World Teachers' Day 2009 Colorfully Celebrated

10 October 2009  Every year, World Teachers' Day is celebrated on 5th October to commemorate the anniversary of the signing in 1966 of the UNESCO/ILO Recommendation Concerning the Status of Teachers.

The day represents the appreciation displayed for the vital contribution teachers make in development. It provides the opportunity to draw public attention to important role of teachers with in society. The theme of the year is "Build the Future; Invest in Teachers Now". ETA has adopted the theme which reads "For Ethiopia's Renaissance, scale-up Investing in Teachers". This is made so to acknowledge the efforts of the government being made in motivating teachers; specially in terms of providing training opportunities at all levels. The event was organized in collaboration with Addis Ababa University Teachers' Association, branch member of ETA.

The conference organized for this purpose was opened with the opening speech made by His Excellency Ato Girma Wolde Giorgis, president of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, followed by opening remark by His Excellency Ato Demeke Mekonnen, Minister of Education. Then Mr. Paul G.C. Hector has read the joint message of the Internal Organizations on behalf of UNESCO cluster office at Addis Ababa.

To make the day colorful, Federal Police Marsh Music band has accompanied the ceremony by presenting its motivating music celebrating teachers and education. The Day was celebrated by organizing two days conference held from 6-7 October 2009 at Addis Ababa University main campus participants of which were invited from government officials, NGOs-national and international, university teachers, parents, students’ and teachers’ associations representatives.

During the conference, research papers prepared by qualified scholars were presented for deliberations.

At the end of the conference ETA has awarded five university educators and one teacher from
primary school as per selection criteria already set in the respective institutions. ETA would like to thank the stakeholders who have contributed financial support and advise for the colorful celebration of the day; namely voluntary service overseas (VSO-Ethiopia), UNESCO Addis Ababa Cluster Office, Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission, Institute of the Ombudsman and Ministry of Education.