

Leadership of EPM, EDP, and EPP Holds a Meeting in Addis Ababa

Joint Media Team

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Leadership members of the three merging organizations – the Eritrean People’s Movement (EPM), the Eritrean Democratic Party (EDP), and the Eritrean People’s Party in Ethiopia and Sudan came together and held a two-day long meeting from December 22-23, 2009 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Mr. Adhanom Gebremariam, member of the Joint Leadership Committee of the three merging organizations, opened the meeting with brief introductory remarks regarding the upcoming merger conference. In his remarks, Mr. Adhanom applauded the long and great efforts made by the three merging organizations to achieve the unity. Mr. Adhanom also added that the unity we have achieved at this juncture is not the final victory in and of itself, but a positive development that can transform the struggle into a new stage and help us reach the goal of turning around the horrible situation in our country and save our people.

Also, in attendance in the opening of the meeting was Mr. Hubur Gebrekidan, chairman of the Senaa Cooperation Forum and representative of the Ethiopian government, who delivered a solidarity statement in the meeting in which, among other things, he said the unity that is in the making would be a positive example in terms of its wide appeal and role in the Eritrean struggle. Mr. Hubur further pointed out the importance, as well as the role and responsibility of the merging organizations in strengthening the Eritrean Democratic Alliance. Both the government of Ethiopia and the Senaa Cooperation Forum support the unity and they will provide the necessary assistance needed, added Mr. Hubur.



Some of the other major points the participants brought to the focus of the discussion were also the importance of establishing a strong and viable political party, including the role that the new party should play in supporting and strengthening the Eritrean Democratic Alliance. The leadership



members also covered a wide range of issues in the meeting, notably the draft political platform, the draft party constitution, and other policy matters. The meeting concluded, with some recommendations and other inputs on the draft documents that will be discussed at the upcoming merger conference of the three organizations.

