ETA General Congress held

General Congress of the Ethiopian Teachers Association (ETA) convenes every four years as indicated in its by-law. The Congress evaluates activities performed by the Council (Convenes every year) and the executive committee during the last four years and decides on the general policy direction of the Association.

Just two days before the congress convened, the Annual council meeting was held to discuss on annual performance of the executive committee and to set agenda for the congress. The Council meeting was started by an opening speech made by Deputy Mayor of the City Government of Addis Ababa, HE Ato Sitotaw Abate.

Addressed by the opening speech of HE Demeke Mekonnen, Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Education, the Congress has deliberated on various agenda during its two days stay from 20-22 September 2012.
ETA General Congress held

First of all, the Congress
Discussed on the main performance and audit report of the last four years of ETA council, which was endorsed by the majority vote without opposition but with some reservation by the Congress members.
In its deliberation on the reports, members of the congress welcomed the increment of the career ladder of teachers uplifted from level six to seven while stressed dialogue to continue to reinstate into their profession of those on whom disciplinary measure was taken so long as they confessed their mistake.

The congress listened to the presentation of state mister of Education regarding Teachers licensing and relicensing scheme which is new introduction into Ethiopian education system.
ETA General Congress held

In addition, the Annual education plan of the Ministry which stressed on improving the quality of education was presented by the same. Among the various agenda discussed were the issues of providing uniform leadership in the construction being made by the different levels of the Association in order to minimize the repetitive financial contribution request which could impact on the economy of members.

In this regard, the Congress unanimously made a historic decision in that members of ETA now above 360,000 contribute their one month salary from which 50% of the contribution be seed money for the headquarters for the construction of a multipurpose office complex while 50% remains at the regional level to serve for the same purpose.

Unique to the previous Congress meetings held during the last 20 years was the representation of international observers. Mr. Jean Kamdem, a member of the Education International African Regional Committee, delegated by EI observed the Congress.

The Congress finally elected leaders at headquarters who will serve for the following four years. Accordingly, Mr. Yohannes Benti, the former president was re-elected for the same position while vice president, General Secretary and Head of Foreign & Public relations were replaced by representatives from their respective regions.

The newly elected leadership has sworn in front of the Congress.

The Congress was closed after the resolution was read by the resolution organizers.