገነዝብ መልኩ የኅብረተሰብ ተሳትፎን የሚጋብዝ የቅንጅት ሥራ ቢሠራ:

5ኛ/ ሙያና ባለሙያ እንዲገናኙ ማድረግና ይህንም በተጨማሪ አምራቹ ሆነ ኅብረተሰቡ በትክክል እንዲገነዘብ ቢደረግ: እና

6ኛ/ የተጠያቂነትና የኃላፊነት ስሜትን እዳብሮ መገኘትና የመሰሉሉት እንደአስፈላጊ አሠራሮችን መርሆዎች ቢያዙና ቢተገበሩ ተገቢ ነው::

በዚህ ወይይት ለሚነሱና ለተነሱ ችግሮች መፍትሄ ይገኛል ብሎ መገመት ማሳሳት ነው:: ለመፍትሄ አፈላለጉ ግን አጠቃላይ መርሆዎችን መጠቀምና መነጋገር ይቻላል:: በመሆኑም ከላይ የተዘረዘሩት ሃሳቦችና ሌሎችም በተሳታፊዎች የሚቀርቡና የሚዳብሩ እስተያየቶች በሚመለከታቸው አካላት ሊስተዋሉ ይገባል:: የጋራ ችግር መፍቻ ቁልፉ የጋራ ጥረት ስለሆነ በአገልጋይና በተገልጋይ ወይም በአቅራቢና በተጠቃሚ መካከል የቀረበ ግንኙነት በግልፅ የመፈታተንና የመረዳዳት መንፈስ በሁሉም ወገን ሊሰርፅ ይገባል::

በአጭሩ ከንግግራ የትኩረት አኳያ የኢ.ሊ.ክትሪክ ኃይል አገልግሎት ሳይቋረጥ ለአምራቹ ለባለ ኢንዱስትሪው እንዲደርስ ማድረግ ለአገር እድገትና ልማት የሚደረግ ግዴታ እንደሆነና ይህ ሳይሆን ሲቀር ደግሞ በባለኢንዱስትሪው የሚደርስ ችግር የአገር ልማት ችግር እንደሆነ ግንዛቤ ሊኖር ይገባል:: ስለሆነም በዚህ ዘርፍ የልማት ዕቅድ አወጣጥ ሆነ ችግር ሲደርስ: አምራቹ ለልማቱ ለችግሩ መቋቋም ወይም ለከለቁታዊ መፍትሄ መገኘት የራሱን እስተዋዕል ሊያበረክት ስለሚችል የመማከርና የማማከር ፍጥነትም የማሳወቅና የመረዳት ዕድሉ በተሻለ ሁኔታ ቢሰጠው መልካም ነው:: ■

BLONDIE



PEANUTS



AN OVERVIEW TO THE ENERGY SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA

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1. ENERGY SUPPLY AND CONSUMPTION

Total final energy consumption in 1988 E.C. was estimated at 723 Peta Joules or about 50 million tones of wood equivalent and is characterized by a high dependence on biomass fuels (Table 1). Firewood and charcoal combined met more than 77 per cent of the final consumption and agricultural residues (dung and crop residues) an estimated 15.5 per cent. The contribution of the modern component of the sector (i.e., petroleum and electricity) was no more than 6%.

The supply of petroleum products is met entirely by importation and has claimed 15-20% of imports in recent years. Petroleum fuel consumption in 1988 amounted to about 870 thousand tonnes and contributed approximately 4.8% of total final consumption. The transport sector accounted for more than 51% of the consumption of petroleum products, among which diesel oil (46%), kerosene (20%) and gasoline (18%) predominate.

Electricity generated amounted to 1,563,415 MWh (96.4% from hydro and 3.6% diesel) and covered less than 1% of final consumption but absorbs over 90% of energy sector investment programme.

Energy consumption consisted of approximately 89 per cent by households (83% by rural and 6% by urban households), 4.6% by industry, 2.5% by transport and 3.6% by the services sector. Energy used in the agricultural sector represented merely 0.1% of total consumption and 2.3% of petroleum products.

The energy consumption pattern reveals that energy distribution and consumption is biased with electricity and petroleum fuels hardly flowing to rural areas indicating energy consumption inequality in the form of energy being used. Urban households consumed 79.9% of biomass fuels and 20.1% of modern fuels whereas the rural households' energy consumption was almost entirely of biomass fuels (99.92%), petroleum products contributed merely 0.08%.

Table 1. Sectoral Energy Consumption (1988 E.C.)

Sector	Total		Biomass	
	'000 TJ†	%	'000 TJ†	%
Households	644.7	89.2	635.69	93.0
Urban	42.6	5.9	34.01	5.0
Rural	602.2	83.3	60.69	88.0
Agriculture	0.8	0.1		
Industry	33.32	4.6	24.05	3.5
Medium and large	11.89	1.6	5.57	0.8
Small-scale	0.20	...	0.19	...
Cottage industry	18.32	2.5	18.29	2.7
Mining	0.18	...		
Construction	1.97	0.3		
Grain milling	0.75	0.1		
Transport	17.92	2.5		
Road	16.18	2.2		
Rail	0.96	...		
Air	1.64	0.2		
Marine	-	-		
Services and other	26.07	3.6	23.65	3.5
Commercial	24.57	3.4	23.65	3.5
Government	1.28	0.2	-	-
Other	0.22	...	-	-
TOTAL	722.87	100	683.40	100
Total mtwe†	49.8		47.1	
Total mtwe‡	16.9		16.0	
Per cent	100.0		94.6	

Table 1 continued

Sector	Petroleum		Electricity	
	'000 TJ†	%	'000 TJ†	%
Households	7.03	20.2	2.0	43.9
Urban	6.53	18.7	2.0	43.9
Rural	0.50	1.4		
Agriculture	0.82	2.3		
Industry	7.29	20.9	1.98	42.9
Medium and large	4.36	12.5	1.97	42.6
Small-scale	0.008	...	0.002	0.05
Cottage industry	0.02	0.1	0.01	0.21
Mining	0.18	0.5		
Construction	1.97	5.7		
Grain milling	0.75	2.2		
Transport	17.92	51.4		
Road	16.18	4.6		
Rail	0.09	0.3		
Air	1.64	4.7		
Marine				
Services and other	1.80	5.2	0.61	13.2
Commercial	0.34	1.0	0.58	12.6
Government	1.27	3.6	0.004	0.08
Other	0.20	0.6	0.026	0.57
TOTAL	34.87	100	4.61	100
Total mtwe†	2.5		0.3	
Total mtwe‡	0.8		0.1	
Per cent	4.8		0.6	

Notes: † Tera Joules ‡ million tons of wood equivalent negligible
‡ million tons of oil equivalent. Source: Ethiopian Rural Energy Development and Promotion Centre, Ministry of Mines and Energy.

2. ENERGY DEMAND FORECAST

Energy demand will depend on socioeconomic factors (demography, urbanization, growth and structural changes in the economy, etc.), energy policy (energy prices, substitutions and energy rationalization measures, etc.) and also on the availability of funds for investment and imports through which supply can be increased. Energy demand projections for the period 1992-2002 are shown in Table 2. The demographic and macro economic variables used to estimate energy demand are: population 2.9%, urbanization 8.5%, GDP 6%, industry 7.4%, agriculture 5.4% and services 7.7% per year. If the past trends and linkages are maintained and no energy rationalization policy is applied, overall energy demand is expected to grow by approximately 3 per cent per year (2.6% for biomass, 7.9% for electricity and 8.7% for petroleum).

Table 2. Energy Demand Projections, 1992-2002 E.C.

Fuel type	1992		1997	
	TJ	%	TJ	%
Biomass 1/	768,838	93.1	862,552	91.0
Petroleum 2/	50,383	6.2	76,514	8.1
Electricity	6,243	0.8	9,132	1.0
TOTAL	815,464	100	948,198	100
Total mtwe [†]	58.2		65.4	
Total mtoc [‡]	19.1		22.2	
Notes				
1/ of which - ktwe [†]				
Woody biomass	42,378		47,996	
Charcoal	591		805	
Crop residue	4,217		4,755	
Dung	4,726		5,340	
2/ of which - ktoc [‡]				
Gasoline	293.6		515.7	
Diesel Oil	648.1		951.6	
Kerosene 1	273.0		404.4	

Table 2 continued

Fuel type	2002		AAGR [§]
	TJ	%	(%)
Biomass 1/	974,464	88.5	2.6
Petroleum 2/	113,859	10.3	8.7
Electricity	13,365	1.2	7.9
TOTAL	1,101,688	100	3.0
Total mtwe [†]	76.0		
Total mtoc [‡]	25.8		
Notes			
1/ of which - ktwe [†]			
Woody biomass	53,932		2.5
Charcoal	1,113		6.4
Crop residue	5,316		2.4
Dung	5,988		2.4
2/ of which - ktoc [‡]			
Gasoline	861.2		11.6
Diesel Oil	1,352.1		8.0
Kerosene	600.7		8.2

Notes: § AAGR = Annual Average Growth Rate

† ktwe/mtwe = thousand/million tons of wood equivalent

‡ ktoc/mtoc = thousand / million tons of oil equivalent

The demand projections indicate that although a gradual shift towards modern fuels is evident, biomass fuels will continue to dominate national energy consumption for many years and will result in

further widening of the energy demand-supply gaps. There are already quite significant imbalances between wood consumption and sustainable supply and the economic, social and environmental implications of the demand pattern could be very serious.¹ As wood resources diminish, rural households will have to spend a large percentage of their time searching for fuelwood instead of performing productive work in agriculture. Similarly, fuelwood scarcity can lead to increased use of crop residue and animal dung as fuel. This will compromise their other uses such as fertilizer and animal fodder and could lead to severe reductions in agricultural output at a time when even greater production is expected in the sector.

3. GOVERNMENT'S DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND ENERGY SECTOR INVESTMENT

National energy policy and planning essentially derives from national economic and social development goals and strategies. Given the critical role of agriculture in the economy, the Government has devised an "Agricultural Development-Led Industrialization" (ADLI) strategy which predicated using agriculture as the primary stimulus to generate employment and income, enhance household food security, reduce poverty and as a spring-board for the development of the other sector. The implication of such a strategy for the energy sector development is that priority must be given to the rural areas. That is, the rural sector must be backed with adequate energy supplies so that shortages and high costs of energy will not be a bottleneck to the development of the sector.

The Government's declared objectives for the energy sector emphasize the rational development and exploitation of indigenous energy resources, the supply of suitable forms of energy at affordable prices to support agricultural and industrial development and a reduction in dependence on imported energy supplies. Notwithstanding the policy statements, public sector investment in the energy sector is directed towards the power and petroleum sub-sectors to the virtual neglect of development and promotion of traditional fuels and alternative energy sources that are more applicable in the rural settings.

The Federal Government's capital budget for the development of traditional and alternative energy sources has progressively deteriorated not merely in relative terms but also in absolute terms, from 4.1% in 1982 to 0.1% 1992 and from Birr 14.2 million to 0.5 million over the same period (Table 3). Energy sector investment by the regional governments has also been negligible

¹ This is not to suggest that the demand for energy use is the primary cause of deforestation. High population density, clearing of land for agricultural purposes and dependence on woodfuels are contributing factors.

Table 3. Federal Government Capital Budget for Energy Sector 1982- 1992 E.C.

Fiscal Year	Total	(Million Birr)					
		Electricity		Petroleum		Traditional and Alternative Energy	
	amount	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
1982	350.0	314.0	89.7	21.8	6.2	14.2	4.1
1983	207.7	182.0	87.6	19.8	9.5	5.9	2.8
1984	191.0	187.0	97.9			4.0	2.1
1985	264.2	240.0	90.8	20.1	7.6	4.1	1.6
1986	294.4	267.0	90.7	16.9	5.7	10.5	3.6
1987	240.4	212.0	88.2	16.3	6.8	12.1	5.0
1988	151.2	145.0	95.9	5.5	3.6	0.7	0.5
1989	897.6	861.0	95.9	36.1	4.0	0.5	0.1
1990	620.5	639.0	86.9	81.0	13.1	0.6	0.1
1991	1,302.6	1,209.0	92.8	93.2	7.2	0.4	0.0
1992	980.8	885.0	90.3	94.3	9.6	0.5	0.1
TOTAL	5,500.4	5,042.0	91.7	405.0	7.4	53.4	1.0

Source: Ministry of Economic Development and Co-operation (MEDaC).

An energy sector development plan must be coherent with the country's investment potential and financial capabilities and should be based on detailed analyses of the capabilities and advantages and disadvantages of the various forms of energy to satisfy the energy requirements of the various sectors. Studies have shown that the development of traditional sources of energy is consistent with the socio-economic realities of the Country and their relative performance ratings appear to be quite high compared to those of the modern sub-sectors (Table 4). The environmental benefits of the former may be just as important as their energy contribution.

Table 4. Rating of Energy Development Programmes

Programme	Performance Rating
Community woodlots	329
Centralised forestry schemes: rural	290
Centralised forestry schemes: urban	74.1
Diffusion of efficient stoves: rural	28.1
Agri-residue briquetting	16.9
Electricity system expansion	15.7
Diffusion of efficient stoves: urban	3.55
Rural electrification: diesel	0.715
Biogas cooking: single household	0.711
Solar concentrating collectors	0.540
Charcoal production: metal kiln	0.532
Biogas cooking: community kitchens	0.504
Ogaden gas	0.208
Remote village power: wind generation	0.095
Remote village power: photovoltaics	0.021

Source: CESEN, Executive Summary, p. 70.

4. CONCLUSION

Although the supply of energy at least cost of forms of energy adapted to the needs of the rural areas is an important policy objective of the Government, the critical role of traditional and alternative energy sources to meet the growing energy demands of the rural areas seems to be unrecognised. The public sector investment programme is biased towards the development of modern fuels which are not likely to provide substitutes for traditional energy sources on any significant scale in the mid-term future. The high incidence of rural poverty and low-income levels, the small-scale and wide geographical spread of rural settlements will limit the distribution of electricity and petroleum products to rural areas. It is high time to pay due attention to the development and utilisation of the traditional and alternative energy sources. ■



Source: China Daily, August 31, 2000

A NOTE ON FARMERS' SHARE OF COFFEE PRICES IN ETHIOPIA AND THEIR RELATIVE VOLATILITY

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A number of attempts have been made from time to time to estimate the farmer's share of the FOB price of coffee exports from Ethiopia. This has been, and remains, particularly difficult in Ethiopia for a number of reasons. One is that there is no regular measurement of farm gate prices (though as we shall see below, some approximation is available). Another arises from the fact that coffee from different regions of the country tend to command different prices and the available statistics do not make it easy to follow a specific provenance through from growing to export. Consequently, previous estimates have depended on the infrequent attempts by planners, field workers and researchers using a variety of assumptions. Some of their conclusions are summarized in Part A while a more systematic attempt is conducted in part B. Part C examines the volatility of coffee prices at different stages in the exporting chain.

