

## THE FIRST FAO/WHO/AU INTERNATIONAL FOOD SAFETY CONFERENCE ADDIS ABABA, 12-13 FEBRUARY 2019

### **Abiy Ahmed**

Prime Minister of Ethiopia



Abiy Ahmed is an Ethiopian politician serving as the 15th and current Prime Minister of Ethiopia since 2 April 2018. He is Chairman of both the ruling EPRDF (Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front) and the ODP (Oromo Democratic Party), which are one of the four coalition parties of the EPRDF. Abiy Ahmed is also an elected member of the Ethiopian parliament, and a member of the ODP and EPRDF Executive Committees.

During his acceptance speech as Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Abiy Ahmed promised political reform; to promote the unity of Ethiopia and the unity among the peoples of Ethiopia; to reach out to the Eritrean government to resolve the ongoing Eritrean–Ethiopian border conflict after the Eritrean–Ethiopian War and to also reach out to the political opposition inside and outside of Ethiopia. His acceptance speech sparked optimism and received an overwhelmingly positive reaction from the Ethiopian public including the opposition groups inside and outside Ethiopia. Following his speech, his popularity and support across the country reached a historical high.

Since becoming Prime Minister, Abiy Ahmed has launched a wide programme of political and economic reforms.