

Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia (PFE)

Annual report from January 2002-December 2003

1. Project Activities and Their Statuses

1.1. PRSP project

A PRSP project, aimed at including a Pastoral Chapter into Ethiopia's final Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), started early November 2001. The major activities of the project were organizing pastoralist's consultation workshops in three pastoral areas; preparation of a chapter on pastoralism, and compiling the proceedings of the workshop; advocacy and lobbying for the inclusion of the chapter into the final PRSP as well as identifying and developing ways on how PFE will actively advance the concerns of pastoralists for the coming three years on poverty reduction issues.

Pastoralist's consultation workshops in three pastoral areas were organized and the findings are being compiled. The summary of the consultation process is detailed in the table below.

Workshop sites	Place	Date	Pastoral societies	of				Coordinating NGOs
				Pasto.	GO	NGO	All	
1. Gambella	Wahaling a Hotel	Nov. 22, 01	Nuer	15	3	3	21	7 ACORD
2. Awassa	Hotel Pina	Dec. 10, 01	Borena & S. Omo	30	10	4	44	9 EPRaDA, AFD, GTZ
3. Awash	Buffee Hotel	Feb. 6, 02	Somali, Afar, & Kereyu	22	7	8	37	4 FARM Africa, GTF, OWS, PCAE
All				67	20	15	102	20

The consultation workshops were undertaken for a day in respective sites. As it is indicated on the table, above the number of pastoralists was nearly two-third of the total participants, while

the female participants comprised 20% of the total participants. The contribution of the government institutions and NGOs were encouraging. The themes of the consultation workshops were defining poverty in the contexts of the given pastoral societies; causes of poverty; and, the strategies to reduce the poverty situation that will be included into the full national PRSP;572 PFE's proceedings were distributed to relevant institutions and key individuals for advocacy and reference purpose. However, systematic lobbying strategies were not yet implemented. This is because in designing lobbying strategies there should be a prior identification of what key issues to lobby, who is the right decision maker for the specific issues, appropriateness of the issues with regard to the government agenda at hand, level of risk to the Forum, and appropriateness of the time. Nevertheless, we are doing our best to undertake the lobbying for the key pastoral issues.

In MArch 2002.the Chapter on pastoralism and pastoral poverty reduction strategy has been submitted to the Federal Democratic Government of Ethiopia (PRSP secretariat in MOFED) for inclusion. The chapter partly was included in the final document. The summary of the agenda and outcomes of the meetings on the pastoralist chapter in the national PRSP are given below.

Strength

weakness

Pastoralism is far better treated than in IPRSP

lack of clarity in recognition of pastoralism as a way of life and mode of production

Acknowledge the contribution of stakeholders in the PRSP consultation processes including PFE

Significantly inclined as to farming being the main solution

Pastoral development is considered as one sector

Important issues such as disaster management (drought and conflict), land tenure, and gender are not given due attention

Sound pastoral problem analysis/ description and development objectives

No implementation indicators

Emphasize the potential of pastoral areas

lack clear link between the stated objectives and strategies

State the need for participatory and holistic development approaches

lack long-term pastoral development strategies

The Forum members met in July to discuss and make additional comments on the document.

The comments made on the pastoral development part of the draft PRSP were discussed among Forum members. The board members took the assignment to review the document and come up with additional comments. The comments were also raised and discussed in the workshop organized by Christian Relief and Development Association (CRDA, local umbrella NGO coordinating PRSP Task Force). However, our comments reached the government through the document prepared by CRDA. The issues of PRSP monitoring and evaluation was going on. The M&E will be considered in the strategy of the PRSP Task Force, as our PRSP project will phase out by 2002.

The contact and collaboration we have with CRDA PRSP Task Force has progressed. We participated in consequent meetings of the Task Force that were directly linked with PRSP. The objectives of the meetings were also on how to develop M&E to PRSP and discuss on the draft PRSP document.

1.2 4th Ethiopian Pastoralist Day Celebration

The Ethiopian Pastoralists Day has been celebrated every year since January 25, 1999 at pastoralist areas. The idea of pastoralist day celebration was initiated by Somali and Borena elder pastoralists in 1996. The main objectives of the Ethiopian Pastoralist Day are to raise awareness of the public, NGOs, and government institutions that pastoralism is a viable way of life; influence decision makers to favor pastoralist interests; facilitate experience sharing among pastoral groups in different regions; and, encourage advocacy work on issues of development of pastoralist areas/livelihoods.

