

Ethiopia's PM Abiy Ahmed awarded as part of the AU's African Gender Awards (AFRIKA NEWS.com)



Ethiopian Prime Minister Dr. Abiy Ahmed has been awarded as part of the African Union's African Gender Awards. A prestigious distinction presented by the African Union conjointly with the United Nations Commission for Africa (UNECA).

PM Dr. Abiy Ahmed's historical gender-related political appointments

On Monday, February 11, Ethiopian PM Dr. Abiy Ahmed, has been presented with an African Gender Awards plaque, during the closing ceremony of the 32nd African Union Heads of States summit. The award comes as no surprise, considering the multiple gender-related political appointments Ahmed made in 2018.

A fervent supporter of women's rights, Ahmed, 42, historically appointed women to half of the ministerial positions in his cabinet and named Sahle-Work Zewde as Ethiopia's first female president. Two major moves that challenged the country's patriarchal political culture.

He also appointed women's rights activist Meaza Ashenafi as Supreme Court President and prominent opposition figure Birtukan Mideksa as head of Ethiopia's 2020 elections.

PM Dr Abiy Ahmed has been widely praised for naming women to posts that are traditionally reserved for men. In fact, he believes that women are more efficient and less likely to be corrupted.

Besides his stance on women empowerment, Ahmed has taken other important reforms, such as making peace with Eritrea and acquitting more than 13,000 political prisoners.