

# INFORMATION

7 March 2005

## ETHIOPIAN YOUTH FORUM RECOMMENDATIONS ON YOUTH AND UNEMPLOYMENT

The Ethiopian Youth Forum held its seventh session on the subject of 'Youth and Unemployment' on Friday 4 March. Following a full day meeting where the results of a survey on Unemployment and Youth conducted among high school students in Addis Ababa, Nazreth and Debre Zeit towns were presented, the Forum participants developed the following recommendations which were presented to H.E. Hassen Abdella, Minister of Labor and Social Affairs. The Forum also began work on developing a 'Youth Plan of Action on Unemployment' which will be presented to stakeholders including Government, NGO, UN agency, media and civil society organizations.

### Ten Recommendations

1. Youth must make an effort to gain work experience. Youth should work together to create employment opportunities for each other.
2. Youth should not be discriminate regarding employment possibilities when faced with limited opportunities.
3. Youth should work on developing their self-confidence and in that process develop entrepreneurial skills.
4. Government, the private sector and the society in general should encourage entrepreneurship among youth.
5. Rural communities are the areas most affected and therefore in order to find real solutions to the challenges of employing youth they must be fully engaged and actively participate in the search for permanent solutions.
6. Together with our communities youth must develop and maintain good work habits and ethics.
7. The Government's Education Policy should take into consideration the age of students and encourage employment opportunities for students who have reached employment age. Government should therefore amend and make the necessary improvements to the existing Education Policy.
8. Government and other stakeholders should promote the development of a voluntary culture of savings.
9. Accomplished professionals who can serve as role models should be encouraged to share their experiences and knowledge with youth.
10. Government and the private sector should make an effort to introduce new lines of work and create employment opportunities for youth.

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