

BRIEF

U.S. Embassy Issues Security Alert in Ethiopia

ADDIS ABEBA - The United States Embassy in Ethiopia on Tuesday issued a security alert following reports of unrest and disruption of transport to and from the capital.

The country-wide alert read in part: "Reports of civil unrest. Road closures in affected areas could disrupt transportation links to and from Addis Abeba and the availability of goods and services within the capital.

"The U.S. Embassy continues to restrict travel for Embassy

personnel to areas outside of Addis Abeba," it added.

Parts of the country was in a three-day stay-at home strike allegedly by activists online to protest a current state of emergency, imposed on February 16.

Italy, Ethiopia Moves to Sustain Agro-Industry Dev't

ADDIS ABEBA - Officials of Italy and Ethiopia discussed on Wednesday on ways to sustainably develop Ethiopia's agro-industry.

Italian Ambassador to Ethi-

opia Arturo Luzzi and State Minister of Industry Mebrahtu Meles attended a side event on the subject during the Second International Agro-Industry Investment Forum being held in Addis Abeba.

During the discussion, focus was given to Public-Private Partnerships as leverage for agricultural modernization and agriculture value chain development, bridging the institutional and political framework with the private sector development.

The forum has delivered on how to bring in the experiences and successes of the Italian

"Agro-food Valley" by taking the best practices in terms of regional and agricultural development in Italy in to account.

World Remit Expands Network across Ethiopia

ADDIS ABEBA - Leading international money transfer service WorldRemit has launched in New York, connecting the state's 9,000-strong Ethiopian diaspora to its fast, low cost service.

The company has been

sending money to Ethiopia since 2011, and handles a rapidly growing number of transactions each month.

WorldRemit has also continued to expand its network of receive options in Ethiopia and recently partnered with Lion International Bank.

This partnership means that Ethiopians living and working in over 50 countries, including those in New York state, can now send remittances as easily as sending an instant message for pick up at Lion International Bank branch locations across Ethiopia, says its officials.