



CRDA NEWSLETTER

CRDA Newsletter—Vol. 2 No. 3

July -August 2009

Together for a Better Future!

Global Fund Executive Director Hosted at CRDA



Professor Michele Kaztchkin, Executive Director of Global Fund, who had been on a visit to Ethiopia, was hosted at CRDA on July 23, 2009 and held discussion with members of the association specially engaged in various HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria prevention efforts.

Professor Michele discussing with participants of the meeting

Contd. on p.7

The 229th AGM Adopted the CRDA SPM Document, Elected Board Members

The 229th Annual Regular General Meeting of CRDA which was conducted on August 21, 2009 at CRDA Hall, adopted the 2010-2015 five year strategic Planning and Management (SPM) Document of the Association and elected four board members as well as Chair of the General Meeting.

Contd. on p.3



CRDA Organized A Briefing Session on the Implementation of the New C & S Legislation

See p.3

INSIDE ISSUES

- ◇ CRDA Partakes in ARCAN MeetingP.2
- ◇ CRDA was Commended As Best PartnerP.2
- ◇ Series of Panel Discussions Held ..p.4
- ◇ Commentary- Relationship of Forums & Membership....p.5
- ◇ Emergency Update ...P. 9
- ◇ What is New?P.10



The IGAD CSO/NGO National Steering Committee Meeting Held at CRDA (See Full Story on P. 6)



CRDA
Tele 215(0)114390322
Fax 251(0)114393502
P.O. Box 5674
www.crdaethiopia.org

Editor in Chief—Tafese Refera
Lay-out Designer—Tizita Menberu

If you have any news items and features from members and non members, please send us. You are also welcome to use articles or excerpts from CRDA Newsletter with due



CRDA Partakes in ARCAN TNA Meeting

Dr. Meshesha Shewarega, Executive Director of CRDA, partook in a Training Needs Assessment (TNA) meeting for the Africans Regional Capacity Building Network for HIV and AIDS Prevention, Treatment and Care (ARCAN) conducted on June 26, 2009 in Nairobi, Kenya.

The TNA was initiated with the main objective of identifying the overall training requirements in the HIV and AIDS programs in the three ARCAN member countries namely Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania and designing appropriate training interventions.

As a follow up of the initiation of the TNA, the meeting was intended to deliberate on the draft report of the assessment conducted by the consultants commissioned to accomplish the task. A discussion was also held on the initial findings by the consultants and forwarded relevant comments for betterment of the study.

The needs for HIV / AIDS related training in the three ARCAN countries were examined, existing and non training capacity building gaps, opportunities and challenges were highlighted and strategies to meet identified training and non training gaps were recommended.

The African Regional Capacity Building Network for HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment and CARE (ARCAN) deals with training of health care professionals. CRDA Executive Director, Dr. Meshesha Shewarega participated in the meeting representing Ethiopia, which is one of the member countries of the Network. It is anticipated that such representation will enhance CRDA's regional and sub-regional visibility, prominence and acceptability as well as experience in terms of capacity building.

CRDA was Commended as Best Partner

CRDA is commended as one of the best partners who made remarkable contribution in the concerted effort toward poverty reduction and development in Amhara Regional State by Organization for Relief and Development in Amhara (ORDA).

The commendation was forwarded on the joint occasion of the 25th Anniversary and 6th General Assembly meeting of ORDA held in Bahir Dar at Mululem Cultural Center Hall from June 26 -29, 2009. On the occasion, CRDA was rewarded a certificate of appreciation and an opal souvenir gift article signifying ORDA's commendation for CRDA.

ORDA is one of the broad based NGOs working in the areas of rural development, food security, natural resources conservation, environmental and water development, gender mainstreaming, HIV/AIDS and HTPs in all development works in Amhara Region for a period of two and half decades now.

As reported on the occasion, ORDA has been successful in attaining its set objectives by reaching over 1.2 million households in the region through its aforementioned project areas and reversing the adverse situation that would have otherwise worsened the life and livelihood of those people.

