

## Members of EPP in Sweden hold First Annual Congress

Department of Information and Culture  
Eritrean People's Party  
June 20, 2009

Members of the Eritrean People's Party in Sweden area held their first annual congress in Yonshoping, Sweden on Saturday, June 20, 2009. In this congress, members received an annual update, reviewed accomplishments undertaken, reflected on lessons learned, and discussed future plans.

Mr. Negasi Hamde, the EPP organization Affairs representative for all-Scandinavia Region, welcomed and appreciated the participation of members who traveled from various places of Sweden to attend the annual congress.

Mr. Negasi Hamde provided an annual report on the political and organizational activities of EPP in all-Scandinavia Region. The report included general overview of EPP activities and accomplishments, including the level of engagement of members in the area.

Mr. Mussie Awote, the EPP treasurer for Sweden area, presented financial report, which included the amount raised over the past year, as well as the amount disbursed.

The major areas discussed at the congress:

- Implementation of EPP political program and constitution.
- Strengthening the financial situation of EPP.
- Commitment to making the relationship and cooperation amongst the Eritrean opposition forces strong.
- Work to support and strengthen the Eritrean Democratic Alliance (EDA), the current Eritrean umbrella organization.
- Ensure the participation of Eritrean people in the democratic struggle.

The annual congress of EPP Sweden area discussed the fast growing migration of Eritrean youth, and the PFDJ regime's barbaric and inhumane treatment of Eritrean people that is pushing the country towards a dangerous path. Against this background, the congress resolved to intensify their struggle against the repressive regime of Isayas Afewerki by increased support of a strong opposition force, in particular the Eritrean Democratic Alliance, until the realization of a just and lasting peace in Eritrea.

The participants of the congress reaffirmed that the primary focus for EPP members is implementing the EPP political programs and constitution, both of which are guiding principles in the current struggle against the dictatorial regime and core visions for the future of Eritrea.

Members of the congress recognized strongly that none of the present challenges facing Eritrea can be met without the participation of Eritrean people. In this context, members resolved to focus on developing more accessible and visible bridge between the Eritrean opposition and our people, with the aim of making Eritrean people active and owners of the struggle.

Members of the congress underlined the importance and vital contribution of the Eritrean civil society organizations to the democratic struggle. They stressed their commitment to work to strengthen cooperation between EPP and all Eritrean civil society organizations.

Members of the congress noted the importance and urgency of strengthening the financial resources of EPP. To meet this challenge, members reaffirmed to seek contributions through various means, including holding fund raising events.

Members reaffirmed their support for the unity between Gash-Setit and EPP concluded last month, as well as committed themselves towards realizing the unity process currently in progress between EPP and EDP.

Members of the congress resolved to work in partnership with the Eritrean Democratic Association (EDA) on the 24<sup>th</sup> Eritrean Annual National Festival, scheduled to take place in August 7, 8, and 9, 2009 in Frankfurt, Germany.

First Annual Congress

Eritrean People's party, Sweden Area

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