

**ETHIOPIAN TEENAGERS' FORUM ON STREET CHILDREN
WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH 2003**

TEN RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Government should enact and enforce laws against drug trafficking and harmful traditional practices that pose dangers to youth, including HIV/AIDS. Furthermore, Government should provide free education opportunities for young people who have been exposed to drug abuse or have been victims of harmful traditional practices.
2. Government must adopt policies that will enable people who are living on the street to get off the street and address the root causes of poverty. Mechanisms, to ensure policies are implemented, should also be put in place.
3. Regional governments must control migration and regulate rural-urban migration whether it be to start a new life or in search of employment.
4. Society must eliminate those factors that have led children onto the streets in the past in order to prevent the same from happening to those who are on the verge of becoming street children.
5. Institutions and organizations engaged in providing family planning services must ensure that the entire population, both rural and urban, receives adequate and reliable family planning training.
6. Youth who live on the street are citizens of our country. Let us not deprive them of love. Their constitutional rights must be respected, and they should receive assistance so that they can enjoy the full protection of the law.
7. Mass media must be used effectively in order to bring about sustained assistance for those children and youth who are presently on the street, as well as to convey prevention messages targeting children and youth who may be contemplating going on to the street.
8. NGOs and aid agencies must use the resources earmarked for assisting street children that they receive appropriately so that the objectives of the assistance are met.
9. Famous personalities and wealthy individuals should rally around the cause of street children and make a concerted effort to bring an end to the problem.
10. In order to remove the root causes of the 'streetism', children and youth must never be without the love of family.