ORDA is one of the member organizations being supported by CRDA. Ato Abebe Bekele, Director of PDMCT, represented CRDA on the occasion.***



CRDA Organized a Briefing Session on the New C&S Law *(..Cont. from p.1)*

CRDA organized a briefing session for members with officials of the newly established Charities and Societies Agency on August 14, 2009 at the CRDA meeting hall.

Ato Jima Dilbo, Head of the Association Registration of the Ministry of Justice(MOJ) and Ato Ataklti Gidey, Deputy Director General of the Charities and Societies Agency, briefed the CRDA members that the association is finalizing preparation to re-register NGOs according to the new law. The officials said the re-registration will help the agency to identify active and inactive NGOs.

According to the officials, the re-registration will be carried out by filling out forms, examining by-laws and fiscal and financial reports of the preceding year. The re-registration process also considers the appropriateness of the naming of the organization according to the requirements set in the law. When organizations come to re- register the file number of their former registration, the typology they decided, description of branch offices, if any, indication of their source of income, indication of the cooperating Federal and Regional bodies are necessary. Specifically the By-law is supposed to indicate the changes made to meet the requirements of law.

The officials disclosed that the regulation that gives effect to law as per Article 109 of the legislation and determining detail issues of the law is currently under review by Council of Ministers and is expected to be enacted soon.

The officials said, in order to facilitate the registration process the Agency is preparing informative brochure, besides the regular information dissemination and the website, which is currently under designing.

Issues pertaining to the interpretation of the 30% administration and 70% program budget, the income source indication at registration, detail typology under the broad category, formation of consortium, possible change in organizational typology, advocacy were raised and discussed at the meeting.

Dr. Meshesha Shewarega, Executive Director of CRDA extended deepest appreciation of the Association to the officials. A detail presentation on CRDA strategic planning exercise was also conducted on the meeting. *****

The 229th AGM Adopted the CRDA SPM Document *(...Contd. from p.1)*

The General Meeting has further heard the audit report of the 2008 fiscal year, performance report of the Board, reviewed minutes of the previous meeting and approved them unanimously.

The briefing given by W/ro Tsigie Haile, Vice Board Chair of CRDA and Chair of the CRDA SPM Steering Committee indicated that the official launch of the strategic planning process was on December 18, 2009. On that day a 22 person steering committee drawn from members and an 11-person technical task force drawn from staff were established. The 11-person Technical Task Force (TTF) established for the purpose has undergone a series of

environmental scanning, review of related literature as well as continuous consultations. The findings of such scrupulous analysis and interpretation were validated by consulting members, donors, government, partners and NGO actors.

She said, the document finally came up with nine strategic issues that would have a make-or-break effect and 13 major points that indicate the strategic direction of the association. She said, the document will serve as a crucial tool to restructure CRDA in view of the new legal framework and changing operational environment.

The Chair, together with Dr. Meshesha Shewarega, the Executive Director and Ato

Regasa Aboma, Head of TTF have given answers, explanation and reflection on the questions raised.

After three rounds of question and answer, explanation session, the General Meeting has unanimously approved the SPM document. Participants forwarded key reminders on strict implementation, flexibility, inclusiveness of existing members as well as readjusting the association according to the new Charities and Societies Law.

An election process to replace the out-going four board members and chair of the General Meeting was also conducted.

Contd. on p.9



Series of Panel Discussions Conducted

Series of panel discussions on topical issues have been conducted from June 17, 2009 to July 3, 2009 by the Membership Development and Networking (MDN) Core Team within CRDA through the various existing platforms of forums. The panel discussions dealt with the issues of child trafficking, the effect of climate change, the current financial/economic crises and food security and HIV/AIDS.

Among the topics discussed was "The Magnitude of Child Trafficking in Ethiopia and the Possible Role of CSO/NGOs in Addressing the Problem" which was held on June 26, 2009 at CRDA conference room.

It was stated on the panel discussion that child trafficking refers to the act of recruiting, transporting, transferring and harboring or receiving children. The purpose of exploitation include, among others, forcing children into prostitution or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or other similar practices, servitude, illicit international child adoption, trafficking for forced early marriage, recruitment as child soldiers and for begging.

