29 December 2014

Economic Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) of the African Union (AU) is one of the organs of the African Union constituted from two civil society representatives from each of the member states in Africa. ECOSOCC is the civil society parliament of the Union. Among other things ECOSOCC is entitled to promote continuous dialogue between all segments of the African people on issues concerning Africa and its future.

The first General Assembly of ECOSOCC was launched in 2008 in Tanzania. Since then attempts have been made to contribute to the cause of African union.

As the term of operation for ECOSOCC is four years, Ethiopian Teachers Association has applied for the second round membership and was successful in winning the election.

Accordingly, the second ECOSOCC General Assembly was officially launched in Nairobi, Kenya on 22 December 2014.

Before the official launch, elections into the Assembly started on the 17th of December 2014 where by civil society organizations from the sub regions involved in the process.
The Assembly was honored by the presence of HE. Erestus Mwencha, Deputy chair person of the African Union Commission. In his speech he stated that AU has developed an agenda 2063 which will be realized through active involvement of the African people including the ECOSOCC members.

The Assembly elected Joseph Chilingi, Zambian, as its presiding officer.

Four other deputy presiding officers were elected based on regional distribution.

Ethiopian Teachers Association, together with the other civil society member elected into the ECOSOCC from Ethiopia, Confederation of Ethiopian Trade unions, contributes its level best for the success of ECOSOCC-AU.