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# Sustainable Agriculture and Biodiversity

## Patenting Life is Owning Life

by Tewolde Berhan Gebre Egziabher  
)

Geneva, 17 May (TWN) --  
The system of patenting  
was developed for ma-  
chines. It is being forced  
onto living things. Most of  
the problems of patenting  
life arise from this fact.

Imagine that I invent a new kind of carburettor that economises on fuel. If I patent it, is the rest of the car also patented? When I patent an organism because I claim to have invented a gene, do I patent also the whole organism? Conversely can I patent a whole organism because I claim to have been inventive in the context of one of its genes, or one of its traits? If I have invented a carburettor would I not be able to scale it up or to scale it down to make it fit a lorry or a motor cycle? When I do this would I not know beforehand what the effect would be on the lorry or on the motor cycle? When I introduce a gene into one organism or another do I find that its impact is the same as I predict it to be in both organisms? But whilst I create my carburettor out of materials that have nothing to do with delivering measured amounts of petroleum, I introduce genes or traits into an organism only if they already exist as such in another organism or organisms. Can I patent a car because I fit it with a different kind of carburettor from another car? Therefore breeding and genetic engineering

reorganise something existing; they do not create anything de novo. Considering achievements in reorganising as if they were inventions, is a distortion of meaning, with the aim of distorting reality. This distortion is made for a specific purpose, for controlling living things in the same way as one can control machines one has invented.

Those who patent living things will claim that they are not distorting anything but that they are merely asking for a recognition of their own creativity that has gone into making the living thing what it actually is.

But do they create the living thing? They do not. Even they would only claim that their creativity is reflected in the living thing, not that they have made it.

Double speak? What creativity can contribute to something already created? What would creativity mean then? If they want reward, they could ask society to develop a system appropriate for their role in the improvement that comes from reorganising. Society pays for many of the services it gets. A service given does not have to be a creation in order to be rewarded. When they claim creativity in relation to life, one of the activities they point to is the extraction of bio-molecules. Why else would a chemical extracted from a living thing be patented? The extraction and identification of a molecule is a discovery, not a creation, not an invention. We are told that discoveries are not patentable. Or are they? I have now discovered this great city of Brussels. Can I patent it? I would enjoy royalties from the European Union coming to fill my pockets!

The use of a biochemical is often the same as what is traditional to local communities somewhere. If a company patents that traditional use as its own invention, is it not then plagiarism? Is the patent office that has allowed it then not legalising robbery? Does an act stop being a crime merely because the law allows it to be committed? Did not Europe and North America set the Nuremberg trials to punish acts that had been legal in the Nazi regime?

The use of a biochemical might also be new, discovered by those who want to patent it. Is that new use an invention, or a discovery? Should then the use, or the chemical itself, be patented?

What is it that is currently being patented in the various industrialised countries: the bio-molecule or the use? Should access to that patented bio-molecule then remain open, and making and using it for purposes other than the patented one be allowed? What is the case in Europe?

I realise that once a chemical is available to the public, it is not

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easy to restrict its use. Is it then fair to deny other uses in order to protect one use? Should we err in favour of society as a whole or in favour of one particular legal or natural individual? Extracted biomolecules can often be synthesised and thus be made artificially in a chemical plant. Will the synthesised molecule, then, have been invented? Should it then be patented? I have no problem with patenting the particular process used for the synthesis.

But I would find it impossible to accept that the synthesised molecule is considered invented. This is because I would then have to assume that the synthesised molecule is different from the natural one. But even the so called inventor would not accept this distinction: the rationale behind synthesising something is the making of a substitute.

In my view the more audacious claim for patent is that for the organism.

If the nucleic acid sequence that corresponds to a trait were invented, that it did not exist in nature in any species, such a claim could be understood. But, in fact, we know that a trait is often the result of an interaction among many genes or nucleic acid sequences. That is why we can never tell for sure what a newly introduced gene will do in an organism. We only introduce it and find out the effect. This fact alone would have made such a claim dubious.

But even then one should not claim to have invented the gene or the trait let alone the whole organism. Do laws allow the patenting of only specific traits? Only nucleic acid sequences? The whole organism? What about simply crossing individuals to create a new individual with a new combination of nucleic acid sequences and traits? Is the organism then an invention? Or do the nucleic acid sequences have to be introduced only through recombinant DNA technology to make the organism an invention? Or will simply identifying the nucleic acid sequences that determine the traits make the organism an invention? The organism is the same in all of these cases. In that case what has genetic engineering or DNA sequencing got to do with patenting?

It is true that recombinant DNA technology combines genes that would not have combined through

natural processes. But the genes are not invented. Why do we say the organism is invented? Would it not suffice to say that it is the process that has been invented? Conversely when we find an organism, it is with all its nucleic acid sequences inside it. Why can't we patent it, if all that genetic engineering does is recombine existing DNA sequences? I hear that such patents on whole organisms unrelated to specific nucleic acid sequencing are allowed in the United States. Are such patents then not understandable?

Would allowing a gene or a trait to be patented not make the other genes and traits in the whole organism unavailable to others? Shouldn't I, looking for ways of using that organism without the patented trait or gene, be allowed to use it? Do I have the right to excise or splice out the patented gene or trait and use the rest?

It may be argued that I could use other organisms in that species that do not contain the patented traits or genes. What if that organism with those patented genes or traits is the only surviving variety of the species? In this age of extinction, this is not unlikely. What if there are other genes or traits that occur only in that variety with patented genes or traits? This is a very likely scenario. Access to that variety could then be continually denied by patenting traits or genes every time an existing patent is about to lapse.

If we use the determination of the nucleic acid sequence constituting a gene as a criterion for patenting, and I understand that this is the case, how would we know that the sequence is unique to the organism being patented? The number of species on earth is estimated to be ten to sixty million. So far, we know the nucleic acid sequences of all the genes only for one species, the bacterium *Escherichia coli*. Assuming that the patenting of a nucleic acid sequence can be allowed only if it is new to life, which would make it a genuine invention, could we ever be certain that a nucleic acid sequence which we find in an organism is really new to life? Obviously not. If we allow patenting for a mere determination of nucleic acid sequences, how will we cope with the sequences which are the same but are in different species?

Patenting seems totally inapplicable to life. If we want to reward researchers in the life sciences, we must find another system. If we continue with the distortion of the meaning of invention, we do not know where we will end up. I wonder how many of you have heard of Mr Moore of the USA whose liver has been patented. He went to the hospital. They took out a piece of his liver, cultured it and patented it. Moore claimed that they could not patent his liver, because it was his own. But the judge said that since it is outside of him it is not his and it can be patented, i.e. it is invented. But that piece of liver is the same whether inside or outside Mr Moore. The judge did not dare say that the part inside him is also invented. But how long will it take for the continuing distortion of inventing to accept that the piece of liver inside him is the same as that outside him, and that, therefore, it is the patent holder's invention? Suppose I buy the patent on Mr Moore's liver, and suppose I also patent his blood in a similar manner, and I want my liver out of him in the style of **Shakespeare's** defence of not allowing me to spill blood would not prevent me. I will spill my blood and take my liver, and I will still walk away, possibly claiming my royalties on your use of my Brussels! (SUNS4436)

\*) Tewolde Berhan Gebre Egziabher is General Manager of the Ethiopian Protection Agency and Chair of the African Group of delegations at the Convention on Biodiversity. The above is based on his presentation at a Brussels seminar organized by the Green Group of the European Parliament

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## Healing the Earth for sustainable agriculture: An Ethiopian story

By Million Belay  
Introduction

The experience of the Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD) and the Bureau of Agriculture and Natural Resources in Tigray (Bo-ANR) shows that there is little need for genetically manipulated seeds to improve the livelihood of poor rural communities. The experience outlined below shows how farmers can control their lives by combining their knowledge and science instead of putting themselves in a cycle of debt and despair by borrowing money to buy chemicals and improved seeds. The project was started with four villages in Tigray, northern Ethiopia, and grew to 83 villages, involving more than 2,000 households. It has become the programme of the government of the Tigray region, with the potential of spreading to other parts of Ethiopia. The demand for the project is already huge and the ISD is preparing itself to facilitate its introduction to more areas.

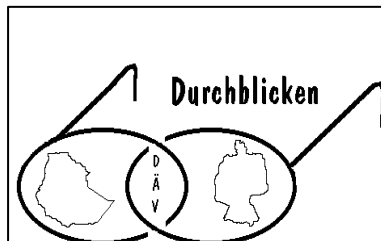
### Background

The ISD started from a workshop that took place in Tigray in May 1995. The challenge was to find mechanisms for poor rural communities to improve their physical environment and capacity to produce crops without them becoming dependent on external inputs. The means chosen was a research project. It was conceptualised and promoted by Dr Tewolde Berhan Gebre Egziabher(1) and his wife Mrs Sue Edwards(2). Land degradation is one of the most serious problems facing Ethiopia today. An estimate of yield reduction due to the loss of topsoil each year is alarming. Population pressure and low yields are forcing farmers into abandoning fallowing and crop rotations - the system they have used for millennia to maintain their livelihoods. Tigray has a highly degraded environment where over 85% of the population are farmers who struggle to feed their families from crops producing very low yields. One of the factors contributing to the low yields is the poor condition of the soil. The Tigray Bureau of Agriculture has adopted the Sasakawa

Global (SG) 2000 package based on high-yielding varieties (HYVs) and chemical fertilisers as one strategy. Elsewhere, serious problems have emerged from the long-term use of agro-chemicals. More importantly, rainfall is highly variable and one or two seasons of poor rain will probably leave the already poor farmers heavily in debt. To find an alternative to chemically supported agriculture, the ISD have started an experiment on organically supported agricultural development with four rural communities in Tigray. These are Abomssa, Adi Nifas, Guimse and Ziban Sas. The experiment started in 1996. It is an experiment to the ISD and the Bureau of Agriculture but it involves the livelihood of the farmers. Therefore, the necessary measures were taken not to disturb the daily life of the farmers.

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### The experiment

The experiment is being carried out in pairs of village communities through, on the one hand, monitoring the current extension package of chemicals and high-input-demanding seeds and, on the other, applying technologies for increasing biomass and water retention (soil and water conservation including the construction of trench bands, check dams and ponds, application of natural fertilisers, mainly compost and animal manure, and planting of trees, forage and grass species), the use of heterogeneous seeds, ecological pest and disease management and recommended agronomic practices. The effects of

these two strategies are being followed so as to determine which is the more sustainable alternative. The project is also intended to empower local communities so that they retain active control of their development process.

### Evaluation

After five years it was felt that a comprehensive evaluation of the project should be conducted to see where the project is heading in terms of achieving its objective. The evaluation was based on:

- The review of the proposal that was prepared at the beginning of the project and used as a resource document for planning and implementing the interventions of the endeavour.
- The repeated site visits and reports made by ISD staff from Addis Ababa as well as by the project staff in Tigray over the past five years, and the reports that were compiled on the experiences of the project.
- The Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) made by the ISD in February 2001 which included stakeholder analysis and group discussions with farmers and those living adjacent to the project sites.
- The stakeholder meeting that was held during the Axum Workshop on the morning of 19 November, in which experts and officials from the Tigray region and from project zones, including the BoANR, from the top level to development agents, farmers, ISD staff and representatives of other governmental and non-governmental organisations participated.

## Strong points

- Improvement in production: It appears that, except for maize, applying compost can result in similar yield increases to those obtained from applying DAP and urea. The effects on the yields of the pulses, faba bean and field pea are very impressive, with yields two or more times higher than the checks. This is important for food security and nutrition as, in many places, the area sown to pulses is decreasing because of pressure to increase the area with cereals.

- The result from the PRA also shows that productivity was perceived to show a marked difference in all the project sites. The farmers also said that both productivity and the variety of seeds that they are planting have increased.

- Improvement in grazing land: At one of the project sites, Ziban Sas, the success of the project is in the rehabilitation of a grazing land that was left as wasted and was rocky. Now this area is almost rehabilitated and green and farmers get their income from fattening and selling cattle. Animal husbandry is an important part of rural livelihood in Ethiopia as the animals are used both as a means of income and as a means of transportation. They are also used for tilling. Improving grazing lands, therefore, has a wider implication for food security.

- Soil improvement: There is a general consensus among the project farmers that their soil was in a bad condition at the start of the project but now has improved considerably.

For example, it was a black sticky vertisol soil for Abomssa farmers, making movement in the farm almost impossible during the rainy season, red and infertile for Guimse, and stony for both Ziban Sas and Adi Nifas farmers. Farmers of both sexes, across the project sites, contend that their soil has improved.

- Change in livelihood of the farmers: Farmers across the project sites said that there was a shortage of food, clothing and household materials before the start of the project. The women also said that they could not send their children to school. Their social activity, like attending weddings, was also affected. This is because culturally a woman has to take a gourd full of flour as a contribution to the wedding to be accepted socially. They all per-

ceived a positive change. They all said that there is more food, more clothing, and more household materials now. They can also send their children to school. The reason that they gave for these changes is improvement in soil fertility and increase in productivity, which were brought about mainly by soil and water conservation and the application of compost.

- Halting of gullies: One site, Adi Nifas, had been losing fertile land through a gully that started at the base of the neighbouring hillside. The farmers built a series of check dams up the gully, and in one year sufficient soil was captured to encourage the planting of grass and trees. This is also happening in other project sites.

- Institutionalisation: Perhaps one of the great successes of the project lies in its becoming the project of the regional government of Tigray. This means that, if the ISD pulls out, the programme will still be running. The secret of this success lies in its beginning where almost all of the stakeholders were involved during its planning. The other reason for the institutionalisation is that the implementers of the project were development agents of the regional bureau rather than the ISD. The role of the ISD was mainly research and technical backup. The regional government has spread the project to more than 2,000 households in more than 83 villages.

- Experience acquired from the project: On-site capacity-building exercises were done for the past six years, which imparted knowledge about the elements of sustainable agriculture to a number of staff members of the regional bureau and farmers. This can be used when the ISD spreads to other regions in Ethiopia and elsewhere where the need arises.

- It was learnt at some stage of the project that farmers have choices that suit their ecology and their social setting. Farmers at Ziban Sas were keen on soil and water conservation while farmers from Abomssa were interested in compost-making and application.

Things to be improved

- Compost: There is a need to improve both the quality and quantity of compost. Transportation of compost also needs site-specific solutions. Training in the preparation and use of compost is also needed. A training workshop was organised in August for farm-

ers and government experts on compost-making and forage development. The result of this exercise was to be evaluated at the end of the Ethiopian New Year, 11 September.

- Stone bunds and rodents: The stone bunds made for soil and water conservation (SWC) are serving as a breeding place for rodents. The rodents feed on crops and the emerging shoots of planted tree seedlings. Therefore, the problem of rodent pests needs to be solved for SWC activities to be sustainable.

- Improving biomass: There is a need to increase the amount and use of biomass where it is lacking, and to improve its management where it exists, for animals and for energy. Strategies, including the cut-and-carry system, should be put in place and promoted.

- Women-led households: There is a need to address the problem of women-led households and women in poor households. A well-being ranking exercise, categorising the members of a village as rich, average, poor or very poor, done as part of the PRA in 12 villages, revealed that women-led households are invariably found under the 'very poor' category. This highlighted the fact that the project has to address the needs of women-led households and women in poor households if it is to address the problem of food security in rural households.

- Data collection: The data collection has not been comprehensive and needs improvement. For example, there is a report that farmers adjacent to and far from the project sites are adopting some of the activities and there is a need for documenting their reason and how they coped with it for use in the introduction to new sites. A systematic documentation and dissemination of the findings and the experiences of the project should be in place.

- Training: Training in areas of compost-making, data collecting, documenting, etc., is needed for both development agents and farmers.

- Water harvesting: Rain is the major source of water for the project sites; so, farmers need to learn water-harvesting techniques.

## Conclusion

There is an effort by transnational companies to promote genetically engineered crops as a solution to

shortage of food in poor countries such as Ethiopia. Experience from this project shows that:

- Improving the soil and conserving water by soil and water conservation activities, increasing the fertility of soil by adding compost and manure and increasing the biomass of the area by planting tree and grass species, will heal the ecology of the area and will both increase productivity and improve the livelihood of the community.

- High dependence on chemical inputs, which increased the debt burden of the communities, showed that a technological fix to a systematic problem will be disastrous whereas an improvement in the whole environment will pay dividends in the end.

- There is no need for farmers to pass the ownership of their seed to companies, as will be the case if they start buying genetically improved varieties from companies.

- The project area is very rich in agro-biodiversity, which has been tested and improved by farmers for thousands of years, but introducing untested seeds will increase the risk of food insecurity by contaminating the farmer's varieties and by increasing the potential of creating super weeds.

- Getting the active involvement of farmers needs a careful selection of choices and alternatives rather than a prescription for improving one part of a system. The project came with choices and farmers took whatever suits their ecological and social setting.

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#### Endnotes

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## Local Innovation and Initiative in Managing Biodiversity in Northern Ethiopia

[http://www.nlh.no/noragric/publications/reports/rep5\\_bodytext.pdf](http://www.nlh.no/noragric/publications/reports/rep5_bodytext.pdf)

by Fetien Abay (1), Mitiku Haile (1) and Ann Waters-Bayer (2)

Local management of biodiversity has received increasing attention as a way of spreading risks, conserving natural resources and enhancing food security in resource-poor farming systems. For poorer farmers on marginal lands, it increases their options to cope with variable environmental conditions and to exploit niches and micro-environments in their agro-ecosystems.

This paper discusses the dynamics of farmers' innovation and initiative in genetic resource management (GRM) in northern Ethiopia. A study was conducted in order to gain a better understanding of the diversity of farming systems in relation to natural environment and of farmer's related land-management and GRM practices and to identify sources of variability and biodiversity. This study formed part of an action-research programme to promote farmer innovation in land husbandry, and sought to identify farmers' initiatives, opportunities and limitations in improving their agro-ecosystems. Both men and women farmers were identified who are deliberately domesticating wild plants to prevent their disappearance, introducing exotic species without the support of extension services and planting gardens with a wide variety of species for medicinal, cosmetic and household purposes. Some are experimenting with local grasses collected in the wild. Because of the obvious diversity observed in the widely planted prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia ficus indica*), a special case study was made of this. It was found that the farmers select primarily for prolific fruiting and big fruits. They select different types of plants based on their intended uses or gastronomic preferences. This has contributed to great genetic variability and stability. The natural hybridisation associated with ploidy of geographical isolation also ap-

pears to have played an important role in creating the existing diversity. Farmers knowledge of genetic resources and their traditional selection techniques have created a good germplasm base that, combined with scientists knowledge and special breeding techniques, could lead to the identification and development of valuable cultivars that have a wide potential for use in semiarid areas, also beyond Tigray. The study led to scientists appreciation of the astounding variations and transformations that indigenous people can produce in domesticated plants over the course of decades and centuries, as well as to the initiation of farmer-led participatory research on varietal selection.