Accordingly, the purpose of the panel discussion organized by the Children & Youth Forum was to assess the overall situation of child trafficking in Ethiopia. The discussion was intended to get an insight into the social, cultural and economic context to assert that the problem exists. It also attempted to pinpoint the root causes of recurrent types of child trafficking in Ethiopia including newly emerging forms of child trafficking in urban and rural areas of the country. It also provided conducive platform with the concerned NGOs/CSOs on the possible solutions for the prevention and control of the problem.

It is expected that the awareness of the participant members regarding child trafficking and the level of the problem will be improved and as a result their role in the prevention and control of the problem will be further enhanced.

On the other hand, similar panel discussion entitled, "The Role of CSO/NGO Actors in Adaptation and Mitigation Measures in Reducing the Effect of Climate Change" organized by the Rural Development Forum and Water & Sanitation Forum was conducted on June 17, 2009.

The objective of this panel discussion was to discuss on the

current effects of climate change on water resources, food security and its influence on the operation of CSOs. The meeting discussed the contributions that may be rendered by the water & sanitation sector in minimizing the effects of climate change.

Coordination mechanisms to boost the contribution of CSOs in implementing, adaptation and mitigation measures and their contribution in national and international efforts were also explored through the discussion.

It is expected that members of the forum who participated in the discussion would have a better insight of the effects of climate change on water resources, the environment and specially food security and spell out possible adaptation and mitigation measures that can be promoted by CSOs acting in the sector.

In a similar development, other panel discussions were also held on, "The Current Economic/Financial Crisis and Food Security in Ethiopia" and "The Contribution and Role of HIV/AIDS Prevention First Approach for Development and the Possible Role of CSO/NGOs in Addressing the Problem" on June 30, 2009 & July 3, 2009 respectively.

The former panel discussion aims at offering an insight and general understanding about the causes and effects of global economic crises and in particular about its impact on Ethiopia and CSOs/NGOs acting in Ethiopia. It is also intended to assess the level of food security in Ethiopia as compared to the global economic crises.

The discussion would also suggest possible policy implications to cope up with the impacts of the current global economic crises on Ethiopia and assess the role and contribution of the Rural Development Forum (RDF) for improvement of food security situations in Ethiopia. The purpose of the later panel discussion, which deals with the issue of HIV/AIDS, on the other hand, was enhancing awareness and contribution of NGOs/CSOs in prioritizing the prevention work in the fight against AIDS.

Each panel discussion was attended by over 30 members of their respective forums.***



Relationship of Forums & Membership

Networks and Forums are usually established by interested institutions/ organizations or individuals who have common interest and who believe the notion that networking has a synergetic effect; meaning that the total effect of things done together is greater than the sum total of individual activities.

Various scholars and development specialists mentioned a number of possible purposes for which Networks may be established and most of them agree on the following major purposes:

- To share new ideas and information in order to learn from others with similar interest
- To pool participants experience and energy in order to enhance collective and individual impacts for advocacy or policy influence
- To Increase transparency
- Increase efficiency: reduce duplicating efforts and wasting resources;
- Increase access to information

In a nutshell, it can be said that Network is a member based communication device in which members would give and take in equal terms.

In the last one year CRDA took a critical look at the participation of CRDA-Forum member organizations which drew every one's attention. The participation of member organizations in various activities of the Forums was very low to the extent that the motto, "The forum belongs to its members and the members constitute the Forum" seems complicated and dull noise.

During the workshops and meetings organized by the Forums in the CRDA, some member organizations have been pointing out that the disparity between their expectations and actual benefits obtained is the prominent driving force diminishing their interest to involve in

Forums' activities. It is apparent that belonging to a network make a sense if its benefits outweigh the demands that membership will make. However, one can safely argue that members will hardly benefit from a forum if they are looking what is going on in the forum as an outsider instead of getting involved in its activities.

As a driver, we want to drive the car and vice versa. It is also evident that if one wants to get harvest or some benefits from a given initiative, one need to invest the required time, resource and effort on it. Member Organizations should not look ahead to the Forums to meet their demands unless they took the lead in reinforcing the Forums in various ways until they are strong enough to render the sought benefits.

Failure to get a hold of their ambitious and oversized expectation emanating from absence of clear understanding or misunderstanding of the goal and purposes of the Forums or Networks are known to bump off the concern of member Organizations to the Forum.

