

Representing the National Cycling Team and their clubs, Eritrean cyclists demonstrated vibrant performance in the first tournament of Tropicale Amissa Bongo – Tour de Gabon 2013 that was conducted in the afternoon hours yesterday. Asmara, 15 January 2013 – Representing the National Cycling Team and their clubs, Eritrean cyclists demonstrated vibrant performance in the first tournament of Tropicale Amissa Bongo – Tour de Gabon 2013 that was conducted in the afternoon hours yesterday.

Reports indicated that a group of 47 cyclists, predominantly comprising professionals from Europe, completed the 149 Km. tournament within 3 hours 49 minutes and 47 seconds, among which Meron Amanuel and Tesfom Ogbamichael, representing the Eritrean team, won the 7th and 9th ranks respectively. Moreover, members of the team, Meron Teshome, Mekseb Debesai and Tesfai Abraha stood 14th, 16th and 27th, while Merhawi Kudus ranked 43rd.

Meanwhile, Eritreans Jani Tewolde, Meron Rusom and Natnael Berhane seized the 6th, 10th and 17th ranks representing their clubs MTN-QUEBEKA and EUROPECAR.

Following Merhawi's animated performance in particular and that of the team in general, Eritrea fully dominated the tournament, thus regarded as "the Best African Cycling Team," as the South African club MTN-QUEBEKA and Italian LOTTO occupied the successive two ranks of the tournament respectively.

Belgian Robert Frédérique stood first in the tournament succeeded by Gene Yohann and Palini Andrea from France and Italy.

Meanwhile, Meron Amanuel and Tesfai Abraha stood 5th and 11th in today's tournament which covered 119 km. distance within the Cameroonian capital, Yaoundé. Furthermore, Merhawi Kudus took hold of the 15th rank preceding Meron Teshome, and Natnael Berhane stood 9th representing his French club, according to reports.

The third tournament of Tour de Gabon would continue in Gabon in the afternoon hours tomorrow.