A. PREVIOUS ESTIMATES

(1). For the period 1975 to 1993/4 Hamza and Azanew reviewed the ratio of producer price (though it is not clear how they arrived at this) to an international reference price, using a combination of World Bank and unpublished data (Hamza & Azanaw 1995). They showed that from an average of 42% during the Derg period producers appeared to be receiving around 75% by 1992-94. This was still less than the share of around 90% believed to be received by Kenyan coffee growers throughout the 1980s.

(2). More recent, though more impressionistic, estimates appear in consultants' reports which, although not normally based on any sort of scientific sample, do draw together the expert knowledge of those to whom they speak. Two recent examples of this are as follows:

(a) Muir, in using prices as at January 1997 in which a 'market price', presumably farm gate, of 5 birr per kilo is assumed, has produced figures where this amounts to 50.3% of the auction price averaged over 18 months, or of 29.8% of the fob export price of 16.9 birr per kilo at that time (Muir 1997, Table 11). It is not

clear that like is being compared with like in this table. The farmer is presumably selling dried cherry while export is of green and processed. Making an adjustment for this brings the ratio accruing to the farmer up to about 60%.

The same report refers to estimates in Uganda for 1994/5 which allot between 55% and 66% of the unit export price (for Robusta coffee) to growers, and it suggests that incentives to persuade Ethiopian growers to introduce higher quality control on the farm at harvest would be reflected in farm gate shares closer to those in Uganda. A more recent Ugandan estimate for 1996 confirms that Ugandan growers received "over 60 per cent of the export price" (ICO 1997 p.110). This, however, is based on the FOB price at Kampala railhead, implying a smaller share if a notional FOB Mombasa figure had been used.

(b) Another report has the share of the fob price going to the grower as 56% (LMC International 1999, Ethiopia Country Profile, Table 6), though again it is not clear what is being referred to at farm level.

(3). The latest ICO country profile for Ethiopia, produced in co-operation with the Ethiopian Coffee and Tea Authority estimates the producer share of the FOB value over the 1995/96 -1996/97 period to be 73% (ICO 1998 p.17), a figure confirmed in June 1999, at least for washed Sidamo, by long-term consultants working for the EU Coffee Improvement Project and arrived at by comparing the New York "C" price, less adjustment for transport, with the 'typical' price then being paid to farmers by *sebsabies*. The same source's estimate for sun dried Jimma 5 was, however, nearer to 62%.

(4). It is worth recording here some early work by Teshome Mulat which looked at the share going to farmers during the 1960s and up to the mid-1970s (Teshome 1979). Although this may seem to refer to a period now passed and of little relevance to the present, that would be too hasty a judgment, despite the landlordism of much of that period. Dr. Teshome's calculations for the period between 1961-2

and 1971-72 produce a share of FOB export value going to farmers ranging between 61% and 69%. In June 1972 the auction was introduced and the share for the following two seasons was estimated to be 59% and 63%. These orders of magnitude are not so different from some of those discussed above for the present period. This is not surprising, as the marketing structure in operation today is similar in many respects to that of the pre-revolutionary period. The presence of landlords, cry of the 'gebbar' system and its variations, would not affect the price received by growers, but rather their income if they had to pay rent, tribute or a share of the crop to a third party.

None of the above calculations was able to use actual data on farm gate prices for their estimates which were based upon assumed deductions for merchants costs and transport etc. This problem is overcome by more recent collection of producers' prices, as shown below.

B. ESTIMATE USING CSA DATA

(i) Percentage Share of Auction Price

In recent years the Central Statistical Authority has been conducting a monthly survey of prices to producers, published as "Average Producers' Price of Agricultural Products in Rural Areas". This is based upon a two stage stratified sample design using a small sample of farmers from each of a number of Enumeration Areas drawn from a given group of Zones. While there are some doubts about the representative nature of this procedure in the case of coffee, it probably provides a good indication of relative magnitudes. Data is gathered on the price received for (1) 'whole bean' and (2) 'bean', by which is meant the sun-dried undecorticated bean (or 'jenfal') and the ungraded green bean respectively. Most sales by farmers will be of the former and for this reason I have included it in Table 1. For comparative purposes with prices at later stages of the chain, however, it is the green bean that provides the more useful benchmark (a frequent rule of thumb is that the 'jenfal' price per kg is roughly half that of the decorticated bean per kg).

Table 1 shows the prices received by farmers for their coffee in Jimma and Sidama during the 1997-98 season, and compares them with the Addis Ababa auction prices for the same coffee. In that season the average price to farmers for green beans in Jimma (and Illubabor) for the nine months October 1997 to June 1998 was 9.28 Birr per kilo. This compares with the average auction price for Jimma coffee for the same nine months of 15.56 Birr per kilo. The farmer's price as a percentage of the auction price averaged 60%. The average for coffee from Sidamo was 57%.

This assumes we are comparing like with like at each end of the chain. All coffee arriving at the terminal in Addis Ababa is tested for quality and a small

proportion, of around some 7%, is rejected as below export quality and is auctioned separately for domestic use. The auction price quoted above of 15.56 Birr per kilo for Jimma coffee therefore corresponds to 1.07 kilos which left the interior - that is a value to farmers of (9.28x1.07) or 9.93 Birr. Expressing this as a percentage of 15.56 raises the farmer's share to 63.8%. The corresponding figure for Sidama coffee becomes 61.0%.

Table 1. Price to Farmers' as Percentage of Auction Price
Season 1997-98

	Price to farmer				Auction		% Share to farmer	
	Jimma B/Kg	Sidama B/Kg	Jimma B/Kg	Sidama B/Kg	Jimma B/Kg	Sidama B/Kg	Jimma B/Kg	Sidama B/Kg
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(2)/(5)	(4)/(6)
Oct	2.8	8.61	2.17	7.00	15.49	14.97	56	47
Nov	3.41	8.58	3.21	7.32	15.83	15.46	55	47
Dec	4.31	10.98	4.00	10.13	18.02	17.75	61	57
Jan	5.18	9.83	4.00	10.12	18.17	17.98	54	56
Feb	4.29	8.41	4.82	9.25	15.55	16.71	54	55
Mar	4.88	8.93	4.25	9.80	14.69	15.85	61	62
Apr	4.72	9.60	-	-	14.54	15.20	68	-
May	4.38	9.52	5.73	9.66	14.45	15.19	66	65
June	4.53	8.99	6.05	8.96	13.32	15.90	68	63
Mean	4.28	9.28	4.15	9.18	15.56	16.11	60	57

Notes: 1. Columns (1) and (3) are for dried undecorticated beans. Columns (2), (4), (5) and (6) are for green beans.

Sources: Columns (1) - (4), Report on Average Producers' Price of Agricultural Products in Rural Areas, Statistical Bulletins 188, 190, 199 Central Statistical Authority, Addis Ababa.

Columns (5) - (6), Coffee Bulletin, Issues 2/12, 2/13, 2/14. Coffee and Tea Authority, Addis Ababa.

(ii) Percentage Share of Export Price

The share of the auction price thus going to the farmer of around 61 to 64%, if correct, will clearly be less than this proportion of the export price. Official statistics do not allow us to trace a specific coffee such as Jimma or Sidama through to the export stage. Table 2, however, compares the average Jimma and Sidamo auction prices for that season on a monthly basis with the overall unit export value of coffee and the ICO indicator price for mild arabicas in the NY market (with the latter converted from US cents per pound to Birr per kilo).

Table 2. AA Auction, Unit Export Prices and
ICO Indicator Prices Compared

	AA Auction	Unit Export Price	ICO Indicator Price
Oct	15.23	20.98	24.20
Nov	15.65	29.86	23.07
Dec	17.89	20.06	26.19
Jan	18.08	22.45	26.45
Feb	16.13	24.58	26.74
Mar	15.27	27.21	23.64
Apr	14.87	26.37	22.57
May	14.82	24.92	20.85
June	14.61	25.67	18.88
Mean	15.84	23.69	

% mark up - 43.05%

Sources: (1). Column (1) averages of columns (5) and (6) of Table 1.

(2). Column (2) derived from Bank of Ethiopia Quarterly Bulletins.

(3). Column (3) data from FO Licht converted to Birr/kg using rates from IMF International Financial Statistics.

The unit export price is of course the unit value of all grades of coffee exported, including washed. If we take the latter to have averaged about 10% of volume and to have commanded a 50% price premium then the unit value of sun-dried exports would be about 95% of the figures shown in Column (2). Dividing the average of this revised figure by the average Jimma/Sidama auction price gives an export mark-up from auction of 42.08%. This is rather crude, of course, since export unit values for a given month will refer to coffee purchased one or more months previously. However, making adjustment for this does not alter the average mark-up significantly.

This may appear to be somewhat high but in fact is not too dissimilar to at least one consultant's estimate of 40.7% (Muir 1997, Table 11). Of the latter, taxes were assumed to comprise 4.32% points, leaving a business mark-up of 36.38% rounding this to 36% therefore, and taking the producers' share of the auction price to average 63% then the producers' share of the export price becomes 46.32%. However, the exporter will also have rejected about a further 10% prior to export and making an allowance for this, in order to compare like with like again, raises the producers' share to 50.96%.

A rather lower estimate of the mark-up between auction and export of 22.5% (LMC International 1999) produces a figure of 51.43% for the grower's share of the final ex-tax FOB price. With 10% rejected in the exporter's warehouse this would rise to 56.57% of FOB (ex taxes), comparing like with like.

It is again perhaps worth noting that these figures are not so different from those which were being estimated during the late imperial and early revolutionary period, as noted by Teshome. For example, the Coffee Production and Processing Agency in 1975 estimated farm gate prices would be about 40% of the FOB export price. In 1976 a figure of 48% came from the same source (note that the Coffee Marketing Board was not established until 1978). An independent study by Teketel in 1970 estimated the exporter's mark-up over the buying price to be only 19.7% (Teketel 1973, Tables VI-5, VI-7). This was before the introduction of the auction, but would give an FOB share to the producer of about 57.9% (making the same assumptions as above).

C. PRICE VOLATILITY

The degree to which they experience frequent substantial price movements is in some respects as important to the farmer as is the actual level of price itself. This is difficult to measure as data is limited but there are two possibilities. One is the *Report on Producers' Prices in Rural Areas*, utilised in the preceding section, produced by the CSA, which gives a fairly complete series of coffee prices to farmers in different parts of the country between November 1994 to August 1998 (as at end of 1999). These can be

compared with trends in unit export prices and with international prices. A corresponding series of auction prices for this complete period is not yet to hand. The other is an IMF study in 1996 (International Monetary Fund 1996) in which a continuous series of coffee auction, domestic, unit export and New York indicative prices was compiled for the 35-month period January 1993 to November 1995. For this period, however, there are no farmers' price records.

Let us look at these in turn.

i) November 1994- August 1998

Although there were two significant periods of high prices which subsequently fell during this period a first approximation to the overall degree of volatility experienced can be obtained by looking at coefficients of variation, as in Table 2.

Table 3. Variation in Coffee to Farmers
November 1994 - August 1998

		Mean	S.D.	Coeff. Of Var.
Jimma	Green	8.5660	2.3063	0.2692
	Dried Red	4.4722	1.4173	0.3169
Sidama	Green	3.4713	1.7837	0.2106
	Dried Red	3.9443	1.0417	0.2641
Unit Export Values (all beans)		21.1151	3.8946	0.1844
NY Arabica		150.8935	33.4397	0.2216

Notes: Mean and S.D. for Jimma, Sidama and unit export values are in Birr/kg. for NY Arabica they are in cents/lb. The coefficient of variation is the standard deviation divided by the mean.

Source: CSA, F.O. Licht.

The evidence on this initial measure is mixed. In each of the two regions of Ethiopia looked at here, the price to farmers of sun-dried red beans has tended to fluctuate more than that of decorticated green beans. In the case of coffee from Jimma (and Illubabor) both varieties have a higher coefficient of variation than either Sidama or the NY price, with Sidama green beans appearing to be slightly more stable. Interestingly, the least volatile are the unit export prices.

The impact on farmers of such variability could be quite significant. A standard deviation of between 20% and 30% of the mean, calculated on a month-to-month basis, represents a high degree of instability for households on very low incomes. It also adds considerable uncertainty to investment in a tree crop, with a seven-year gestation period, that is also notoriously prone to disease of the berries.

As a measure of instability the coefficient of variation is fairly crude, particularly if taken over a fairly long period in which there was a secular rise in prices. An alternative is to fit a trend model and examine the behaviour of residuals around the trend. There are

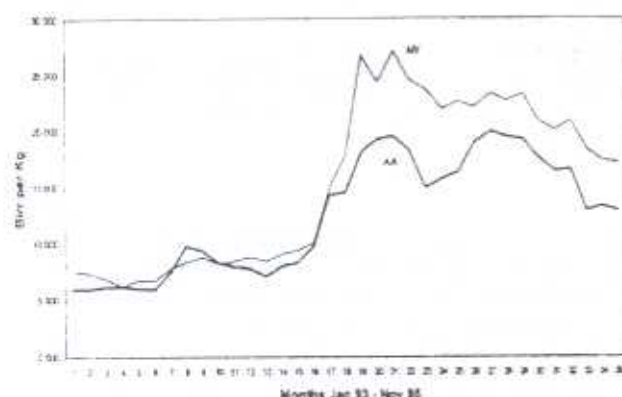
difficulties with this for the period November 1994 to August 1998 because of a number of gaps in the data, but if these are 'bridged' by averaging then a mean absolute percentage error from a simple linear trend may be calculated, with results as follows:

Farmers prices of Jimma coffee	21.63%
Unit export values	16.16%
NY indicator prices, in Birr/kg	18.39%

That is, for the farmer the average deviation of actual price from a linear trend is 21.63% of the actual price (calculated for green beans only). Clearly the farmer comes out worse with this indicator. It should be noted that a linear trend is not actually the best fit over this period but that is not the object. We require only a benchmark from which to measure fluctuations over a fairly short period. Moreover, a simple trend is likely to provide the best indicator of a 'norm' as far as farmers and people in the trade are concerned.

Overall, therefore, for the period November 1994 to August 1998, the degree of price fluctuation experienced by farmers appeared to have been greater than that either of exporters or of international traders.

Fig. 1. NY and AA Auction Prices 1993-95



ii) January 1993-November 1995

For this earlier 35-month period between January 1993 and November 1995 there is no corresponding information about prices to farmers. This was also a period when international prices rose substantially over a very short period of a few months from about May 1994, and this is reflected in significantly higher coefficients of variation than for the later period discussed above. These give:

	Coefficient of variation
Addis Ababa auction price	0.5878
Unit export value	0.5059
NY indicator price	0.4773

For this period local auction price fluctuations appear to have been greater than were international prices. A glance at Figure 1 shows that apart from the very substantial price increase of mid-1994 the NY market appears in general to have been slightly more stable than the AA auction series. This conclusion is sensitive to the index used, however, if we look instead at deviations from a linear trend then we get a different ranking. The mean absolute percentage errors (MAPE) are as follows:

	MAPE
Addis Ababa auction price	18.3%
Unit export value	20.41%
	21.7%

If the combination in the middle of the decade of rising international prices and a falling value of the Birr against the US dollar led farmers and traders to believe that higher coffee prices would prevail for some time, then deviations around the trend are likely to have been more meaningful than deviations around an average price for the period. It is notable then that the Addis Ababa auction during that period was somewhat less volatile than the NY market. That may be a reflection, of course, of the greater susceptibility of that market to rumours of early frost in Brazil.