Pastoralists Concern Association Ethiopia (PCAE), a local NGO, has been coordinating the commemoration activities. This year, PCAE and Pastoralists Forum Ethiopia (PFE) in collaboration with Afar National Regional State organized the celebration. The event took place in Dubti town, Afar Region, on Friday, January 25, 2002 under the motto *'More Attention for Pastoral Development and Poverty Reduction'*. In addition, the day was celebrated in Addis Ababa by conducting press conference at Ghion Hotel organized by Panos Ethiopia. However, the event was celebrated in towns of Filtu (Somali Region) and Negelle (Oromiya Region).

The Setting

The preparations for the commemoration were undertaken both in Addis Ababa and Dubti. The preparatory works in Addis Ababa were fund raising, production of T-shirt, leaflet, and poster as well as planning the overall activities of the celebration. A draft outline of works of the celebration was discussed and enriched by many members of the forum during series of meetings held.

Regarding the coordination of the activities, a committee with three members (PCAE-chairman, Panos, and EPRaDA) was assigned from Addis Ababa side, while Mr. Bulko Mohammed (Afar Elder) followed up activities in Afar side. In addition, trips were made twice to Dubti and Assaiyita (Afar) by staffs of PFE and PCAE.

Activities Accomplished during the Trips

Experience sharing and material distribution

- a draft proposal on the 4th Ethiopian Pastoralists Day commemoration were presented and discussed;
- briefing the committee members in Afar with the progress made by the committee in Addis in the meeting that was chaired by His Excellency Mr. Hamedu Ali, Afar Regional Government Vice President;
- progress in Afar side was discussed and at the same time we tried to fill gaps we noticed in planning of finance and activities related to the Day as well as responsibility sharing among members of the committee;
- accordingly, we re-arranged the activities of the whole committees and produced brief plan of action to monitor progress of the activities. In addition, we recommended to revise the previous allocated fund for the purpose as per the revised activities; and,
- T-shirts and leaflets were distributed among the committee members and concerned bodies; etc...

Organization and management of activities

- for better coordination of activities, temporary Office at Tandaho State Farm premises at Dubti Town (this is the site selected for the commemoration);was established.
- identifying appropriate coordinator from Afar side was selected;

- identifying the exact places for the commemoration and preparation i.e., shed, stage, hall for panel discussion etc...
- informing arranging orchestra both from traditional singers and Police Band to get ready for the celebration;
- motivating the urban and peri-urban community to participate in the event;
- arranging and reserving accommodation facilities for guests coming from Addis Ababa and other places;
- arrangement of electric power supply, audio and video facilities;
- conducting brief meetings with committee members to update on the progress of the activities and to take due action on activities that are behind the schedule;
- sequencing the whole activities of the event and timetable preparation; etc...

Events of the Day (Friday, January 25, 2002)

1. Dubti (Afar)

The celebrants arrived to Tandaho State Farm Stadium early in the morning to commemorate the day. The celebration ceremony was started after 9:00 am.

- various cultural songs and shows were performed;
- speeches and messages of the Day were made by:
 - Afar Region President, His excellency Mr. Ismael Ali Sero
 - PCAE Director, Abdi Abdullahi
 - PFE Program Officer, Tezera Getahun
 - Pastoral elders from Somali, Afar, SNNP, and Oromo Regions

(Borena and Kereyu)

- exhibitions of valuable cultural equipment, traditional dishes and house, various photographs and printed documents were made by Afar Culture, Tourism and Information Bureau and NGOs (PCAE, ActionFaim, Mekele University etc) ;
- Material distribution by PFE: about 65 proceeding were distributed for the guests;
- panel discussion: The panel discussion was part of the event that was held from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm on the same day. The discussion points and the panelists were:

- × Pastoral Conflict: Abdi Abdullahi, PCAE

- ✘ Pastoral settlement: Dr. Getachew Kassa, OSSREA/AAU
- ✘ Pastoral Development Strategies: Dr. Taffese Mesfin, FARM Africa
- ✘ What pastoralists need from the Government? Mr. Nura, Borena elder

Mr. Elias Hassen (Head, Afar Livestock, and Crop Production Bureau) chaired the panel discussion and it was attended by about 100 people including the president and vice president of the regional government.

