13 September 2017

Education International (EI) is a global teacher union federation representing over 32 million teachers and education personnel worldwide. EI has regional offices in different continents and Africa region is one of them, its office of which is based in Ghana, Accra.

Africa has six zones and each one of the zones was represented by one male and one other female elected to the Committee. Ethiopian Teachers Association (ETA) which is the 2nd in voting power in Africa next to Nigeria was elected to the committee representing zone V, Eastern Africa.

The committee has made its annual meeting in Addis Ababa from 11-12 September 2017. EIARC has discussed on Zonal reports, Regional activity report 2016 – 2017 including financial report, the 2017 action plan, fragmentation of Teachers’ Organizations in Africa as a challenge to unity and preparation for the 9th Africa Region conference, among others.

The committee has also discussed on the role teacher organizations must play in standing together in solidarity.

Quality Education was also at the center of the discussion, up on which the Sustainable Development Goal 4 on education and Continental Education Strategy (CESA) 16-25 of Africa was discussed and hence the need to closely connect to the African union was underlined in an attempt to bring the strategy on the ground in each member states.
Education International Africa Region Committee (EIARC) meeting held in Addis Ababa

Members appreciated the historical background about the African Union (AU) which enabled them to have a deeper understanding of the organization's establishment. The visit to the AU compound in Addis Ababa, the headquarters of the African Union, was arranged by ETA, providing members with an enriching experience. Some members noted that this was their first visit to the AU headquarters and to Addis Ababa, which enhanced their understanding of the African Union's role in regional and international politics.