This research was carried out under the second phase of the Indigenous Soil and Water Conservation Programme (ISWC-II), funded by the Netherlands Government; the lead agency of ISWC-Ethiopia is Mekelle, University in Tigray Region, Ethiopia.

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Noragric Report No. 5, February 2002

## Nachrichten zu Biodiversity

Biodiversity Project (World Bank)

<http://www4.worldbank.org/sproje/cts/Project.asp?pid=P035147>

Approval Date 02/13/2001 - Closing Date 12/31/2006

The Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants Project seeks to initiate support for conservation, management, and sustainable utilization of medicinal plants for human and livestock healthcare in Ethiopia. The project consists of three components. The first component will support strengthening institutional capacity of the Institute of Biodiversity Conservation and Research (IBCR), developing human resources capacity of collaborat-

ing institutions for implementing project activities, establishing a medicinal plant field gene bank, and establishing a Project Coordinating Unit. The second component will support development of methods to collect, analyze, and interpret quantitative data on socio-economic benefits derived from medicinal plants used in human and livestock healthcare on a national level, ethno medical surveys to explore utilization of medicinal plants and traditional healthcare practices for prevention of HIV and mitigation of adverse impact of AIDS, and research on propagation of cultivation methods of selected commonly used medicinal plants for human and livestock. The third component funded by GEF will support in-situ conservation, management and sustainable use of medicinal plants in the Bale Mountains National Park and surrounding forests.

#### Institute Distributes Over 48 Bio - Diversity Resources

Addis Ababa, October 28, 2002 (WIC)- The Institute of Biodiversity Conservation and Research (IBCR) says it has given out over 48,000 specimens of biodiversity resources to research and higher learning institutions. Plant Genetic Resources Conservation and Research Department Head With The Institute, Tessema Tanto told WIC that the Institute has distributed 34,160 cereal and legume plants, 9,894 oil seeds as well as 4,391-pulse specimens. He said the various agricultural research centers and the Alemaya and Addis Ababa Universities have produced 32 improved Durum Wheat, 13 Sorghum and 12 Teff varieties out of the parent seed samples offered by the Institute. He said the specimen that are disease and drought resistant would contribute to the country's effort in achieving food security. Conservation, Evaluation and Sustainable use of the country's bio-diversity resources with particular emphasis on parent crop varieties constitute among the major objectives of the Institute, he said. With over 72,000 plants, animals, insects, microbes as well as aquatic genetic resources, Ethiopia is world's bio-diversity center, it was learnt.

#### Biodiversity Protection, Registration Program to be implemented

Addis Ababa, May 06, 2002 (WIC) - A senior researcher at the Institute of Biodiversity Research and Conservation said biodiversity protection and registration program involving farmers is due to be launched soon. The Researcher, Dr. Fasil Kibebew told WIC over the weekend that preparation was well under way to implement the program which has been approved by the government. He said the program would enable to conserve and develop biodiversity resources of the country by using modern and scientific methods. He said the registration would also take into account the indigenous knowledge of farmers in protecting the biodiversity resources. Dr. Fasil meanwhile called on the general public to actively participate in the protection and registration work as it would help the country benefit from its rich biological resources. Ethiopia which is a center and origin of biodiversity in the world is a home to over 72,000 kinds of microbes, insects, plants and animals resources, it was learnt.

#### Ethiopian Institute of Biodiversity Builds 3.8 Million Birr Gene Bank

Addis Ababa, March 18, 2002 With a budget of around 3.8 million birr, the Ethiopian Institute of Biodiversity is now finalizing the construction of a building for its forest genetic resources conservation project. The ongoing construction of the building, which would be part of the 26 years old institution, expected to be completed in the next three months. Ethiopian Institute of Biodiversity Conservation and Research (IBCR) one of fifteen such institutions in the world, is the sole body in the country established to guard plant genetic resources from disappearing irretrievably. The Ethiopian Institute of Biodiversity is known in the world not only because it is the only such institution in Africa, but also because it has many valuable natural collections. According to Taye Bekele Department Head of Forest and Aquatic Plant Genetic Resources, the Institute has carried out over 220 major and minor expeditions in the country, collecting about 61,000 accessions of over 101 species of animal, mi-

crobial genetic resources, crop plants including cereals, pulses, oil crops, and to some extent lesser known but potentially useful crop and medicinal plants. The Institute has all these collections, in order to curtail the challenge of deterioration in their diversity. Taye said that as the activities of the institute were growing more than ever expanding the premises is required.

Source: Capital

## Internet

#### Impacts of Conflict on Biodiversity and Protected Areas in Ethiopia

<http://www.bsponline.org/bsp/publications/africa/147/pdf/Ethiopia.pdf>

Authors:

Catherine Schloeder and Michael Jacobs

Publication Date: 2001

Ethiopia possesses considerable biodiversity and natural resources, as well as many endemic species. It has had, however, only limited success protecting some of these natural assets since establishing a conservation and protected-area program in 1965, due to the country's prolonged engagement in various armed conflicts. Deforestation, farming, overgrazing, hunting, and soil erosion all were conflict-related factors that led to many of these changes and limited the conservation and protected-area program's success. Government institutional politics, and adherence to an exclusionary protected area policy were also key factors. Despite these setbacks, however, hope remains for protecting what is left of Ethiopia's biodiversity and natural assets, as demonstrated by the example of Ethiopia's Awash National Park, where community participation in park management played a key role in the park's survival.

#### Strategies for sustainable Agriculture Development in the Ethiopian Highlands

<http://www.ifpri.org/divs/eptd/dp/papers/eptdp77.pdf>

August 2001

This paper investigates the impacts of population growth, market access, agricultural credit and technical assistance programs,

land policies, livelihood strategies and other factors on changes in land management, natural resource conditions and human welfare indicators since 1991 in the northern Ethiopian highlands, based on a survey of 198 villages.

The National Agricultural Research System of Ethiopia  
WANA NARS Study (1999) Ethiopia  
<http://www.icarda.cgiar.org/NARS/Ethiopia.PDF>

Insecure land tenure regimes and soil conservation  
<http://www.handels.gu.se/econ/EU/abs991alemu.pdf>  
by Tekie Alemu, September 1999  
ABSTRACT

Tenure insecurity is an important factor which dampens individual incentives to improve land quality. This paper focuses on the effects of tenure insecurity on long term investment, with particular emphasis on the construction of soil conservation structures.

## Moringa stenopetala: whose tree is it ?

By Elise Demeulenaere -

The Convention on the Biological Diversity (CBD) raises the topic of benefit sharing between holders of traditional ecological knowledge and their potential users. The article 8 encourages "the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization" of "knowledge, innovations and practices relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity". To implement such a policy is not easy: each case should be studied separately for a better global understanding. We focus in this paper on the example of *Moringa stenopetala*, an endemic tree of Ethiopia, used for centuries as a food resource by a population of agriculturists living in Southern Ethiopia, the Konso. Various researchers and NGO's are interested in this species. Indeed like the well-known *Moringa oleifera*, *Moringa stenopetala* has edible leaves. However it is more drought-resistant than *Moringa oleifera*, it can grow

at higher altitudes and has a better palatability. We present the traditional practices and knowledge related to this tree in Konso. We insist on the central role that this species has in the agricultural system, in the diet and in the identity. According to the CDB, Konso people could claim rights on the use of their germplasm as well as on the use of their traditional knowledge. Many development agents wish to introduce the species to other arid tropical countries. However, except for research purposes, Ethiopia strictly forbids the diffusion of seeds abroad in the name of germplasm protection. Finally this case study raises the following questions: whose tree is it? Who should have access to it? How to share equitably the benefits of its use, if there is any? Between whom?

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The International Society of Ethnobiology (ISE) 8th International Congress People and Biodiversity  
16 - 20 September 2002, EARO Conference Hall, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

## "Weihrauch"

auf dem Deutschen Tropentag in Witzenhausen, 9.-11.10.2002

Conference on International Agricultural Research for Development

*Boswellia papyrifera* (Del.) Hochst: a tropical key species in northern Ethiopia  
Kindeya Gebrehiwot (a), (c), (\*), Bart Muys (b), Mitiku Haile (c) and Ralph Mitloehner (a)  
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(c) Mekelle University, Department of Land Resources Management and Environmental Protection, Mekelle, Ethiopia

ABSTRACT

*Boswellia papyrifera* (Del.) Hochst is a dryland tree species native to Ethiopia and widely known for its frankincense production. Besides, it has also other numerous environmental, socio-economic, traditional and industrial benefits. However, the population of the species is declining at an alarming rate due to extensive human encroachment.

This paper presents the importance of the species, techniques of tapping, harvesting and grading of its frankincense in Ethiopia. Moreover, the current population status of the species, its regeneration pattern and rehabilitation efforts in Tigray (northern Ethiopia) are also analyzed. Results of natural regeneration studies on closed and open areas in Tigray revealed that there is significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) improvement of natural regeneration of the species in sites that are protected from both livestock and human interference. However, plantation efforts have limited success mainly due to the lack of knowledge on seed collection, nursery practices and post-planting care. It has been concluded that livestock damage poses a serious threat for the species in northern Ethiopia. In this regard, the closure of sites from grazing has become an effective way of promoting natural regeneration of *Boswellia papyrifera* in northern Ethiopia.

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## Harmony Agricultural Enterprise PLC

By Jürgen Greiling

HARMONY is a private agribusiness established by Ethiopians in 2000. It operates in 3 sites of the Garage Zone, Southern Regional State of Ethiopia. HARMONY works in partnership with various stakeholders of the sector, with a focus on the farming communities.

HARMONY's General Manager is Ato Bedru Sultan, who worked overseas for many years, and has got an in-depth country knowledge of the Arabian peninsula and the Americas. He maintains

close linkages with US based institutions which share his concern for environmentally safe agriculture such as TREES FOR THE FUTURE.

Ato Solomon Osman is the Assistant General Manager. Solomon Osman, like his counterpart, has been working abroad for many years and has excellent connections in the import-export market, with an emphasis on the Arabian peninsula.

Dr. Jürgen Greiling is the Agricultural Advisor. He did his PhD in Tropical Agriculture (Animal Production). He is on leave from the University of Hohenheim in Stuttgart (Germany) where he held the position of the Executive Director, Centre for Tropical Agriculture.

#### HARMONY's Activities

HARMONY is establishing sustainable farming practices, including measures aiming at the protection and rehabilitation of biodiversity (modern bee keeping, tree planting, seedling production). Measures to rehabilitate and stabilise soil fertility and to promote alternative energy use are part of the day to day activities.

HARMONY aims at transferring these technologies to the communities and is assisted in this endeavour by national and international research and development organisations operating in Ethiopia. For this reason, agreements with communities in the area of Welkite (Katebare) as well as in Butajira have been concluded through which the communities participate actively in capacity building and outgrowing activities. Local and foreign universities as well as NGO's are partners as well. Agreements and Letters of Intent have been concluded between HARMONY, International Agricultural Research Institutions and the German Agency for Technical Co-operation (GTZ). GTZ, through its subsidiary CIM (Centre for International Migration) supports HARMONY's activities by the secondment of an Agricultural Advisor.

#### Irrigated and Rainfed Agriculture

HARMONY leases 100 hectares of irrigable land from Cheha Woreda of the Gurage Zone. It just successfully concluded horticultural trials on 10 hectares on such crops as Tomatoes, French Beans, Maize (sweet corn and popcorn), Onion, Potatoes (for consumption and seed), Garlic, Cauliflower and Pepper. With the

success of these trials, HARMONY will soon begin the production of produce for domestic and export markets (both fresh and solar dried). While the trials were irrigated by motorised pumps, the process of designing an irrigation scheme which will allow the irrigation of most of the farm by gravity is under way. The planned expansion of the irrigated area is approximately 40 hectares by next year. Pending the establishment of zero grazing cattle fattening and dairy cattle units adjacent to the irrigated area, mineral fertiliser is used. Part of the plots, mainly the nursery sites, have been fertilised with cattle manure.

#### Agro-Forestry

Agroforestry is a component of HARMONY's farming activities. At present, it comprises the production of seedlings of 8 Multi Purpose Tree Species (MPT's) for transplanting in the 2003 rainy season.

#### Other Activities

Modern Beekeeping / Livestock / Nutrient Cycling / Waste Management - Organic Fertiliser / Biogas

#### Selected Partners: Areas of Co-operation

German Agency For Technical Co-operation (GTZ): Natural resource management; Techn. & vocational training; Animal forage, soil protection; Triticale seed multiplication; International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI): MPT selection; Animal feed; Animal health; Int. Center for Research on Agro-Forestry (ICRAF): (Deciduous) fruit trees; MPT selection; Bee forage trees; Intern. Maize and Wheat Centre (CIMMYT): Production of Quality Protein Maize and its introduction to communities; GREENER ETHIOPIA (a local NGO): MPT raising in nurseries; MPT distribution; Extension services for MPTs

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## Sustainable Soil and Water Conservation in Ethiopia

Diplomarbeit von Christof Langguth (Dipl.-

Bauingenieur, Wasserbau und Abfallwirtschaft) an der Fachhochschule Münster in Kooperation mit dem Arba Minch Water Technology Institute, Oktober 2002

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#### Aufgabenstellung

Im Rahmen der Diplomarbeit sollte, in Kooperation mit dem Arba Minch Water Technology Institute (AWTI), die Anwendbarkeit von Methoden des nachhaltigen Bodenerosionsschutzes in der Region Arba Minch behandelt werden. Besonderes Augenmerk war neben dem Problem der flächenhaften Erosion dem Verbau von Erosionsrinnen zu widmen, die im Extremfall zu einer irreversiblen Schädigung der landwirtschaftlichen Fläche führen können. Bei der Lösung sollte vor allem auf einfache und kostengünstige Maßnahmen und insbesondere auf ingenieurbioologische Methoden, eingegangen werden.

#### Recherche und Datenbeschaffung

Informationen über praktische Erfahrungen von verschiedenen Regierungs- und Nichtregierungsstellen in Äthiopien ergänzten den am AWTI erlangten und dokumentierten theoretischen Hintergrund. Besonders Daten und Evaluierungen der GTZ in Addis und Süd Gonder lieferten wichtige Informationen zum Thema.

Die beschriebenen Erkenntnisse und Erfahrungen der GTZ beziehen sich auf den Norden und das Zentrum Äthiopiens.

Studien der Kale Heywet Church Arba Minch und des National Urban Planning Instituts weisen auf die lokale Situation in der Gegend um Arba Minch hin. Im Rahmen der Diplomarbeit konnte für diese Region ein wirtschaftliches und nachhaltiges Maßnahmenpaket ausgearbeitet und kalkuliert werden.

Das vorgeschlagene „Arba Minch Soil Conservation Community



Project“ (SoCoCoP) gliedert sich in drei Stufen:

#### Stufe 1: Behandlung von Ackerland mit geringen Hangneigungen

Integriertes Wassereinzugsgebietsmanagement setzt an der Quelle des Abflusses an, den landwirtschaftlich genutzten Feldern in höheren Lagen. Das SoCoCoP versucht die Erosion durch biologische Maßnahmen zu verringern, die weder technische Hilfsmittel noch finanzielle Investitionen erfordern. Vetiver Gras wird durch eine Gärtnerei in der Region eingeführt. Projektmitarbeiter machen initiativ sogenannte „Model Farmers“ mit der Grasheckentechnologie vertraut. Schon nach einem Jahr sollen diese das Gras selbstständig weiter verteilen und somit die behandelte Fläche multiplizieren. Kosten für Personal, Pflanzen und ein Projektfahrzeug sind in der Kalkulation enthalten. Weitere Leistungen (Grund der Gärtnerei, Wasserversorgung, Projektbüro, Strom und Kooperation der Behörden) sollen von den Regierungsstellen als Partner übernommen werden. Das Gehalt des externen Projektmanagers ist ebenfalls nicht in den kalkulierten Kosten erhalten.

#### Stufe 2: Behandlung von Äckern mit stärkeren Neigungen

Biologische Erosionsschutzmaßnahmen sind natürlichen Grenzen unterworfen, die von der Hangneigung und der Oberbodenschicht abhängen. Die optimale Distanz zwischen zwei Pflanzenreihen wird mit steigender Neigung immer kleiner. Um die Ackerfläche nicht übermäßig zu beschneiden, sieht das vorgeschlagene Programm die Kopie der Konzo-Terrassen vor. Model Farmers werden vor Ort gebracht oder von Konstrukteuren aus Konzo angeleitet. Erfahrungen zeigen, dass nur freiwillige Kooperation zu nachhaltigen Erfolgen führt. Obligatorisch oder mit Bezahlung angelegte Steinterrassen werden nicht gewartet und drohen zu verfallen. Die zweite Stufe des SoCoCoPs beginnt nach drei Jahren mit zehn „Model Farmers“. Schon im vierten Jahr sollen weitere 50 Bauern betreut und organisiert werden.

#### Stufe 3: Behandlung von fortgeschrittenen Erosionsrinnen

Im Stadtgebiet von Arba Minch sind ca. 275 ha Land von tiefen Runsen bedroht. Im Rahmen des SoCoCo Projekts ist vorgesehen, durch Abzäunungen und Neupflanzungen die geschädigten Flächen zu rehabilitieren. Im dritten Jahr beginnt die experimentelle Phase mit der Behandlung von zehn Hektar. Auf Basis der erlangten Erfahrungen und in Kooperation mit der Bevölkerung sollen nach fünf Jahren die restlichen geschädigten Zonen einbezogen werden.

Die geschilderte Verteilung der Kosten auf den externen Kooperationspartner, die Regierungsstellen und regionalen Behörden zielt auf enge Zusammenarbeit, Transparenz und intensiven Erfahrungsaustausch der verschiedenen Organe. Auch sollte das Department of Soil and Water Conservation des Arba Minch Water Technology Instituts einbezogen werden, um Erkenntnisse aus der Praxis direkt in die Lehre einfließen zu lassen.

## Untersuchungen zur Wasserqualität des Kulfo-River in Arba-minch / Äthiopien

Diplom-Arbeit von Heiko Stötzel -  
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Diese Diplomarbeit wurde im Rahmen eines partnerschaftlichen Projektes des Fachbereiches 10/Bauingenieurwesen der Universität Siegen und des Arba-minch Water Technology Institute (A.W.T.I.) in Äthiopien angefertigt. Hauptelement dieses Projektes war ein Aufenthalt von Mai bis zum September 2001 zum Zwecke der Datensammlung und Literaturrecherche. Während des Aufenthaltes wurden Messungen vor Ort am Kulfo-River und im Labor des A.W.T.I. durchgeführt.