CONCLUSION

It may be, somewhat superficially, concluded that prices at each end of the chain tend to fluctuate rather more wildly than at different stages in the middle. In three of the four cases looked at in Section C either unit export values or the AA auction have indicated lower variability than either producers or the final terminal markets in NY. The difference being that most of those involved at the NY end can hedge while farmers at the rural end cannot.

The situation is, however, more complex than the figures themselves would indicate. In Part A, I looked at the share of farmers in the FOB price over one season, 1997-98, taking the average for the season. In fact, Table 1 shows that the share actually varied quite considerably during the season. There is a clear tendency for the producer to have received a greater share in the later months. This may be a reflection of how the market handles substantial price movements within a season as this particular season was marked by a rapid rise in the international price during the first part of the season which fell away significantly towards the end, as shown in the final column of Table 2. A glance at the first four columns of Table 1 shows that the price to farmers did not fall to the same degree. The reasons for this are unclear, though it may be that the higher international price during the earlier part was taken as profit by exporters and perhaps merchants, while the price offered to growers remained more stable, though this is somewhat inconsistent with the observations

influence of stock carryover (or its absence) from the previous season.

Some differential effects have also been observed by Hamza and Ayalew. Thus, the relative impact on producers of rapidly rising international prices and of devaluation of the currency during the mid-1990s appear to have been quite different, even though both should have the same effect of raising local prices. As they point out, only about a third of the benefit of the devaluation of the Birr in 1992 seems to have passed on to farmers, while about two thirds of the substantial price rise of 1994 was passed on. The reasons for this difference are not clear, but may reflect either institutional changes (some market liberation) between the two years or the way in which different sources of change are transmitted through particular parts of the institutional structure. More information is clearly required regarding the transmission mechanisms of changing prices as they are experienced through the supply chain. Further research would also investigate whether prices rise and fall symmetrically or, as is often found in retail/wholesale relationships, there is asymmetry (Minten & Kyle 2000).

Clearly, much depends upon the institutional structure of the marketing chain: on how competitive each stage is and on how regulation affects different participants. The situation is complicated by the fact that coffee from different growing regions tend to attract differential prices and that the farmer is often selling dried undecorticated beans which are then often processed by more than one merchant before being finally exported to a given qualitative standard. Beans rejected for export also command a price on the substantial domestic market. Comparing like with like through this process is therefore difficult.

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ERRATA

In the Aug-Sep issue of *Economic Focus*, Table 3, in Seife Dendir's article, was inadvertently cut out and 'Vol. 4 No. 4', on front cover, should read as 'Vol. 3 No. 4'. We apologise for the inconvenience the errors have caused to our dear readers. Table 3 is now printed below.

Table 3. Reserve and Liquidity Position

End of fiscal year (Millions of Birr)			
Reserve position	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98
Net deposits	11307.9	12835.4	16166.9
Reserve requirement	880.6	641.8	808.3
Reserve account with NBE	1985.2	1336.7	2425.3
Excess / short fall	1104.6	694.9	1617
Liquidity Position			
Net current deposits	10547.4	11988.7	15112.2
Liquidity requirement	1582.1	1798.3	2266.8
Total liquid assets	4124.1	5190.9	7755.1
Excess / short fall	2542	3392.6	5488.3

Source: MEDaC (1998).

ANNOUNCEMENT

WE ARE PLEASED TO INFORM OUR READERS THAT VOLUME 7, NUMBER 1, OF THE *ETHIOPIAN JOURNAL OF ECONOMICS* IS NOW IN THE PRINTING PRESS AND WILL SOON BE ON SALE.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The EEA/Economic Policy Research Institute is glad to announce that it has embarked on preparing the Second Annual Report on the Ethiopian Economy. To feed into the preparation of this report, the Institute has identified a number of research studies to be undertaken both by the Institute and interested parties. The Institute accordingly invites qualified candidates to apply for the following short-term consultancy jobs:^{}*

- ◆ Undertaking a study on “the impacts of the recent boarder conflict on the *Ethiopian economy*”
- ◆ *Assessing the applicability of “cost-recovery in the education sector” in Ethiopia*
- ◆ *Evaluating “the current state and potential long-term impacts of AIDS on the development performance of Ethiopia”*

The successful candidate in each study area is expected to prepare a background paper on the topic and collaborate with the Institute in the design, implementation and analyses of appropriate surveys that may be required by the respective study. Candidates are encouraged to submit testimonials of their qualification and a draft proposal indicating how they will approach the study. The proposal to be submitted needs to clearly lay out the specific research questions to be addressed by the study, the research methodologies to be used, indicative budget and time frame of the study. The deadline for submitting testimonials and proposals is December 8, 2000. Detailed terms of reference and additional information can be obtained by contacting the Institute using the following address: -

EEA/Economic Policy Research Institute

P.O. Box 34282

E-mail: eea@telecom.net.et

Tel. 557459

Addis Ababa

^{*} Additional short-term research consultancy jobs will be advertised soon focusing mainly on the education sector in Ethiopia

ANNOUNCEMENT

The EEA/Ethiopian Economic Research Institute has identified a number of key research areas, which are considered to have significant implications to the economic development of the country. Accordingly, the Institute has decided to undertake a comprehensive and thorough research on "the current land tenure system and its implications on the overall performance of the agriculture sector". This research involves a number of research components that will be undertaken by both the Institute and interested parties.

The Institute, therefore, wishes to invite qualified individuals or consultants to apply for the following short-term consultancy jobs: -

- To undertake *"A review of the land holding systems and policies in Ethiopia under different regimes"*
- To undertake *"A theoretical survey and analysis of land holding systems and lessons from relevant country experiences and their effects on agricultural production"*

The Institute expects successful candidates to prepare a background paper on their respective research topics and participate in the design, implementation and analysis of appropriate surveys that are related to the overall research area. Candidates are encouraged to submit testimonials of their qualification and experience, and a draft proposal which clearly lays out the specific research questions to be addressed by the study, the research methodology to be used, indicative budget and time frame required for the study. Candidates are also encouraged to obtain further information including detailed terms of reference by contacting the Institute at the address below.

The deadline for submitting testimonials and proposals is **December 15, 2000**.

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የመንግሥት ሠራተኞች ደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር ሂሳብ ስሌት

ከፋንታውን በለው ገንዘብ ሚኒስቴር

ይህ ጽሑፍ በልሳነ-ኢኮኖሚክስ ቅጽ 2 ቁጥር 1፣ ቅጽ 2 ቁጥር 5 እና ቅጽ 3 ቁጥር 1 መጽሔቶች በእቶ ፋሲል ጣሰውና በእቶ ተገኘወርቅ ገብረ የመንግሥት ሠራተኞች ደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር ሂሳብ ስሌትን በተመለከተ የቀረቡትን ጽሑፎች መነሻ በማድረግ በደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር ሂሳብ ስሌትና ተዛማጅ ሃሳቦች ላይ የተሰማኝን አስተያየት ለመግለጽ የቀረበ ነው።

የገቢ ግብር በተለይም የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር የመንግሥትን ወጪ ለመሸፈን ያለውን አስተዋጽኦ እየዛዊ መረጃዎችን በመጥቀስ በእቶ ፋሲል ጽሑፍ ተገልጿል። የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር በቅርብ ዓመታት በየዓመቱ ይሰበሰባል ተብሎ በዕቅድ ከተያዘው በላይ አፈጻጸም በማሳየት ላይ ሲገኝ፣ በ1986 በጀት ዓመት ከነበረበት ከብር 284 ሚሊዮን በ1991 በጀት ዓመት ወደ ብር 505 ሚሊዮን በማድግ 78 በመቶ ጭማሪ አሰመዘግቧል። ከዚህም በላይ የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር ከብሔራዊ ክልላዊ መንግሥታት ጠቅላላ የታከሰ ገቢ ውስጥ ባለፉት ስድስት ዓመታት በአማካይ ከ23 በመቶ በላይ ድርሻ እንዳለው ለመገንዘብ ይቻላል። ለዚህ የገቢ ግብር ዕድገት የታከሰ መሠረቱ ከመስፋቱም በላይ የገቢ አስተዳደሩ ቀላል መሆኑ ከፍተኛ አስተዋጽኦ ማድረጉ ይታወቃል።

ቀደም ሲል በሁለቱ ጽሑፍ አቅራቢዎች የቀረቡት ጽሑፎች ትኩረት ከሥራ ገበታ የሚለዩ ሠራተኞች ደመወዝ ላይ የሚደረገውን የታከሰ ስሌት ነው። ሆኖም በተግባር እንደሚታየው ይህን መሰሉ አጋጣሚ እነስተኛ በመሆኑ በመንግሥትም ሆነ በተቀጣሪዎች ገቢ ላይ የሚያስከትለው ማነስና መብዛት

ቁምነገር የሚገባ እይታንም። እንዲያውም ጉዳዩ ከፍተኛ ትኩረት ተሰጥቶ በኢኮኖሚው ላይ የሚያስከትለው ተጽእኖ የሚል ርዕሰ መስጠቱ አስገራሚ ነው። በዚህ ጉዳይ ላይ ወደ ጓላ የምመለስበት ሲሆን በቅድሚያ በተለይ እቶ ፋሲል በተጓዳኝ ባህሪው ነጥቦች ላይ አስተያየት መስጠት ጠቃሚ መሰለ-ይታየኛል።

በመሠረቱ በእንደ የታከሰ ሥርዓት ቀላል፣ ግልጽና ቀልጣፋ የሆነ አስተዳደር መኖር እጅግ ጠቃሚ ነው። በዚህ ረገድ በአገራችን ካሉት የገቢ ግብሮች ውስጥ የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር አስተዳደር እጅግ ቀላልና ግልጽ አድልዎና የገለበሰ አስተያየትና ውሳኔ (discretionary) የማይመለከተው ነው። ይህም የሆነው ታከሱ በቀጣሪው ተቀንሶ ለታከሰ ሰብሳቢ ከፍል ገቢ (Withholding Tax) የሚደረግ በመሆኑ ነው።

እቶ ፋሲል የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር በቀጣሪው መሰብሰብ ጓላ ቀር አሠራር መሆኑን ጠቅሞታል። ለዚህም የሰጡት ምክንያት የዚህን ግብር አሰባሰብ በተመለከተ የወጣው መመሪያ የተማረ የሰው ሃይል እጅግ እነስተኛ በነበረበት ወቅት ከመሆኑ በላይ አሠራሩ በአሁኑ ወቅት ላለው የተማረ የሰው ኃይል የሥራ ዕድልን የሚያጠብ መሆኑ ነው። አስተያየታቸውን ሲቀጥሉም በአዋጁ መሠረት ቀጣሪው ግብርን ቀንሶ ይክፈል “Tax Withholding” የሚለው ሲተገበር እገራቱ እያስተማረች ለባዕድ አገር የተማረ የሰው ኃይሏን አላልፋ እንድትሰጥ ያደርጋል። ስለዚህ የሥራ መደራረብን የሚያስከትሉ ደንቦችን ወደ ዋናው ሕግ እየመለሰን ሥራ መፍጠርና ተገቢውን የገቢ ግብር የሚገባ መሰብሰብ ይኖርብናል

ብለዋል። (ልሳነ-ኢኮኖሚክስ ቅጽ 3 ቁጥር 1 ገጽ 37)።

እቶ ፋሲል ይህን መሰሉን አሠራር በመተግበር የአገር ውስጥ ባለሥልጣን በሰው ኃይል በማጠናከር የሥራ ዕድልን ማስፋት እንደሚቻል ይመክራሉ። ሆኖም ታከሰ የመክፈል (የመሰብሰብ) ኃላፊነትን ገቢውን ከሚያገኘው (ደመወዝተኛው) ይልቅ ደመወዙን በሚከፍለው (ቀጣሪው) ላይ እንዲሆን መደረጉ የታከሰ አሰባሰቡን ይበልጥ ኃላፊነቱ ሊሰማው በሚችለው አካል ላይ መጣሉን መገንዘብ ያስፈልጋል። ይኸውም ሕጉ ግዴታ የጣለው ገቢውን በሚያገኘው አካል ላይ በመሆኑ ተፈጻሚነቱን የጎላ ያደርገዋል። ይህም በመሆኑ የዚህ ገቢ አሰባሰብ እጅግ ግልጽና ቀላል ሆኖ፣ ለብኩንነትና ለምዝበራ ያልተጋለጠ እንዲሆን አስችሎታል። ከሁሉም በላይ ለገቢ አሰባሰቡ መንግሥት የሚያደርገው ወጪ እጅግ አናሳ እንዲሆን ረድቷል። በዚህ ረገድ የፌዴራል አገር ውስጥ ገቢ ባለሥልጣን ከ1986-1992 በጀት ዓመት ከየዓመቱ በአማካይ የሰበሰበውን ብር 195 ሚሊዮን የሥራ ግብር ውጤት ያከናውነው ብዛታቸው ከ6 በማይበልጡ ሠራተኞች መሆኑን ለመገንዘብ ይቻላል። ይህም መንግሥት በተቻለ መጠን በሌሎች ታከሶችም ታከሰን ቀንሶ የማስቀረት “Withholding Tax” አሠራርን ቢተገብር የተሻለ መሆኑን ይጠቁማል።

የእቶ ፋሲል ሥጋት በአገራችን ከሚገኙ ዩኒቨርሲቲዎችና ኮሌጆች በየዓመቱ የሚመረቁት የሂሳብ ባለሙያዎች ሥራ ማጣት ነው። በዚህ ረገድ የሂሳብ ባለሙያዎችን ሙያ የሚፈልጉ የታከሰ አስተዳደሮች በርካታ ናቸው። በተለይም ጥራትና ትክክለኛ የሆነ

የሂሳብ መዝገብን መያዝ የሚጠይቀው የንግድ ሥራ ገቢ ግብር (Business Profit Tax) የሂሳብ መያዝን የሚጠይቅ በመሆኑ የሂሳብ ባለሙያዎችን ለታክስ ሰብሳቢውም ሆነ ለታክስ ከፋይ ሥራ መቃኘት ከፍተኛ አስተዋጽኦ ሊያደርጉ እንደሚችሉ ይታመናል። በመሆኑም ወደፊት ግብር ከፋይ በታወቀ የአዲት ባለሙያ የተመረመረ ሂሳብ መዝገብ የማቅረብን ልምድ እንዲያቃብር ማድረግ ግዴታ ስለሚሆን በዚህ ረገድ የባለሙያ እውቀት እንዳይኖር በባሉ አስጋላጭ።

በሌላ በኩል አቶ ፋሲል በጽሑፋቸው አገራችን በአሁኑ ወቅት ከዕዝ ኢኮኖሚ ወጥታ የትይጥ ኢኮኖሚን በማራመድ ላይ በመሆኗ ሠራተኞች ከእንደ መ/ቤት ወደ ሌላ መ/ቤት የመዘዋወር ዕድል የሰፋ በመሆኑ የታክስ ሰብሳቢው ክፍል የሚጠቀምበት ታክስን ቀንሶ የማስቀረት ሥርዓት ለዚህ መሰሉ እንቅስቃሴ አመች አለመሆኑን አብራርተዋል። በእርግጥ የምንከተለው የኢኮኖሚ ፖሊሲ ለሠራተኞች ከቦታ ቦታ ዝውውር አመች ሁኔታን ፈጥሯል። የጃንድ ታክስ ከፋይ የሥራ ቦታ መቀያየር ደግሞ ለታክስ እከፋፈል ችግር ይፈጥራል። ግን ለዚህ መፍትሄው ምንድነው? የሚሠራበት የደመወዝ ግብር እከፋፈል እንደምታስ ምን ይመስላል?

