



ANNUAL REPORT

EITPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ADDIS ABABA

JUNE 2009

INTRODUCTION

This annual report is prepared as a fulfillment of the Constitution of EITPA Article VI/2/g/I, which states that the Executive Committee Members (ECMs) shall draw up annual report to be approved by the General Assembly. Accordingly, this report covers the activities performed by the ECM from September 2007 to may 2009.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS (ECM)

The sixth General Assembly that takes place on September 22, 2007 at Global Hotel had appointed the existing ECM by fulfilling the vacant ECM positions and approving the resignation of the then President Dr. Dawit Bekele and electing Dr. Worku Alemu as the president of the Association. As a result, the ECM at the time of this reporting period, are as listed below by name alphabetic order.

Name	Position
Ato Abyot Bayu	Auditor
Ato Birhanu Mekuria	Treasurer
Ato Dagmawi Lemma	Vice President
Ato Derese Tesfaye	Member
W/t Hayat Yusuf	Secretary
W/o Mindaye Hailu	Public Relation
Dr. Worku Alemu	President

LEGAL STATUS

The newly elected ECM had a problem of discharging its activity as a result of un-renewed license and unclear legal status of the Association. Therefore, the Executive Committee (EC) took step forward to report about suspended legal matters to the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and proceeded with the process of reforming the Association with appropriate legal status as per the rules and regulation of MoJ.

After a relentless effort by the EC members, MoJ offered the Association a provisional license up to December 4, 2008 and recognized the current EC members.

ACTION PLAN

While following up the legal matters with regards to legalizing the Association in a manner that abides to the rules and regulations set out by MoJ, the EC members continued to engage the Association in areas that enable to discharge its objectives, such as

- participating in IT forums and events,
- seeking opportunities for members, and
- mobilizing members for the advancement of ICT in Ethiopia so as to contribute to the development of the country

Overall, the EC identified crucial activities that have to be done so as to bring the Association itself in to life and enable it to run in sustainable manner and as a legal entity. To this end, the EC list the following tasks to be accomplished

1. License Renewal
2. Study and develop guidelines
 - a. Financial guideline
 - b. Reporting guideline
 - c. Filing and Documentation guideline
3. Reorganizing and staffing the Office
4. Publication of Newsletter and updated brochure
5. Republishing the Website
6. Developing Accounting System
7. Updating Members Data
8. Organizing Workshops
9. Organizing annual conference and publishing journal

ACCOMPLISHMENT

Guided by the outlined action plan, the Association performed the following major activities which are presented in chronological order.

October 2007 – March 2008

NOV@TECH 2008 EITPA was selected by Proinvest* as one of the African Intermediary Organization (IO) to organize NOV@TECH 2008 in Addis Ababa. NOV@TECH 2008 aimed to be a market place in which business to business (BtoB) meetings were sought and scheduled between businesses from ACP and European countries.

EITPA has been actively involved in the organization of the event. Moreover, EITPA succeeded to register more than 50 Ethiopian ICT projects to the event.

During the event that took three days, NOV@TECH 2008 brought together over 315 participants representing 43 countries: some 100 delegates represented 20 European and other countries, whilst 23 African States gathered around 215 participants. 750 BtoB meetings were scheduled which led to 70 Partnership Memoranda (PM) between the different companies, Institutions and organizations to discuss different types of partnerships: Representation, Joint-venture, Distribution, Sub-contracting, Equipment supply, Export advice, and Technical Assistance.

In addition to the BtoB meetings, 6 thematic workshops were organized in close collaboration with leading associations and professional organizations in the ICT sector.

Upon closing of the event, Proinvest awarded EITPA among other four African IOs an invitation to participate in CEBIT† 2008 in recognition to its active participation for organizing NOV@TECH 2008.

Scholarship

EITPA initiated scholarship program with University of Ajou in South Korea. In this period the Association submitted 58 (Fifty eight) applications of its members out of which 32 were for Master Degree program, 3 were for Integrated Masters-Doctoral Program and 23 were for Doctoral Program.

* Proinvest is one of the projects of European Union (EU)

† CEBIT is annual international ICT event hosted by Hanover, Germany

Following the applications EITPA played a crucial role in closely following up the matter with the University, and finally secured seven scholarships as described in detail below.

