The Ethiopian Millennium
Reflections on the Past, Present Challenges, & Light into The Future
September 8-9, 2007
Howard University, Washington, D.C.
(Howard University Hospital, Tower Building, 5th & V St.)

Symposia Program

Thursday and Friday, September 6 & 7

Arrival of Guests
Capital

Holyday Inn,
C St., SW
Washington DC

Saturday, September 8, 2007

8:00-9:00 A.M    Registration Howard University Hospital Tower Building, 5th & V St

Opening Session

9:00 – 9:15 Opening remarks by Artist Alemtsehay Wodajo, Executive Director of CCEM

9:15 - 9:25 Welcoming remarks by Mrs Nebiat Solomon, Director of African Affairs
Washington DC Mayor Adrian Fenty Office,

Session 1. THE QUEST FOR DEMOCRACY IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM
(Con-organized with Support group for Democracy in Ethiopia)

9:30-10:45 Plenary Session 1.a. Quest for Democracy
(Con-organized with Support group for Democracy in Ethiopia)

Moderator: Ato Negussie Mengesha (Voice of America, VOA)

- The Quest for Democracy Under TPLF: Lessons from 2005 Elections
  Dr. Mesfin Araya, City University of New York, NY

- The Challenges of Balancing Collective and Individual Rights
  Mr. Dima N. Sarbo, University of Tennessee,

- Democratic Response to National Question in Ethiopia
  Ato Ephrem Madebo, Systems Engineer, FAA
11:05- 12:05 Plenary Session 1.b. Quest for Democracy (continued)

Moderator: Ato Negussie Mengesha (Voice of America, VOA)

- Millennium Beliefs and Radicalization
  Dr. Messai Kebede, University of Dayton

- Ethiopia and United States Relations:
  It’s Impact on the Quest for Democracy in Ethiopia
  Dr. Getachew Metaferia, Morgan State University

12:05 – 12:35 Question & Answer Session

12:35 – 1:35 P.M Lunch Break

1:45 – 3:45 P.M Sessions 2 & 3 (concurrent)

Session 2: The Essentials of Peace & Reconciliation in Ethiopia

(Co-Organized by the Ethiopian Women for Peace and Development, EWPD)

Moderator: Dr. Maigenet Shifferaw, (University of The District of Colombia)

- The Role of Civil Society in the Transformation of Governance and Peace Building in Ethiopia
  Dr. Berhanu Mengistu, Old Dominion University

- What Made The South African Reconciliation Possible?
  Dr. Kogila Adam-Moodley, University of British Columbia & Director of Research and Development at the Desmond Tutu Peace Centre in Cape town, South Africa

- The Role of Women in Peace and Reconciliation: A Case of Women in the Southern Region
  Ms. Agere Tefera, Arlington Diocese Office of Migration & Refugees Services

- Institutional Formation as an instrument for Conflict Prevention and Positive Change in Ethiopia: The Case of the Ethiopian Institute for Nonviolence Education and Peace studies (EINEPS)
  Ato Elias Wondimu, Tsehai Publishers & EINEPS
Session 3. Ethiopian History, Language, and Culture in the Past Millennium

Moderator: Ato Alemayehu Gebre Hiwot, Author & Poet, Washington DC

- Ethiopia Ena Lelaw Alem
  Professor Getatchew Haile, St. John University, MN

- Ethiopian History and Literature
  Dr. Fikre Tolossa, Writer, Poet & Playwright, California

- The Ethiopian Millennium as a Signifier of Long Historical Journey
  Dr. Ayele Bekerie, Cornell University, NY

- Ye Ethiopia Uletegnaw Millennium Be getami (Poet) Ayin
  Ato Assefa Gebremariam Tessema, Author & Poet, Las Vegas, Nevada

- The Ethiopian Calendar
  Dr. Aberra Molla, Ethiopic Computer & Software Inc, Colorado

  - Ethiopian Millennium: Past Offerings and Future Appeal
    Dr. Tadele Gebere Hiwot, Houston University

  - Hoping for a Free and Vibrant Press in Ethiopia:
    A Bird’s Eye view of the Development of Modern Media over the Last One Hundred Years.
    Dr. Meseret Chekol Reta, University of Wisconsin - River Falls.

3:35-3:50PM           Refreshment Break

3:55- 5:55 P.M.       Sessions 4 & 5 (concurrent)

Session 4: Ethiopia’s Millennium Challenges:
Economic Development & the Environment

Moderator: Dr. Gezahegne Bekele, International Affairs & Trade (USGAO)

- Ethiopia’s Command Financial Economy:
  Measures for Transforming the Financial Sector in Next Millennium.
  Professor Lemma Wolde Senbet, University of Maryland

- The Ethiopian Economy in the New Millennium:
  A Despoiled Economy in Perspective.
  Dr. Getachew Begashaw, Harper College, Chicago, Illinois

- The Challenge of Economic Development:
Can Ethiopia Claim the 21st Century or its Coming Millennium?
Dr. Sisay Assefa, Western Michigan University,

- Sustainable Development and Peace in Ethiopia: Possibilities of Our Time?
  Ato Mersie Ejigu, Partnership for African Environmental Sustainability,

- Global warming: the challenges and business opportunities
  Dr. Brook Lakew, NASA

- Desertification in Ethiopia: A Challenge in the New Millennium.
  Ato Fekade Shewakena, National Institute of Health (NIH)

Session 5: Ethiopians in the Diaspora: Prospects, Challenges, and opportunities

Moderator: Ato Abdul Aziz Kamus, African Resource Center, Washington DC

- The History of Ethiopian Immigrants in the US, a Profile
  Dr. Solomon Addis Getahun, Michigan State University

- Ethiopian Musicians at the Diaspora Crossroads
  Dr. Kay Kaufman Shelemay, Harvard University

- Success in Business & Entrepreneurship:
  Lessons for Ethiopians in Diaspora
  Dr. Gabe Hamda, ICATT Consulting, Inc, Jacksonville, Florida.