#### Auszüge:

Betrachtet man die Ergebnisse der Wasserqualitätsanalysen so fällt auf, dass die Werte der Trübung, die nach EG- und auch WHO- Trinkwasserrichtlinie klei-

ner sein sollten als 5 NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit), zeitweise extrem aus dem Rahmen fallen. Der Wert wird so gut wie immer überschritten und Werte von bis an die 2000 NTU sind für ein Trinkwasser unverträglich. Nun kann man, um Werte zu erreichen die im Rahmen liegen, das Wasser sedimentieren lassen. Dies dauert aber in der Regel zu lange und aus diesem Grund wird die Hilfe von chemischen oder natürlichen Gerinnungsmitteln (Koagulant) erwogen. In Industrieländern gängige chemische Mittel zur Gerinnung sind zum Beispiel Aluminiumsulfat (Alum) oder auch eisenhaltige Salze. Diese provozieren bei trübem Wasser die Aneinanderkettung der im Wasser hängenden trägen Teilchen zu Flocken. Diese Flocken sind in ihrem Gewicht schwerer als die einzelnen Teilchen und somit auch eher bereit, sich abzusetzen. Nun sind diese Gerinnungsmittel nicht billig und außerdem in Ländern wie Äthiopien schlecht zu beschaffen. Jedoch gibt es eine Alternative zu chemischen Gerinnungsmitteln und zwar natürliche Gerinnungsmittel.

Ein natürliches Gerinnungsmittel ist der gemahlene Samen des **Moringa Stenopetala** Baumes, welcher in Äthiopien und im Norden Kenias seinen Ursprung findet. Dieser Baum wächst wild und in Höhen von 1000 - 2000 m. Er erreicht eine Höhe von 6 -15 m und seine Dürrebeständigkeit ist gerade in der Region um Arba-minch von großem Vorteil. Er trägt dreieckige Früchte die bis zu einer Länge von 40 cm heranreifen. Innerhalb dieser Früchte befinden sich 10 - 12 Samen, die jeweils von 3 papierartigen Flügeln umgeben sind. Befinden sich die Früchte im Wachstum, besitzen sie eine grüne Farbe. Sind sie jedoch reif, und das ist die beste Zeit, um den Samen aus der Frucht herauszulösen und zur Wasseraufbereitung zu nutzen, besitzen die Früchte eine dunkelbraune Farbe und ihre langen Seiten beginnen aufzubrechen. Die gesammelten Samen müssen dann von ihrer papierflügelartigen Haut befreit und getrocknet werden. Dann sollte man die Samen so fein wie möglich zermahlen. Dies geschieht am besten mit einem Mörser oder einer Kaffeemühle. Nun kann man das Samenmehl entweder direkt zur Wasseraufbereitung benutzen, oder man produziert aus dem Mehl eine Lösung. Bevor man

diese Gerinnungsmittel jedoch in der Wasseraufbereitung benutzt, sollte man die richtige Dosierung herausfinden. Becherglasversuche vor Ort haben ergeben, dass eine Dosis von 50 mg/L genügt, um schwach getrübbtes Wasser innerhalb von 2 Stunden bis auf eine Trübung von 5 NTU und weniger zu reduzieren. Das heißt, dass man für einen Kubikmeter Wasser eine Menge von 50 g dieses Samenpulvers benötigt, für 5m<sup>3</sup> folglich 250 g. Bei einem durchschnittlichen Samengewicht von ca. 1 g, sind dies natürlich eine Menge Samen, die zu sammeln wären.

Man könnte jedoch Wasseraufbereitungskammern konstruieren, die ein Fassungsvermögen von ca. 5 m<sup>3</sup> besitzen, das Wasser darin aufbereiten und dann der Bevölkerung zur Verfügung stellen. Im Gegenzug dazu könnte die Bevölkerung für das Sammeln und Zubereiten des Gerinnungsmittels verantwortlich gemacht werden und gegen eine definierte Menge Samenpulver eine definierte Menge aufbereitetes Trinkwasser ausgehändigt bekommen. Eine genaue Organisationsstruktur oder auch die Ausführungen der Wasseraufbereitungskammern soll hier jedoch nicht näher behandelt werden.

Generell und abschließend kann noch gesagt werden, dass es sinnvoll wäre, die Nutzung des Samens des Moringa Stenopetala Baumes zu propagieren. Diese Aufgabe könnte zum Beispiel ein Studienprojekt für Studenten des A.W.T.I. übernehmen.

## Links

<http://www.ifpri.org/media/ethiopia/ethiopiaib.pdf>

Ending the Cycle of Famine in Ethiopia - International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)  
<http://www.ifpri.org>

Food Crisis in Ethiopia: Why Is Famine a Recurring Threat? How Can We Stop the Cycle of Hunger and Poverty?

<http://www.ifpri.org/media/ethiopia/aidneeds2003.pdf>

Food Aid Needs in Ethiopia 2003

<http://www.fews.net/Ethiopia>

Famine Early Warning Systems Network - Ethiopia

<http://www.telecom.net.et/~undp-ue/reports/jointgovtunappeal.pdf>  
Emergency Assistance Requirements & Implementation Options for 2003

A joint Government - UN Appeal ; Dec. 2002

<http://www.worldbank.org/afr/et/prsp.htm>

Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP)

Ethiopia's latest PRSP was delivered to the World Bank on August 15, 2002 and received the support of the Board of the IDA (International Development Association) on September 19, 2002 and of the IMF Board on September 23, 2002.

<http://www.salamta.net>

News, politic, amharic, music, economy, history, religion, culture, travel, wildlife, parks

<http://www.waltainfo.com/RegionaI/States/SNNPR/SNnpr.asp>

Informationen über den Bundesstaat Südäthiopien

[http://www.waltainfo.com/RegionaI/States/DireDawa/dire\\_dawa\\_Home.asp](http://www.waltainfo.com/RegionaI/States/DireDawa/dire_dawa_Home.asp)

Informationen über Dire Dawa

[http://www.waltainfo.com/RegionaI/States/Afar/Afar\\_home.asp](http://www.waltainfo.com/RegionaI/States/Afar/Afar_home.asp)

Informationen über den Bundesstaat Afar

[http://www.waltainfo.com/RegionaI/States/somali/SNRS\\_Home.asp](http://www.waltainfo.com/RegionaI/States/somali/SNRS_Home.asp)

Informationen über den Bundesstaat Somalia

[http://www.bds-](http://www.bds-ethio-)  
[ethio-](http://www.bds-ethio-)

[pia.net/documents/other/Government%20Schools.xls](http://www.bds-ethio-pia.net/documents/other/Government%20Schools.xls)

Government Schools that conduct 10+1 and 10+2 TVET Programme and the Areas of Training

<http://www.itu.int/osg/spu/casestu/dies/ETH%20CS1.pdf>

Internet Case Study Ethiopia Jul. 2002

<http://www.lesnouvelles.org>

Ethiopie - corne de l'Afrique - mer Rouge; französischer Newsletter

<http://www.eth.mpg.de/>

Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology Halle / Saale

<http://ethiopia.fes-international.de>  
Friedrich - Ebert - Stiftung in Ethiopia

<http://hrw.org/reports/2003/ethiopia0103/ethiopia0103.pdf>

Lessons in Repression: Violations of academic Freedom in Ethiopia  
Human Rights Watch - New York  
(<http://www.hrw.org>)

## Aktivitäten von Äthiopien - Vereinen

Selbsthilfe Äthiopien

e.V. Berlin

<http://www.selbsthilfe-aethiopien.de>

C/O Seyoum Mulugeta, Fränkelfer 30, 10999 Berlin. Tel.: 030-6142196 mail: [Ebertowski@t-online.de](mailto:Ebertowski@t-online.de)  
Fax: 0049/30/69040452

Der Verein Selbsthilfe Äthiopien e.V. wurde am 25. Mai 1985 von einer Gruppe äthiopischer Studenten und Flüchtlinge in Berlin gegründet. Er ist als gemeinnützig anerkannt, im Vereinsregister ist er unter der Nummer 8175 Nz registriert. Äthiopische und deutsche Mitglieder tragen nun seine Aktivitäten.

Der Verein hat sich zum Ziel gesetzt, kleine, überschaubare Selbsthilfeprojekte hier wie auch in Äthiopien bekannt zu machen und zu unterstützen. In letzter Zeit haben wir einen wesentlichen Beitrag geleistet zu dem Projekt von Enat Afer, einem Selbsthilfeprojekt zum Schutz des Regenwaldes in Süd-West-Äthiopien, zu einem Kindergartenprojekt in Addis und wir haben das Projekt „Windmühlen für Arbore“ unterstützt. Seit letztem Jahr sind wir dabei, in Zusammenarbeit mit dem IJGD (Internationaler Jugendgemeinschaftsdienst Deutschland) ein Jugendzentrum in Debre Zeit aufzubauen. Seit 1998 bringen wir jedes Jahr einen Kalender heraus; mit dem Erlös haben wir die o.g. Projekte unterstützt.

Hier in Berlin organisieren wir im kleinen Rahmen von Zeit zu Zeit Informationsveranstaltungen und Seminare zu entwicklungspolitischen Themen. Hierzu geben wir in unregelmäßigen Abständen Informationsblätter heraus.

Ein weiterer Schwerpunkt unserer Arbeit ist die Pflege und Erhaltung äthiopischen Kulturguts hier in Deutschland mit dem Ziel, die Verständigung zwischen hier

lebenden Äthiopiern und Interessierten aus aller Welt zu fördern. Höhepunkte unserer Arbeit sind Musikveranstaltungen sowie Vereinstreffen zu verschiedenen Anlässen.

Seit 1998 bemühen wir uns verstärkt um die Zusammenarbeit mit Schulen, was uns besonders mit der Carl-von-Ossietzky-Oberschule Berlin geglückt ist; mit Schülern verschiedener Jahrgangsstufen haben wir ein breites Spektrum von Projekten realisieren können.

Besonders erwähnenswert erscheint uns zudem unsere Zusammenarbeit mit dem Deutsch-Äthiopischen Verein, der unsere diversen Vorhaben durch eine breite Information der eigenen Mitglieder schon oft gefördert hat.

Der Mitgliedsbeitrag in unserem Verein beträgt 3,00 € monatlich.

Auch Spenden für unseren Verein oder spezielle Projekte (steuerlich absetzbar) sind natürlich willkommen.

Unsere Bankverbindung: Selbsthilfe Äthiopien e. V. Berlin Postbank, BLZ: 100 100 10 Kontonr.: 636864-105

## Aktuelle Projektnachrichten - Straßenkinderprojekt in Jimma kurz vor dem Start

<http://www.kinderunsererwelt.de>

In wenigen Wochen wird in Jimma im Südwesten Äthiopiens ein Projekt für zunächst 200 Straßenkinder und -jugendliche anlaufen. Anfang März wird der Projektvertrag zwischen *kinder unserer welt*, einer gemeinnützigen deutschen Kinderhilfsorganisation mit Sitz in Würzburg, und der äthiopischen NGO "Facilitators for Change Ethiopia" (FCE) unterzeichnet. Für *kinder unserer welt* ist dies das dritte Projekt in Äthiopien. Seit 1994 besteht bereits ein medizinisches Zentrum für Mutter und Kind in Endaselassie/Tigray, und 1998 wurde – ebenfalls in Endaselassie – ein Ausbildungszentrum für elternlose Mädchen eröffnet.

Jimma liegt in der Oromia Region und ist eine der größten Städte im westlichen Äthiopien mit mehr als 100.000 Einwohnern. Die Stadt ist Zentrum des Kaffeeanbaus und – handels und dadurch Anziehungspunkt für arbeitslose Ju-

gendliche und landlose Bauern. Fehlende Industrie und ein Bevölkerungswachstum von mehr als 3% führen dazu, dass viele bei ihrer Suche nach Arbeit erfolglos sind und obdachlos in der Stadt verbleiben.

Ein weiteres, gravierendes Problem in Jimma ist die zunehmende Verarmung der Menschen aufgrund der fallenden Weltmarktpreise für Kaffee. Der Erlös für grüne, unverarbeitete Kaffeebohnen ist seit 1970 inflationsbereinigt um 75% gesunken; viele Kaffeepflücker in Jimma sind bei einer Bezahlung von einem halben Birr (0,6 Eurocent) pro Kilo Cherries heute nicht mehr in der Lage, von ihrem Einkommen ihre Familie zu ernähren. Die ertragsträchtigere Weiterverarbeitung der Kaffeebohnen erfolgt dagegen, gesteuert von den großen internationalen Kaffeekonzerne, weit weg von den Kaffeebauern Jimmas in einem großen Auktions- und Verarbeitungszentrum am Stadtrand von Addis.

In den letzten Jahren ist infolge der genannten Probleme in Jimma die Zahl der Straßenkinder und -jugendlichen dramatisch angestiegen. Bisher erhalten sie keinerlei Unterstützung durch die Kommune, die Kirchen oder andere soziale Institutionen. Sie arbeiten als Schuhputzer, Zeitungsverkäufer oder leben vom Betteln. Sie haben weder Zugang zu Bildung noch zu einer Grundversorgung mit Nahrung, Kleidung, Unterkunft oder medizinischer Hilfe.

In dem jetzt anlaufenden Projekt sollen 200 Kinder und Jugendliche je nach Alter in Herkunftsfamilien-, Pflege- oder Adoptivfamilien reintegriert werden oder in betreuten Wohngruppen aufgenommen werden. Sie erhalten neben der notwendigen Grundversorgung schulische und praxisorientierte berufliche Ausbildungshilfen sowie Startkredite beim Aufbau einer beruflichen Existenz.

Neu ist bei diesem Projektkonzept, dass sich alle geplanten Maßnahmen auf ein System nachbarschaftlicher Selbsthilfeorganisationen stützen, die sogenannten „*Idirs*“ (= Schirm). Die *Idirs* haben sich über Jahrhunderte in Äthiopien aufgrund des Fehlens staatlichen sozialen Schutzes gebildet und spannen sich als Netz aus bis zu 1000 Familien umfassenden Selbsthilfevereinigungen über ganz Äthiopien. Ursprünglich als Sterbekassenvereine gegründet, erfüllen sie

heute eine Vielzahl sozialer Funktionen. Beinahe jeder Äthiopier ist Mitglied einer oder mehrerer *Idirs*; die Zahl seiner Mitgliedschaften und der Rang innerhalb der *Idir* haben erheblichen Einfluss auf seinen sozialen Status. Alle Mitglieder zahlen Beiträge, die in ihrer Höhe von der wirtschaftlichen Lage des einzelnen Mitglieds bestimmt werden. Die Mitglieder der *Idir* fühlen sich insbesondere auch verantwortlich für das Schicksal der in ihrem Wohnbezirk lebenden Straßenkinder. Diese soziale Verantwortung ist der eigentlich Motor für das Funktionieren und die langfristige Wirkung des geplanten Selbsthilfeprojektes.

Mit der Intention, dass eine langfristige, stabile Lösung der sozialen Probleme nur möglich ist, wenn die lokalen Institutionen und Kommunen soweit gestärkt werden, dass sie eigenverantwortlich und in Selbsthilfe agieren können, ist es ein zentrales Anliegen des Projektes, die Arbeit der *Idirs* zu unterstützen, ihre sozialen Kompetenzen zu entwickeln und zu stärken und ihre Kapazitäten zu erweitern.

FCE hat mit diesem dezentralen Ansatz bereits gute Erfahrungen gemacht. So konnten mit Unterstützung der *Idirs* bereits zwei Waisenhäuser aufgelöst und die Kinder in zu der jeweiligen lokalen *Idir* zugehörigen Familien integriert werden. Die Erfahrungen einer Unterbringung in großen, zentralen Einrichtungen haben dagegen gezeigt, dass eine stabile und langfristige gesellschaftliche Reintegration häufig daran scheitert, dass die Jugendlichen aus ihrer harten, aber immerhin vertrauten Umgebung herausgerissen werden und sie nach ihrer Entlassung nicht selten in ihre alte Lebenswelt und -weise zurückkehren.

Der Projektvertrag wird zunächst für drei Jahre mit einem Budget von maximal 1,65 Mio. Birr (rd. 195.000 Euro) geschlossen.

Weitere Infos bei: *kinder unserer welt*

Projektbüro

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Listros - Projekt  
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LISTROS ist eine Bezeichnung für die Schuhputzer auf den Straßen in den äthiopischen Klein- und Grosstädten. LISTROS sind in der äthiopischen Gesellschaft ganz unten angesiedelt und halten die Schuhe der Nation Tag für Tag sauber. Unser Bemühen ist es, den LISTROS über das geplante Projekt eine Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe zu geben, und ihnen durch unsere langfristige Betreuung und Unterstützung Mut zu machen, sie zu stärken und ihnen die Gewissheit zu geben, mit ihren Nöten und Problemen nicht auf sich allein gestellt zu sein.

Das Projekt LISTROS dient der Unterstützung jugendlicher Schuhputzer in Debre-Zeit / Äthiopien. Mit ein wenig Industrie, wissenschaftlichen Instituten und dem Hauptstützpunkt der äthiopischen Luftwaffe, zählt Debre-Zeit für äthiopische Verhältnisse zu einer relativ wohlhabenden Stadt. 1999 begann man damit, sich 6 Jugendlichen anzunehmen. Drei von denen hatten weder einen Schlafplatz, noch besuchten sie die Schule. Einige der Ursachen für diese Lebenssituation der Jugendlichen waren, dass sie z.B. entweder einen Elternteil verloren hatten, oder sogar ganz auf sich allein gestellt waren und sich mit dem Leben auf der Straße durchschlagen mussten.

Dann versuchte man im Rahmen kurativer Hilfe dafür zu sorgen, dass diese Jugendliche einen Platz zum Wohnen hatten. Aufgrund geringer finanzieller Mittel versorgte man sie mit einer Listros-Ausrüstung, damit diese Jugendliche für sich selbst etwas Geld verdienen konnten.

Man kümmerte sich darum, dass sie ärztlich versorgt wurden und regelmäßig zur Schule gingen. Nach und nach konnte dann sogar eine gesonderte Kasse eingerichtet werden, durch diese die Jugendliche bei Krankheit z.B. für Medikamente und Lebensunterhalt abgesichert sind.

Im September 2001 entschloss man sich, 10 Jugendliche mit Kameras und Filmen auszurüsten, um ihren Lebensablauf fotografisch zu dokumentieren. Das Resultat von 3 Wochen fotografieren waren einige hundert Fotos aus ihrem Leben. Dank

großer Mithilfe von Architekten, Fotografen, Künstlern kann die 1. LISTROS- Ausstellung in der Galerie Eva Poll am Lützowplatz 7 verwirklicht werden.