Students for Masters Program

For Department of Information and Communication Engineering

1. Hassen Redwan
2. Yihun Alemu Bogale
3. Mikiyas Teshome Workenhe

Student for Integrated Master and Doctoral Program

For Department of Information and Communication Engineering

4. Seifu Tatek Yazhy

Students for Doctoral Program

For Department of Information and Communication Engineering

5. Tadesse Anberbir
6. Tibebe Beshah Tesema
7. Yenewondim Biadgie Sinshaw

Apart from facilitating the scholarship program, EITPA also covers registration fee amounting 800USD for each student as well as their air ticket fee by collaborating with sponsors.

Currently, all the students are attending their study except one who was unable to benefit from the opportunity for his own personal reason.

License	After reporting to the MoJ, provisional license permit has been awarded to the Association by the MoJ. It is also to be noted that the provisional period has ended on December 4, 2008.
Bank Status	Following the provisional permit, the Association reactivate its bank account and pursue to acquire proper and formal financial transaction.
CeBIT	EITPA participated on CeBIT 2008, that took place in Hanover Germany as one of the IOs in the African team which staged up at the “Hamburg at Work” booth

April 2008 – September 2008

Reorganizing and staffing the Office

Fulltime Executive secretary is hired since August 2008.

Filing of documents is completed

Study and develop guidelines

Financial guideline – completed

Reporting guideline – in progress

Filing and Documentation guideline – completed

Republishing of Website

The website has been reactivated with renamed the domain name www.eitpa.org.et containing up to date and new information.

Updating Members Data

Members Data has been updated with all the readily available resource and possible means. However, the process is believed to be a continuous process.

In the mean time roaster for membership follow-up is prepared and completed.

October 2008 - December 2008

Publication of Newsletter and Updated brochure

EITPA Newsletter is launched as one of the communication medium to address its members' interest and ICT related issues to the community. The newsletter has been officially inaugurated on November 13, 2008 at Global Hotel.

On the same event updated brochure of the Association has been released.

Developing Accounting System

The EC decided to hire a professional accounting firm to handle and develop its financial system on the meeting held on October 11, 2008. Accordingly the accounting system is fully developed and financial statements from July 2006 to June 2008 is readily available.

Organizing Workshops

IT outsourcing The Association has organized a half day workshop that took place at Global Hotel on November 13, 2008 from 8:00AM to 12:30 PM addressing the titles “Outsourcing Opportunity and IT in Ethiopia” and “IT Researches in Ethiopia”.

The workshop has been opened by Dr. Mesfin Belachew, Deputy Director of Ethiopian Information and Communication Technology Development Agency. During the workshop, three papers have been presented and a constructive discussion has been made by the participants.

FOSS

EITPA in collaboration with its project unit EFOSSNET has also organized a one day workshop on Free and Open Source Software (FOSS), which was held at the ECA conference hall on December 27, 2008. The main objective of the workshop was **creating awareness about FOSS and highlighting its benefits** to the development of the ICT sector in Ethiopia. Ten papers have been presented and constructive discussion has been made in this workshop. The workshop was attended by EITPA members, representatives from government and non-government organizations, the academia and the private sector.

January 2009 - May 2009

Financial Audit

The financial statements of EITPA for the years ending in June 2007, and June 2008 have been audited by a authorized professional auditing firm. Care has been taken to select the auditing firm in such a way to assure transparency of the auditing process and also to make the auditing report acceptable by the GA and also MoJ.

AfNOG/ISOC Training

The Africa Network Operating Group (AfNOG) with the support of its partners the Network Startup Resource Center (NSRC) and The Internet Society (ISOC) were looking at institutionalizing the training activities in the area of Scalable Internet Services and Infrastructures through a localization program. To this end, AfNOG contacted EITPA if we can run such trainings locally with the support of AfNOG/ISOC and local higher educational institutions. Accordingly, EITPA has been looking for a higher education institution to avail classrooms and required facilities for the training. The MoU for such collaboration with a local institution is to be signed soon. The entry-level course on Unix System Administration is tentatively scheduled to be offered in August 2009. A total of 30 EITPA members will get the training free of charge.

Exhibition

EITPA participated in the 2nd ICT Exhibition which was held in Addis Ababa from May 28 to June 3, 2009. EITPA's participation in the exhibition was a success in terms of promoting its agendas. The objective of the Association was introduced to the visitors and more than 700 new members have been registered.

Others

The EC members participated in various discussion forums, workshops and meetings and contributed their shares of ideas

EITPA works closely with the standard task force and represented by a member

EITPA's office at Alta Building 5th floor is partitioned in such a way that there are two rooms where one a secretary office while the other is a meeting room.