The expectation from the membership need be proportional to the inputs and level of maturity of the Forums, which otherwise repel members. Sometimes the central management body or the staff would be urged to assume the burden that should have been shared among all member organizations. If an organization is intending to be a member of a given Network, it should not be inspired by immediate benefits that it wished to get from the Network; rather by the purposes, Mission and Vision for which the network is established. It should primarily be a matter of realizing the shared vision together.

We don't need any demonstrative critical incidence that edifies member Organizations to what extent the existence of a Network or Forum is totally dependent on their

commitment for it is a philosophy that we believe in.

It is my firm belief that this writing will have stimulating effect to some member organizations who are wandering behind the scene to commit themselves for their membership.

Let me conclude the reproach by triggering every one's memory about the prominent issues (internal factors) that need the very attention of member organizations. All members have to ensure the functioning and sustainability of the Networks or Forums which they are involved in. To that effect the following are points deserving due attention.

- ◇ Strong passion & interest of members are crucial for a Networks to withstand the ups & downs of its life cycle & to grow and flourish
- ◇ Considering some preconditions for effective and successful networking in a changing environment are:
 - ⇒ Commitment of members
 - ⇒ Trust & mutual respect among members
 - ⇒ Willingness to cooperate with each other on equal terms;
 - ⇒ Pragmatic and realistic approach to the implementation of network activities;
 - ⇒ Clarity of purpose, goals & objectives and clear understanding by members

Therefore, it is high time to join the industrious member Organizations who maintained the strength, identity and the spirit of the Networks and Forums so far with exemplary stamina. Let us also make use of the current institutional and organizational changes being undertaken by CRDA that favor the invigoration of Forums better than ever.



The IGAD CSO/NGO National Steering Committee Meeting *(...Contd. from p.1)*



CRDA has organized the IGAD National Steering Committee meeting of NGO/CSO Forum at its Headquarter on July 28, 2009. The meeting was officially opened by Dr. Meshesha Shewarega, Executive Director of CRDA.

In his opening speech Dr. Meshesha called up on governmental and non-governmental stakeholders to enhance their efforts to strengthen the IGAD National NGO/CSO Forum.

The National Steering Committee elected new coordinators for the upcoming three years term. The committee also agreed to open a coordination office.

The IGAD national NGO/CSO Forum is formed under the regional parent NGO/CSO Forum and has a national Steering Committee drawn from NGOs, CSOs and government representatives. Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya, Djibouti, Uganda and Somalia are member countries of the Forum. Established in 2003 in Nairobi, the Forum is aimed at enhancing the role of NGOs/CSOs in poverty reduction, conflict resolution, prevailing peace and human rights. The forum has conducted three meetings in **Nairobi (2003), Kampala (2005) and Addis Ababa (2007)**.

Ethiopia is currently chair of the Regional IGAD NGO/CSO Forum. A representative from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Director General of the New Charities and Societies Agency, local NGOs and members of the private and government media have attended the meeting. *****

EED Opens Office in Ethiopia

The German-based Evangelical Service Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED) has been registered as a non-profit making foreign development organization in Ethiopia and is in the process of opening an office in Addis Ababa at Nazareth Building on Haile Gebre Sillasie Street as of July 2009.

As EED is a non-implementing organization that works through partners, the rationale behind opening the country office is stated as creating a conducive environment for closer contact and intensified collaboration with its partners. It is also aimed at improving the impact of its support works. In addition, EED is interested in sharing the fellowship, dialogue and coordination with other donor organizations which have country offices here in Ethiopia. According to the information obtained from the EED, Ms. Monika Redecker, former Head, EED Dialogue Office in Sudan, will be Head of the Ethiopian office. EED is currently working with 10 Ethiopian organizations and churches in the areas of food security and integrated rural development, basic social services such as education and health including prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, strengthening of capacity building, dialogue and networking as well as support to organizations working with handicapped people.