እንደሚታወቀው ታክስ በማንኛውም ዜጋ ላይ የተጣለ ግዴታ ነው። ማንኛውም ሠርቶ ያገኘ ግለሰብ ወይም ድርጅት በገቢው መጠን የተጣለበትን ታክስ በወቅቱ እንዲከፍል ይገደዳል። ሆኖም ክፍያውን ሲጠየቅ በለውጡ የሚያገኘው ቀጥታ የሆነ አገልግሎት ወይም ሽቀጥ ባለመኖሩ በፈቃደኝነት ሲከፍል አይታይም። በመሆኑ የታክስ አስተዳደርን እጅግ አስቸጋሪ ያደርገዋል። ስለዚህ የታክስ አስባሰብን በተቻለ መጠን ቀላልና ቀጣፋ እንዲሆን ማድረግ ጠቃሚ ነው። በዚህ ረገድ ታክስን ከምንጩ ቀንሶ ማስቀረት (Withholding Tax) በአብነት የሚጠቀስ ነው። በመሆኑም የታክስ አስተዳደሩን ለማሻሻል በሚደረገው ጥረት ይህን ዓይነትን አሠራር በተለያዩ የሥራ ዘርፎች ተግባራዊ እንዲሆን ማድረግ ተመራጭ ነው።

በዚህ ምክንያት የደመወዝ ገቢ

ግብር አስባሰቡ አመች ያልሆነውን ሥራቸውን ለሚቀያይሩ ሠራተኞች ወይስ ለመንግሥት? በመንግሥት በኩል ታክሱ በአሠራዎች መቀነሱ ጠቀሜታ እንዳለው የሚያጠያይቅ አይሆንም። እንዲያውም በአሁኑ ወቅት ያለው ችግር በተሰያዩ ቦታዎች ደመወዝ የሚከፈላቸው ወይም ገቢ የሚያገኙ ሠራተኞችን ገቢ አጣጥሮ ታክሱ የማስከፈሉ ጉዳይ ነው። ይህም ቢሆን አሠራሮች የተጣለባቸውን ሕጋዊ ግዴታ ለመወጣት ወይም ወጪው በሂሳባቸው እንዲመዘገባቸው ለመጠየቅ እንዲችሉ ግዴታቸውን ሲወጡ ይታያል።

አቶ ፋሲል ከታክስ ጋር በተያያዙ ጉዳዮች ልንገነዘባቸው የሚገቡ ጽንሰ ሀሳቦችንም በተመለከተ የታክስ መሠረትን (Tax Base) የግብር አስተዳደር ቀልጣፋነት (Efficiency) እና የግብር ሥርዓት ፍትሃዊነት ጉዳይን አንስተዋል። ሆኖም የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብርን በተመለከተ ይበልጥ ተገቢ የሚመስለው ጽንሰ ሀሳብ የመሥራት ፍላጎትን የመጫን (distortionary) ባሕርይ ነው። አንድ ታክስ ግለሰብ ወይም ድርጅትን ታክሱ ከመጣሉ በኋላና በፊት የሚኖረውን ውሳኔ የሚያስቀይር ከሆነ (distortionary) የመሥራት አቅጣጫን የማስቀየር ባሕርይ እንዳለው መገንዘብ ይቻላል። ይኸውም ግለሰቡ የተጣበትን ግብር መጠን ለመቀነስ እርምጃን የሚወስድ ከሆነ ግብሩ ውሳኔን የማዛባት (distortionary) ባሕርይ አለው ማለት ነው። በመሆኑም በሥራ ላይ ያለው የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር ጫና ከፍተኛ ሆኖ የሰዎችን የመሥራት ፍላጎት የሚጫን ከሆነ ዜጎች ከመሥራት ማረፍን (leisure) እንዲመርጡ ያደርጋል። ለዚህም ቀደም ሲል የነበረውን የሥራ ግብር ማስከፊያ ምጣኔ ያጤናል። የሥራ ግብሩ እስከ 85 በመቶ የሚደርስ በመሆኑ ከብር 3000 በላይ የወር ደመወዝ ይከፈል የነበረ ሠራተኛ ከተጨማሪ ብር 1 ወደ ኪሉ የሚያስገባው 15 ሣንቲም ብቻ ነበር። ስለዚህ 85 ሣንቲም ለመንግሥት ግብር ለመክፈል የሚሠራ ሊኖር አይችልም።

በዚህ ረገድ በአሁኑ ወቅት ያለውን የሥራ ግብር ማስከፊያ ምጣኔ በመሥራት ፍላጎት ላይ ሳያስከትል የሚችለው ተጽእኖ መገምገም ይቻላል። በእርግጥ ማንኛውም

ታክስ ቢሆን ይብዛም ይነስም ውጫን የማዛባት (distortionary) ባሕርይ አለው። እዚህ ላይ መጤን ያለበት ግብሩ የሚያስከትላቸው ባሕርያትን የማጣጣም ጉዳይ ነው። የሚንኛውም የገቢ ግብር ዋና ዓላማ የመንግሥትን ወጪ ለመሸፈን የሚያስችል ገቢን ማመንገድ ነው።

የመንግሥት ፋይናንስ አፈጻጸም የሚያሳየውን የበጀት ጉድለትና በሥራ ላይ ያለው ግብር የሚያስከትለውን ኢኮኖሚያዊ አፈጻጸም የማዛባት ባሕር ማጤንና ማወጣደር ተገቢ ይሆናል። ከዚህም በላይ ይህንን የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር ማስከፊያ ምጣኔ ከሌሎች በኢኮኖሚ ደረጃ ተቀራራቢ ከሆኑ አገሮች ጋር በማወጣደር ታክሱ ያለበትን ደረጃ መመልከት ይቻላል።

በሌላ በኩል ቀደም ሲል የቀረበውን የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር ስሌት በተመለከተ ቀጥሎ ያለውን ልገልጽ እወጃለሁ።

በመሠረቱ የአቶ ፋሲልን የተቀናሽ ግብር ስሌት ያዛባው ከማንኛውም ግለሰብ ደመወዝ ገቢ ላይ ተቀናሽ የሚሆነው ብር 120 ደመወዝ ነው። ይህ ገቢ ከታክስ ነፃ የሆነው በመጀመሪያ ደረጃ እጅግ ዝቅተኛ ደመወዝ ያላቸው ዜጎች ከታክስ ነፃ ለማድረግ ነው። የታክስን ፍትሃዊነት ለመጠበቅ ሲባል ይኸው ገቢ ከማንኛውም ደመወዝተኛ ላይ ተቀናሽ ይሆናል። ይህም ሲሆን ከታክሱ ነፃ የሆነው ገቢ በወሩ መጀመሪያ የሚገኘው ገቢ ነው የሚል አባባል ሊኖር አይችልም። ከደመወዛቸው አግባብ ያልሆነ ታክስ እንዲከፍል ይጠየቃል የተባለው በወሩ መጀመሪያ ቀናት ሥራ ላይ የነበረና ያልነበረ ሠራተኛ በተለያዩ መንገድ ታክስ ከፋይ እንደሆነ በመገመቱ ነው። ይህም የሆነው በወሩ መጀመሪያ ቀናት ያሉት ዝቅተኛ ገቢዎች ከታክስ ነፃ የሚሆኑ ሲሆን ወደ መጨረሻ የሚኖሩት ደግሞ በከፍተኛ የታክስ እርከን ውስጥ የሚወድቁ በመሆኑ የተለያዩ የግብር መጠን የሚያስከትሉ በመሆኑ ነው።

ነገር ግን የሚሠራበት የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር ሕግ ደመወዛቸው ከወር ላነሰ ጊዜ ቢሠራ ወይም ከአንድ ወር በላይ ሠርቶ ያገኘው ገቢ በየወሩ ተመንዝሮ የገቢ ግብሩ እንዲሠላ ይደነግጋል። ስለዚህ በወር መጀመሪያ፣ መጨረሻ፣ ወይም

መካከል ቀናት ተሠርቶ የተገኘ ገቢ ተብሎ የሚመደብበት አሠራር አይኖርም።

ስለዚህ የደመወዝ እክፋፈል የሚፈጸመውም ሆነ የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር ስሌት የሚሠራው በወሩ መጨረሻ ላይ የተሠራባቸው ቀናት ተደምረው ነው። ስለዚህ ክፍያው በወሩ መጀመሪያ ቀናት ወይም መጨረሻ ቀናት ተገኘ ተብሎ የሚተነተን አይደለም።

ቀደም ሲል ለመግለጽ እንደሞከርኩት የእንድ ታክስ አስተዳደር ጥራት ከሚለካባቸው መስፈርቶች መካከል ስሌቱ ቀላልና ግልጽ መሆኑ ነው። በዚህ ረገድ ከሥራ ገበታቸው የተለዩ ሠራተኞች ላልሠሩበት ቀናት የሚደረገው የግብር ስሌት ኒማካይ ግብርን በመውሰድ ስለሆነ ቀላልና ግልጽ ይደርገዋል። ይህም አማካይ ስሌት አማካይ እንደመሆኑ መጠን ከትክክለኛው መጠን ልዩነት ቢኖረውም ድምር ውጤቱ ባዶ መሆኑን የአቶ ፋሲል ስሌትም ያመለክታል።

ከሥራ ገበያቸው በመለየትም ሆነ በአዲስ ቅጥርነት ሙሉ ወር ላልሠሩ ሠራተኞች የሥራ ግብር ስሌትን በተመለከተ በእንድ ወቅት የግብር ሰብሳቢ መ/ቤት የሕግ አማካሪዎች ሰላሳትን አስተያየት እዚህ ላይ ማንሳቱ የተለየ የውይይት መድረክ ሊከፍት ይችላል የሚል ግምት አለኝ። ይኸውም የሕግ አስተያየቱ ግብር ሊጠየቅ የሚገባው እንደ ግብር ከፋይ ባገኘው ገቢ ላይ መሆኑን ይጠቅሳል። ሆኖም ግብሩ ከመተመኑ አስቀድሞ ገቢው የተገኘበት ወይም በክፍል ያልተገኘበት ምክንያት መታወቅ እንዳለበት እና የሚቀርበው ምክንያት የግብሩን ስሌት ሊወሰነው እንደሚችል ያመለክታል። በመሆኑም የሕግ አስተያየቱ፡-

1. ሠራተኛው ወሩን በሙሉ መሥራት ሲገባ በሕመም ወይም በሰንፍፍ ወይም በሌላ ሥራ ምክንያት የተወሰነ ቀናትን ባይሠራ ግብሩ ሠራተኛው በሥራ በቆየባቸው ቀናት ላይ ይታሰባል፤ ነገር ግን
2. ሠራተኛው በጥፋት የተወሰኑ ቀናት ደመወዝ ባይከፈለው ግብሩ በወሩ ጠቅላላ ገቢ ላይ ተሰልቶ ከሚደርሰው ሂሳብ ተቀናሽ ይደረግ የሚሉ ሃሳቦችን ያካትታል።

ከዚህም በላይ መንግሥትም ሆነ አሠሪዎች ሠራተኛውን የሚቀጥሩት በተወሰነ ጊዜ ለሥራ የታቀደውን በጊዜውም ለመፈጸም ሲሆን ሠራተኛው ያለፈቃድ ከሥራው በመቅረት ከሌላ ሥራ የጥቅም ማግኘት ዘዴ እድርጎ ሊጠቀምበት የሚችል በመሆኑ ይህን ሁኔታ ለማጣጣም ሠራተኛው ባልተከፈለው ገቢ ላይ ግብሩ መሰላት እንዳለበት የሚያስገነዝቡ አስተያየቶች አሉ።

እስኪ የሁለቱን ልዩነት እንመልከት፡

በአሁኑ ወቅት በአብዛኛው የመንግሥት መ/ቤቶች የሚሠሩበት ስሌት ሠራተኛው ባገኘው ገቢ ላይ ታክሱን መቀነስ ነው። በዚህ ስሌት መሠረት ቀደም ሲል ለምሳሌ የቀረበውን የብር 980 ደመወዝተኛ ወሰደን በወሩ ውስጥ 10 ቀናት ባይሠራ የሚኖረው ጠቅላላ ደመወዝ ብር 20X980/30=ብር653.33 ነው። የዚህ ገቢ የሥራ ግብር ደግሞ 653.33X0.15=42=ብር 56.00 ነው። ስለዚህ ደመወዝተኛው የሚጠየቀው የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር ብር 56.00 ይሆናል።

ሌላው አመለካከት ሠራተኛውን ወሩን ሙሉ እንደሠራ ተቆጥሮ ግብሩ መቀነስ አለበት የሚል በመሆኑ የብር 980 ሥራ ግብር ብር 980X0.15=42= ብር 105.00 ነው። በዚህ አመለካከት ሠራተኛው ከሚያገኘው ብር 653.33 ላይ የሚቀነሰው ብር 105.0 ይሆናል። ይህ በእርግጥም ሠራተኛውን የሚጎዳ ስሌት ነው። ሆኖም ይህ አመለካከት በአጥፊዎች ላይ ብቻ ያነጣጠረ በመሆኑ አላማው ለመንግሥት ገቢ ለማግኘት ሳይሆን ከሥራ ገበታቸው ያለፈቃድ የተለዩትን ለመቅጣት ነው። ይህ አሠራር በመ/ቤቶች ምን ያክል ተግባራዊ ይደረጋል የሚለው የተለየ ጥናትን የሚጠይቅ ነው።

በመግቢያዬ ላይ በአቶ ፋሲልና በአቶ ተገኘወርቅ ከፍተኛ ኃላፊነት ተሰጥቶት የቀረበው ክስተት በተግባር ብዙም የሚያጋጥም ባለመሆኑ ይህን ያክል መድረክ ተሰጥቶት የሚያወያይ አለመሆኑን ጠቅሷል። ነገር ግን ከቅርብ ጊዜያት ወዲህ ከእንድ ወር በላይ የውጭ ሥልጠና በማግኘት ከሥራ ገበታቸው የሚለዩ ሠራተኞች ሥልጠናውን ወርሶ እስኪመለሱ ከመጀመሪያው ወር ጀምሮ ግማሽ ደመወዝ ብቻ እንዲከፈላቸው

የተወሰነ በመሆኑ አጋጣሚው ሰፊ መሆኑን መረዳት ይቻላል። ታዲያ የነዚህ ሠራተኞች ደመወዝ ሥራ ግብር ስሌት እንዴት ነው። የወሩን መጀመሪያ ወይስ መጨረሻ ግማሽ እንደሠሩ ሊታሰብ?

የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር አዋጁ ወይም የሚሠራበት የገቢ ግብር ደንብ ይህን በተመለከተ የሚሰጠው ማብራሪያ ባለመኖሩ አሠሪዎች ለሠራተኛው በሚከፈለው ደመወዝ ላይ ብቻ ተመሥርተው እንደሚሠሩ ለመገንዘብ ይቻላል። ሆኖም በደመወዙ ግማሽ ላይ ብቻ ተመሥርቶ ግብሩን ማስላትና በሙሉ ደመወዝ ላይ መክፈል ያለበትን ግብር ከተከፋዩ ደመወዝ ላይ መቀነስ ልዩነት እንዳላቸው ቀጥሎ ባለው ስሌት መገንዘብ ይቻላል።

ደመወዝተኛው ብር 980 በወር ቢከፈለው የዚህ ግማሽ ብር 490 ነው። የዚህ ግብር ደግሞ 490X0.10=12= ብር 37 ነው። የብር 980 ገቢ ግብር ደግሞ 980X0.15=42= ብር 105 ነው። የዚህ ግማሽ ብር 52.50 መሆኑ ነው። ስለዚህ ግብሩ የሚሰላበት መንገድ ሲለያዩ ተቀናሹ ከፍና ዝቅ የሚል ይሆናል።

በጥቅሉ ግንባቢ የሚያስፈልገው ግብር መክፈል የሚገባው በተገኘ ገቢ ላይ መሆኑንና የደመወዝ ገቢ ግብር ስሌትና አስተዳደር የሚከተለው አሠራር ቀላል፡ ግልጽና አስተዳደራዊ ወጪው እነስተኛ መሆኑን ነው። ■

NOW ON SALE

THE EEA IS PLEASED TO NOTIFY ITS READERS THAT THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS ARE NOW ON SALE:

1. PROCEEDINGS OF THE NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON THE ETHIOPIAN ECONOMY.
2. THE AMHARIC VERSION OF THE 'FIRST ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ETHIOPIAN ECONOMY.'

የውጪ ንግድ ጠቀሜታውና ልሳነቱ

ከፋኑኤል ደጌ

ፋሚክስት ካርታል ሲ. የተ. የግል ማ.

1. መግቢያ

በአሁኑ ጊዜ የተባበሩት መንግስታት ድርጅት እባል ሀገሮች ብዛት እንደ መቶ ሰማንያ አምስት እንደሆነ ይታወቃል። እነዚህን ሀገሮች እርስ በርሳቸው የሚያገናኙባቸውና እንዲፈላለጉ የሚጋብዙ በርካታ ጉዳዮች ቢኖሩም ከዋናዎቹ አንዱ የኢኮኖሚ ግንኙነት ነው። ከዚህ ግንኙነት ዜጎቻቸው ተጠቃሚ እንዲሆኑ መንግስታት በቅድሚያ ከሚወስዱባቸው እርምጃዎች አንዱ በመካከላቸው የንግድ ትሥሥር መመሥረት ነው።

ሀገሮች ወይንም መንግስታት በዚህቻቸው አማካኝነት በኢንተርናሽናል ንግድ የሚሳተፉት ተፈጥሮ በሀገራቸው ሀብትና ወይንም በፈጠራ ችሎታና በታሪክነት አንጻራዊ የተሻለ ምርትና ወይንም አገልግሎት ለሌላ ሀገር ተጠቃሚዎች በመሸጥና በመለወጥ ነው። ይህም በመሆኑ እንዳንድ አገሮች ለአለም ገበያ በሚያቀርቡባቸው ምርቶች ወይንም አገልግሎቶች ተለይተው ይታወቃሉ። ለምሳሌ ደቡብ አፍሪካ በወርቅና አልማዝ፣ ሜሪሊዮንና አንጎላ በአልማዝ፣ በርካታ የአረብ አገሮች በነጻጅ ዘይት፣ የካሪቢያን ደሴቶች በመዝና ሰጻር፣ ብራዚል በቡና፣ ሕንድና ሊንዶኔፔያ በቅመማ ቅመምና የደን ውጤቶች ለአለም ገበያ በማቅረብ ይታወቃሉ። በአገልግሎት የኢኮኖሚ ዘርፍ በተለይ ቱሪስቶችን በመሳብ ከፍተኛ የውጪ ምንዛሪ ከሚያገኙ አገሮች አሥራሌልና ሌሎች የሜዶትራኒያን ባህር ዙሪያ ሀገሮችና የሲቪል ጅሴትን መጥቀስ ይቻላል። ሆኖም ከንግድ ሲንጋፖር የኢንተርናሽናል ባንክ አገልግሎት በመስጠት የሚሰበሰቡት ገቢ ከፍተኛ ነው። የተፈጥሮ ሀብት እምብዛም ሃይማኖታቸው በታሪክነታቸውና በፈጠራ ችሎታቸው በአለም ገበያ መድረክ ከፍተኛ ተሳትፎ የሚመዘገባቸው እንደ ጃፓን፣ ደቡብ ኮርያ፣ ታይዋን፣ ሥዊዘርላንድ፣ ሆላንድና ቤልጂየም ይጠቀሳሉ። ከዚህም ሌላ ባላቸው የተፈጥሮ ሀብት በተጨማሪ በቴክኖሎጂ ፈጠራ የመጠቀሚያ እንደ አሜሪካ፣ እንግሊዝ፣ ጀርመን፣ ስዊድን፣ ካናዳ፣ ፈረንሳይ፣ ኢጣሊያና ሌሎችም በአለም ገበያ ጠንካራ ነጋዴዎች ናቸው። በተለይ በኢኮኖሚ ልማት የዳበሩ ሀገሮች በልማት ጓላ ቀር ከሆኑ ሀገሮች ጥሬ ዕቃዎችን በዝቅተኛ ዋጋ በመግዛትና ከዚያም በፋብሪካዎቻቸው ወደ ከፍተኛ

ዋጋ ምርቶችና ሽቀጦች በመለወጥ ለአለም ገበያ ስለሚያቀርቡ በሥርዐቱ ከፍተኛ ተጠቃሚዎች ናቸው። ይህን የኢኮኖሚ የበላይነትን ለመቀዳጀት የሀገሮች መንግሥታት በውጪ ንግድ ለተሰማሩ ተቋማት ሠፊ ድጋፍ መስጠታቸው ይታወቃል።

ከዚህ በላይ በጨረፍታ የቀረበው ማንኛውም ሉአላዊ ሀገር (መንግስት) የሕዝብን የኑሮ ደረጃ ለማሻሻልና በኢኮኖሚ ለመበልጸግ ለውጪ ንግድ (Export Trade) ተገቢውን ድጋፍ በመስጠት በአለም የገበያ መድረክ ንቁ ተሳታፊ መሆን እንደሚገባው በማውሳት የጽሑፉ መንደርደሪያ እንዲሆን ነው። በተከታይ ገጾች ስለውጪ ንግድ (Export Trade) አጠቃላይ ጠቀሜታዎች መሠጠት ስለሚገባቸው ማበረታቻዎችና የኢትዮጵያ የገቢና የውጪ ንግድ ሁኔታን የሚያመለክቱ አሁኞች በሰንጠረዥ ቀርበዋል። የኢትዮጵያና ሌሎች ሰባት የአፍሪካ ሀገሮች ከውጪ ንግድ ያገኛላቸውን ገቢዎችና ለገቢ ንግድ የአደረጉላቸውን ወጪዎች የሚያነፃፅር ሰንጠረዥ ተዘጋጅቷል። ቀጥሎም የኢትዮጵያ የውጪ ንግድ ለመስፋፋትና ለመዳበር በአለው ዕድል እንዲሁም ስለ ችግሮች፣ መሠናከሎችና ሥጋቶች በጥቂቱ ይጠቁማል። በመጨረሻም ምን ይሻላል? በሚል ጥያቄ አጠቃላይ አስተያየቶችን ይሠነዝራል።

2. የውጪ ንግድ ጠቀሜታዎች

የውጪ ንግድ ጠቀሜታ ምርትንና አገልግሎትን በአለም ገበያ በመሸጥ የውጭ ምንዛሪ በማስገኘት ብቻ የተወሰነ አይደለም። በተለይ እንደ ኢትዮጵያ በልማት ጓላ ቀር የሆኑ አገሮች የውጪ ንግዳቸው በዓይነትና በመጠን ሲሻሻልና ሲጨምር ከዚህ በታች የተዘረዘሩትን የልማት አጋዥ ጠቀሜታዎችን ያገኛሉ።

ሀ) በውጪ ንግድ የተሰማሩ ነጋዴዎች (Exporters) አትራፊ በመሆን በመዳበርና በመሥፋፋት ወደ ላቀ የውጪ ድግድ ሥራ ይሸጋገራሉ።

ለ) የልማት ሥራዎችን ለማካሄድ የሚፈለጉ መሣሪያዎችን ለመግዛትና የተለያዩ የባዕድ የገንዘብ ግዴታዎችን ለመሸፈን የሚያገዝ

የውጭ ምንዛሪ ለሀገር ያስገኛል።

- ሐ) ለውጭ ገበያ የሚቀርቡ ዕቃዎች ተቀባይነት እስከላላቸው ድረስ በሀገር ውስጥ የማምረት፣ የማከፋፈል እገልግሎት የመስጠትና ከነዚህ ጋር የተዛመዱ ሌሎች የኢኮኖሚ እንቅስቃሴዎች ይሰፋሉ።
- መ) የኢኮኖሚ እንቅስቃሴዎች ከተስፋፋ በየሥራ ዘርፉ የተሰማሩ ግለሰቦች የነፍስ ወከፍ ገቢ ስለሚጨምር የገብረተሰብ ደህንነት ይሻሻላል። ልማት ስለሚስፋፋ የበለጠ የመስራትና የመበልጸግ ዕድል ያስከትላል።
- ሠ) የኢኮኖሚ እንቅስቃሴዎች ሲጠናከሩ የሀገር ውስጥ ገበያ ይዳብራል ይሰፋል። ይህም በየደረጃው የማምረትና የግብይትን የሥራ እንቅስቃሴዎች (Investment) ያበረታታል።
- ረ) በወጪ ንግድ ግንኙነት ሣቢያ የሀገር ውስጥ አምራችና እገልግሎት ሰጪዎች ከአዲስ ቴክኖሎጂ ጋር በመተዋወቅ የተሻሻሉና ጥራት ያላቸውን ዕቃዎች እንዲያመርቱ ያበረታታል። ለምርምርና ሥርዐት አመቺ ሁኔታዎችን ይፈጥራል።
- በ) የመንግስት ገቢ በቀረጥ በገቢ ግብር ወዘተ እማካኝነት ይዳብራል።
- ሸ) በወጪ ንግድ ጠንካራ ተሳትፎ የሚያደረግ ሀገር በአለም የግብይት መድረክ የመታወቅና ተሰማሚነት የማግኘት ክብር ያገኛል።

ከዚህ በላይ በተዘረዘሩትና ሌሎች ምክንያቶች ለሕዝብ ጥቅምና ደህንነት እንዲሁም ለሀገር ክብር የሚቆረቆሩ የአስተዳደር ሥርዓቶች የወጪ ንግድ እንዲስፋፋና እንዲዳብር ያልተቆጠበ ጥረት እንደሚያደርጉ የታወቀ ነው።

3. የወጪ ንግድን ለማበረታታት በመንግስታት የሚወሰዱ አንዳንድ እርምጃዎች

የሉዓላዊ ሀገሮች መንግስታት በየጊዜው እየተስፋፋና እየዳበረ ከሚሄደው የአለም አቀፍ የንግድ እንቅስቃሴ ተጠቃሚ ለመሆን ለወጪ ንግድ ዕድገት ወቅቱ የሚጠይቀውን ድጋፍና ማበረታቻ በሥራ ዘርፉ ለተሰማሩ ይሠጣሉ። ከብዙዎች የማበረታቻ ድጋፎች ጥቂቶቹ ከዚህ ቀጥሎ ተዘርዝረዋል።

- በሌምባሲዎች እማካኝነት የውጭ አገር ገበያዎችን መቃኘትና መገምገም፤
- ስለ ጉምሩክ አሠራር፣ ስለታሪፎች ደንቦችና መመሪያዎችን ማሰባሰብ፤
- የገበያ ጥናትና የንግድ ጉብኝት ማመቻቸት፤
- ለውጭ ገበያ ሊቀርቡ የሚችሉ ሽቀጦችንና እገልግሎቶችን ማስተወወቅ፤

- የውጪ ንግድን ከቀረጥና ሌሎች ክፍያዎች ነጻ ማድረግ፤
- ለምርት ተግባር ከውጭ ገበያ ሲላኩ ተመላሽ እንዳሆን ማመቻቸት፤
- በውጭ ንግድ አሠራር ዘዴና ሌላም ሥልጠና መስጠት፤
- ከሌሎች አገሮች የገንዘብ ዋጋ መገበያያ ጋር የተዛመደና የተመጣጠነ የውጭ ምንዛሪ ገበያ ሥርዓት መመሥረት፤
- የቢሮክራሲ ማነቆዎችን ማስወገድ፤ ውጣ ውረዶችን መቀነስ፤
- ለውጭ ገበያ የሚቀርቡ ዕቃዎች ማምረቻ መከለል (Export Zones)፤
- ምርቶች በውጭ ገበያ በዋጋ ተወዳዳሪ እንዲሆኑ መረት፤ መንገድ፤ እሴት፤ ሀይል፤ መጋዘኖች... ወዘተ በነፃ ወይም ጫና በማይፈጥር የክፍያ ዋጋ እንዲገለገሉ መፍቀድ፤
- የሥራ ማስኬጃ ብድርና የወጪ ንግድ ዋስትና (Export guarantee) እንዲያገኙ ማመቻቸት፤

ከመንግስት የሚፈለጉ ድጋፎችና ማበረታቻዎች እንደ ግብይት ዓይነት፣ ይዘትና ወቅት ሊለያይ ስለሚችል ሁሉንም ለመዘርዘር አያመችም።

4. የኢትዮጵያ የገቢና የወጪ ንግድ ዕድታ ('000 ብር)

የሀገሪቱ የአምስት አመታት የገቢ ዕቃዎችና የወጪ ምርቶች ዋጋ እንደሚከተለው ነበር

	1986	1987	1988
የገቢ ንግድ ዋጋ	4,740,310	6,546,274	7,708,246
የወጪ ንግድ ዋጋ	1,419,229	2,834,844	2,607,156
ልዩነት(በግንብ)	(2,321,081)	(3,711,430)	(5,101,090)
የገቢ ንግድ (በነፍስ ወከፍ) ብር	79	109	128
የወጪ ንግድ(በነፍስ ወከፍ)ብር	23	47	43

	1989	1990
የገቢ ንግድ ዋጋ	-	-
የወጪ ንግድ ዋጋ	3,891,533	4,141,5802
ልዩነት(በግንብ)	-	-
የገቢ ንግድ (በነፍስ ወከፍ) ብር	-	-
የወጪ ንግድ(በነፍስ ወከፍ)ብር	65	69

