



Ethiopian Economics Association Newsletter

Issue 1 March 2020

Mission

“To represent the professional interests of our members, advance the discipline of Economics and contribute to the development of the Ethiopian Economy”

Vision

“To become the premier Economic Association in Africa renowned for its excellence in membership services and economic policy research”

Organizational Values

**Professionalism
Independence
Credibility
Integrity
Teamwork
Inspiring leadership
Accountability and transparency**

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Update from the President

Esteemed EEA members,

On behalf of the Executive Committee and the Secretariat, I wish to extend my warmest greetings and wishing you good health!

It is my honor and privilege to send you this update about financial and organizational state of the Ethiopian Economics Association.

It is to be recalled that the Executive Committee informed you during the 25th General Assembly of the Association that was held on January 11, 2020 that in July 2019 the Committee had taken a drastic measure of terminating contracts of all research personnel. It was the necessary act to avert the financial crisis, and to reduce further financial obligations to the Association. The termination of research staff also meant a loss of the brain power of the Association and our precious and talented human resources. Although formally, the research function, the EEPRI, was suspended, the Executive Committee took upon itself organizing many public discussions on current and thematic economic and social agenda of our country. This has kept the EEA in the limelight of the public and it remains relevant.

The termination of research positions was only partial and a temporary stopgap; what is critically needed was an equally drastic reorganization of the EEA's Secretariat. While a detailed account of the reform process will be communicated to you over the coming period, I am very pleased to report to you that the Executive Committee resolutely took action to modernize the Secretariat and its function thereby creating necessary and sufficient conditions to make the Association even more relevant to its mission.

At a strategic level, we have introduced reform which includes strengthening and streamlining the day-to-day management and execution of the EEA functions. That is, the Executive Committee have combined the positions of the former Principal Researcher and the Head of Secretariat into a single managerial function. Within the new rearrangement, and consistent with the bylaw, the Head of the Secretariat and Chief Executive Officer will be responsible for an efficient and effective functioning of the research and analysis, partnerships and communication and secretariat support including the stewardship of the Association's financial and human resources on an ongoing basis. The Head of Secretariat and Chief Executive Officer will be selected and appointed by, and reports to, the Executive Committee. Currently, this position is filled by Dr. Getachew Diriba who brings together a wealth of national and international experience and expertise. Closely working with the EC, Getachew is spearheading the reform process with vision and the speed necessary to lay a solid foundation of the EEA.

In moving forward, and as a closing note, this type of communication with you will be regularized, keeping you abreast of, not only of the reform agenda, but also of emerging economic and social issues. I will continue to send you further progress of the reform over the coming weeks.

In the future, the Head of the Secretariat & CEO together with his relevant team leaders will periodically communicate with you and keep you abreast of EEA's activities and related updates.

I take this opportunity to express a special gratitude to all members of the Executive Committee as well as the Advisory Board for their leadership and commitments to serve you all.

Thank you.

Tadele Ferede, Dr.
President of EEA

Economic Knowledge for Optimal Decision!