

Ambassador Negash Kebret Botora (A Brief Résumé)

Ambassador Negash Kebret Botora is currently the Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland and Vienna, and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of FDRE to Switzerland (resident), Austria, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria (non-resident). In his long years of diplomatic career service, he worked as a professional career, both in multilateral and bilateral fields. He is also current Chair of the Council of the International Organization for Migration (IOM); Regional Coordinator of Africa for the International Labour Office (ILO) and Member of the Consultative Group of the Human Rights Council.

Ambassador Botora has diverse diplomatic experience and expertise on multilateral organisations, bilateral relations and intergovernmental negotiations on humanitarian affairs with special interest on migration and refugees, human rights, climate change and economic development. His experience is acquired through working in 14 countries across four regions.

He was Director General for International Organisations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs before assuming his current post (2015 – present). He was also Ambassador and Acting Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations in New York. He served as Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the State of Israel, Non Resident Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic of Greece and to the Holy See. Chargé d' affaires a.i., (with the Rank of Ambassador) of the Ethiopian Embassy in New Delhi, India. As a diplomat, he served in Ethiopian Permanent Mission in Geneva twice, and Ethiopian Embassy in Stockholm, Sweden.

He also worked in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia heading various departments including African Affairs, International Organisations, and Asia, Australasia and Middle East Departments. He also served as Chief of Cabinet of the Foreign Minister at which time he was responsible for reform of the Ministry through development of processes, policies and systems that led to new organizational structure and mechanisms that improve the coordination of activities of the Ministry with other line ministries and key stakeholders including academic institutions.

In his global diplomatic engagements, Ambassador Botora chaired, moderated and coordinated intergovernmental negotiations, resolutions and agreements of the United Nations (Geneva, New York, Vienna) and its subsidiary organs including IOM, UNHCR, UNCTAD, ILO, UNGA, INGOs with primary focus on multilateral affairs, human rights, humanitarian issues including migration and refugees and economic development and climate change. He also demonstrated leadership and contributions to diplomatic and technical discussions and debates on a variety of issues including humanitarian affairs, human rights, economic development, migration and refugees, and African political and social issues including in academic institutions. He also designed, coordinated and

executed the diplomatic segment of the election of the first Ethiopian and African as Director General of WHO through organizing and African Union led campaign in 2016-17.

He headed the African Union Mission of the Great Lakes Region (Zambia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Zaire and Burundi) and prepared a report about the outcome of the consultations with the leaders and authorities of the Great Lake Countries regarding the 1994 Rwandan Massacre on behalf of the Chairman and Secretary-General of the African Union.

Ambassador Negash Kebret Botora's major activities and achievements, since the early stage of his diplomatic carrier to present, in different capacities, both at the Foreign Office and diplomatic missions abroad, include - provided inputs for policy options and actions through conduct of studies, prepared memos and position papers; drafted interventions and speeches; organized head of government and foreign ministers states and high-level visits; working missions and meetings inside and outside of Ethiopia. In addition, he served as vice president, chaired; co-chaired/rapporteur, moderated and panelist on diverse thematic discussions (human rights, humanitarian (migration, refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees etc.), economic and development issues within and outside of the United Nations System).

He was a guest speaker/panellist on a wide-range of subjects at academic institutions, inter alia, "Human Rights and Development"- Webster University, Switzerland (November 1991); "Ethio-India Relations, Recent Developments in Ethiopia and Non-Aligned Movement: Delhi University (October 2001); "The Unfinished Revolution" History of Non-Aligned Movement-Delhi University (December 2001); "Indo-Ethiopia Trade Relations and Future Prospects" - Ishan Institute of Management and Technology (March 2002); The African Diplomatic Forum - Uniting Africa: Ways Forward, Challenges Ahead (organized by the Institute of African Studies (IAS) and SIPA PAN-African Network (SPAN) - Columbia University-New York), November 2007; and the International Conference: "Does Global Economic Equality Matter?" organized by William Patterson University-New Jersey- April 2007.

He published articles on: "Ethio-India Relationship" A Historical Perspective" (Publication of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations-Africa Journal-2001); "Cooperation between India and Ethiopia in the Field of Poverty Alleviation" (Publication of the International Center for Excellence: to Promote South-South Cooperation (2002); Reflections on the 50th Anniversary of the OAU/AU, No. 2/2013; Economic Diplomacy and African Development in a Changing World" published by UNDP Ethiopia (2013), No. 4/2013 UNDP Special Series.

He received Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Government Studies from Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia (1977); Master of Arts in International Relations from Webster University, Switzerland (1986) and Post Graduate Diploma in International Relations from University of Stockholm, Sweden and French Language Diploma from Ministry of Education of France.

He is married with two children.