- Standing Up and Speaking Up for your community
  Mr. Abdulaziz Kamus, African Resource Center, Washington DC

- Presentation on issues concerning Ethiopian Americans
  Ms. Selam Mulugeta, Special Assistant to Cong. Mike Honda

6:15 P.M. End of Saturday symposia program

The Ethiopian Millennium Grand Musical and Cultural Show at Stadium Armory Starting from 8:00 PM on Saturday.
Sunday, September 9, 2007

9:15-10:15AM  Registration  Howard University Medical Building (5th & W)

10:30-12:30 P.M.  Sessions 6 & 7 (Concurrent)

Session 6.  Human Rights Advocacy, Justice and the Rule of Law in Ethiopia
             (Co-organized with Coalition for HR 2003 & EACA)
Moderator: Wro Meron Ahadu, Human Rights Activist, Los Angeles, CA

- Diaspora Human Rights Advocacy: Lessons Learned, Building on Current Capacities, and Setting the Stage for Future Challenges
  Prof. Alemayehu Gebre Mariam, California State University, San Bernardino, CA

- Targeted Legal Reform To Promote Democracy in the New Millennium: Building an independent judiciary and reform in criminal justice
  Ato Dereje Demisse, Law Offices of Demisse and Church, Boston, MA

- Unity on Principles and Deeds"
  Mr. Obang O. Metho, Anuak Justice Council, Human Rights Advocate

- Talking Beyond Human Rights Violations in Ethiopia"
  Mr. Birhanemeskel Abebe, Human Rights Center University, Minnesota

- The Human Rights Condition in the Ogaden Region of Ethiopia
  Mr. Yassin Quassim, Human Rights Activist, Atlanta, Georgia

Session 7.  Building Democratic Institutions, & Civil Society
            (Co-organized with Ethiopian National Congress, ENC)

Moderator: Ato Elias Wondimu, Teshai Publishers & EINEPS, Los Angeles, CA

- Way Out of Seven Deaths: Ethiopian Prospects for the New Millennium.
  Dr. Tsehai Berhane-Selassie, Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick, Ireland

- Citizens Charter: The Vital Role of a Strong Civic Movement
  Dr. Berhanu Abegaz, College of William and Mary, VA

- Peace and wartime shifts in the behaviors of the state and civil society and socioeconomic and political change in Ethiopia
  Dr. Teshome Tadesse, Michigan State University
12:30-1:30 P.M.  Lunch Break

1:40 – 4:00 P.M.  Sessions 8 & 9 (concurrent)

Session 8.  Ethiopia's Millennium Challenges: Health and Women issues

Moderator: Mr. Nebiat Aklilu, Health Program Manager, Washington D.C.

- The Role of Women in the struggle for Democracy & Human Rights
  Wro. Aslefech Retta, IEWO

- Health and Good Governance: The Challenges in the New Millennium
  Dr. Kassa Ayalew

- Health and Women
  Wro Lemlem Tsegaw

- HIV/AIDS in Ethiopia
  Dr. Ashenafi Waktola

Session 9.  The State of Education and the Youth in Ethiopia

Moderator: Ato Yohannes Assefa, Attorney & Publisher, Washington D.C.

- Modernity, the Ethiopian Youth and the Challenge of the Third Millennium
  Dr. Paulos Milkias, Concordia University

  Timhert BeEthiopia: Tinanet Ena Zare
  Dr. Aklilu Habte, Former President of Addis Ababa University

- The Psychological Consequences of Miseducation
  Dr. Abeba Fekade

- Ethiopia's Beleaguered Youth:
  Can It Meet the Challenges of the New Millennium?
  Dr. Abraham Bekele

- Matter of Interest
  Ato Mehari Belay, Strayer University
4:00 – 4:20  Refreshment Break

4:25- 6:25 P.M  Closing Plenary Session 10

Session 10.  The State, Ethno-nationalism, regional politics, and security issues:

Moderator: Ambassador Ayalew Mandefro, former Ambassador & Minister of Defense

- Millennium Hopes for creating a Security Community from the Red Sea to the Indian Ocean: Confronting the Challenges with Courage and Wisdom
  Dr. Mamo Muchie, Aalborg University, Denmark

- Be Haya Andegnaw Kifele Zemen Be Ethiopia Yetedergu Ye Lewit Mukerawoch: Tahisas, Yekatit Ena Ginbot.
  Dr. Negede Gobzie, Author and Political Activist, Belgium

  Dr. Shumet Sishagne, Christopher Newport University, VA

- Ethno-nationalism as a Hindrance to the Democratization of the Ethiopian State
  Dr. Assefa Negash, De Geestgronden Institute of Mental Health, The Netherlands

6:30- 7:30  Questions and Answer period

Closing Remarks & End of symposia program

8:00 P.M. CCEM will host a dinner reception for symposia guests at Meaza Restaurant, VA

To contact the Council for the Celebration of Ethiopian Millennium, regarding the Symposium you can write to: Neaminz@aol.com, or
symposium@ethiopianmillennium2000.com; phone: 202-386-3037 or 301-681-1201

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