#### DAS ZIEL DES LISTRO-PROJEKTES:

- Kurative und präventive Hilfe zur Verbesserung der Lebensumstände der LISTROS.

- Den Jugendlichen soll durch das Feedback ihrer Fotoarbeit bei der Bewältigung der Lebensprobleme unterstützend und mutmachend beigegeben werden.

- Durchführung von Maßnahmen zur Schaffung besserer Arbeitssituationen und Arbeitsmöglichkeiten für die LISTROS. Schaffung einer festen Arbeitsstätte (PAVILION FÜR SCHUHPUTZER UND SCHUHREPARATUREN.) Versorgung mit Material für Schuhreparaturen und Pflege.

- Ein Präventiv ausgerichtetes Programm soll den Zugang zur Bildung /Ausbildung ermöglichen. Da auch Schulkinder darauf angewiesen sind, selbst ein Einkommen zu erwirtschaften, um zu überleben, steht der Schulbesuch oft hinten an. Es sollte diesen Kindern trotz widriger Umstände ermöglicht werden, zur Schule zu gehen bzw. auch eine Ausbildung absolvieren zu können.

## Äthiopienreise 2002

Claudius Bartsch  
Im Winkel 72  
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1975 war ich als 23 jähriger das erste Mal in Äthiopien. 2002 das zweite Mal. Anfang der siebziger Jahre des vergangenen Jahrhunderts gab es in Äthiopien eine, von der Welt beachtete Dürrekatastrophe, der viele Menschen und Tiere zum Opfer fielen. Im Rahmen einer Spendenaktion der Zeitschrift "Stern" wurde, in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Malteser-Hilfsdienst (Auslandsdienst), das Projekt "Afar Community Centre Chifra" in der Provinz Wollo ins Leben gerufen. Es war ein medizinisch und landwirtschaftliches Projekt am westlichen Rand der Danakil Wüste. Neben der medizinischen Versorgung eines weiten Gebietes stand der Gedanke des "Food for work" im Vordergrund. Eine kleine Zahl dort umherziehender Afar-Nomaden machten sich in dem Projekt teil-

weise seßhaft, arbeitete mit und wurde entsprechend entlohnt. Mein Bruder war damals im Auftrag des MHD für den gesamten technischen Bereich zuständig. Die Projektleitung hatte der Arzt Dr. med. Ernst Tenambergen. Ich bin ebenfalls im Auftrag des MHD dort gewesen. Ursprünglich für 1 Monat, aus dem schließlich 3 1/2 Monate geworden sind. Ich habe in allen Bereichen mitgeholfen. Der damalige Einsatz und Aufenthalt in Äthiopien hat bei mir bis heute nachhaltige Eindrücke verschiedenster Art hinterlassen und mich auch in gewisser Weise geprägt. Seither hatte ich immer den Wunsch dieses Land nochmals besuchen zu dürfen, insbesondere wollte ich sehen, was aus dem damaligen Projekt geworden ist.

Im Jahre 2002 war es dann endlich soweit. In Addis angekommen erlebte ich einen ähnlichen Schock wie schon 1975, jedoch krasser noch, obwohl ein sonnig schöner Tag. Ich hatte sofort den Eindruck, dass die Verhältnisse, im Vergleich zu 1975, schlechter geworden sind.

Meine Tochter und ich machten uns nach 3 Tagen in Addis per Überlandbus auf eine kleinere "historische" Nordroute. Diese Tour, "nothing inclusive", war insgesamt anstrengend, öfter stressig aufgrund unklarer Abläufe und Sicherheitslagen, aber in allem ein grandioses, unvergessliches Erlebnis und Abenteuer. Jeder Tag musste immer wieder neu organisiert werden. Am 1. Tag kamen wir störungsfrei bis Kombolcha. Am 2. Tag fuhren wir mit einem total überfüllten Minibus von Kombolcha die Serpentina nach Dessie rauf. Wie oft sind wir 1975 diese Straße gefahren. Dessie hatte etwas Erdrückendes für mich. Sehr viele zerlumpte Menschen, viele "ewige" Baustellen und aggressive und teilweise arrogante Bettler, die eine Geldgabe zurückgaben und eine höhere forderten. In Dessie haben wir keine Station gemacht, sondern sind gleich weiter mit dem Bus nach Woldeja gefahren. Aus Sicherheitsgründen haben wir keine Fahrt nach Chifra unternommen. Von Woldeja fuhren wir per Überlandbus nach Lalibela. Wieder eine faszinierende Fahrt. Der Berg "Ashäten Mariam" übt schon von weitem eine magische Anziehungskraft aus. In Lalibela kamen wir am Karsamstag an und blieben dort einige Tage; wir trafen dort viele nette Menschen.

Nach 4 Tagen Aufenthalt führen wir nach Gondar. Natürlich haben wir dort alle besonderen Sehenswürdigkeiten besichtigt. Von Gondar nahmen wir den Überlandbus nach Bahir Dar, diesmal mit einer Radpanne. Von Bahir Dar aus unternahmen wir eine Bootsfahrt zu zwei Inseln auf dem Tana-See und auch eine Fahrt zu den Wasserfällen des "Blauen Nil". Die Fahrt zurück nach Addis dauerte 2 Tage. Nach einigen Tagen Erfolg in Addis führen wir zum Lake Langano und haben dort noch einige Tage verbracht. Dabei besuchten wir auch den "Shala" Nationalpark.

Nach meinen Eindrücken hat sich Äthiopien doch sehr verändert, in etlicher Hinsicht leider nicht zum Positiven. Das Land steht vor gewaltigen Herausforderungen: Bevölkerungswachstum, Ernährung, Bildung, Arbeit, Kriminalität, Infrastruktur u. a. Sehr viele Menschen sind mit der politischen Führung sehr unzufrieden und möchten diese ablösen. Die Amut ist m. E. größer geworden. Der Anteil der Menschen, die bitterarm sind und auf der Straße leben (vegetieren) ist größer geworden. Viele Menschen leben so wie auf einer Müllhalde. Ich fürchte, dass die Sicherheitslage in manchen Gebieten schwieriger werden wird. Eine Entwicklung wie in manchen Nachbarländern Äthiopiens scheint sich zu vollziehen. Meine Tochter hat die Äthiopier als "edle" Menschen bezeichnet. Dieser Meinung bin auch ich. Allerdings sind sie, ist dieses Land, sehr geschunden. Und sehr schwierige Bedingungen verändern Menschen. Dennoch haben wir viele wirkliche Begegnungen gehabt und durchweg hilfsbereite Menschen angetroffen. Ich würde jederzeit wieder nach Äthiopien gehen.

## Bücher

Ethiopia Since the Derg - A Decade of Democratic Pretension and Performance

Edited by Siegfried Pausewang, Kjetil Tronvoll and Lovise Aalen  
ZED BOOKS, London, 2002,  
ISBN 1 84277 176 0

After the fall of the military dictatorship in 1991, Ethiopia has built

up a federal democracy with a democratic constitution and a formally democratic state structure. But underneath the democratic institutions there exists a local reality of control and repression, especially in the rural areas. In elections, it is most visibly applied to safeguard the power of the ruling coalition of parties. Norway is the only foreign country that had a professional presence in all elections in Ethiopia since 1992. This book summarises the experience of the Norwegian researchers on how democracy is working in practice. While concentrating on the elections, it also draws on Norwegian research experience into the trials for human rights abuses committed under the previous regime, land redistribution, the operation of local power structures, reports on human rights in the last ten years, the rights of minorities. It is not either an election study built on quantitative data, but, as chapter 2 explains, a qualitative study applying qualitative methods from sociology and political sciences.

...  
(Source: Addis Tribune 20.12.02, Synopsis of the Book)

A new book describing the History and Tradition of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church (EOC) was launched on Jan. 29 at the Holy Trinity Theological College of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahdo Church. Written by a Swiss author, Christine Chaillot, the book is divided by chapters which describe the life and spirituality and various unique aspects of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, the classical language, Ethiopia's literature, church festivals and celebrations, as well as the history of Sunday schools. Christine Chaillot has been traveling and meeting oriental Orthodox communities and prelates in the Middle East for the last 20 years. She has written four books on Orthodox churches in different countries. Her last book, "The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahdo Church Tradition", was published last year.

## Buchbesprechungen

von Eggert Götsch

UNANTASTBAR - von der Würde des Menschen

160 Seiten, Großformat; 118 große Farbfotos; Euro 30; Nr. 18425

Pfanmüller, G. (Fotografie); Klein, W. (Essays)

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Als ich diesen Bildband geschenkt bekam, war mein erster Gedanke "nun ja, aber das habe ich alles auch schon woanders gesehen". Aber gleich beim ersten Durchblättern war mir schnell bewusst, ein ganz außergewöhnlich schönes und berührendes Buch in den Händen zu halten. Worum geht es? Dieser Fotoband porträtiert Menschen aus den letzten Kulturen abseits der materialistischen Welt. Er bezeugt die beeindruckende Würde, Intensität und Schönheit dieser Menschen, die uns verloren gegangen ist.

Die Autoren sind mit einem transportablen Fotolabor zu einigen der abgelegensten Kulturen der Welt gereist und haben die Menschen dort unter Studiobedingungen porträtiert.

Es ist erstaunlich, wie unmittelbar diese Gesichter vor einem neutralen Studiohintergrund zu uns sprechen, sehr viel intensiver, als wenn sie in der gewohnten Weise in ihrer normalen Umgebung aufgenommen worden wären. Die Bilder dokumentieren eine Würde, ein Gefühl des Lebendigseins, das vielleicht nur Menschen ausstrahlen können, die noch weitgehend im Einklang mit sich und Ihrer Umgebung leben.

Was hat das nun alles mit Äthiopien zu tun? Etwa ein Drittel des Buches behandelt Völker in der Flusslandschaft des Omo in Südwest-Äthiopien (die anderen Zweidrittel zeigen verschiedene Kulturen aus Indien und Südostasien). Aus Äthiopien werden insbesondere die Hamar, Karo, Mursi und Borana vorgestellt. Ich hatte diese Stämme gerade besucht (im Sommer 2002), meine Eindrücke waren also noch ganz

frisch und unmittelbar und dennoch: die Porträts in diesem Buch haben mir noch einmal einen tieferen Zugang zum Wesen dieser Menschen ermöglicht. Den Völkern am Omo stehen große Veränderungen bevor, alte Sitten und Gebräuche werden verschwinden, die Zukunft ist mehr als ungewiss. Die jungen Männer, die vom Militärdienst zurückkehren, bringen neue Ideen mit und die Kenntnis vom Umgang mit modernen Waffen. Die leichte Verfügbarkeit dieser Waffen hat nicht nur die Beziehungen zwischen den einzelnen Völkern völlig verändert, sondern auch zur fast völligen Ausrottung der wilden Tiere geführt. Nichts wird mehr so sein, wie es einmal war. Es war für mich faszinierend zu sehen, wie sich diese Ungewissheit in den Gesichtern vieler der Porträtierten widerspiegelt. Wobei Angehörige einer großen Ethnie, wie die Hamar mit viel mehr Selbstbewusstsein in die Zukunft blicken, als etwa die Karo. Die Karo zählen noch etwa 2000 Menschen, in vielen ihrer Gesichter liegt eine tiefe Melancholie, die ihren Ursprung im Wissen um den Niedergang ihrer Stammeskultur hat. Zum Schluss möchte ich einen Satz zitieren, der quasi das Herzensanliegen dieses sehr empfehlenswerten Buches am Besten zum Ausdruck bringt: "Wenn ein Stamm vom Angesicht der Erde verschwindet, verschwindet nicht nur eine gefährdete Kultur. Seine Mitglieder werden biologisch weiterleben, aber etwas anderes wird verschwunden sein, eine Entität, die so vergänglich wie eine Idee ist, so flüchtig wie der Duft einer Blume, es ist das Ende einer Tanzvorführung auf einer sich ständig verändernden Bühne."

„GLOBAL BRUTAL – Der entfesselte Welthandel, die Armut, der Krieg“

Chossudovsky, Michel  
477 S., Broschur; 12,75 Euro  
erschieden bei „Zweitausendeins“, Frankfurt, 7. Aufl., 2002  
<http://www.zweitausendeins.de/>

M. Chossudovsky, Professor für Wirtschaftswissenschaften in Ottawa, ist einer der intellektuellen Köpfe der Globalisierungsgegner. Er macht in diesem Buch eine entschiedene Gegenrechnung auf zu den Glücksverhei-

ßungen einer rein marktrationalen Globalisierung. Anhand zahlreicher Länderanalysen kommt der Autor zu dem Schluss (zit.): „Die weltweite Handelsfreiheit führt zu mehr Unsicherheit, Armut und Krieg. Die vom Westen beherrschten Finanzinstitutionen verdienen an instabilen Finanzmärkten. Die internationalen Konzerne setzen unter dem Druck selbstverschuldeter Überproduktion auf die Ausweitung der Märkte u.a. in die Entwicklungsländer, wo sie i.d.R. deren produktive Basis zerstören, mit der Folge, dass diese Länder immer mehr in Abhängigkeit von Weltbank, IWF und WTO geraten. Sie werden gewissermaßen rekolonialisiert, also zu offenen ökonomischen Territorien ohne eigene Vetomöglichkeiten.“

Diese Thesen versucht der Autor an vielen Beispielen aus allen Kontinenten zu belegen. Manchmal argumentiert er sehr provozierend, gelegentlich neigt er zu Übertreibungen und streckenweise fiel es mir (als Nichtökonom) schwer, seinen Gedankengängen zu folgen. Insgesamt habe ich jedoch von der Lektüre außerordentlich profitieren können. Insbesondere seine Fallstudien zur „Russischen Föderation“ und zu Jugoslawien finde ich brilliant. Die ökonomische Analyse des Jugoslawienkonfliktes macht auf erschreckende Weise deutlich, wo die Mitschuldigen sitzen.....

Also: schon aus den bisher genannten Gründen ist die Lektüre dieses Buches uneingeschränkt empfehlenswert.

Aber gerade auch für Äthiopieninteressierte bietet "Global Brutal" eine lesenswerte Analyse. Eine der Länderstudien aus Afrika befasst sich mit Äthiopien: Kap. 9 :

#### **Äthiopien – Die Zerstörung der Landwirtschaft und Artenvielfalt (S. 156 – 165).**

Darin beschreibt der Autor, wie die äthiopischen Auslandsschulden von annähernd neun Milliarden Dollar nach dem Sturz von Mengistu beim sog. „Pariser Club“ im Tausch gegen weitreichende Wirtschaftsreformen umgeschuldet wurden. Zu den von IWF und WTO verlangten Maßnahmen gehörten in erster Linie die Liberalisierung des Handels und eine umfassende Privatisierung der öffentlichen Versorgungsunternehmen, der Banken sowie der Staatsfarmen und Fabriken. Als „flankierende“ Maßnahmen wur-

den Staatsbedienstete in großem Stil entlassen, die Löhne eingefroren und die Arbeitsgesetze annulliert. Die Reformen führten zur Kürzung der Transferzahlungen der Zentralregierung an die Provinzen was zum Auseinanderbrechen des föderalen Haushaltssystems führte, eine Maßnahme, die der Öffentlichkeit als „Dezentralisierung“ bzw. als „Regionalisierung“ verkauft wurde.

Um seinen Schuldendienstverpflichtungen nachzukommen, exportierte Äthiopien Getreide, anstatt die Getreidenotreserven des Landes aufzustocken. Bei einer verantwortungsvollen Bevorratung hätte der Getreidemangel der Jahre 1999 und 2000 vermieden werden können. So musste Getreide re-importiert werden, - eine gute Möglichkeit für die USA, ihre Lager von genmanipuliertem Mais zu entsorgen.....

Auch auf den äthiopischen Saatgutmarkt dringen US-Agrarkonzerne vor und gefährden die Sortenvielfalt im Lande. Nach der großen Hungersnot von 1984/85 hatte die äthiopische Regierung ein Programm zur Erhaltung der Kulturpflanzenvielfalt aufgelegt. Dieses wurde überraschenderweise, obwohl von Experten hochgelobt, 1998 beendet. Etwa gleichzeitig schloss sich der US-Agrarmulti Pioneer Hi-Breed mit der staatlichen „Ethiopian Seed Enterprises“ zusammen.....

Chossudovsky's provozierende These: Die Hungersnot – zu einem großen Teil Produkt der von außen aufgezwungenen Wirtschaftsreformen zu Gunsten ausländischer, meist US-amerikanischer Großkonzerne, hatten den Effekt, dass Äthiopiens Artenvielfalt zumindest stark gefährdet wurde. Die großangelegten „Notprogramme“ zur Ernährungssicherung sind daher langfristig nicht die Lösung, sondern die Ursache des Hungers.

Wenn wir heute in den Medien wieder von einer drohenden Hungerkatastrophe in Äthiopien erfahren, dann wissen wir – zumindest nach der Lektüre von „Global Brutal“ dass daran nicht nur das Wetter schuld ist!

## The Ethiopian Patent Office- functions and role in socio-economic development

By Getachew Mengistie

The patent office was established to implement the proclamation concerning inventions, minor inventions and industrial designs enacted in 1995 and the implementing regulations issued in 1997. The office is entrusted with a number of functions including the following:

- The filing and processing of applications for protection of inventions and industrial designs, the grant, maintenance and renewal of titles,
- The collection, organisation and provision of technological information contained in patent documents, and
- The creation and promotion of awareness of the patent system in general and the role of the system in the development of national technological capability and enhancement of socio-economic development in particular.

At the end of 2002, the office received 411 applications for protection of inventions and industrial designs of which Ethiopians made 322. Of the total applications 191 were granted titles, 87 were rejected and the remaining 133 are under process. The majority of Ethiopians who have been granted titles are exploiting their inventions and industrial designs there by contributing to the national socio-economic development effort.

Since the establishment of the office, concerted effort has been made to collect and organize technological information contained in patent documents and render technological information service. Prior to 1993 there was no single patent document containing full technological information in the country. To date more than 20 million patent documents containing useful technological information in various sectors have been collected in print and electronic form. Although the number of users and the practical use made, when seen in light of the development needs of the country and the technological problems it is facing, is very low,

encouraging results have been reported. Some of the users reported that they have developed products that are as good as the imported ones while others claimed that they have improved local products or are in the process of developing new ones.

The office has been engaged in the creation and promotion of awareness of the importance of the patent system using print and electronic media as well as taking part or organizing different forums such as workshops, exhibitions and intellectual property days. The campaign has bore fruit in that the use and awareness of the patent system is increasing from time to time. The success story thus far has been made possible as a result of a number of factors such as government support and international assistance. The Ethiopian government has made the necessary support in making available the necessary facility, finance and manpower to the extent its resources permit. National patent offices such as the United States Patent and Trademark office and The Japanese patent office, Regional Intellectual Property Organisations such as the European Patent Office (EPO) and the African Industrial Property Organisation (ARIPO) as well as International Intellectual Property Organisations such as the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) have made generous and continuous assistance.