EED has planned to extend financial and personnel support to projects of partner organizations through its country office with a total budget outlay of 100 million Birr for the years 2008-2010. The opening of the office is believed to promote and enhance the working relations between EED and the grantees. EED has been in Ethiopia for over 30 years working in various development areas. The EED International, which did not have country offices until recently, is now trying to open some country offices in three continents of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The Ethiopian country office is one of the few country offices being opened in Africa. CRDA is among the partners in Ethiopia having long working relation with EED. EED and CRDA have more than 25 years of cooperation in supporting development endeavors of CRDA members. Ato Girma Tadesse is currently coordinating the activities of the office of EED in Ethiopia. ***



Global Fund Executive Director

(. ..contd. from p.1)

After a cordial welcoming to the Executive Director, Dr. Meshesha Shewarega, Executive Director of CRDA, told the gathering that the purpose of the meeting is to give an insight into the overall activities of CRDA members and the NGO/CSO community in the fight against the three killer diseases through the support of Global Fund and other international donor agencies.

Dr. Meshesha stated that the core objectives of CRDA with regards to HIV and AIDS are facilitation of an open and conducive environment for actors in the fight against HIV/AIDS. It also aims to build capacity of its members, CSOs to enhance their contribution in the fight against the epidemic as well as the overall development of the country. He underscored that CRDA has become active in regional networking and is board member of ENNASO and ARCAN, the leading organizations in East Africa in the fight against HIV/AIDS, with the purpose of strengthening the network for the prevention and control of the disease.

Dr. Meshesha identified four core issues which need due attention of donors and all stakeholders. These include filling the gaps in the integration of the various efforts for prevention and control of HIV/AIDS, addressing the needs of nutritional services for people living with HIV/AIDS and addressing financial and capacity constraints to the efforts for enhancing universal capacity to prevent HIV/AIDS.



Dr. Meshesha briefing journalists on the event

Members of CRDA engaged in various HIV/AIDS prevention and anti HIV/AIDS efforts briefed the progress and achievements made so far. Professor Michael expressed his appreciation for the efforts exerted and achievements recorded so far. He said the discussion was quite interesting for it helped collect first-hand information on the impressive activities being carried out by the CSO actors in Ethiopia and achievements made so far.

The Global Fund Executive Director, Professor Kaztchkine, on his part noted that there is an evident need for the concerted efforts of all, including the beneficiaries, in the fight against HIV/AIDS. "No one can do it alone and as such we should strongly adhere to the principle of inclusiveness," he added.

He further stated that as Global Fund is a non-implementing organ that assists implementing governmental and non-governmental organizations, it works in close collaboration with these partners. He indicated the importance of CSOs in this regard and said that 40% of the total budget allocation in the past six years was in favor of CSOs. Professor Kaztchkine also congratulated the Ethiopian Civil Society for the achievements made so far in the fight against HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria using the Global funding.

Prof. Kaztchkine also said that CSOs are participating not only as implementers but also as members in the various committees of the Global Fund Board. Out of the ten delegations from the implementer's side, three seats are allotted for CSOs. CRDA and EIFDA need to lobby the decision makers to win their case.

Professor Kaztchkine also urged all to join hands in the advocacy and partnership and in the fight against not only HIV/AIDS but also TB and Malaria, which are also equally deadly diseases.

Outstanding Staff

Contd. From page 8

Among the winners of the award were members of the in-house-Restructuring Committee who have been engaged in designing the new structure were rewarded certificates for their aspirations and successes to meet the intended goal as at the time set for it. Their remarkable achievements have been duly recognized by the Board, and the staff at large. Hence, six members of the restructuring study committee- Solomon Belete, Abebe Lemma, Rahel Gebremariam, Tedla Bekele, Abraham Kumela and Berhanu Gezu were awarded 5,000 Birr each as well as certificate of appreciation. In a related development, two staff members, Ato Befekadu Alemayehu and Ato Aychalim Goshu received cash bonus amounting 2,500 Birr and certificate of appreciation each for their outstanding effort and success in securing funds from HELVE-TAS Ethiopia and Water Aid (DFID) respectively.