ማሳሰቢያ፡

- 1) የመረጃ ምንጭ የኢት. ብሔራዊ ባንክ የ1990 ዓመታዊ ሪፖርት
- 2) በልዩነት የተመዘገበው ሥሌት በገቢና በወጪ ዕቃዎች ዋጋ መካከል የነበረውን ልዩነት ብቻ የሚመለከት ነው። በዕርዳታ፣ በብድር፣ በኢንቨስትመንት... ወዘተ የሚገኘውን የውጭ ምንዛሪ አይጨምርም።

በኢትዮጵያ ብሔራዊ ባንክ አመታዊ ሪፖርት መሠረት ወደ ሀገር ውስጥ የሚገቡ ዕቃዎች የፋብሪካ ምርቶች ወይም የዘመናዊ ቴክኖሎጂ ውጤቶች ሲሆኑ ዋጋቸውም በየጊዜው ስለሚያሻቅብ

አትክልትና ፍራፍሬ፣ እንስሳት፣ ጫት፣ ወርቅና፣ የነዳጅ ውጤቶች፣ የማር ሠፈፍ፣ ወዘተ... ናቸው። ከእነዚህ የብዙዎች ምርቶች የአለም ገበያ ዋጋ በየዓመቱ በአብዛኛው የማይጨምር ሲከፋም የሚቀንስ በመሆኑ የሚገኘው የውጭ ምንዛሪ መጠን የገቢ ንግድን ለመሸፈን ከሚያስፈልገው ጋር ሲነጻጸር ከፍተኛ የማንስ ክፍተት ያግኛል። ከላይ የቀረቡት አሀዞች የክፍተቱን መጠን በግልፅ ያመለክታሉ። በሌላ መልኩ ከውጭ ሀገር ለሚገዙ ሸቀጦች ለእንደ ኢትዮጵያዊ በነፍስ ወከፍ (per capita) በየዓመቱ የተደረገው ወጪ በጣም እያደገ ሲሄድ በወጪ ንግድ (export) አማካኝነት በነፍስ ወከፍ የተገኘው የውጭ ምንዛሪ እምብዛም የማይጨምር እንዳንደም የሚቀንስ መሆኑን አሀዞች ይጠቁማሉ። ይህም የሚያመለክተው የወጪ ንግዳችን ከገቢ ንግዳችን ጋር ለማቀራረብና ተመጣጣኝ ለማድረግ ገና ብዙ የቤት ሥራ እንደሚጠበቅብን ነው።

5. ከሌሎች አፍሪካ ሀገሮች ጋር ንጽጽር

በተከታታይ ገፅ በእንግሊዝኛ የቀረበው የአሀዝ ሰንጠረዥ የስምንት አፍሪካ ሀገሮችን የወጪና የገቢ ንግድ እንቅስቃሴ በመጠኑ ስለሚያስረዳ ለንፅፅር ቀርቦዋል። የሀገራችን የወጪና የገቢ ንግድ መጠን ከአፍሪካ ውጭ በተለይ በኢኮኖሚ የዳበሩ ሀገሮች ጋር ሲመዛዘን እጅግ አነስተኛ በመሆኑ የሚያስገኘው

ትምህርታዊ ግንዛቤ እምንት እንደሚሆን በማጤን ንፅፅሩን ከሞላ ጎደል በተመሳሳይነትና ወይም በተቃራኒነት ከሚመደቡ የአፍሪካ ሀገሮች ጋር ማድረግ ተመርጧል።

በሠንጠረዡ ከተዘረዘሩት አሀዞች ለመገንዘብ እንደሚቻለው ከስምንቱ ሀገሮች ኢትዮጵያ በመራት የቆዳ ስፋትና በሕዝብ ብዛት የሁለተኛ ደረጃ የሚሠጣት ቢሆንም በወጪና በገቢ ንግድ እንቅስቃሴ የሚሠጣት ደረጃ ግን ዝቅተኛ ነው። በተለይ የሀገር ምርትን በኢንተርናሽናል ገበያ ከማቅረብ እንግር አሀዞች ሲገመገሙ ኢትዮጵያ የመጨረሻውን ደረጃ ትይዛለች። እንደ ኬንያ፣ ቱኒዚያና ግብጽ ያሉ ሀገሮች የቀረበት ኢኮኖሚያቸው የዳበረ ስለሆነ ለውጭ ሀገር ጎብኚዎች አገልግሎት በመስጠት የሚያገኙት የውጭ ምንዛሪ ግዙፍ ነው።

ኢትዮጵያ በዚህ የኢኮኖሚ ዘርፍ ተጠቃሚ እንድትሆን የሚያበቁ ዕሴቶች ቢኖሩዋትም በሁኔታዎች አለመመቻቸት የተነሣ እስከ አሁን በጅምር ደረጃ ይገኛል። በሰንጠረዡ የተመለከቱት ሀገሮችን የመራት ቆዳ ሥፋትና የሕዝብ ብዛት ከወጪና ከገቢ ንግድ አሀዞች ጋር በማገናከብ የተለታዩ ትንታኔዎችን ለመዘርዘር ቢቻልም፣ የማጠቃለያ ውጤቱ ቀደም ሲል ከተገለፀው ብዙም ስለማይርቅ ባጭሩ ተገትቷል።

INVITATION TO BID

The Ethiopian Economic Association would like to invite interested and qualified local and international consultants to provide consultancy services in the area of organisational structure, job specification and description, preparing administration and financial manuals and Information Technology system application for the association and its research wing, the Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute.

Eligible bidders can collect the complete set of bid documents against payment of non-refundable Birr 30.00 and submit their quotations and other relevant information in compliance with the bid document within 15 days after the first appearance of this advertisement in Newspapers.

Bidders can also submit their bid and receive documents via email.

Our address:

The Ethiopian Economic Association
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E-mail: EEA@telecom.net.et

Revenues from Exports and Payments for Imports of Selected African Countries (US\$ million)

	ETHIOPIA		KENYA		SUDAN		GHANA	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
1. Exports of Goods FOB	423.0	438.1	1,914.3	2,071.0	555.7	620.3	1,431.2	1,571.0
2. Imports of Goods FOB	-1,136.7	-1,234.8	-2,652.4	-2,581.3	-1,066.0	-1,339.5	-1,687.8	-1,937.0
3. Trade Balance	-713.7	-796.7	-738.1	-510.3	-510.3	-719.2	-256.6	-366.0
4. Exports of Services	344.5	377.1	1,034.5	955.9	125.3	50.7	150.6	156.8
5. Imports of Services	-357.9	-376.5	-871.3	-859.6	-172.3	-200.8	-432.8	-456.4
6. Balance on goods & services	-727.1	-796.1	-574.9	-413.9	-557.3	-669.3	-538.6	-665.6
Area (Sq. Km)	1,132,680		580,387		2,808,813		238,537	

	TANZANIA		UGANDA		TUNISIA		EGYPT	
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996
1. Exports of Goods FOB	682.5	764.1	560.3	639.0	5,470.0	5,519.0	4,670.0	4,779.0
2. Imports of Goods FOB	-1,340.0	-1,213.1	-920.7	-991.1	-7,459.0	-7,323.0	-12,267.0	-13,169.0
3. Trade Balance	-657.5	-449.0	-360.4	-352.1	-1,989.0	-1,804.0	-7,597.0	-8,390.0
4. Exports of Services	582.6	608.1	104.0	144.7	2,509.0	2,632.0	8,590.0	9,271.0
5. Imports of Services	-799.4	-953.4	-558.9	-662.6	-1,352.0	-1,259.0	-4,873.0	-5,084.0
6. Balance on goods & services	-874.2	-794.3	-815.3	-870.0	-832.0	-431.0	-3,880.0	-4,023.0
Area (Sq. Km)	945,087		197,058		163,610		1,002,000	

	Size of Population		Other dates
	1995	1996	
Ethiopia	56,677,100	58,506,000	-
Kenya	30,522,000	31,806,000	-
Sudan	N.A.	N.A.	1994 = 28,947,000
Ghana	N.A.	N.A.	1991 (estimate) = 15,400,000
Tanzania	28,251,511	N.A.	-
Uganda	N.A.	N.A.	1991 = 16,671,705
Tunisia	8,957,500	9,092,000	-
Egypt	N.A.	59,272,382	-

N.A. - Not available

Sources: 1. Africa South of Sahara 1999, 28th edition.

2. The Middle East and North Africa 1999, 45th edition.

Both published by Europa Publications Ltd., London, UK.

6. የወጪ ንግድ የመዳበርና የመሥራታት ተስፋ

የቀዳማዊ ኃይለሥላሴ የዘውድ አገዛዝ ሥርዓት ባለሀብቶችን በልማት ሥራዎች እንዲሳተፉ ያበረታታና ድጋፍም ይሰጣል ስለነበር በኢኮኖሚ ልማት የግሉ ዘርፍ አስተዳደር ቀላል ግምት የሚሰጠው አልነበረም። በገቢና በወጪ ንግድ የግል ባለሀብቶች ሚና የጎሳ ስለነበረ የሀገሪቱ የውጪ ምንዛሪ ከምችት ከላሳሳቢ ደረጃ ያለፈውና ከውጥረት ነጻ ነበር። የሶሻሊስት ሥርዓተ ኢኮኖሚ በአራመደው የደርግ ዘመን መንግሥት በወጪና በገቢ ንግድ ተሰማርተው የነበሩ የግል ባለሀብቶች በአብዛኛው በመገለጻቸውና እነሱን የተከለከሉ መንግሥታዊ የንግድ ድርጅቶችም በአለም ገበያ ለመወዳደር አቅማቸው ስለማይፈትድ የሀገሪቱ የኢንተርናሽናል የንግድ እንቅስቃሴ የተዳከመ ሆኗል። ከዚህ ጋር ለአመታት በሀገሪቱ ሲከሰድ የቆየው የእርስ በርስ ጦርነትና በአንድ ወቅት የተከሰተው የሱማሊያ ወረራ ከድርቅና ከረሀብ ጋር ተደራርቦ ለኢንተርናሽናል ንግድ መቆርቆዝ አስተዋጽኦ አድርጓል። የደርግ መንግሥት ከተወገደበት ከ1983 ዓ.ም ወዲህ የኢህአዴግ መንግሥት የግሉ ክፍል ኢኮኖሚ እንዲዳብር የተለያዩ የማበረታቻ ርምጃዎች ስለወሰደ ዘርፉ በማቆጣጠር ላይ ይገኛል። የኢንተርናሽናል ንግድ የግል ባለሀብቶች ተሳትፎ እየጨመረ ሄዷል። ለማሰራጀትም ያህል በ1987 ወደ 74% አድርጓል። ስለ ሀገሪቱ የወጪ ንግድ (Export Sector) ሁኔታ የንግድ ዘርፉን ለማበረታታት መንግሥት ስለወሰዳቸው ርምጃዎችና ወደፊት መወሰድ ስለሚገባቸው የተለያዩ የፖሊሲ ማበረታቻዎች እ.ኤ.አ. ሚያዝያ 1999 የታተመው ልሣን ኢኮኖሚክስ ጠቃሚ ፅሁፎችን ስለአስባሰበ መፅሔቱን ማንበብ ይጠቅማል።

የኢትዮጵያ ኢንተርናሽናል ንግድ በአጠቃላይ በተለይም የወጪ ንግድ ዕድገት ገና ጅምርና ዝቅተኛ ደረጃ ላይ መሆኑን ከላይ የቀረቡት ገለፃዎች ያመለክታሉ። በተለይም ከሀገሪቱ የቆዳ ሰፋት፣ ከሕዝብ ብዛትና በተፈጥሮ ሀብት ከመታደል አኳያ የኢንተርናሽናል ንግዳችን ይዘት ሲፈተሽ ገና በሰፊው ማደግና መዳበር እንዳለበት እንገነዘባለን። በኢንፎርሜሽን ቴክኖሎጂ ፈጣን ዕመርታ የተነሣ የኢንተርናሽናል ንግድ አሠራር ይዘት ባልተጠበቀ ፍጥነት እየተለወጠና እየተሰፋፋ መሆኑን በየጊዜው ከሚታተሙ ጽሁፎች (የአለም ዜና አውታሮች) እንረዳለን።

የኢንፎርሜሽን ቴክኖሎጂ መዳበር የግሉባላይዜሽን ሂደት በማፋጠኑ በርካታ ጓላ ቀር ሀገሮች ግራ እየተጋቡ ቢሆንም አንድንዶች የሂደቱ ተጠቃሚ ለመሆን ቆርጠው የተነሱና የተሳተፉት ይመስላል። እንደ ምሳሌ ሕንድን መጥቀስ ይቻላል። እኛም ከሌሎች ልምድ እየተማርንና ከእነሱም ጋር እየተባበርን ኢንተርናሽናል ንግድ ከሚያስገኛቸው በርካታ ብልጽግናዎች ተቋሻሽ የማንሆንበት ምክንያት አይኖርም። ይህም የሚሆነው ቆራጥነት

ከሌለ ነው። ቆራጥነት ደግሞ ችግሮችንና መሠናከሎችን ለማሸነፍ ብዙ መልፋትን ይጠይቃል።

7. የወጪ ንግድ ዘርፍ ችግሮች መሠናከሎችና ሥጋቶች

- ሀ) የመረጃ ችግር፡ የውጪ ንግድ በዘፈቀደ የሚሰማሩበት የሥራ ዘርፍ አይደለም። ሥራው ትዕግሥትን ፅንቦትን ተወዳዳሪነትን መተባበርንና የንግድ ዘርፉ ባህርይ የሚጠይቃቸውን ሌሎች ግዴታዎችን ማሟላት ያስፈልጋል። በወጪ ንግድ ለመሠማራት ያለቀደ ድርጅት(ግለሰብ) ሠፊ ጥናት ማካሄድ ግዴታው ነው።

ለኢንተርናሽናል ገበያ ለማቅረብ ስለሌለባቸው ምርቶች ከሀገር ውስጥ ዝርዝር መረጃዎችን በተለይ ጥራትን፣ የአቅርቦት መጠንንና፣ ወቅታዊነትን፣ ማጠናቀር ይኖርበታል። ከዚያም ምርቶች ተቀባይነት ያገኛሉ ብሎ ስለገመታቸው ውጭ ሕገር ገበያዎች ሁኔታና መንግስታቱ ወደ ሀገራቸው በሚገቡ ተመሳሳይ ምርቶችን በተመለከተ የአውጡዋቸውን የጉምናክና የታሪፍ ሕጎችን ማጥናት ያስፈልጋል። ዝርዝር ወጪዎችን በማስላት በውጪ ገበያ ከሚሸጥበት ዋጋ ጋር በማነፃፀር ግብይቱ አትራፊ ወይንም ኪሣራ የሚያስከትል መሆኑን በቅድሚያ ማሥላትና መገመት አለበት። ይህ ሰፊና ዝርዝር መረጃ የማስባሰብ ተግባር ሥህታማ እንዲሆን የመንግሥት መሥሪያ ቤቶችን፣ የንግድ ምክር ቤቶችን፣ የባንኮችንና፣ የኢንሹራንስ ድርጅቶችን፣ የመርከብ ወኪሎችን፣ የዕቃ ሜኒዎችንና አስተላለፊዎችን፣ የኤምባሲዎችንና ቆንሰላዎችን ትብብር ድጋፍ ስለሚጠይቅ ውጣ ውረዱ ቀላል ግምት አይሠጠውም። መንግስታት የሀገሮቻቸውን ጥቅምና የዜጎችቻቸውን ደህንነት ለማከበር የሚያወጡዋቸው ደንቦችና አዋጆች በርካታ ስለሚሆኑ የጥናቱ ሂደት አድካሚ እንደሚሆን አስቀድሞ መገንዘብ ይጠቅማል። የኢንተርናሽናል ገበያ ሁኔታዎችን በየቦታው ተገኝቶ በማጥናት ግንዛቤ ማስባሰብ በጣም ይረዳል።