The achievements made so far are commendable when viewed in light of the fact that the Patent system is new to the country and the office is only a few years old. However, the office faces a number of problems and challenges to effectively discharge its functions and serve as an agent of development. A lot therefore remains to be done to further strengthen the capacity of the office and ensure that, as an element of the national patent system, it plays a positive role in and makes meaningful contribution to the development of national technological capability, alleviation of socio-economic problems and enhancement of national progress.

## Von Aufgaben zu Dienstleistungen - Reform in Addis Ababa

Von Harald Plamper, Frechen

Ein Projekt der Europäischen Union in enger Abstimmung mit der GTZ brachte mich im Frühjahr 2002 für sieben Wochen nach Addis Ababa. Ich hatte den Auftrag, eine Stadtverfassung für die Hauptstadt zu entwerfen und sie dem Minister für Föderale Angelegenheiten vorzulegen. Neben meiner „deutschen“ sollte eine äthiopische Version und später aus den besten Partien von beiden das Gesetz entstehen. Sieben Wochen später gaben zwei Äthiopier und ich eine Gemeinschaftsarbeit ab und erläuterten Sie dem Minister. In der Zwischenzeit liegt der Inhalt der neuen Stadtverfassung fest, und die neuen Amtsträger sind zum großen Teil bestimmt.

Die äthiopische Verfassung von 1995 legt großen Wert auf die Föderalisierung des Landes mit neun „Ländern“ und (mit einem Sonderstatut versehen) der Hauptstadt. Für sie musste eine besondere Regelung getroffen werden, die berücksichtigt, dass Addis Ababa

- mit dem Sitz der Afrikanischen Union die „Hauptstadt Afrikas“ ist
- riesige Wachstumsprobleme hat
- gleichzeitig in besonderem Maße die wirtschaftliche Lage Äthiopiens bestimmt
- vom „Land“ Oromia umgeben ist
- Heimat für alle Stämme Äthiopiens ist und bleiben muss
- und deshalb in engerer Verbindung zur Zentralregierung bleiben soll.

Die seit 1997 geltende Stadtverfassung hatte sich für die kommunale Arbeit als lähmend erwiesen, weil das mehrköpfige Exekutiv-Komitee des Stadtrates auch die kleinsten Verwaltungsdinge zu entscheiden hatte, was zu einem Entscheidungstau führte. Verwaltung und Politik waren überkreuz. So ging es bei der Arbeit an einer neuen Stadtverfassung natürlich um schnelle und gute Entscheidungen, um eine Abgrenzung von politischer und von Verwaltungstätigkeit, um die Eigenständigkeit der Verwaltung unter politischer Kontrolle. Es ging auch um Demokratie und Rechtsstaat. So sollte nach uns-

rem Vorschlag ein Stadtdirektor die Stadtverwaltung leiten und der Bürgermeister politisches Stadtoberhaupt sein. Einen vom Volk gewählten Bürgermeister, der sowohl Politiker als auch Verwaltungschef ist, fand ohnehin nicht die Zustimmung der äthiopischen Seite. Der Minister wünschte einen politischen Executive Mayor mit einem City Cabinet, dem für die engeren Verwaltungsgeschäfte ein City Manager beigegeben ist. Dieser Executive Mayor ist ernannt und wird seine Arbeit nach Verabschiedung der Stadtverfassung aufnehmen. Viele andere Vorschläge, wie die Unabhängigkeit der Stadtgerichte, die Öffentlichkeit der Sitzungen des Stadtrates und seiner Ausschüsse (auch für alle Medien) wurden akzeptiert und werden Teil der Stadtverfassung sein. Schnell war aber zu erkennen, dass die Ausgestaltung der politischen und administrativen Führung der Stadt für die Einwohner nicht den Stellenwert besitzt, der ihm von unseren äthiopischen Partnern zugeschrieben wurde. Die Einwohner erhalten nämlich nicht die Dienstleistungen, die sie benötigen und die sie wünschen. Nur ein kleiner Bruchteil der ca. 30.000 städtischen Beschäftigten arbeitet im Dienstleistungsbereich, indem sie Kranke heilen, Kinder unterrichten, Straßen unterhalten, Personen befördern usw. Die meisten Beschäftigten nehmen an zentraler Stelle administrative, koordinierende, regulierende, überwachende, implementierende Tätigkeiten wahr, verheddern sich in einem Zuständigkeitsdschungel mit vielen Doppelzuständigkeiten und haben die Verhältnisse vor Ort noch kaum wahrgenommen. Die 328 kleinen Kebele-Büros vor Ort stellen im großen und ganzen nur Empfehlungsschreiben aus, wenn es um einen Krankenhausaufenthalt, um eine Wohnung, um Brennholz oder um Saatgut für die Bauern am Stadtrand geht. Ob man diese Leistungen dann wirklich erhält, steht auf einem anderen Blatt. Die Stadtverwaltung sieht demnach wie eine umgedrehte Pyramide aus. Unser Forderung ging dahin, die Stadtverwaltung zu einem „Dienstleistungsunternehmen“ zu machen, d. h. die zentralen Einheiten aufzulösen und die Beschäftigten vor Ort, wenn möglich auf Kebele-Ebene, mit der Erstellung von Dienstleistungen zu beauftragen. Diese dann gewalti-

ge Umorganisation ist nötig, wenn man den Einwohnern wirklich helfen will. Deren Finanzierung sollte kein Problem sein, wenn die Stadt für einige Zeit auf Neueinstellungen verzichtet (das ist jetzt offensichtlich der Fall).

Die Reaktion auf unsere Forderung war unterschiedlich: Die Kebeles begrüßten sie, weil sie die Nöte ihrer durchschnittlich 10.000 Einwohner aus nächster Nähe kennen. Die führenden Leute in der Zentralverwaltung machten die Geschichte der Kebeles als Disziplinierungsinstrument des früheren Militärregimes, fehlendes Geld, fehlende Büros vor Ort, und fehlende Qualifikation der Beschäftigten als Hindernisse geltend. Diese Hindernisse müssten zunächst beseitigt werden, bevor man sich auf die Erbringung von Dienstleistungen konzentrieren könne. Fast eine Vertröstung auf den St.-Nimmerleins-Tag! Deshalb ging es in unserem Vorschlag besonders darum, dem Dienstleistungsgedanken zum Durchbruch zu verhelfen – bei

- der Aufgabenbeschreibung
- der Beschreibung der dezentralen Ebenen
- der Beschreibung des Managements und
- den Anforderungen an den Haushalt.

Die Stadt Addis Ababa wird erst dann zu einer echten Kommune, wenn sie aus den Fesseln des Staates befreit wird und nicht mehr nur verlängerter Arm des Staates ist. Dies verlangt vom Staat und vor allem vom zuständigen Minister für föderale Angelegenheiten eine Steuerung auf Abstand in den dem Staat wichtigen Angelegenheiten (innere Sicherheit vor allem) und die Betätigungsfreiheit unter Aufsicht in allen anderen Angelegenheiten. Mir hat die Arbeit in Addis Ababa große Freude bereitet, weil

- die Zusammenarbeit mit der Delegation der EU und der GTZ ausgezeichnet war,
- es zwischen den äthiopischen und den deutschen „Experten“ zu einer hervorragenden Zusammenarbeit gekommen war und
- mich die Offenheit und Freundlichkeit der Menschen, vor allem der Kinder, besonders berührt hat.

Wenn diese Arbeit zur Verbesserung der Lebensverhältnisse beiträgt, freue ich mich umso mehr.

## Food Security in Ethiopia 2003

**Factsheet - Prepared by Andy Yates, VSO Ethiopia volunteer, Jan 2003**

- 1 in 6 Ethiopians will require food aid in 2003, 11.3 million people
- 2002's crop production was down 25% from the previous year
- 1.44 million metric tons of aid are predicted to be required in 2003
- Ethiopia's GDP is US\$ 6.2 billion, its external debt is US\$ 5.6 billion

### Current Situation

A joint Government of Ethiopia-United Nations appeal was formally launched on 7th December 2002. This stated that Ethiopia will need 1.44 million metric tons of food assistance to feed 11.3 million Ethiopians whose lives are threatened by food shortages in 2003. Also noted was a further 3 million people potentially at risk who will require close monitoring. The urgency of the appeal is highlighted by the fact that nearly 411,000 metric tons of food aid is required in the first quarter of 2003.

The appeal also called for further assistance of US\$ 76.2 million for health, water, veterinary services, emergency seed provision and capacity building activities. It was stated by the appeal that the main season food grain production in 2002 was 21% lower than the previous five years' average.

The main reasons for the decline in crop production in 2002 can be summarised into two main areas. The first reason is overwhelmingly the main factor and the second has exacerbated the situation.

#### 1) Drought.

The seasonal rains upon which farmers are so heavily dependent were significantly disrupted in 2002. Typically both the small and main rains started later and finished earlier than usual, dramatically affecting the main growing seasons.

#### 2) Low productive input use.

The use of fertilizer and improved seed was lower in 2002 than in previous years. Reasons for this include the inability of farmers to afford them and that farmers are unwilling to risk credit agree-



ments, especially given the low rainfall.

The poor rains have also been a problem in pastoral areas, particularly Afar Region and parts of Somali Region.

There are many reports of significantly high malnutrition rates in affected areas. As an example, nutrition surveys conducted by Concern and WorldVision in recent months have reported global acute malnutrition rates of over 17%. These results indicate a serious situation according to internationally recommended norms.

The Emergency Food Security Reserve has been introduced in recent years with the aim of providing a stockpile of food which can be drawn on in times of crisis before replacements arrive. In November 2002 this reserve held 130,000 metric tons of food. This reserve is used to provide food aid, balanced against pledges by donors to replenish stocks. However, it is clear that the Reserve does not contain anywhere near enough food to cope with the current crisis and that additional pledges and deliveries are needed immediately to prevent a break in the food aid pipeline from occurring.

### **Background to Current Situation**

The vast majority (approximately 85%) of the population are dependent on agriculture for their income and a significant proportion of this is subsistence farming (98% of Ethiopian farmers are subsistence farmers). Many are chronically food insecure (i.e. they are unable to meet their food needs even in a good year) and/or have suffered several shocks in recent years. As a result, household and community coping mechanisms have been severely eroded and many households are now very vulnerable to any shock. This includes minor climatic variations, particularly rainfall.

The lack of rainfall is one of the environmental factors which the farmers have no control over. If no rain falls then improved seed or fertilisers are of no use and hence the unwillingness of farmers to use credit agreements to purchase such items, particularly in years when the rainfall is insufficient.

In Ethiopia virtually all land is owned by the government and

farmers hold leases. These leases however are very short term (a few years) and are not secure, thus there are very few incentives for farmers to improve their land and soil fertility. This exacerbates low crop productivity and long term planning.

Ethiopian farmers' assets are typically livestock. In times of crisis and reduced crop production, the price of livestock goes down, due to over supply and reduced demand, whereas the price for cereals, due to increased demand, goes up. This leads to asset depletion for these families which can be difficult to reverse. Since the well publicised major famines of 1973/74 and 1984/85 significant activities have been undertaken to try and avoid repeats of such high mortalities. The government of Ethiopia with the support of international donors have introduced a range of measures including establishing an emergency food reserve and introducing early warning systems. The last page gives a comparison of various items between the 1984/1985 famine, the 1999/2000 drought and the current crisis. A large proportion of the monies from international campaigns has been used to try and provide and promote sustainable livelihoods. However, it should also be remembered that another aim has been to avoid deaths. Keeping people alive is very different to providing a sustainable livelihood.

One hindrance to the provision of international aid can be the 'we need pictures of dying children before we will give' mentality. The systems currently in place have highlighted the needs for 2003 and as an example, it takes at least 4 months from a decision by the UK government for food to actually get to those in need in Ethiopia. Obviously action is required early on in a crisis to avoid an extremely serious situation developing, however this can go against the mentality of not acting until deaths become a reality. The comparison given on the last page highlights that in 1984/1985 and again in 1999/2000 although sufficient food aid was provided, it arrived after the majority of deaths had occurred.

Another issue to be discussed is the selling of food aid. The provision of food aid could be seen as merely replacing the farmers' crop

production. The farmers can then decide how to utilise this resource as they would if they had grown the crop themselves. Options typically range from keeping the food to feed the family to selling it to provide some cash income. The food aid provided is primarily wheat which does not provide a complete diet, hence money is required to buy other foodstuffs (oil etc.). Money is required for other purposes including land tenure charges, mule transportation and medicines. Note that the majority of food aid beneficiaries live in very remote areas, many hours walk from the food distribution centres.

Also worthy of note is the help that Ethiopians are providing to their compatriots. The majority of government workers have donated proportions of their wages to assist those in food insecure situations. Also there are reports of excellent cooperation between rural people where large migrations of livestock are occurring. In one area it has been reported that the hosts cleared their farmland of harvested crops to facilitate the free movement of the migrating animals. However, contrasted with this, for the first time in such a situation there have been reports of looting and theft.

### **How to Help**

There are various ways we can help, both long and short term.

**1) Donations.** There are a significant number of organisations who are working to alleviate food insecurity. Some organisations are involved in supplying, distributing and monitoring food aid to provide relief. Others are working to provide and promote sustainable healthy livelihoods. However, before donating, it is recommended that some investigation is carried out to enable an informed decision to be made as to how your donation is to be spent.

**2) Fair Trade.** There has been much in the media in recent months about the global price of coffee. The slump in global coffee prices is causing serious problems for Ethiopia's coffee farmers. Coffee is Ethiopia's main export and organically produced and Fair Trade Ethiopian coffee is available in many countries. By buying Ethiopian Fair Trade products we can help ensure a reasonable price is paid to the farmers.

**3) Lobbying.** By taking a proactive role in challenging and debat-

ing decision makers it is hoped that they may become more aware of the issues and respond in different and improved ways. Suggestions for this include writing to government officials and newspapers. By far the largest donors of food aid to Ethiopia are governmental organisations such as United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the European Union (EU) as well as country specific governments. Also, as the comparison on the last page shows, since the early 1980's, Ethiopia's external debt has grown significantly whilst its GDP (gross domestic product) has reduced. This makes it incredibly difficult for the country to develop and get out of an ever increasing debt cycle. It is recommended that we actively support the 'Drop the Debt' or similar campaigns.

**4) Awareness Raising.** Just by talking to family, friends and colleagues an awareness can be raised of the issues surrounding food security. Please distribute this factsheet, and any other relevant material, to as many individuals, organisations, local groups and institutions as possible.

#### Further Information

As a selection of websites for further information, the World Food Programme's website ([www.wfp.org](http://www.wfp.org)) has detailed reports on the situation and the predicted aid requirements. The Save the Children UK and Oxfam websites ([www.savethechildren.org.uk](http://www.savethechildren.org.uk) and [www.oxfam.org.uk](http://www.oxfam.org.uk)) give information of how these charities are helping and the Oxfam site also has resources for teachers and young people. The UK government's Department for International Development (DFID) site ([www.dfid.gov.uk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk)) has information, primarily orientated towards the UK government's response.

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**Siehe dazu auch Tabelle auf Seite 27**

#### Acknowledgement

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## Verschiedenes

### University Says Agricultural Researches Fail To Address Recurrent Drought

Alemaya, January 10, 2003 (WIC)- President of the Alemaya University said most of Agricultural researches conducted for the last half century had failed to address the recurrent drought surfacing in the country. Speaking at the 20th conference of University is research and extension advisory council, the President Dr. Desta Hamito said although the researches have succeeded in increasing the productivity of crops and animals, they failed to provide alternatives to prevent drought. He said researchers should prioritize their studies on mitigating poverty and drought conditions. He meanwhile said the university would conduct 282 new and outstanding research works during the current academic year. The three day conference world deliberate on the performance of research and extension works drought and food insecurity issues.

### Gewane College Under Expansion With 54 Million Birr

Gewane, January 02, 2003 (WIC)- The Administration of Gewane Technical and Vocational College in Afar State disclosed that it is expanding the College with an outlay of 54 million birr.

Head of the College Administration, Ibrahim Ahmed told WIC today that the construction of additional class rooms, dormitories and offices has been in progress over the last six months. He said up on completion over the next seven months the College could enroll up to 1,000 students.

### 19.11.2002 Kunst-Wege aus der politischen Sackgasse

Ausstellungs- und Vortrags-Projekt "Language of Colours" in der Alanus Hochschule Alfter Von Christina zu Mecklenburg Alfter. Kaum hat sie bundesweit als erste, private Hochschule ihre staatliche Anerkennung erkämpft, tut sich die Alanus Hochschule Alfter mit einem spannenden Projekt des DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst) hervor. Die späte Sommer-Akademie nennt sich "Language of Colours - Kunst gegen Sprachlosigkeit" und wird organisiert von der Alanus-Hochschule in Kooperation mit der philosophischen und medizinischen Fakultät der Universität Bonn. Zu Gast im Johannishof sind derzeit vierzig Kunststudenten und Professoren aus dem Sudan, Senegal, Äthiopien und Ägypten sowie einige, auswärtige deutsche Künstler. Höhepunkt der Begegnung ist ein Festakt, wo die Initiative des "German-islamic dialogue" erläutert, deren Stellenwert herausgestrichen wird. "Die universale Sprache der Kunst", so Professor Marcelo de Veiga, könne dazu beitragen, aus politischen und sozialen "Sackgassen" herauszuführen. Sein Ziel als Rektor der Alanus Hochschule sei es, "kreativ überraschende Ansätze zu finden". Momentan ginge es vor Ort darum, "auf Augenhöhe zu arbeiten mit staatlichen Einrichtungen", bürokratische Hürden zu nehmen. Das Forum von Hochschulen bildet eine geeignete und wichtige Basis für einen "euro-islamic dialogue", so DAAD-Präsident Christian Bode. ... Alanus Hochschule Alfter, Johannishof Alfter, bis 26. November. Täglich geöffnet. Informationen im Internet: [www.alanus.edu](http://www.alanus.edu)

# Nachrichten

## Auszüge aus ETHIOPIA Seven Days Update<sup>1</sup>,

zusammengestellt von Harmen Storck

### 1. Conflict with Eritrea

#### Deployment of UN Mission on Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE):

Ethiopia and Eritrean military officials held the 15<sup>th</sup> Military Coordination Commission (MCC) meeting on Jan. 29 in Nairobi. UNMEE Force Commander, Major General Robert Gordon, who chaired the meeting, told journalists on Jan. 31 at a video press conference held between Addis Ababa and Asmara that various peace and security issues were raised by the parties. Gordon said that cross border incidents by civilians for grazing land, the killing of an Ethiopian civilian on 18 Dec. 2002, and related issues were discussed at the meeting (*Daily Monitor* (February 1-2).