External collaborators have also been rewarded certificates for the valuable contribution they made in the effort towards securing resource from the Global Fund. Accordingly, certificate of appreciation were awarded to Dr. Tekeste Kebede from Center for Disease Control Ethiopia (CDC), Dr. Habtamu Fekadu from UNICEF and Dr. Fahim Mohammed from World Health Organization (WHO). Besides, letter of thanks were forwarded by CRDA to their respective organizations. CRDA is intending to systematize and institutionalize such system of reward, based on tangible achievement that goes beyond the ordinary as a vital means of motivating staff towards excellence in their engagement areas. ***



CRDA/Sida Signs Project Extension Grant Agreement with Sub grantees

Christian Relief and Development Association (CRDA)/Sida and its 22 project implementing partners, engaged in the implementation of Environmental Development and Protection and HIV/AIDS prevention and control projects supported by Sida, have signed a one year project extension grant agreement on July 10, 2009 and August 3, 2009, respectively at CRDA Headquarter.

The grant is accessed from the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) as an extension of the previous programs that have been supported by Sida since 2004. Dr. Meshesha Shewarega, Executive Director of CRDA, signed the grant agreement worth a total of 9,508,510 Birr for the two programs to be implemented in seven regions of the country.

These include Addis Ababa City Administration, Amhara, Oromia, SNNP, Afar, Somalia and Tigray Regional States. The Program has been implemented focusing on 'Rights-Based Approach to Development.' In line with this community capacity enhancement and development interventions have been taken as main intervention areas by giving emphasis on Poor's perspective, sustainable livelihoods-based approaches, local stakeholders, and mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues such as Gender, HIV/AIDS, Environment, Sustainability and others. During the last five years, food security of the targeted community has been fulfilled significantly through job creation and asset building.***

Irish Ambassador Visits Orphans Village Center

The Irish Ambassador, H.E. Sile Maquire, Visited the Orphans Village Center (OVC) on July 3, 2009 in the rural village of Dire, Oromia Regional State. Tsigie Tadesse Wolaj Alba Yehitsanat Masadegia has been supported by the Irish Aid for the last three years and the review visit was conducted marking the World AIDS Day.

The Ambassador visited various activities of the OVC and said that she was impressed by the well-improved status of the children in the center. The Ambassador has also pledged to donate 4000 Euro in support for the activities of the OVC.

The philanthropist woman, Tsigie Tadesse, who was touched by the situation of three abandoned children before a decade, started supporting the OVC in 1990 E.C. As time goes by, the number of orphans who sought her support increased from time to time, especially children who lost their parents due to HIV/S. The Irish Aid is Irish Government's assistance. It is recalled that the Irish Aid Ethiopia has finalized a 5-year Country Strategy



The Irish Ambassador talking to orphans

programme to developing countries, administered by the Embassy of Ireland. The bilateral program in Ethiopia began in 1994. *****

Outstanding Staff Members and External Collaborators Rewarded

CRDA staff members who scored outstanding performance with achieved specific results and external CRDA collaborators who helped CRDA extend the leverage in the task of preparation of documents required for resourcing Global Fund (GF-RD9) were rewarded by CRDA for their contributions on June 15, 2009. **Contd. On Page 7**





The 229th AGM Adopted the CRDA SPM Document *(...Contd. from p.3)*

Out of the twelve nominees for CRDA Board membership, Dr. Lemma Degefa (from Lutheran World Federation) with 135 Votes, Wro. Tsigie Haile (re-elected) with 120 votes and Ato Mengesha Workneh with 73 votes were elected to serve for the upcoming two-year term.

Similarly, out of the four nominees submitted for the Chairperson position Ato Feyera Abdi, Head of SOS Sahel was elected as Chair of the General Meeting.

Ato Yabowerk Hale, Chair of the CRDA Board on his part presented the performance report of the Board focusing on the recent structural reorganization carried on the CRDA secretariat, restrengthening of the financial position of the association and about the strategic planning exercise.

Ato Yabowerk said, one of the strategic issues strongly recommended by the program evaluation of donors in December 2007 was structural reorganization of the secretariat.

The issue has been under progress as of

When the current Executive Director assumed his position the task was given to him as one of the priority issues to take care of. The overall progress has been under the direct supervision of the Board. Accordingly a lean, efficient, team-oriented and compact structure has been designed by the in-house team. The placement has been carried out as of January 2009. The senior management-team has also been put through competitive process. The organizational restructure has been duly acclaimed by partners. However, some employees who were retrenched particularly due to lack of required qualification have also been engaged in subverting the transformational progress looming at CRDA for personal reasons.