- ለ) ለውጭ ገበያ የሚቀርብ ምርት ዕጥረት፡ ከላይ የተዘረዘረውን የመረጃ ስብስብ ከአጠናቀቀ በኋላ ግለሰብ/ድርጅቱ በወጪ ንግድ ዘርፍ ለመሠማራት ከወሰነ መጀመሪያ መጨበጥ ከሚገባው ግንዛቤዎች እንዴት የግብርና ውጤቶችንም ሆነ የኢንዱስትሪ ሽቀጠችን ወይንም አገልግሎቶችን ከበርካታ አገሮች ከሚቀርቡ መሰል ተወዳዳሪ ዕቃዎች ጋር ተጨርቶ ገበያ ማሸነፍንና ከውጭ ዜጋ ጋር የደንበኝነትን ግንኙነት በቋሚነት መመሥረትን ነው። ተጨርቶ ደንበኛ ለማግኘት የዋጋ ተወዳዳሪነትን ምርትን በጥራትና በሚፈለገው ብዛትና መጠን ማያደግ ወይንም ማይቃወስ በቋሚነት የማቅረብ ግዴታዎችን ያካትታል።

የኢትዮጵያን ተጨባጭ ሁኔታዎች ስንመለከት እነዚህን መሥራቶች የጥራት ደረጃን በተፈለገው መጠንና ዓይነት እንዲሁም ወቅት ማቅረብ/ማሟላት አስቸጋሪ በመሆኑ በውጪ ንግድ ዘርፍ ለተሰማሩ ቀዳሚ ችግር ነው። ለምሳሌ ሀገሪቱ ትታወቅበታለች ተብሎ የሚታሰበውን የቡናን ምርት የውጭ ገዢዎች በሚጠይቁት ጥራትና መጠን እንዲሁም ወቅት በአስተማማኝ ለማቅረብ አልተቻለም። ሌሎች ምርቶችንም እንደዚሁ። ይህ ችግር ከሚያስከትላቸው ተፅዕኖዎች መካከል ጽሁፍ ገዢዎችንና ለማፍራት አለመቻልን፣ በተገኘ ዋጋ መሸጥን፣ ከግብይታዊ ማዳበሪያ ዕውቀት ተነሳሽ መገልገልና መነፋገን ... ወዘተ ናቸው።

ሐ) ወጭዎችን ለመቆጣጠር አለመቻል፡ ለውጭ ገበያ የሚላኩ ምርቶችና ሽቀጦች ከሚመረቱበት አካባቢ እስከ ባሕር ወደብ ለማድረስ ፣ ማንኛውንም ለመጋዘንና ለወደብ አገልግሎት የሚደረጉ በምርቱ መግዣ ዋጋ ላይ ሲደመሩ ስለቱ በጣም የናረ ስለሚሆን ከሌላ አገር ተመሳሳይ ምርት ከሚያቀርቡ ጋር ተወዳድሮ ለመሸጥ ያስቸግራል። መንገዶች ለፈጣን እንቅስቃሴ አመቺ ባለመሆናቸውና እንዲሁም የቴሌኮሙኒኬሽንና የኤሌክትሪክ ኃይል አቅርቦት አስተማማኝ አለመሆን መዘግየትንና ያልተጠበቁ ተጨማሪ ወጪዎችን በማስከተል ምርቶችን በእንተርናሽናል ገበያ ተወዳድሮ ለመሸጥ ያስቸግራል።

መ) የተቀባይ (የደንበኛ) ዕቃዊ፡ የኢንተርናሽናል ገበያ በብዙ መልኩ ወገናዊነትን ያንፀባርቃል። በርካታ በኢኮኖሚ የዳበሩ አገሮች ከብዙ በልማት ጓላ ቀር አገሮች ጋር የባሕል፣ የታሪክ ወይም ሌላ ነባር ግንኙነትን ምክንያት በማድረግ የንግድ ግንኙነታቸው የተጠበቀ ነው። ለምሳሌ እንግሊዝና ፈረንሣይ የቀድሞ ቅኝ ግዛታቸው ከነበሩ አገሮች ጋር የጠበቀ ግንኙነት ስለላላቸው በንግድ ረገድ ቅድሚያ የሚሰጡት ለነዚህ አገሮች ምርቶች ነው። እንዲሁም ፖለቲካና ንግድ ስለማይለያዩ ሀገሮች እንደግለሰቦች አመለካከት በርዕዮተ አለም ከማይጣጣሙባቸው አገሮች (በተለይ ድሀ ሀገሮች) ጋር የንግድ ግንኙነትና ሌላም የኢኮኖሚ ትስስር ለማስፋፋት አይፈልጉም። በአሁኑ ጊዜ ከርዕዮተ ዓለም አመለካከት አንፃር ኢትዮጵያ ችግር እንደሌለባት ቢገመትም ከላይ የተጠቀሰው ዓይነት የታሪክ ግንኙነት በኢኮኖሚ ከበለፀጉ ሀገሮች ጋር ስለሌላት ምርቶችን በኢንተርናሽናል ገበያ በተገቢ ዋጋ ለመሸጥ ዕጥፍ ድርብ ዝግጅትና ጥረት ማድረግ ይኖርባታል። የእርስ በእርስ ጦርነት፣ የድርቅና የሪህብ ችግሮቻችን በኢንተርናሽናል ንግድ ተዋንያን ዘንድ የሀገሪቱ ኢኮኖሚ የተንኮታከተና ለውጭ ገበያ የሚቀርብ ምርት የሌላት ስለሚያስመስል በውጭ አገር ተቀባዮችንና ወኪሎችን ወይም ደንበኞችን ለመቅረብም ሆነ ለማቅረብ የሥነ ልቦና ግርዶሽ

በመሆናቸው በቀላሉ የሚታለፉ መሠናከሮች እይደሉም።

ሠ) የግንዛቤ ችግር (ዕጠት)፡ ከንግድና ኢንዱስትሪ ሚኒስቴር በተገኘ ጠቂሚ መረጃ መሠረት ከ1988 እስከ 1991 በነበሩት የበጀት አመታት ለወጪ ንግድ ዘርፍ የተሰጡ አዲስ የሥራ ፈቃዶች ጠቅላላ ብዛት 2,192 ነበር። ሆኖም በ1992 የበጀት አመት መጨረሻ ገደማ በሥራ ዘርፉ ከሞላ ጎደል እንቅስቃሴ የአደረጉ ድርጅቶች ብዛት ከ300 ያነሰ ሆኗል። ከነዚህም አብዛኞቹ በቡና፣ በቅባት እህሎች፣ በጥራጥራዎችና በቆዳና ሌጣ ላኪነት የተሰማሩ ናቸው። ቀሪዎች ማለትም 1,892 ወይም 81% የሚሆኑ በሥራ ፈቃዶቻቸው ምን እንደሚያደርጉ ግራ የተጋቡ አለበለዚያም የተሻለ ጊዜ እንዲመጣ በመመኘት ላይ ናቸው ብሎ መገመት ይቻላል። ሁኔታው ፈቃድ አውጪዎች ስለ ወጪ ንግድ አሠራርና ይዘት በቅድሚያ በቂ ግንዛቤ ያለመጨበጣቸውን ይጠቁማል። ይህ ባይሆን ላይኛው የግብር ዕዳ የሚያሸከትል የሥራ ፈቃድ ለመሸከም ቀላል ግምት የማይሰጠው የመመዝገቢያና ሌሎችንም ወጪዎች ለማድረግ አይነሳሉም ነበር። ሆኖም ስለወጪ ንግድ በቂ ግንዛቤ አለመጨበጥና ስለተከታዩ ድክመት የሥራ ፈቃድ አውጪዎችን ብቻ ተጠያቂ ማድረግ አግባብ አይሆንም። እስከ ቅርብ ጊዜ ድረስ ስለወጪ ንግድ ይዘትና ገፅታ፣ ስለሚያጋጥሙ የተወሰሰቡ ችግሮችና መሠናከሮች፣ በአንጻሩም ስለጠቀሜታው ለሕዝብ የማሳወቅ የሥራ ድርሻ የተሰጠው መሥሪያ ቤት አልነበረም። ይህ ባልነበረበት የአስተዳደር ሥርዓት ዜጎች ስለወጪ ንግድ በቂ ግንዛቤ አለመጨበጣቸው የሚያስገርም እይደለም። የኢትዮጵያ የውጪ ንግድ ማስፋፊያ እጅግ በ1992 የበጀት አመት ሥራ ስለጀመረ ይህ ድክመት እንደሚታለል ይገመታል።

ስለ ኢንተርናሽናል ገበያ ይዘት በአጠቅላላ ከዚያ መለስም ስለ ወጪ ንግድ በቂ ግንዛቤ አለመኖር የሚያጣጣውን የላላ ጥቅም ለመገንዘብ ቅመማ ቅመምን እንደምሳሌ በመውሰድ ለመረዳት ይቻላል። ቅመማ ቅመሞች በተለይ እንደ በርበሬ፣ ዝንጅብል፣ ኮረራማ፣ ... ወዘተ በምግብ ማጣፈጫነታቸው ባሻገር ጤንነትን ለመንከባከብ እንደሚያግዙ በጤና ሣይንሥ ምርምር ስለተረጋገጠ በአለም ገበያ ይበልጥ ተፈላጊ እየሆኑ መምጣታቸውን የተባበሩት መንግሥታት የንግድና ልማት ጉባኤ ጽ/ቤት (UNCTAD) በአካሄዳቸው ጥናቶች ተረጋግጧል። በጥናቶች እንደተገለፀው እንዳንድ ሀገሮች (ሕንድ፣ ኢንዶኔዢያ፣ ማዳጋስካር፣ ታንዛኒያ፣ ማሊዢያ... ወዘተ) ቅመማ ቅመም ለአለም ገበያ በማቅረብ በመቶ ሚሊዮን የሚታሰብ የውጭ ምንዛሪ ያገኛሉ። እንደዚሁም በኢኮኖሚ የበለፀጉ ሀገሮች (እሜሪካ፣ ጀርመን፣ ሆላንድ፣ እንግሊዝ...) ከቅመማ ቅመም አብቃይ አገሮች ገብተው

በፋብሪካዎቻቸው ወደ ከፍተኛ ዋጋ ምርቶች በመቀየር የራሳቸውን ፍጆታ ከመሸፈን አልፈው ለኢንተርናሽናል ገበያ በማቅረብ ከፍተኛ ተጠቃሚ ናቸው። በአሁኑ ጊዜ እለም አቀፍ የቅመማ ቅመም የንግድ እንቅስቃሴ ከብዙ ቢሊዮን የአሜሪካ ዶላር የሚደርስ ሲሆን በየአመቱ እራት በመቶ (4%) ዕድገት እንደሚኖረው ተገምቷል።

በኢትዮጵያ ከጎንደር ጀምሮ እስከ ሲዳሞ ድረስ በሰሜን ምዕራብ፣ በምዕራብ፣ በደቡብ ምዕራብና በደቡብ ኢትዮጵያ የተለያዩ ቅመማ ቅመሞች በተለምዶ እመራረትና እንዲሁም በሜካ እንደሚበቅሉ ይታወቃል። በተጨማሪም ከተጠቀሱት አካባቢዎች በጥቂት ቦታዎች በተካሄዱ የግብርና ምርምሮች የተለያዩ ቅመማ ቅመሞችን በተቻለ ሁኔታ ለማራባትና በሠፊ ለማምረት የሚያስችሉ የአየር ጠባይና የአፈር አይነቶች እንዳሉ ተጠቁመዋል። ይህም ሆኖ በየጊዜው የሚከሰተውን የምርት ዕጥረት ለማሟላት ከውጭ ቅመማ ቅመም እናስመጣለን። የኢትዮጵያን ቅመማ ቅመም ለውጭ ገበያ የሚያቀርቡት ጥቂት ድርጅቶች ቢኖሩም በምርት እጥረት የተነሳ እንቅስቃሴያቸው ሲዳብር አልቻለም። ባለፉት ሁለትና ሶስት አመታት ወደ ሱዳን ጂቡቲና መካከለኛው ምሥራቅ መጠነኛ ቅመም የሚላክ ቢሆንም ከሁኔታው ለመገመት እንደተቻለው ምርቱ ወደ ሌሎች ተቀባይ አገሮች እንደሚተላለፍ ነው። ከዚህ አሠራር የምናጤነው የባዕድ አገር ነጋዴዎች ቅመማ ቅመም ከእኛ አገር በዝቅተኛ ዋጋ ገዝተው ወደ አውሮፓና አሜሪካ በማስተላለፍ በተሻለ ዋጋ በመሸጥ ከፍተኛ ትርፍ እንደሚያገኙበትና ኢትዮጵያም ማግኘት የሚገባትን የውጭ ምንዛሪ እንደምታጣ ነው። ሁኔታው ከሰነድ ደጃፍ ሞፈር ይቆረጣል ብህሊን በምሳሌነት ያስረዳል። ቁቂቂቂ

ረ) ግሎባላይዜሽን (ወሰን-ዘለል ሥርዓተ ማህበር)

በእንግሊዝኛው አባባል (Globalization) ምን ምን አስተሳሰቦችንና ሂደቶችን እንደሚያጠቃልል ለሁሉም ተቀባይነት ያለው ትንታኔ ለማግኘት ባይቻልም በአጠቃላይ አነጋገር አስተሳሰቡ ከአለም አቀፍ፣ የኢኮኖሚ፣ የባህልና የፖለቲካ መቀራረብና መደጋገፍ ሂደት ጋር የተቆራኘ ሆኖ እ.ኤ.አ. ከ1970 ጀምሮ በቴክኖሎጂ እመርታ አማካኝነት በሁለገብነት እየተጠናከረና እየዳበረ የመጣ አለም አቀፍ ክስተት መሆኑን መገንዘብ ይቻላል። የኢንፎርሜሽን ቴክኖሎጂ ፈጣን ዕድገት ለግሎባላይዜሽን ማሥፋፊያ ዋና መግቢያ በማድረግ ሂደቱን በኢኮኖሚ የበለፀጉ ሀገሮች የሚደግፉት ሲሆን በልማት ያልዳበሩና ኋላ ቀር ሀገሮች ለብሔራዊ ሕልውናና ጥቅም አስጊ እንደሚሆን በመፍራት በባን እይታ አይመለከቱትም። ሆኖም ከሥተቱ ሲታገድ ወይም ሊሸሹት የማይቻል የተፅዕኖ ሥርዓት