Resolution of the Day

The resolutions made were;

- Ethiopian Pastoralists Day should be recognized by the government and commemorated every year on January 25;
- Pastoralists Elders Group (PEG) should be established at federal level;
- Attention should be given for inclusion of Pastoralists Poverty Reduction Strategies in the full-fledged National PRSP;
- Establishment of Pastoral Institution at federal level;
- Attention should be given for pastoralists development and extension packages;
- There should be great attention to the livestock marketing opportunity both at local and abroad; and,
- Possibility of using pastoral livestock resources as collateral for bank loan.
- *Documentation:* video record and photos to document parts of the event

Celebrants

The celebrant guests were estimated at 100 who came from different organizations. In addition, the residence of Dubti and nearby towns attended the ceremony. The guests were from:

- ✓ Representatives from Afar Region Administration and Bureaus as well as pastoral elders from 29 Woredas;
- ✓ Pastoral elders from Somali, Borena and Kereyu, and SNNP
- ✓ Representatives from regional government (Gambella, Benishangul Gumuz, SNNP, Dire Dawa Council, etc)

- ✓ Donors, UN-agencies, NGOs representatives (FAO, USAID, WHO, CRDA, Hararghe Catholic Church Secretariat, Panos, PCAE, CARE, AMCCO, FARM Africa, EPRaDA, GTF, ActionFaim, MSF French, APDA)
- ✓ Italian Embassy
- ✓ Addis Ababa University
- ✓ Mekelle University
- ✓ Pastoral Community Unit
- ✓ Media people (ETV, Ethiopian Radio, Radio Fana, Addis Zemen)
- ✓ etc

2. Addis Ababa

On the same day of the event at Afar, Panos organized a press conference. Invitation was made for 85 people from governmental, non-governmental and international organizations that are concerned with pastoralism and pastoral development. Six people were discussants for the press conference. The discussants were representatives of the Pastoralist Network and the Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia. They discussed on the history, development of the pastoral network and the forum and some issues relevant to pastoral development. The specific themes for the discussion were as follow:

Discussants	Topics
1. Ato Melakou Tegegn	Brief introductions about the Ethiopian Pastoralist Day
2. Ato Zerihun Ambaye	Experience gained from the last Ethiopian Pastoralist Day celebrations
3. Ato Sora Adi	Major problems affecting pastoralism
4. W/o Yeshimebet Gameda	Pastoralism and Gender issues
5. Dr. Tegegn Teka	the Ethiopian pastoralist Network and its contribution to Pastoralism
6. Dr. Moahammed Mussa	Policy Issues required for a healthy pastoral Development

Most of the invited guests attended the conference.. Both the private and government media attended the conference. Among them were the ETV, Zega publishing, the Sun, etc. The discussion continued until 7:00 p.m

Conclusion

The Ethiopian Pastoralist Day,2002 was the bigger as compared to the previous celebrations in terms of preparation and coverage of pastoral groups and it was the first time to be celebrated at regional level. Several guests and celebrants have attended the event. The media coverage was wide. Furthermore, important resolutions came out of the event that might influence decision makers. In the press conference held in Addis Ababa, relevant issues were discussed. It was decided that next year the 5th Ethiopian Pastoralists Day will be celebrated in SNNP Region. It deserves to appreciate the hospitality and cooperation seen from the Afar Region Officials. Finally, the lessons learnt from the 4th Ethiopian Pastoralists Celebration is the fact that there is great cooperation and interests towards developing pastoralism.

1.3 PASTORALIST POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The Forum prepared the policy recommendation paper based on the pastoralist consultations and previous subsequent conferences undertaken. The paper has been given to the ministry of Federal Affairs and Pastoral regional council offices.

Some positive understanding also has been reached with the Ministry of the Federal affairs. Representatives of the Ministry discussed with the Forum members at Panos on the future of pastoral development and issues of cooperation.

The Dire Dawa City council has responded to the recommendations and called for a meeting. PFE board members held a meeting on November 11,2002 at Panos office to discuss on the procedures of this discussion with the regions. The board selected three members of the forum to attend this meeting. The meeting was held at Dire Dawa on 13,Decemeber with bureau officials and some understanding was reached on how to proceed.

1.4 REPORT ON THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN ENGAGING THE PUPLIC IN PRSP

PFE has prepared a report on the PRSP process and the role of media in engaging the public in the PRSP. The project on the media was a two-month project, financed by Panos London. The

final report was made to Panos London by mid July, 2002 and it came out in Panos feature under the title " reducing poverty: is the World Bank strategy working?" This feature has been distributed to Pastoralist Forum members.

