10 April 2013

Ethiopian Teachers Association (ETA) was a founding member of Education International (EI) in 1993 which was formed by amalgamation of the then two largest organizations, namely the World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession (WCOTP) and the International Federation of Free Teacher’s Union (IFFTU), representing unions and associations of teachers and education support staff in the world.

However, due to the split up of ETA leadership in the same year and the complexities that has happened since then at headquarters, ETA as a member organization has not been fulfilling its membership obligation as well has not been exercising its rights in EI. But negotiation has been under way since then.

As a consequence of the negotiation, EI was invited to represent its delegate in observer status in the 20th session of the ETA General Congress which was held in Addis Ababa in September 2012.

Then after, Committee of Experts on Membership lead by professor Pai Obanya accompanied by Mr. Richard Etonu, coordinator in EI’s Africa Regional office in Accra, undertook a mission of investigation from 29-31 January 2013 being in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
ETA admitted into EI membership

Based on the reports submitted by the experts and taking into consideration the efforts ETA leadership has so far made, the Executive Board of Education International decided, at its 41st meeting held in Brussels on 19-21 March 2013, to admit ETA into EI membership. Hence, the current ETA leadership is proud of solving the issue through constructive dialogue. The leadership of ETA believes that this would increase ETA's visibility globally and hopes that ETA and its members will benefit from the international solidarity.

Therefore, on behalf of the entire leadership of ETA from headquarters down to school level, we call up on our members to further strengthen their vanguard organization, ETA, by joining in hands. In addition, we call up on national and international stakeholders to enhance the support they have been rendering to this long existed teachers' organization, established mainly to defend teachers' rights and benefits as well as to speak for provision of quality education.