እንደሆነ ይገነዘባል። (እ.ኤ.አ. የካታት መጋቢት 2000 ዓ.ም የታተመው ልሳነ ኢኮኖሚክስ ስለ ግሎባላይዜሽን ስፋ ያለ ግንዛቤ የሚያስጨብጠው ጽሑፎችን ስለአስባሰበ ማንበቡ ይጠቅማል።

ወደዚህ ዕራፍ ዓላማ ስንመለስ የታሉን (Globalization) እገባብ ለንግድ ዘርፍ ብቻ እንዲሆን በመወሰን፣ በመሳልበት ላይ የአለው ወሰን ዘለል የንግድ እንቅስቃሴ (Global Trading) የተለያዩ ገጽታዎች እንዳሉት ቢታወቅም ዋነኛውና ጎልቶ የሚታሰበው የገበያ ውድድር ነው። የገበያ ውድድር የሚያመቸውና የጎላ ጥቅም የሚያስገኘው ለጠንካራ የኢኮኖሚ ተቋሞች ነው። ጠንካራ የሚባሉት በአነስተኛ ወጪ ከፍተኛ ምርት የሚያመርቱ፣ ቀልጣፋ የንግድ አሠራር ችሎታና ልምድ የአካባቢ፣ ከዘመናዊ ቴክኖሎጂ ጋር በመዛመድ አስተማማኝ የውጭ ንግድ ግንኙነት ... ወዘተ የመሠረተ ናቸው። እነዚህን መመዘኛዎች የሚያሟሉ ኢትዮጵያዊ የግል ድርጅቶች ከአለ-ብዛታቸው ጥቂት እንደሚሆን እያጠራጥርም። በጥቅሉ ሲታይ የኢትዮጵያ የንግድ ኢኮኖሚ በተለይም የውጪ ንግድ ዘርፍ ገና በጅምር ላይ ስለሆነ ወሰን ዘለል ሥርዓተ ንግድ የሚጠይቀውን ሁሉ እሟልቶ ተጠቃሚ ለመሆን ሠፊ ዝግጅትና ብዙ ውጣ ውረዶችን ማለፍ ይጠይቃል። ዓለም አቀፍ ከሥተቱንና ሂደቱን ለመግታት ወይም ላለመቀበል ዕድል ያለ ስለማይመስል ትኩረት መሠጠት የሚገባው አዲሱ ሥርዓት ሊያስከትል የሚችለውን የኢኮኖሚ ቀውስና ሌሎች አሉታዊ ተፅዕኖዎችን የመከላከልና የማስወገድ ርምጃዎች ላይ ነው።

በወጪ ንግድ ዘርፍ የሚያጋጥሙ ችግሮች ከዚህ በላይ የቀረቡት ብቻ አይደሉም። እነዚህ በመጀመሪያ ወቅት ከሚያጋጥሙ የጎላትና በቅድሚያ የሚጠቀሱ መሆናቸውን መጠቆሙ በሥራ ዘርፉ ለመሠማራት ለሚያቅዱ ለግንዛቤ ይረዳሉ።

8. ምን ይሻላል?

በኢኮኖሚ ልማት ኋላ ቀር አገሮች በተለይም የአፍሪካ አህጉር ከግሎባላይዜሽን አንፃር በአሁኑ ጊዜ የሚገኙበትን አስጊ ሁኔታ የአልጄሪያ ፕሬዝዳንትና የወቅቱ የአፍሪካ መሪዎች ጉባኤ (UNCTAD) ከአደረጉት ንግግር ከዚህ ቀጥሎ በቀጥታ የተጠቀሰው የሚደምም ግንዛቤ ይሠጣል፡

" Developing countries.... who represent the 'Sweeping majority of man kind' are excluded from the process of consultation and collective decision making. The powerful countries... through increasingly sophisticated and disguised protections, escape their obligations to open up their markets, in accordance with the new framework of international relationships, while

demanding the poor countries to respect scrupulously such obligations. Meanwhile... a new map of the world is being drawn, from which a whole continent, Africa, is merely erased..."

Source: NGLS Roundup, No. 54, page 4, May 2000, New York, UN

ከላይ የተጠቀሰው የአልጄሪያው ፕሬዝዳንት አስተያየት በልማት ንግድ ሀገሮች ከባድ ፈተና እንደተጋረጠባቸው ያመለክታል። ከሥተቱን ሀገሮች በተናጠል የሚቋቋሙት ፈተና ስለማይመስል ሙሉታቸውንና ሕልውናቸውን ለመጠበቅ በኢንተርናሽናል መድረኮች በኅብረት የጋራ እቋም በመውሰድ የሚበጃቸውን በመቀየስ የሀብታም አገሮችን ተፅዕኖ ከመቋቋም ሌላ አማራጭ የለም። ወደ ሀገራችን በተለይም ስለ ውጪ ንግድ የወደፊት ዕድገት ስናጤን የዘርፉ መዳበርና መስፋፋት ከግሎባላይዜሽን እንግዳ እትዮጽዮ የሚኖራትን ደረጃ ይወስናል። የዚህ ንግድ ዘርፍ መጠነከር የግሎባላይዜሽን ተጠቃሚ ሲያደርግ፣ ለዘርፉ ትኩረት አለመስጠት ደግሞ አዲሱ ሥርዓት ለሚያስከትላቸው አሉታዊና ሳጂ መዘዞችን መሳሰሉትን ያስከትላል።

የኢትዮጵያ የወጪ ንግድ ዘርፍ ገና በጅምር ደረጃ ላይ እንደሆነ ቀደም ብሎ ተጠቅሷል። ለዕድገቱና ለመዳበሩ የግል ባለቤቶች ሚና ውጥንነት እንዳለው በመንግስት የታወቀ ይመስላል። ሆኖም የግሎባላይዜሽን ይዘትን ስንመረምር የግል ዘርፉ ከመንግሥት ሠራ ድጋፍና ማበረታቻ ከአልተደረገለት ብቻውን የሚያስገኘው ውጤት የሚያረካ አይሆንም። እንዲያውም ከሀገሪቱ ተጨባጭ ሁኔታ ጋር ሲገናዘብ የወጪ ንግድ እንዲስፋፋና እንዲንሠራራ መንግሥት የግንባር ቀደምትነት ተግባርች እንዲያከናውን ይጠይቃል። ፖለቲካና ንግድን ንግድ ለማየት እንደማይቻል በአንድ ወቅት የእንግሊዝ ጠቅላይ ሚኒስትር የነበሩት ጆሴፍ ቻምበርሊን "Commerce is the greatest of all political interests" በማለት ንግድ ከፍተኛ ትኩረት የሚሰጠው የፖለቲካ ሥራ መሆኑን አስረድቶታል።

ይህን የወጪ ንግድ መጠነኛ ዕራፍ ታሪክን በማጣቀስ በስሜታዊነት ለመዝጋት አፈልጋለሁ። ኢትዮጵያ የሺህ አመታት ነፃነት እንዳላትና ይህም በየዘመናቱ የነበሩ ትውልዶች የከፈሉት ሁለገብ መሥዋዕትነት ውጤት እንደሆነ በኩራት እንገልጻለን። የቅርብ ታሪክን ለማውሳት በውጫዊ ውል የተነሣ ኢጣሊያ በኢትዮጵያ የበላይ ተቆጣጣሪነት እንዳላት ያወጀችውን ውድቅ ለማድረግና የአለም ሕዝብ የሀገራቸውን ሉዓላዊነት እንዲያውቅላቸው አጼ ምኒልክ ጀግኖችን ከአራቱም የኢትዮጵያ ማዕዘናት በማሰባሰብ ወራሪውን የኢጣልያ ጦር አድዋ ላይ ድል ስለአደረጉ የሀገሪቱ ነጻነት ተረጋገጠ፣ እርሳቸውም ታላቅ የአፍሪካ መሪ ተባሉ። የአሁኑ ትውልድም ይህን ከአባቶች የተወረሰ ለሀገር ሉዓላዊነት መከበር ማንኛውንም

መሥዋዕት የመክፈል የታሪክ እደራ በብቃት እየተወጣ ነው። በመጨረሻም ዘመናት የሀገሮች ሉዓላዊነት ጥያቄ ውስጥ የሚገባበትና ከዚያም የሚደፈርበት ሁኔታ በግሎባላይዜሽንና በተመሳሳይ መልክ እየተከሠተ ይመስላል። የዚህን ዓይነት የሀገር ነፃነት መደፈር በጦር ሜዳ ወታደር በማሠልፍ የሚቋቋሙትና የሚመልሱት ወራሪ ጠላት አይሆንም። ግሎባላይዜሽን ተወደደም ተጠላም የብሔራዊ ኢኮኖሚ ልማትን በማፍጠን ንግድ ተግባርንና ድህነትን በማስወገድ በኢንተርናሽናል ንግድ እማካኝነት ለአለም ሕዝቦች ኑሮ መሻሻልና መበልፀግ የራሱን ድርሻ በማበርከት ከሌሎች ሀገሮች ጋር የዕኩልነት ወይንም ቢያንስ የተቀባይነት ደረጃ መቀዳጀት ነው።

የዚህ ተቃራኒው ከመደበኛ ኢንተርናሽናል ንግድ ተግባር መገለልን ስለሚያስከትል ይህም በበኩሉ ወደ መናፅ ደረጃ ዝቅ በማድረግ ከሌሎች ጋር ዕኩልነትን ያሳጣል። በዕኩልነት ደረጃ ያልተመሠረተ የሀገሮች ግንኙነት የተወሰሰቡ ችግሮችን በማስከተል ማይወዱ በግድ የሀገርን ጥቅምና ሕልውና የሚፈታተኑ ግዴታዎችን እስከመቀበል ያደርሳል።

ኢትዮጵያ ረጅም የነፃነት ታሪክ የጠየቀውን የጦር ሚዳ ጀግኖች በየወቅቱ በማፍራት ነፃነቷ ተጠብቋል። አሁን ደግሞ ግሎባላይዜሽን እየፈጠረ ባለው የገበያ ውድድር ፍልሚያ ተወልፈው የሚያሸንፉ የኢኮኖሚ ጀግኖች መካከት አለባቸው። እነዚህ ጀግኖች ለውድድሩ መድረክ እንዲበቁ መንግሥትና የንግድ ንብረተሰብ በጋራ የሚቀይሱት መርሐ ግብር ሆኖ መነሻው የችግሮችን መንግሥት ከሥር ከመሠረቱ በሁለገብነትና በሀብትነት መተንተንና ከዚያም ለመፍትሔው የሚሆኑ ርምጃዎችን በቆራጥነት መተግበር ነው። እንደ አስተዋዮችና ተመራማሪዎች ብሂል ችግሮች በትክክል ከታወቁ ግማሽ መፍትሔ እንደተገኘ ይቆጠራል።

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QUOTABLE QUOTES

True individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. People who are hungry and out of a job are the stuff of which dictatorship are made.

Franklin D. Roosevelt
Message to Congress, Jan 11, 1944

Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives everything its value.

Thomas Paine
The American Crisis, Dec. 23, 1776

Unless man is committed to the belief that all of mankind are his brothers, then he labors in vain and hypocritically in the vineyards of equality.

Adam Clayton Powell Jr.
"Black Power: A Form of Godly Power"
Keep the Faith, Baby!, 1967

It's all papers and forms, the entire Civil Service is like a fortress made of papers, forms, and red tape.

Alexander Ostrovsky, *The Diary of a Scoundrel*, 1868

A country governed by a despot is an inverted cone.

Samuel Johnson
quoted by James Boswell

Education makes a people easy to lead, but difficult to drive; easy to govern, but impossible to enslave.

Henry Brougham
Baron Brougham, attributed

Political institutions are a superstructure resting on an economic foundation.

Vladimir Ilyich Lenin
The Three Sources and Three Constituent Parts of Marxism, 1913

Small nations are like indecently dressed women. They tempt the evil-minded.

Julius K. Nyerere
Reporter, Apr 9, 1964

You should never wear your best trousers when you go out to fight for freedom and truth.

Henrik Ibsen
An Enemy of the People, 1882

You don't make the poor richer by making the rich poorer.

Sir Winston S. Churchill
quoted *To the Point International*
Nov 1, 1976

PLANS TO DOTCOM THE WORLD

Jennifer L. Schenker

Imagine giving every single person in the World a bank account and a personal Web page, containing a family photo. Add a short description of needs and skills and the World Wide Web instantly becomes a conduit for something called person-to-person microlending. This proposal and others designed to reduce the digital divide between rich and poor around the world surfaced last month [January 2000] during the World Economic Forum. Many of the top executives from the world's largest media, computer and communications companies took time out from their usual deliberations about the global economy to discuss concrete ways to pursue the initiatives.

Person-to-person microlending via the Internet was championed by John Gage, chief researcher at Sun Microsystems. He estimates that giving the 6 billion people on earth their own Web pages would entail only about \$8,000 worth of disc storage. Gage and other technology industry executives spoke to some of the world's largest banks at the Davos meeting about using digital certificates so that small amounts of money can be transferred between individuals. As Gage sees it, some people think nothing of spending \$100 for dinner for two, an amount that would make a major difference to a Third World family.

Tech leaders discussed two ways to move things forward. One is spreading the micro-financing model already tested in Bangladesh by Iqbal Quadir, co-founder of GrameenPhone, which bypasses governments and banks and goes directly to individuals. The other is to work with the people in power and institutions such as the World Bank in a top down approach. But the people in power no longer seem to need nudging to jump on the Internet bandwagon. At Davos, tech executives, such as Intuit chairman Scott Cook, said they were surprised to hear French government officials talking about innovation and venture capital and the Japanese extolling the benefits of e-commerce.

The Internet is clearly serving as a means of spreading wealth across the globe, says Johan Stael von Holstein, a 36-year-old Swede who has made a fortune from Internet companies Icon Medialab and LetsBuyIt.com. Stael von Holstein is now creating incubators—consultancies which

nurture fledgling Internet entrepreneurs—across Europe and Asia to help create viable companies. Americans—and America's critics—are wrong to think that, because they created dotcom companies and the Internet is global, American companies will dominate internationally. Says Stael von Holstein, "English content may very well end up being produced in France or Italy in future, as they are much better at communication than Americans are."

Dell Computer chief Michael Dell went even further and predicted that in 20 years the leading language on the Net will be Chinese. According to Michael Dertouzos, director of the Massachusetts Institute for Technology's Laboratory for Computer Science, contrary to the fears of many, the Net is in fact a great means of promoting cultural diversity.

But for all its potential benefits the Internet will not be a panacea for the world's problems, warned Ian Craig, executive vice president of Nortel Networks. People once thought Morse code would lead to greater knowledge and understanding and stop wars, says Craig. The Internet, too, can only go so far in changing human nature. "We have more knowledge," says Craig, "but the basic operating system is still the same." Even Gates can't dominate this one. (Time, February 14, 2000) ■



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