#### Border Commission and Border Demarkation:

Eritrea's ambassador to the UN has accused Ethiopia of defying orders by the Boundary Commission. In a letter to the Security Council, he recalled that the Boundary Commission, in an order dated July 17, 2002, had called on Ethiopia to remove settlers who had moved into Eritrean territory. "However, this had not happened," he said. "Ethiopia's continuing defiance of the Boundary Commission should not be tolerated" (*IRIN*, Jan. 8).

The UN's newly appointed Force Commander, Major General Robert Gordon, said that military leaders from both countries have committed themselves to ensuring the swift implementation of the 1,000-km border demarcation. Major General Gordon added that "technically," the border could be demarcated by the end of next year. He also said that the UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) had devised contingency plans in case increased tension flares up along the border when demarcation takes place, which is due to begin in May (*Daily Monitor*, Dec. 14-15).

UN sources reported that the demarcation of the disputed border between Ethiopia and Eritrea is expected to start in May 2003. The physical construction and marking of the 1,000-km border will take between four and six months, the sources added. Critical issues such as transfers of land and population between the two countries will be carried out only after completion of demarcation. By the end of 2003 and early 2004, the international border between Ethiopia and Eritrea would be complete (*Reporter*, Nov. 20).

According to *Reuters*, the commission has accused Ethiopia of not withdrawing the people it had settled in Badme after the Ethio-Eritrea war. After examining Ethiopian complaints on Badme, the commission had earlier resolved that Badme is Eritrean, *Reuters* added (*Asqual*, Nov. 12).

#### Ethio-Eritrean Compensation Commission:

Ethiopia has sent three witnesses to the Ethio-Eritrean Compensation Commission in Geneva for the verbal hearing on the case of prisoners of war. The commission decided to conduct a verbal hearing after receiving and examining written arguments from both sides (*Tomar*, Dec. 3).

#### Displaced Persons, POWs:

Member states of the European Union (EU) approved 6.67m euros to assist the project for the socio-economic reintegration of Ethiopians displaced from Eritrea following the Ethio-Eritrean conflict. The project, which will be implemented over a period of three years, will support displaced people and host communities in Amhara and Afar states. Activities of the support project include the construction or rehabilitation of 1,000 low-cost houses, providing key social and physical infrastructure, training of people in construction technology and maintenance of housing and infrastructure, providing marketable skills and entrepreneurship (*state media*, Dec. 4).

Ethiopia has released all the remaining 1,568 Eritrean prisoners of war (POWs), including two colonels, and other commissioned and non-commissioned officers, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced. The POWs were informed that they had been set free and had the right to go to any place of their choice. The press release also indicated that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had been involved in the process right from the beginning - The release also noted that Ethiopia had now freed all prisoners of war under its custody. Eritrea had, up to now, been reluctant to give confirmation on the number of POWs still under its control and also to release them, it said. The release further called on the international community to help ensure that all Ethiopian POWs are accounted for (*ETV*, Nov. 26).

#### Land Mines, Demining:

The United Nations demining agency has disclosed that 64 people have died and 163 have been wounded by mines in the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ) along the Ethio-Eritrea border during the period Jan. 2001 to Nov. 2002. According to the agency, three NGOs are engaged in demining operations in the border regions of the two countries. The NGOs plan to complete demining by next August. 30

km of land so far been cleared of mines, and the demining of up to 50,000 anti-personnel and anti-vehicle mines will be carried out until the end of this year (*Ethio-Post*, Dec. 26).

Ethiopia is one of the countries most affected by unexploded ordnance, according to the Ethiopian Mine Action Office (EMAO). The director of the office said that about 335 people in Tigray State had become victims of landmines in the last three years alone. He said the wars that have been waged at various times have exposed the country to immense unexploded ordnance. The recent war with Eritrea has aggravated the situation, and vast stretches of land have remained barren and inhabitable due to the problem of landmines (*Radio Ethiopia*, Dec. 11).

The Mine Action Coordination Commission (MACC) will complete demining roads in Sector West by the end of 2002, the United Nations Mission for Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) said. The spokeswoman of UNMEE said that following the completion of the demining process in the area, the demining teams would go to Sector East and Central. MACC's Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) teams were also deployed this week to destroy cluster bomb units in Sector West. (*Daily Monitor*, Nov. 17).

#### Support of Eritrean Opposition:

The Secretary General of the Alliance of Eritrean National Forces (AENF), Hiruy Tedla, in an interview with *Sudanese Radio*, called on the governments of Ethiopia, Sudan and Yemen to cooperate with AENF in overthrowing the Eritrean regime. An AENF delegation headed by its chairman, Abdela Idris, is currently on a visit to Sudan (*Dagum Wenchif*, Nov. 12).

Well-informed press sources in Sudan have stated that the recent summit meeting in Sana'a held between Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir, Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi had resulted in an initial agreement to take all measures, including military intervention, if necessary, to topple the regime of Issayas Afewerki in Eritrea. The sources indicated that a secret meeting was held in the Ethiopia between the army chiefs of staff of the three countries to discuss the issue, and that they have agreed to arm the Eritrean opposition, open the border for its members in Sudan and Ethiopia and, where necessary, support the opposition militarily and logistically (*Arabic News.com*, Nov. 4).

The Alliance of Eritrean National Forces (AENF) will move its head office from Addis Ababa to Khartoum, AENF secretary general Hiruy Tedla said. After forming an Eritrean government in exile, AENF will launch its schemes to over-

throw Issayas Afewerki's regime (*Zarenew, Nov. 3*).

The 5<sup>th</sup> regular conference of the Alliance of Eritrean National Forces (AENF) wound up Addis Ababa by electing a chairman and secretary general. The Alliance also agreed to organize a national conference that will involve all sections of the Eritrean people. (*State media, Oct. 22*).

## 2. Economics, Finance, Commerce

### State Revenues, Budgets,

#### Economic Growth:

The Ministry of Revenues disclosed that it would introduce the Value Added Tax (VAT) system effective Jan. 1, 2003 replacing the existing sales tax system. The VAT system will apply to 3,000 taxpayers whose annual turnover exceeds 500,000 birr. The rate of the VAT on taxable transactions is 15%. He also stated educational institutions, medical and humanitarian aid providers as well as utilities, finance and postal services would be exempted. Small businesses will not be required to be registered as VAT tax payers and only 2% of their annual turnover will be taxed (*Radio Ethiopia, Dec. 31*).

Ethiopian government's total public expenditure for the Ethiopian fiscal year 1995 (2002/3) is estimated at about 19.7 billion birr surpassing the expenditure in 1994 by two billion birr. According to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, the public expenditure accounts for 35% of GDP. In 1994 (2001/2), the government's total spending was 17.5 billion birr. About 3 billion birr (20% of total) was accounted by aid resources (*The Reporter, Dec. 11*).

The latest report of MOFED indicated that of the total tax revenue of about 1.5 billion birr, direct tax contributed 361mio birr (24.7%) and indirect taxes 1.09 billion birr (75.3%). Foreign trade taxes, particularly import duties, constituted about 70% of the revenue collected from indirect taxes. It was learnt that on a year-on-year basis, direct tax revenue grew by 7.7% while indirect tax revenue fell by 19%. The fall was largely attributed to 26% reduction in revenue from import duties. (*Reporter, Dec. 11*).

The revenue Ethiopia earned from the export trade during the year 2001/02 has shown a decline of 249m birr (6.9%) compared with the previous year. The country earned 3.4 billion birr in foreign currency from the export of 429,898 tons of different commodities and collected 3.6 billion birr from the export of 302,870 tons in 2000/01 (*Fortune, Oct. 27*).

#### Debts, Grants, Loans and Credits:

Ethiopia and the WFP have signed a four-year grant agreement amounting to 56.1m USD. Out of the total grant, 43.1m

USD was allotted for managing the environmental resources project. The project is aimed at improving the livelihood of rural communities especially those headed by women in Tigray, Amhara, Oromia, Somali, Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' states as well as in Dire Dawa Administrative Council. 7.58m USD will be used to promote education through school feeding projects in Tigray, Afar, Amhara, Oromia and Somali states while the remainder has been earmarked for HIV/AIDS intervention activities (*Radio Ethiopia, Feb. 6*).

The government of Ethiopia and the U.S. had signed a debt cancellation agreement amounting to over 29.2m USD. According to the agreement, the U.S. government has fully cancelled Ethiopia's debt that should be paid up to March 2004, including arrears and debt services. The debt relief includes principal and interest payments (*Radio Ethiopia, Jan. 28*).

Ethiopia has agreed with Nestle to pay half of the 1.5m USD it owed to the latter within 30 days as per the agreement signed recently. In December last year, Ethiopia offered Nestle 1.5m USD, though the latter claimed 6m USD. Both parties have now settled on the 1.5m USD half of which Ethiopia would pay within 30 days. Ethiopia should also complete payment of the total debt in six months' time (*Addis Tribune, Jan. 31*).

Ethiopia and Britain signed a memorandum of understanding for 96.6m USD for the coming three years. Both sides agreed to set out individual assistance intervention in separate agreements. The grant will be used to support the implementation of Ethiopia's Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Program (SDPRP) (*state media, Jan. 20*). Private investors, whose properties were nationalized by the Derg regime, have begun asking for compensation. The requested compensations are believed to reach some four billion birr. *The Guardian* reported in its issue of Dec. 24, 2002, that the World Bank has intervened on behalf of the Ethiopian government and asked the companies to request for amounts that are commensurate with the country's capacity to pay (*Addis Zena, Dec. 25*).

Ethiopia and Germany have signed a grant agreement amounting to 40m euros. The grant is part of the agreement reached at the Ethio-German Joint Consultative meeting held in Addis Ababa in June 2002. The grant focuses mainly on natural resources development, capacity building and Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET). According to the agreement, 95.42m birr will be used to finance the program for the sustainable use of natural resources, while 104.57m birr will go to capacity building in governance. Some 44m birr will be allocated to finance TVET investment programs and

104.57m birr will go to the implementation of the 3rd phase of the Addis-Gedeo road construction project (*Radio Ethiopia, Dec. 12*).

Ethiopia had obtained pledges and loans amounting to over 3.6 billion USD from donors to implement its poverty reduction strategy. The aid and loan is intended to stabilize the Ethiopian economy and to alleviate poverty especially in the rural areas. The donors and lending agencies include the World Bank, the EU, Britain, USA, Norway, Japan, Sweden, Belgium, France, Finland and other European countries. Arab and OPEC countries also expressed pledges of support (*State media, Dec. 8*).

The World Bank had earmarked over 400m USD in loans and grants to Ethiopia for the 2002/3 fiscal year. The Country Representative of the World Bank told that this fiscal year's loans and grants significantly increased because other countries had reduced their support due to the 1998-2000 war with Eritrea (*The Reporter, Oct. 23*).

#### Poverty Reduction:

the Minister of State for Finance and Economic Development, has stated that the World Bank and the IMF have accepted Ethiopia's Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP). He said that the two financial institutions, after endorsing the final strategic paper, called the paper comprehensive and a workable instrument to eradicate poverty in the country (*state media, Oct. 24*).

#### Foreign Trade:

The Ethiopian Livestock Marketing Authority (ELMA) has said that Ethiopia suffers a loss of some 107m USD annually because of live animal's contraband trade. Some 325,000 heads of cattle, 150,000 sheep and goats and 16,000 camels are smuggled into neighboring countries annually, the head of public relations at ELMA said (*Daily Monitor, Jan. 11-12*).

The Ethiopian Petroleum Enterprise has said that Ethiopia would import oil from neighboring Sudan beginning this year. The Enterprise told *ENA* that importing oil from Sudan could help Ethiopia save 30 USD per MT. Ethiopia's annual oil consumption stands at 2m MT, while it spends about 221m USD on the purchase of oil per annum, it said. Ethiopia presently imports oil mainly from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states (*Radio Ethiopia, Jan. 6*).

A senior researcher at the Department of Economics of Addis Ababa University (AAU) had said that Ethiopia lost 300m USD in export revenue over the last years as a consequence of the slump in the price of coffee in the international market. In a study paper the researcher, Dr. Dejene Aredo, said that in 2002 alone, Ethiopia's income from coffee

exports had dropped by 110m USD. Over the past three years, the price of coffee has fallen by almost 50% to a 30-year low, costing coffee producing developing countries 8 billion USD in lost foreign currency earnings (*State media, Jan. 6*).

The import value of all items registered upward trends in the quarter with jet fuel registering the highest growth rate (46.7%) followed by gas oil (46.1%) and regular gasoline (33.4%) According to a recent report by the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), fuel, on average, took up about 50% of the country's export earning and close to one fifth of the country's total import value during the last 10 years (*Reporter, Dec. 18*).

The volume of coffee exports had increased by 8.1% from 98,239 tons exported in 2000/01 to 106,245 tons in 2001/2 while its value declined by 12% from 1,499.3m birr to 1,319.2m. Although export earnings from coffee dropped significantly, export earnings from cereals, which increased significantly, have offset the decline in coffee export earnings. The export of cereals soared by 301.2% from 70.3mio birr in 2000/01 to 282.3mio birr in 2001/02. *Khat* export earnings, which had shown a positive trend since 1997/98, have also plummeted significantly. Export earnings from *khat* declined by 62% from 510m birr to 193.7m birr. Coffee export, which has been contributing more than 60% of the country's export earnings, contributed only 39.3 % in 2001/02 (*Reporter, Oct. 30*).

German Ambassador Dr. Herbert Honsowitz stated that German export is not like it used to be six years ago. In 1996, export from Germany to Ethiopia was rated at \$95m but at the end of 2002, it amounted only up to \$62m (*Daily Monitor, Oct. 15*).

### Investment and Investment Policy:

The Ethio-Norwegian joint venture company, ETHNO PLC, is going to start gold mining in the Akobo basin this month. ETHNO was prospecting for gold among the riverbanks of the Akobo River and discovered placer gold (alluvial gold) in 1999 at Shema Sergelle and Kendibab located 672km south-west of Addis Ababa. After taking the 400sq km. area from the Ministry of Mines, ETHNO launched prospecting for gold in April 1998 (*The Reporter, Feb. 5*).

The Ethiopian Investment Authority (EIA) announced that it had issued licenses for 328 projects launched with a combined capital of 3.4 billion birr during the first quarter of this fiscal year. The licensed investors were engaged in agriculture, mining, construction, real estate development, hotel and tourism as well as health, trade and in the education sectors across the country. He said 75 of the

projects were concentrated in Addis Ababa and that 14 of the 314 entrepreneurs were foreigners. The projects **were** expected to create over 18,000 jobs. (*ENA, Jan. 1*).

The Ministry of Mines and Kaleb Instruments, a private company, signed an agreement providing for the exploration of opal in Awajo-Feres Beret locality, North Shoa Zone, Amhara State, at a cost of over 1.4m birr. The area to be explored covers 38,3624 sq. km. The Ministry has granted exclusive rights to the company for the exploration of opal for the next three years (*Radio Ethiopia, Dec. 24*).

China is ready to join hands with Ethiopia to further develop military ties between the two, Chinese Defense Minister Chi Haotian said in Beijing. Chi, who is also the vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic of China and a state councilor, made the remarks while meeting with Defense Minister Abadula Gameda. Bilateral ties between the two countries have enjoyed smooth growth since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1970, Chi said (*Daily Monitor, Nov. 23-24*).

### Technical Assistance, Development Projects:

The long awaited fiveyear 293m birr Harar Water Supply and sanitation project (HWSSP) was officially launched. Constructed about 30 years ago to serve a population of 70,000, the Lake Alemaya water supply and treatment system is no longer able to meet the demand of the population that doubled (*Radio Ethiopia, Jan. 14*).

The disaster prevention and preparedness commission of Amhara State and OXFAM UK have signed a 6.6m birr grant agreement. The grant will be used to finance food security projects in the drought-prone area of Delanta Wereda. The project will focus on small irrigation, horticulture and soil conservation and will benefit over 31,000 peasants. Credit and savings cooperatives will also be funded. (*ENA, Dec. 24*).

The United States government has awarded over 184.2mio birr to Save the Children USA to undertake development activities in pastoral areas of Oromia and Somali states over the next five years. The money will be used for the implementation of the 'Southern Tier Initiative', which is aimed at improving the livelihood of pastoralists in selected areas of the Borena Plateau and Somali State. The program is designed to improve health, environmental conservation, community-based education and animal health as well as to enhance peace building and generate income alternatives for over 78,000 pastoralist households (*ETV, Nov. 18*).

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has said that it is carrying out

various development programs in Ethiopia worth over 209m birr. The fiveyear program will mainly focus on reproductive health, family planning, population and development as well as advocacy. The UN organ has also launched a program at a cost of some 40m birr to reduce maternal mortality and make pregnancy safer in Tigray, Amhara, Oromia and Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' states, Sarfo said (*ENA*).

Three non-governmental organizations have agreed to finance development projects worth 69.2m birr in Addis Ababa. The Ethiopian Catholic Secretariat in Addis Ababa, SOS and the Swiss Evangelical Mission donated 15.3m birr, 12.7m birr and 7.9m birr respectively for the projects. (*Addis Lissan, Nov. 9*).

According to WFP's Country Director 'Meret' is the largest WFP program that focuses on water and soil conservation as well as on natural resources conservation and development. The project is being implemented through food for work programs in 68 highly food-insecure districts in the country. Feeding in schools and urban vulnerability projects are also other projects run by WFP. Over 19 million people benefit from the program operated with a 70m USD annual budget allocated by WFP (*ENA, Oct. 14*).

### Transport and Communication:

The new passenger terminal and runway of the Addis Ababa Bole International Airport opened to traffic today. The terminal equipped, with state-of-the-art technology and considered to be the second best in Africa, can accommodate up to 300 passengers per hour. Airport Director Solomon Yimer said the new runway can be used for landing and take off by mega carriers like Boeing 747-400. The terminal has also the capacity to accommodate 17 airplanes at one time. The new airport, which is four times bigger than the old one, has parking space for about 710 vehicles (*State media, Jan. 21*).

The Federal government is preparing to set up a dry port terminal at the north-western border town of Metemma, Amhara Regional State, which is the main route for the prospected import-export of goods via Port Sudan. A fiveyear action plan is designed to rebuild the town, located 850 km away from Addis Ababa, as a dry port within the country's north-western territory. The road linking the two countries opened for traffic a week ago after taking three years to construct. The Ethiopian government has decided to rename the township as Metemma Yohannes after Emperor Yohannes IV who was killed there during a war with the Mahdists in 1872. The dry port will serve to shelter goods imported through the Sudanese port destined for the northern part of the country (*Fortune, Jan. 21*).