The Board Chair further said, strengthening the financial position of CRDA has been one of the critical issues dealt by the Board. He said, the efforts made to sustain existing donors and attract three more donors has helped CRDA to significantly

position of CRDA. He said, there were times in 2008 when many of the long lasting golden donors threatened to quit. "Now, thanks the Executive Director, the management team and the staff almost all seem to be in good terms, three more joined while new ones are signaling to join CRDA," he said

With regard to SPM also, the Board had established an-11-perosn Technical Task Force (TTF), and a 22-person steering committee. The extensive work and continuous engagement as well as consultations held with various stakeholders has enabled to design such a strategic repositioning document presented for approval. The General Meeting acclaimed the report of the Board Chairperson.

The audit report presented by representative of HST Chartered Certified Accountants indicated that the "CRDA's financial positions has dramatically improved from the year 2007 status." He said, this is mainly due to the increase in the funds raised and relative decrease in the costs incurred.

The General Meeting has further approved the minutes of the 228th General Meeting.

Emergency Update

The Ethiopian Government has appealed, in January 2009, for emergency assistance to a total of 4.9 million beneficiaries in all regions of the country. This figure and the assistance requirement established together with the figure in January was to stay for a period of six months until June 2009.

According to reports obtained from the government office and its humanitarian partners, multi-agency seasonal needs assessments in all Belg growing and pastoral areas of the country have been conducted in the month of June 2009.

The purpose of the assessment is to revise the number of needy population and assistance requirement established in January 2009 based on Belg and 'gu' performance.

As a result, it is anticipated that the number of population needing emergency assistance will increase from 4.9 million in January to 6.2 million at present.

In relation to this, reports from the government organ and its humanitarian partners are indicating that the estimated relief food requirement for the period June to December 2009 will be 462,553 MT. Currently, the available resource for this requirement stands at 131,290MT, which brings the net shortfall to 331,263 MT.***



What is New?

Incoming & Outgoing Staff Members

Incoming		Outgoing	
Name	Position	Name	Position
Azeb Abera	Executive Director Assistant	Abebu Legesse	Office Assistant
Abebe Zenebe	Accountant	Aysha Mohammed Bazegeawork W/ Medhin	Librarian
Wondeabrha Birhane	Regular Finance Officer	Belaynesh Mengistu	Membership Dev't Officer
Lemlem Kifle	Front Desk Officer	Berhane Gobena	Office Assistant
Melaku Tadesse	Central Coordination Officer	Faven Dagne	East Regional Coordinator
Habte Beyene	Librarian	Hamelmal Shimelash	Accountant
Seife Fikade	Capacity Building Officer	Hirut Abraham Girma	Receptionist
Shewaye Hirpa	Accountant	Kebebush Lemma	Cashier/Accountant
		Meseret Mulugeta	A/Forum Coordinator
		Tesfaye Dessalegn	Office Assistant
		Mahlet Yemane	Property Management Officer
		Saba Seyoum	A/Forum Coordinator
		Semira Alhadi	Children & Youth
		Leulseged Asfaw	Head, PISD
			Head, DRMD

CRDA



Newly Arrived Reference Materials

CRDA



- * Gender -Based Violence, by Geraldine et.al,2007.
- * Water Supplies for Rural Communities ,by Colin & Mog Ball ,1991.
- * The Essentials of Human Rights, by Rhona K.M., 2005.
- * Poverty:an International Glossary ,by Paul et.al, 2006.
- * Mainstreaming Gender in Social Protection for the Informal Economy, by Naila Kabeer,2008.
- * Development, NGOs and Civil Society:a Development in Practice Reader, by Deborah Eade,2000.
- * Community Water Development, Charles Kerr,1998.
- * Business and Sustainable Development ,by Richard Starkey & Richard Weford, 2001.
- * Indigenous Organizations and Development, by Peter Blunt & D.Michael Warren, 1996.
- * How to Make Poverty History:the Central Role of Local Organizations in Meeting the MDGs, by Tom & David, 2002
- * Joint Forest Management: Policy Practices and Prospects, by Arvind Khare et.al ,2000.