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Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia AGENCY FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS



Ato Zafu Eyessuswork Zafu Chairperson, Board of Directors Ethiopian Diaspora Trust Fund (EDTF) P.O. Box Addis Ababa **ETHIOPIA**

Received on 19 Oct. 2020.

Dear Sir,

Sub: YOUR REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF ISSUES OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

This refers to your letter your dated 28 August 2020 and we acknowledge the receipt of the same.

First of all, we would like to thank you for the request of legal actions on issues of conflict of interestalong with all the attachments, to The Agency for Civil Society Organizations (ACSO). We also appreciate the objectives for which EDTF is established and the good works you have already embarked on.

Based on your request, our legal officers have examined in detail and have arrived at the conclusion that according to the requirements of the Bylaws of EDTF and in particular Article 28, Article 7 of the agreed and approved Code of Conduct and Board Procedures of EDTF and Article 62 /11/ of FDRE's Civil Society Organizations Proclamation No. 1113/2019, it was incumbent upon both Directors to notify the Boardabout the two project submissions as soon as they were aware of the circumstances. The saving grace was that no special harm had come to EDTF or any of its projects as a result of the non-declaration of conflict of interest by the two Directors.

The foregoing being the facts clearly borne out by the documents presented, it is the Agency's considered opinion that the two Directors: 1) acknowledgetheir failure to declare conflict of interest; and, 2) undertake to abide by the provisions of the Bylaws of EDTF, FDRE's Civil Society Organizations Proclamation No. 1113/2019 - as well as all decisions of the Board including the terms of the Code of Conduct and Board Procedures agreed in the discharge of their dutiesas Directors.

Aware of the directions given and recommendations proffered by the Prime Minister of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, H.E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed, the Agency advises the Board of Directors of EDTF to close the unfortunate chapter for good and engage fully with the discharge of its duties and responsibilities as more specifically laid out in its Bylaws.

I would like to take this opportunity to assure you that ACSO is always willing to give the necessary support to uphold EDTF's endeavor to achieve its stated objectives

With Kind Regards;

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Jima Dilbo Denbel Director General

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The right to association, humanity, maximum puplic benefit!!!