The report was prepared based on the interview made with the poor and the journalists and editors. Some governmental officials also were interviewed on the perception, knowledge and role in the process.

The objective of this project was to prepare a report on the process of PRSP and the role of media in engaging the public in the PRSP in particular and in the country as a whole.

- assessing the knowledge and perception of Government organizations and NGO officials in the PRSP
- assessing the Journalist and editors knowledge and perception of PRSP
- identifying the role of Journalists in engaging the public in the PRSP

The process that has been taken to prepare this project report, was administering interviews with Journalists in both print and visual media. The interviews were based on the general guidelines sent from Panos- London. We have also interviewed some governmental officials and actor NGOs who were involved in the preparation of this process. Much of the opinions and view of representative of NGOs and the findings of the PFE consultations on PRSP also form part of this report.

The other method we used was to look into both private and governmental print media that were produced with in the period of PRSP. This complemented the interviews we made with journalists.

Government Media

The preparation of Interim PRSP did not involve the civil society. However, when the interim paper came out, government organized a briefing session to NGOS and the civil society took initiative to call for reflection and participation. This opens up for a wider participation of the NGOS as well as for media to prepare the PRSP strategy. The reporters we talked to suggested that journalists should have been given training on PRSP. They maintained that PRSP also should be considered as a separate subject from other issues that media is covering. The

journalists we interviewed did not believe that the public is aware of PRSP. At ETV center, there was no discussion among the staff. The organizers of PRSP consultations have just called the media to cover the event. However, they believed that ETV is part of the government and has the responsibility to introduce the people about government policies.

Compared to the reporters, editors and section managers are given more chance to participate in PRSP trainings. This is based on the assumption that they will again train the rest of the staff on PRSP. However, often the time this did not take place.

Private press in the process of PRSP

Compared to the private press, the government media covered PRSP better. The private press gathered public opinion and debate among actors of PRSP only some time; however, it could not be said comprehensive and in-depth.

Summary of print media coverage of PRSP process for the month of January and February

Media institution	Type	PRSP coverage	Type of column
Tomar	Private/weekly	6 times	Editorial, timely event and Panos page,
The daily Monitor	Private/daily	once	-
Reporter	Private	none	-
Tobia	Private	once	-
The Sun	Private/weekly	once	Chat
Zega	Private/ Journal/	none	-
Ethiop	Private/Journal/monthly	none	-
Tobia	Weekly paper and monthly Journal	none	-
Ethiopian Herald	Government/daily	12	news, editorial, opinion and feature

A program producer at Radio Ethiopia said that " PRSP was a lately strategy. even though, it has a role in achieving development. "our fear is that since the emphasis is getting relief and concessional loan, it has left out the poor⁷. If we take the consultations undertaken at Kebelle levels, the document for discussion was already prepared, it was explanation of what the document was about, and people were required to consent to the document and not to bring any strategies towards their problems"

RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE JOURNALISTS

The preparation of PRSP took place with a very short period compared to the mobilization of civil society and CBOS required for it. However, NGOs particularly played a great role in contributing their experience, organizing themselves to consult the poor and advocate the voices. This makes PRSP process peculiar to any other strategy formulation process. And yet, it cannot be deductively said that the country fulfilled the necessary requirement of popular participation to reduce poverty. The reformulation of the strategies continuously and the implementation process requires a culture of genuine participation of all actors.

Media activities on the other hand should be redesigned in a way that will have a long-term impact on awareness creation. This could be worked out in three ways.

- Development of community Radio. Community radio can reach many people particularly the rural people who do not have access to visual media and print media. While it is the best way to teach a wide range of community. the Ethiopian Radio is still having symposium for it and it has not been decided.
- Civil societies working on PRSP also should work closely more than ever with media.
- Monitoring. Some journalists attend some workshops and trainings including training for trainers. However the chances that they will train others when they come back to their offices is very low. Therefore, there must be a mechanism by which such activities are monitored.
- PRSP should be given a program of its own which runs for a longer time in a sustainable way.

Challenges encountered

The time set for the preparation of the PRSP report was too short to administer in-depth interviews with these actors. The staff also was engaged in many other urgent activities of the project itself, which contributed to delay.