The Ethiopian Civil Aviation Authority (ECAA) is preparing to inaugurate Mekele International Airport, the fourth international airport in the country. The construction of the airport terminal and runway, including other airport facilities, cost 154.4m birr. The project was financed partly by the government and partly from the authority. According to ECAA, the construction of the terminal, which was undertaken since Aug. 1998, is expected to be completed next month (*Fortune, Oct. 20*).

The general manager of the Oromia Roads Authority has said that 93.7m birr has been allocated to build and repair 3,026 km of road this year in Oromia. Ato Mulugeta Dinka said that 161 km of new roads would be built, while 565 km would be designed and 3,000 km repaired. According to Ato Mulugeta, the regional state of Oromia has allocated 66m birr for the project while the government and the Roads Fund have set aside 27.7m birr (*Abiotawi Democracy, Oct. 19*).

### Privatization:

The Ethiopian Privatization Agency (EPA) says it plans to privatize 43 state-owned enterprises this Ethiopian budget year. EPA auctioned 36 state-owned companies last year, out of which only two were sold, according to the general manager. She said high prices, low number of interested bidders and inaccessibility to adequate bank loans has discouraged potential buyers from taking part in the auction (*Radio Ethiopia, Dec. 30*).

### Other Issues:

The Addis Ababa trade and industry bureau revealed that more than 2,200 business have returned over their licenses during the last Ethiopian budget year. According to insiders, the tax burden and exorbitant rent payments have forced many businesses to quit and return their licenses. From 30,818 licensed wholesale, retail and service industry and agricultural development businesses, 7.1% have already returned their licenses (*The Reporter, Oct. 16*).

### **3. Agriculture, Food Aid, Drought**

#### Agricultural Input and Output:

The Ethiopian government has allocated over 11.53m USD for the purchase of fertilizer to be used during the 1995/96 E.C farming season. The general manager of the Authority said 65,000 MT of fertilizer would be imported with the money allocated from the country's foreign reserve. About 300,000 MT of fertilizer is expected to be distributed to farmers across the country during 1995/96 E.C. 235,000 MT come from the 1994/95 E.C leftover stock (*ENA, Jan. 31*).

The Ethiopian coffee production could fall by 30% as a result of the current drought, undermining the productivity of the coun-

try's main cash crop on which almost 15 million people depend, the US Famine Early Warning System Network said. Ethiopia produces about 300,000 bns of coffee, about half of which is consumed domestically (*BBC, Jan. 7*).

The Central Statistics Authority (CSA) has disclosed that Ethiopia's overall agricultural production would decline by 25.7m q this year compared with the 2001/2-crop season. The Deputy Manager of CSA said that a sample study conducted on 2,040 selected sites and 50,000 households has confirmed that only 73m q, which constitutes a reduction of 25.4% from the preceding year, would be harvested this crop season. She said pulse and legume crop production would decline by 27.1%, cereals by 19.4%, and oil seeds by 5.6% (*State media, Dec. 20*).

#### Drought, Flood, Famine and Food Aid:

The government of Germany has provided a new emergency support package for drought-affected areas in Ethiopia amounting to 17m birr for the year 2003. The assistance is the first for 2003 approved following the appeal made by the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC) last year. Five million birr of the total will be extended to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for the distribution of water, food and seeds to farmers in affected areas in Tigray and Oromia states. The rest will be disbursed to Menschen für Menschen to provide food and seeds to drought-affected districts in Oromia and Somali states. (*ENA, Feb. 10*).

In response to the humanitarian crisis affecting the Horn of Africa, the European Commission (EC) has allocated another 5m euro to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The funds are designated for emergency food aid operations in Ethiopia. This additional allocation has been immediately mobilized to enable ICRC to purchase and distribute 15,750 tons of essential food commodities (maize, beans, vegetables oil and wheat). This food aid will be distributed to more than 250,000 vulnerable people in different regions of Ethiopia particularly affected by the drought. The contribution to ICRC will bring the total EC emergency aid to the present crisis in Ethiopia to 102m euro since Oct. 2002, and to around 275,000 tons of food aid for the year 2003 only. Member states are bilaterally providing 46m euro in humanitarian aid and food aid in response to the present, bringing the total EU amount to 148m euro (*Reporter, Jan. 29*).

The EU's relief assistance of 20,500 tons has arrived in Ethiopia through the port of Berbera (*Matmino, Jan. 6*).

A *BBC* report disclosed that the drought has hit a large swathe of territory to the

east of Addis Ababa, stretching from the Eritrean border almost down to the Kenyan border. The report indicated that pasture and water are drying up and Issa herdsmen have started to migrate. Thousands of cattle are on the move – but there is no relief in sight. The traditional refuge for Issa cattle during drought is particularly bare of pasture. One of the worst affected areas is the Somali region which borders Somaliland and Djibouti, according to the report (*Daily Monitor, Dec. 28-29*).

More than 11 million people are facing serious food shortages and possible starvation following a prolonged dry spell that led to poor harvests in many parts of the country according to a joint report released by the FAO and the World Food Program (WFP) "Delayed, poorly distributed and early failure of the 2002 seasonal rains were the main cause of the decline in grain production." The report noted that crop yields also fell because farmers were reluctant to invest in improved seeds and fertilizer due to the current crop prospects. According to the report, depressed grain prices in 2001 further contributed to this year's poor harvest, particularly in western Ethiopia where there were large surpluses. The report indicates that sharp increases in grain prices occurred in the second half of 2002, with the prospect of a poor harvest. To manage the negative effects of such fluctuating grain prices for both farmers and consumers, the report calls for mechanisms to strengthen price stabilization, such as, storage facilities and marketing (*Daily Monitor, Dec. 31*).

The World Food Program (WFP) has said that about 17 million people in the country would need relief assistance in the month of Jan. 2003. "The country will need 500,000 tons of relief grain to feed its needy people," WFP said (*Matimino, Dec. 30*).

At a recent meeting organized by the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC), Prime Minister Meles Zenawi pleaded with the donor community to provide food aid for the drought affected people whose number is estimated to reach 14 million by early next year (*Reporter, Dec. 11*).

UNICEF Director Carol Bellamy has warned that the drought crisis especially in Afar would have grave consequences because of the malaria epidemic that is also spreading in lowland Ethiopia. Bellamy voiced the warning after she returned from a visit to Afar region where, she said, she had personally witnessed that the drought had intensified because of the drying up of wells and the death of livestock, which worsened the crisis (*VOA, Dec. 6*).

Displacement of drought victims, which is now taking place in some areas as a result of the unavailability of food locally

and on time, is threatening the food-for-work program run under the "Employment Generation Scheme (EGS)" of the DPPC, according to reliable sources. EGC combines relief resources with available labor to create useful household and community assets that contribute to reducing Ethiopia's chronic food insecurity (*The Reporter, Dec. 4*).

Drought-triggered water shortage that killed hundreds of thousands of livestock has intensified in Afar, Harar, Somali, Tigray, Amhara, Bale and the SNNPR, particularly in Silte zone, according to reliable sources. Water shortages, which are especially common in the drier areas, are currently affecting even fertile areas. (*The Reporter, Nov. 27*).

A German researcher on a visit to Ethiopia has said that the present Ethiopian famine is the result of bad government and wrong economic policies. It is not only drought that is the cause, he said. The scholar is here to assess the famine situation and organize relief aid. He said 15 million people are now on the verge of death (*Kokeb, Nov. 17*).

#### Other Issues:

The Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organization (EARO) has allocated 148.3m birr to establish arid zone research centers in six selected drought-prone areas in the country. The centers will be launched in Tigray, Amhara, Oromia, SNNPS, Afar and Somali states. The centers will undertake the identification and multiplication of drought-resistant crop varieties, improving farming techniques and crop protection and other studies. He also said soil and water conservation, forest protection and animal feed research, livestock, apiary, poultry development and veterinary research would be conducted. Dr. Kidane said the fund to launch the centers would be obtained from the Federal Government and in loans from the World Bank (*State media, Jan. 8*).

The Ethiopian Economic Association/Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute (EEA/EEPRI) has said that over 60 % of farmers are in favor of the current land tenure system in Ethiopia. Presenting a research paper, the director of EEA/EEPRI, Dr. Berhanu Nega, said that regarding farmers' choice of an alternative tenure system, 46% preferred public ownership. He said that farmers' main emphasis was on the issue of tenure security. Another 15% did not reveal any clear preference, he said. - Dr. Berhanu said that the degree of the existing tenure arrangement varies significantly from state to state. In the predominantly pastoral areas of Somali (86%) and Afar (68%) as well as in the densely populated SNNPS (78%), the support is rather strong, he said. On the other hand, there is a strong opposition to public ownership in the relatively sparsely populated Ben-

Benishangul Gumz state where over 62% of households oppose the current system. Support for the current system in Oromia, Amhara and Tigray was 56%, 51.9% and 66.3% respectively (*Radio Ethiopia, Nov. 4*).

A study paper, presented at the first National Agricultural Symposium at Adama, disclosed that out of the total 1,415 agricultural projects with a total capital of over 7.6 billion birr, 1,262 projects with a capital of 5.8 billion birr had not been operational. Only 153 projects with a capital of 1.6 billion birr had been completed and are now operational. Of the projects that were not completed, some 635 were being undertaken while the remaining 627 had not yet been established. About 88.9% of the investors have shown interest in the natural resources sector and 71.4% in the agro-production processing sector (*The Reporter, Oct. 16*).

#### Environment:

Within the next 20 years, water scarcity is expected to become a permanent crisis in Ethiopia. According to the German Foundation for World Population (DSW), one of the main causes is the country's rapid population growth. "If we do not help those poverty-stricken and arid countries, such as Ethiopia, to curb the growth rate of their ever-expanding populations, then our efforts to avoid future famines will be made all the more difficult," warns Dr Hans Fleisch, Executive Director of DSW. - Even today, freshwater supplies in Ethiopia have sunk to the critical level of around 1,700 metric cubes per capita. Within the next two decades, it is expected that this figure will decrease even further to 1,000m<sup>3</sup>, resulting in a chronic scarcity of water (*Daily Monitor, Feb. 8-9*).

A controversy arose at a workshop held to discuss the possible impact that genetically modified maize would have on public health and on deciding on whether or not to accept the relief assistance of genetically modified maize. The genetically modified maize was developed at Zermel laboratories in the United States. Zambia has already decided not to accept relief assistance of genetically modified maize (*Daily Monitor, Jan. 1*).

#### **5. Social, Cultural and Political Aspects**

##### Opposition-Related Issues:

Informed sources have disclosed that Prime Minister Meles Zenawi will respond to questions by opposition political parties and civic organizations at a joint conference to be held on January 15, 2003, at Sheraton Addis. According to the Inter-Africa Group, the organizer of the forum, the Prime Minister will submit a document in four parts. Sources added that the four parts are on the country's economy, the federal structure in the last 15 years, human rights and national security \$-

sues. Leaders of opposition parties, private investors, prominent individuals, and intellectuals as well as peasants and women's representatives will attend the discussions (*Tomar, Dec. 3*).

Three OLF executive committee members who defected from the Front have declared that the OLF had split into two. The three, who gave themselves up recently, said that they defected from the Front after being disappointed with the growing ethnic divisions within the OLF. Bikilcha Sagne, who was the commander of the Southern Zone, said a huge rift had been created within the OLF. He said that those who opposed the Front's ties with the Eritrean government were labeled as traitors. Lack of trust and a series of disagreements have recently led to fierce fighting among OLF troops along the Ethio-Kenya border, Bikilcha said (*Radio Ethiopia, Oct. 17*).

The All Ethiopia Unity Party has issued a call urging the Ethiopian people, civic groups, and opposition political parties to set aside their minor differences and prepare the conditions for a peaceful transfer of power in Ethiopia. It accused the EPRDF of adamantly rejecting calls by the people, the opposition and intellectuals to initiate a national dialogue. The party urged the EPRDF to prepare the way for a peaceful transition (*Tobia Oct. 17*).

#### Terrorism, Security:

Over 15,000 members of the security forces will be deployed in Addis Ababa and its environs during the second summit of the African Union. These forces will be assigned to protect the leaders against possible terrorist attacks during their stay in the city. 10,000 forces, selected from different sections of the security forces, have undertaken training in combating terrorist attacks in Kolfe, Sendafa and other training camps. Another 5,000 soldiers dressed in civilian clothes will be assigned to public places such as markets and recreation centers (*Ethio-News, Jan. 23*).

The President of Djibouti who conferred with President Bush, said that the cooperation with Ethiopia could be essential in the struggle against terrorist organizations in Somalia. It has been reported that the use of Ethiopian border areas by U.S. anti-terrorist forces to hit and wipe out Al-Qaeda and other terrorist networks was vital (*Ruh, Jan. 24*).

US military commanders have said that counter-terrorism activities in the Horn of Africa Region over the last 30 days have "set the stage for success". A spokesman for the Combined Joint Task Force for the Horn of Africa, told a telephone briefing aboard the *USS Mt. Whitney* in the Gulf of Aden that "the US was working with host nations to deny the re-emergence of

terrorist cells and activities (*ENA, Jan. 14*).

Ethiopia and the United States will coordinate their efforts in the fight against terrorism. This was stated in a meeting Prime Minister Meles Zenawi held with a visiting high-level US delegation led by Donald Rumsfeld. Briefing reporters after discussions with Secretary Rumsfeld, Meles said Ethiopia has shown its determination by joining the global coalition against terrorism (*ETV, Dec. 10*).

Al-Qaeda spokesman, Suleiman Abakayetz, has said that Al-Qaeda had no intention or plans to launch terrorist attacks on Ethiopia. In his message released on a website called *Mujahidin.com*, Suleiman is reported to have said that his organization adopted such a stand in respect of a special injunction by the Prophet Mohammed written in the Koran and which says, "Do not attack Ethiopia" (*Ruh, Dec. 13*).

### Crime, Corruption and Legal Affairs:

The office of the special prosecutor has disclosed that 3,073 defendants indicted by the office on various charges had received verdicts. The Chief Special Prosecutor had disclosed that 2,236 of the defendants were found guilty. He said 2,076 defendants were convicted for genocide and 160 for brutal murder. Some 627 of the defendants were convicted in absentia. Ato Girma said 13 of the convicts were sentenced to death, 32 were condemned to life imprisonment and the remaining were given jail terms ranging from 5 to 25 years (*ETV, January 31*).

### Churches and Religion:

Three youth were reportedly killed and 30 wounded by police gunfire following the disturbance in Mekele on Dec. 29, 2002. Police fired gunshots to control the clashes said to be between members of EOC and the Mekanyesus Evangelical Church. Thousands of EOC members came out on the streets of Mekele in protest against Protestant church activities in the state. Police have arrested hundreds of residents, and all schools in Tigray state were closed (*Medina, Dec. 31*).

Police have arrested hundreds of followers of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, including clergy after invading the Lideta St. Mary Church in Addis Ababa. The faithful had been attending various church ceremonies when police started attacking. According to eyewitnesses, the police brutally and indiscriminately beat up children, old men and women and many were injured. It was also reported that there were disagreements between members of the church and the Patriarch of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church on the question of who should administer the Lideta St. Mary Church. The previous administrator, reportedly a relative

of the Patriarch Abune Paulos, has been accused of embezzlement of church funds. The current administrator, who is not favored by Patriarch Paulos, is in police custody with his two sons after the Nov. 18 incident. He is among many priests and deacons who were arrested by the police (*Ethop, Nov. 20*).

### News about Culture and History:

Household utensils that had been in use 5,000 years ago were discovered in Assosa and Kamashi zones of Benishangul-Gumuz State by an archaeological team. The discovered household materials include ornaments as well as various tools made of stone and clay. The study disclosed that the living style and use of materials in Gumuz, Berta and Makomo nationalities at that time was much more similar to the classical life of Europeans (*ENA, Feb. 14*).

Archaeologists have found two mandibles (jaw bones) at Hadar in the Afar region, one of which is 400,000 years older than the world-renowned *Australopithecus afarensis* fossil, otherwise famously known as Lucy. "Besides the mandibles of an adult and a child, both of which belong to the species *Australopithecus afarensis*, we found over 300 fossil specimens of hominids along with over 4,000 stone tools," a member of the Hadar International Expedition, the expedition that found the fossils, said. "The age of the hominids is about 2.3 million years," she said. The fact that the hominid fossils were found in the same area as the stone tools and in large numbers makes the finding unique, according to the archaeologist. The Hadar International Expedition has been searching for hominid fossils in the Afar region since the 1970s. The expedition is funded by the United States National Science Foundation and the National Geographic Society (*The Scope, Dec. 13*).

Some 134 years later, inscriptions on the amulet which recently was brought back to Ethiopia from Britain have revealed Emperor Tewodros II's Christian name. Tewodros was wearing the amulet when British soldiers stormed his Meqdele fortress in 1868. A "tentative" Geez translation has revealed that Tewodros's Christian name was Sertse Dingil. "Baptismal names, as a rule, are secretly kept between the parents, the father confessor and very close relatives," Haliu Habtu, member of the Association for the Return of the Meqdele Ethiopian Treasures, told journalists. "Basically, the writing on this amulet is about bestowing on the holder, the qualities of chairman and majesty," Haliu who read the translation said (*Daily Monitor, Nov. 4*).

### Sports:

Ethiopian athletes finished top in many international competitions held recently in

different European cities. In Stuttgart, in the 3,000m indoor race Berhane Adere clocked 8 min. 31.73 sec. trailed by a Moroccan duo that came in a row after Berhane. The Ethiopian finished 20 minutes ahead of the pack. Earlier, Berhane enjoyed another victory in the 7 km cross-country race in Spain. Her compatriot, Letay Neged, ranked 3rd in the event edged by Portuguese Monica Rosa (*Ethiopian Herald, Feb. 6*).

The Abebe Bikila International Stadium, built at a cost of over 20m birr in Addis Ababa, was inaugurated officially on Oct. 20, 2002. The stadium can accommodate over 25,000 spectators at a time (*ENA, October 24*).

### Poverty:

The Association of Friends of Street Children has said that about 100 children under the age of one have been found abandoned last year in Eastern Shoa, Western Harerge, West Shoa and Borena as well as in North Shoa and East Wellega. A study conducted and presented by the association noted that unwanted pregnancy and rejection by fathers as well as poverty and poverty-related factors are among the reasons for abandoning the children (*Menelik, Dec. 6*).

### Other Social and Political Issues:

Elders and religious leaders in Wogera District, Semien Zone, have agreed to forbid harmful traditional practices, including early marriage and genital mutilation. They also agreed to impose a fine of 500 birr on people who give "teskars" in memory of the dead. The participants came from 39 peasant associations (*Addis Lissan, Jan. 11*).

