

**ENPCP**

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**Ethiopian National Priorities Consultative Process**

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## **Press Release**

**The prevailing situations in Ethiopia keep changing fast by the month,** One of the objectives of this Press Release, therefore, is to bring to the attention of the Ethiopian Diaspora to seriously engage in a dialogue that can bring about positive contributions for a better and harmonious Ethiopia. The reservoir of talent imbedded within members of our Diaspora is rich. It behooves us all to perform better than what our forbears bequeathed to our generation. The problems facing our beloved country are enormous. No single effort can solve them. One initiative which has not been tried in past is the cooperation of a consolidated Ethiopian civic organization's movement to generate fresh energy that can propel every Ethiopian with a sense of purpose to achieve constructive contributions to the land of his/her forebear in various human endeavors. Motivated by such thinking, two years ago, eight Ethiopian civic organizations from USA and Canada had joined hands and established a consolidated effort to exchange dialogue on various fields of national issues under the name of Ethiopian National Priorities Consulting Process with an acronym ENPCP. This organization is now legally registered as non-profit establishment which is run by dedicated members who voluntarily conduct biweekly teleconference meetings chaired by Former Ambassador Imru Zelleke. Two successful conferences were held; a one day regional gathering in Chicago on July 2009 and a second two days conference in Arlington Virginia in April of 2010 which was jointly organized with Advocacy for Ethiopia (AFR). The latter gathering had garnered vigorous sponsorship of two renowned African American right based organizations – Trans Africa and Africa Action -- in addition to a vibrant participation of concerned Ethiopians who traveled from Europe. Also Ethiopian friends of American citizens from varied private enterprises including those who aspire for US Congressional Seats actively participated thus enriching the breadth of the Conference agenda.

In the wake of these two successful gatherings ENPCP's initiatives kept active pace mainly in two areas of activities. The first was and still is expediting its outreach effort to include more Ethiopian civic organizations who agree with ENPCP's core values. These are respects of Ethiopian Unity and Sovereignty, Human rights, and every tenet of Democratic governance such as individual liberty. Happily, the membership has now increased to twelve and more are on the way.

ENPCP's second but not less important undertakings have been devoted to vigilantly monitor events in Ethiopia accompanied with periodic press statements whenever **human rights** violations endangering the Ethiopian polity surface. For Example, in one such occurrence ENPCP's concern was expressed in writing to President Obama with copies to his Secretary of State and other relevant Heads of International Organizations such as the United Nations. In his signed letter of reply, the President has written words of encouragement suggesting to ENPCP to inform his Administration whenever grave concern occurs regarding Ethiopian American relations.

Encouraged by the modest achievements gained during the past two years, ENPCP is currently poised to hold a preliminary teleconference meeting among its enlarged members at the end of this October month. The main goal of the meeting is to discuss and lay out the parameter of a plan of action as a preparation for holding a large convention of Ethiopian civic organizations envisaged to take place in the near future. Every ENPCP member is therefore currently tasked and engaged to make the impending October meeting successful with member's intensive public relations effort and by seeking support from local media.

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