The Addis Ababa City Council Urban Development Bureau has reportedly stated that the Addis Ababa Islamic Affairs office has refused to comply with the bureau's repeated requests to remove the mosque found in Kebele 03, District 1. Consequently, it said, the bureau was forced to send a demolishing team to the area. The area on which the mosque was built was leased for a hospital expansion project by Tibebe Private Hospital. Many houses, including the mosque, were demolished. Police have arrested people who challenged the demolishing of the mosque (*Ze-Press, Jan. 15*).

The immigration of Falashmura from Ethiopia will resume on Jan. 14 through a third country, Avigdor Yitzhaki, the Director General of the office of the Prime Minister of Israel, told representatives of the Falasha community in Israel. Yitzhaki has reached an agreement with the Jewish Agency, which is responsible for transporting the Falashmura to Israel. Before Yitzhaki's meeting with the Falashmura, several thousand members of the community demonstrated outside the



the Israeli Prime Minister's office, demanding that the government accelerate the immigration of the remaining members of the Falashmura community in Ethiopia. Since 1998, where 4,000 Falashmura have been taken to Israel, members of the community have been arriving in Israel according to the Law of Return (*Daily Monitor*, Jan. 14).

Traffic accidents in Addis are growing steadily. Last year, some 209 people died and 607 others sustained heavy injuries in accidents, which also destroyed property worth over 300m birr. Half of the 2,495 car accidents in the city last year were caused by taxi drivers. Various representatives from different institutions said that the unplanned city, lack of parking facilities and sidewalks and the improper placement of traffic lights were among the major causes behind the rising road accidents (*The Reporter*, Jan. 7).

Ethiopia has ranked first in Africa in 2002 for losing highly trained professionals due to migration. Dr. Meera Sethi, representative of the International Organization for migration (IOM) in Ethiopia said that the migration of highly trained professionals from Ethiopia to other countries is causing massive brain drain, economic and technical stagnation and regression. The Addis Ababa University (AAU) has been reporting since 1997 a serious shortage of instructors. Most who were sent abroad for training chose to stay there. In the year 2002, it was reported that 1/3rd of medical factors in the country left Ethiopia to live in other countries. According to Dr. Sethi, the return of Qualified African Nationals that started in 1995 and ended in December, 1999 saw the return of only 66 Ethiopians to their country. However, though migration is creating shortage of experts in Ethiopia, those living in the diaspora are Ethiopia's big aid donors (*Daily Monitor*, Nov. 8).

A study paper on Ethiopian reproductive health revealed that the total fertility rate for women aged 15-49 was 5.9 children per women in 2000 because about 92% of married women do not practice any method of contraception. According to the paper, the population of Ethiopia, which grows on the average by 2.73% annually between 2000-2005, is projected to reach 65.3 million by the year 2002. Although contraceptive use remains low in Ethiopia, it has increased from 4.8 % among currently married women in 1990 to 8% in 2000. Urban women are more than nine times as likely to use contraception than rural women, the paper indicated. Almost 44% of Ethiopia's population are children under the age of 15, who will soon be embarking on their reproductive careers (*Reporter*, Nov. 6).

#### Foreign Relations:

The second tripartite meeting of the foreign ministers of Ethiopia, Sudan and

Yemen ended their two-day meeting in Khartoum after adopting various decisions to further strengthen economic cooperation among the three countries, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said. The foreign ministers approved the reports presented by the sub-committees and agreed to set up offices in the three countries (*State media*, Jan. 13).

Ethiopia has told neighboring Eritrea it would close its embassy in Asmara on Jan. 1. No reasons leading to the government's decision were stated. Although relations between Ethiopia and Eritrea remain strained since the end of their bloody border conflict in Dec. 2000, no indication exists as to what prompted the Ethiopian move. Eritrea also maintains an embassy in Addis Ababa (*ENA*, Dec. 31). Assab will soon become a U.S. military base in the Horn of Africa. Quoting diplomatic sources, U.S. marine officials have made frequent visits to the region. After their visits, the officials have recommended Assab to be used as a U.S. military base, diplomatic sources said. They said it is in the interest of the U.S. government to control terrorist activities in the Horn of Africa, and that the U.S. Administration had found Assab to be very suitable for its anti-terrorist initiatives (*Associated Press*).

Ethiopia, Yemen and Sudan have agreed to consult and cooperate on issues related to the Red Sea and the Horn of Africa. The three leaders agreed to establish a coordinating committee comprising, as members, the foreign ministers of the three countries, and to establish a committee of professionals and experts to coordinate their activities. The leaders also discussed the 'warmongering' policy of the Eritrean regime. Sudan accuses Eritrea of supporting the fighters in the south, Yemen differs with Eritrea with regard to fishing in its waters and interpretation of the verdict of the international arbitration court regarding the disputed issue (*Radio Ethiopia*, Oct. 15).

#### **6. Education**

18 schools have been closed in Jijiga zone because of the famine and over 3,000 students have stopped going to school (*Addis Lissan*, Dec. 21). - Over 500 students of Oromia zone in Amhara State have been forced to stop classes because of the famine. The students were attending classes in 19 schools (*Radio Ethiopia*, Dec. 23).

The German Ambassador to Ethiopia has said that the longstanding bilateral relations between Ethiopia and Germany had gathered momentum. Germany remains as one of the major development partners of Ethiopia particularly in capacity building development programs. She said 2,129 Ethiopians have pursued their postgraduate programs in Germany since 1957. The government of Germany has

offered high-level education opportunities to scholars of AAU at various times (*State media*, Dec. 14).

Professor Andreas Eshetu, a prominent Ethiopian academic, was appointed president of the Addis Ababa University by the Federal Government. The leadership of AAU resigned last week following a controversy over issues of academic freedom and management autonomy. Professor Andreas is the 5th president to be appointed for AAU since the EPRDF assumed power (*The Reporter*, Dec. 18).

Professor Eshetu Wencheke, the president of Addis Ababa University (AAU), along with his two deputies, Dr. Tetemke Mehari and Dr. Butte Gotu, had submitted their letters of resignation to the Ministry of Education. According to sources close to the university, this action comes as a culmination of disagreements between the three university leaders and officials of the Ministry with regard to issues related to the institution's academic freedom. The bone of connection proved to be their differences on how to conduct teachers' evaluation and whether and how to incorporate students in this process. (*The Reporter*, Dec. 11).

#### **7. Health**

A measles epidemic is killing children in camps where families have sought sanctuary from the drought, UK-based Christian Aid said. The crisis in the makeshift camp in Harerge, in the eastern Oromiya region, is getting worse as more people arrive in search of food and promises of resettlement on fertile land (*Daily Monitor*, Feb. 12).

Christian Aid has said that a meningitis epidemic has been killing children at shelters in Harerge. The hungry people come to the shelter in search of food, Christian Aid, a British NGO, said (*Addis Zena*, Feb. 12).

The fourth edition of "AIDS in Ethiopia" publication, an update on the current information available on HIV/AIDS, was officially launched on Dec. 11. The publication is based on data gathered from 34 sites, of which 28 are urban and six rural. The new edition indicates that the 2001 estimate of adult HIV prevalence in Ethiopia is 6.6 %. The fourth edition further points out that urban HIV prevalence rates continue to be high at 13.7% while the HIV prevalence rate for rural areas remains relatively low at 3.7%. HIV prevalence for Addis Ababa is estimated to be 15.6%. The numbers of persons living with HIV/AIDS in 2001 is estimated at 2.2 million, 2 million being adults and 200,000 children. Approximately 10% of these (219,400) have developed into full-blown AIDS cases (*Radio Ethiopia*, Dec. 11).

The Addis Ababa City HIV/AIDS Secretariat has said that the number of AIDS-related deaths in the city would reach 40,000 by 2006. The head of the secre-

tariat said the death toll of people in the 15-49 age bracket in the city rose to 37,000 in 2001 from 11,000 in 1991. He said the youth need to be committed individually and in groups to arrest the alarming spread of the disease (*ENA, Dec. 2*).

## **8. Human Rights, Religion**

### **Freedom of Press:**

The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) has expressed its strong concerns over the government's intention of revising the existing press law. This, it said, may have a serious effect on the freedom of press. IFJ expressed concern over the future of the free press in Ethiopia suggesting that the proposed new law may impose heavy fines and jail sanctions by linking the new press law to the oppressive Criminal Code (*Capital, Jan. 26*).

## **9. Internal Security**

An explosive reportedly planted in a trailer of a cargo train bound for Dire Dawa from Djibouti exploded at a place near the Dewale customs checkpoint on Feb. 2, 2003. Police said that it had cleared other explosives planted in the cargo train, which was loaded with relief grain. Police also stated that it is investigating the case and had not yet identified who planted the explosives. Sources indicate that the bomb plants were aimed at sabotaging the AU summit conference in Addis Ababa (*Ze-Press, Feb. 5*).

At least 20 women have been shot dead in northeastern Ethiopia. The shooting, which took place in late October, is believed to be part of increasing tensions in the Afar Regional State sparked by the severe drought. In a separate incident at least 11 ethnic Ittus were killed in a shoot-out in Fentale, Oromiya Regional State, also hit by the drought. Fierce clashes have occurred in Afar, particularly in Zone Five, between ethnic Afars and Issas competing for scarce water resources. The zone is currently off-limits to UN staff. Skirmishes between Afars and Issas have been gradually escalating over the years with the Afars accusing the Issas of persistently encroaching on their territory from the southeast (*Daily Monitor*).

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<sup>1</sup> Waag Communications News Digest Service, Addis Ababa

## A Comparison Between the 1984/85 Famine, 1999/2000 Drought and the Current Crisis.

(extracted from World Food Programme (WFP) Comparative Analysis, December 2002) - **Factsheet Food Security in Ethiopia** - Prepared by Andy Yates, VSO Ethiopia volunteer, Jan 2003

	1984/1985	1999/2000	2002/2003
<b>Basic Facts</b>			
Population	• 45 million (35 million rural)	• 64 million (47 million rural)	• 69 million (53 million rural)
Life Expectancy	• 40.0 years	• 43.3 years	• 43.9 years
External Debt (US\$)	• 1.8 billion (35% of GDP)	• 5.4 billion (84% of GDP)	• 5.6 billion (90% of GDP)
GDP per capita (US\$)	• 190 (1981) <i>Source: World Bank</i>	• 118 (2000) <i>Source: World Bank</i>	• 108 (2001) <i>Source: World Bank</i>
Agricultural production	• 450 kg per capita <i>Source: CSA</i>	• 193 kg per capita <i>Source: CSA</i>	• projected 140 kg per capita <i>Source: CSA</i>
<b>Population Affected</b>	• 8 million (18% of population) • Estimated 1 million deaths	• 10 million (15.6% of population) • Estimated 10,000 – 50,000 deaths	• 11.3 million (16.3% of population)
<b>Causes</b>			
Drought	• Sequence of drought in 77-80 followed by severe drought in 84 (e.g. 47% of average rainfall in Wollo).	• Failure of belg rains 95-99 and failure of gu/deyr rains 98-99. Culminated in failure of gu/belg rains in 00 in northeastern highlands and southeastern pastoral areas respectively.	• Poor karma/sugum rains and meher/belg rains in east 99-02. Failure of belg rain 02 in south. In affected areas, less than 50% of average meher rainfall 02.
Decreased Agricultural Production	• On average 4% per year prior to crisis, largely as a result of policy, i.e. use-rights of land, forced membership in cooperatives and state quotas placed on Peasant Associations, production sold at fixed prices to National Marketing Corporation, severe restrictions placed on interregional agricultural trade including migrant labour, and exacerbated by low farm technology, i.e. minimal use of fertilisers/inputs (31g/ha).	• 5.9% less than previous year however in general policies are pro-production: liberalisation of commercial agricultural production and purchase, less restrictions on trade/migration in general, increased use of fertilisers and other inputs (95g/ha). However, still state-ownership of land, production limited by higher population density, smaller land plots in areas with high land degradation particularly in belg dependent areas, poorly integrated markets and road infrastructure.	• Production decline of approximately 21% from 5 year average. Declines in fertiliser use of 17% and declines in improved seed of 70% due in part to reduced utilisation of credit (43% credit disbursed compared to 73% 6 year average) given inflexible credit policies and high default rates (16% or 74 million birr) and ultimately farmers' unwillingness to risk investment given poor rains. Insignificant progress on other characteristics of vulnerability mentioned in 1999/2000 crisis.
<b>Preparedness and Response</b>			
Early Warning Systems	• No EWS, constraints on collecting information due to war, however there was a Nutritional Surveillance Programme, no objective information dissemination.	• Mature Early Warning Systems (DPPC, VAM/WFP, FEWS/USAID, NGOs), greater cooperation/information sharing with GOE, warnings initiated in June 99 however EWS in pastoral areas insufficient.	• Focus on DPPC capacity building, DPPC Information Centre created, WFP/UNEUE/FEWSnet technical and financial support, EWS in Somali Region fully functioning, inadequate EWS in Afar Region.
Emergency Food Security Reserve (EFSR)	• Emergency Food Security Reserve (EFSR) established in 1982 (12,000mt from WFP) but still an immature coping mechanism.	• EFSR now a viable means of insuring in-country cereal stocks however lack of timely repayments and continuous demand for distribution caused stocks to be reduced to less than 50,000mt in Feb 00, below minimum levels.	• EFSR stock balance 130,000mt in Nov 02 allowing for some loans given commitments from donors however without early pledges, imports and local purchase EFSR does run risk of similar depletion.
Donor Response	• Responded after crisis had already escalated culminating in increased mortality between Jun-Dec 1984.	• After initial delays resulting in crisis culminating in Apr (over 150,000mt shortfall Jan-Mar 00) nearly 100% of requirements resourced (1 million mt).	• Response from Jan-Jun 02 less than 30% of total requirements. Better response from donors after Aug 02 with more than 70% monthly requirements met. Total 2002 68% requirements met. Break in pipeline in Jan 03 of more than 40,000mt.
Food Aid	• Sufficient: however assistance arrived after the majority of deaths had occurred (Jun-Dec 1984).	• Sufficient: however assistance arrived after the majority of deaths had occurred (April 00).	• Needs assessment predicts 1.4 million mt of food aid required in 03 assuming belg/gu rains are good.

**Einladung**

**Rückkehrertreffen /  
Äthiopenseminar / Mitgliederversammlung**

**28. – 30. März 2003**

Jugendherberge Kassel  
Schenkendorfstr. 18  
34199 Kassel

Tel.: 0561- 77 64 55

Liebe Vereinsmitglieder,  
wir möchten zur jährlichen Mitgliederversammlung einladen, die wir in diesem Jahr wieder mit einem Äthiopenseminar verbinden wollen. Das gewählte Thema wird sicherlich auch viele Nicht-Vereinsmitglieder interessieren, die herzlich eingeladen sind. Die Veranstaltung wird beinhalten:

- informeller Austausch zwischen den Vereinsmitgliedern / RückkehrerInnen und Gästen,
- 2 Fachvorträge zum Thema „Christen und Muslime in Äthiopien“ und „Einfluss von Christianisierung auf die Modernisierung der Nuer Gesellschaft“ - mit ausreichend Zeit für Diskussionen,
- Mitgliederversammlung mit Überlegungen zur weiteren Arbeit des Vereins (Infoblatt-Themen, Projekte, Zusammenarbeit mit anderen Vereinen und Hilfsorganisationen, Homepage)

Wir bitten, Vorschläge zur Tagesordnung der Mitgliederversammlung möglichst bald an Rudolf Schoppmann, Am Bildstock 31, 48317 Drensteinfurt, zu senden (Tel.: 02538-95001; Email: schoppmann31@t-online.de)

**Der Vorstand**

**Veranstaltungsplan**

**Freitag, 28. 3. 2003**

18:00 Abendessen  
19:00 Begrüßung / Informationsrunde  
20:00 Informeller Abend / Dias / Videos / Literatur:  
Bitte Dias / Videos / Literatur mitbringen

**Samstag, 29. 3. 2003**

08:00 Frühstück  
09:00 Begrüßung  
09:15 Referat Prof. Dr. U. Braukämper, Institut f. Ethnologie der Universität Göttingen  
„Christen und Muslime in Äthiopien“  
Bericht über die Tagung „Cross & Crescent“ (Addis Ababa, Sept. 2002); Diskussion  
12:00 Mittagessen  
13:30 „Aktivitäten von Äthiopiengruppen /-vereine und Information über Interessenschwerpunkte“  
Diskussion  
14:30 Referat Frau Chr. Falge, Max-Planck-Institut für ethnologische Forschung, Halle / Saale  
„Einfluss von Christianisierung auf die Modernisierung der Nuer Gesellschaft und deren politische Organisation“  
15:45 Pause  
16:00 Diskussion des Referats  
17:30 Ende  
18:30 äthiop. Abendessen und gemütlicher Abend

**Sonntag, 30. 3. 2003**

08:00 Frühstück  
09:00 Mitgliederversammlung des DÄV  
1. Protokoll der MV 2002  
2. Bericht des Vorstandes / der Arbeitsgruppen  
3. Bericht des Kassierers + der Kassenprüfer  
4. Entlastung des Kassierers  
5. Wahl des Vorstandes  
6. Wahl von 2 KassenprüferInnen  
7. Haushaltsplan 2003  
8. Themen für Infoblatt  
9. Zukünftige Arbeit des DÄV  
10. Sonstiges  
12:30 Mittagessen, danach Abreise

**Kosten:**

60,- Euro pro Person im Doppelzimmer mit Verpflegung vom 28. – 30.3. 2003  
(ggf. zuzgl. 10,- Euro für äthiopisches Essen)  
20,- Euro Tagungskosten inkl. Verpflegung für Tagesgäste am 29.3.2003 (ggf. zuzgl. 10,- Euro f. äth. Essen)

Bitte möglichst bald Anmeldung bei  
**Helga Tewes, Werraweg 17, 34131 Kassel,**  
E-mail : [werra17@t-online.de](mailto:werra17@t-online.de), Tel.: 0561-36210  
und **Überweisung der Tagungskosten** auf das Vereinskonto **bis 25. Febr.**

**Postbank Hamburg  
BLZ 200 100 20  
Konto-Nr. 771 680 201**

***Wegebeschreibung:***

**Mit dem Auto:**

Autobahn Hannover-Frankfurt (A 7) Abfahrt Stadtmitte, Auestadion, immer Richtung Auestadion, dann an der 1. großen Kreuzung immer geradeaus, bis man nach mehreren Kreuzungen vor der Jugendherberge angekommen ist.

**Von Bahnhof Kassel-Wilhelmshöhe:**

Mit der Straßenbahn Nr. 4 Richtung Kaufungen, Haltestelle Friedenskirche, dann in Fahrtrichtung gehen bis Ecke Querallee, links hoch bis Schenkendorfstr./ Jugendherberge