1.5 Proposals on the three- years program on Pastoral Advocacy for Sustainable Pastoral Development and strategic plan

A three- years program proposal on *Pastoral Advocacy for Sustainable Pastoral Development in Ethiopia* .has been developed. The goal of the program is to ensure sustainable livelihood development for the pastoralists of Ethiopia. The specific objectives are:

- Attaining pastoral friendly development policies both at federal and regional levels that contribute to sustainable pastoral development in the country;
- disseminating knowledge and information concerning pastoralism and pastoral development that enable to narrow the knowledge gap; and ,
- finding ways and engaging in the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of pastoralists' perspectives in the national PRSP.

After finalizing the proposal, donors were approached. CORDAID has shown an interest to fund the program. The Forum members also suggested that PFE should have its own pastoral policy advocacy position and strategic plan. As a result, PFE has prepared another proposal entitled *Development of Pastoral Policy and Lobby Strategy (Strategic Plan, 2003-2005)*.

PFE contacted Oxfam Canada who shows interest in supporting the program on building capacity. Oxfam Canada after discussion on specific issue has funded the strategic plan The proposals on the strategic plan and Pastoral advocacy and lobby strategy document have been finalized with Oxfam Canada. The terms of reference also were prepared. PFE has put the strategic plan for bid, gave interested consultants them the term of reference. Most of the consultants have submitted their conceptual and financial proposals. The selection of the consultants is being underway.

1.6 A Round-table on the Magnitude of Drought and Famine.

PFE has organized a round-table workshop on drought and famine. International Minority Rights Group at London has funded the project

The objectives of the roundtable were to:

- Situate the issue of drought and the impending famine in pastoral regions in its proper context;
- reflect on the causes of the crisis caused by the drought and identify solutions;
- provide forum for pastoralists and enable them speak out for themselves and make known their perception about the whole crisis and proposed solutions;
- create synergy among stakeholders of pastoral development towards a strategy to prevent a crisis of such magnitude; and,
- come up with general policy recommendations both to solve the current crisis and prevent future ones.

The conference took place on December 23 and 24, 2002. The participants were 60 from pastoralists, NGOs working on pastoral development, Parliamentary Pastoral Affairs Standing Committee and other MPs, government and its departments related to relief and pastoralism, academicians, UN agencies, the OAU, donors, diplomats and journalists.

The arrangement and organization of the roundtable followed principles of full participation and friendly discussion among the participants until the end. Most of the presentations were in English and Amharic with a simultaneous translation translated for the pastoralists to their languages. The roundtable was composed of a welcoming speech, nine paper presentations on key pastoral issues, views of the pastoralists, discussions on each theme, and group works on selected topics followed by general discussions and recommendations. The presentations and the themes on drought and famine addressed the issue of pastoral development and challenges that hold back pastoral development. The round- table was video recorded and the proceedings are underway.

The Round-table activities

Ato Melakou Tegegn, Director of Panos and Chairperson of Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia (PFE) made a briefing to participants on the past activities of PFE and briefly mentioned the objectives of the roundtable.

After Ato Melakou made his introductory remarks, he invited Ato Habtamu Teka, Oromiya Pastoralist Development Commissioner to make a welcome Speech. In his welcome speech, commissioner Habtamu highlighted on:

- Size of pastoral society in the country and the huge number of livestock the country has
- Pastoralist mode of production
- Situation of past pastoral development approaches
- The Lack of pastoral institutions
- The establishment of OPPDC is a good opportunity
- The existence of many factors as leading to precarious pastoral life and finally he mentioned that it is an appropriate time to pay more attention to pastoralists and to building up pastoral development capacity

There were seven presentations made by the resource persons from various organizations

Magnitude of famine: past and present

Ato Yenus Berkele, Consultant

Famine in pastoral areas, causes and magnitude: of pastoralist's *perception*
Ethiopian Pastoralists

Immediate cause of famine: *The drought dimension*

Dr. Tafesse Mesfin, Farm

Immediate cause of famine: *the conflict dimension.*

Ato Alemayehu Azeze, Organization of Social Science Research for East and Southern Africa (OSSREA)

Structural Causes of famine in pastoral areas: *the governance dimension*

Dr, Getachew Kassa, Institute of Ethiopia Studies

Structural causes of famine in pastoral areas: *the macro economic policy dimension*

Dr. Befikadu Degefe, Ethiopian Economic Association

Recommendations on combating famine in pastoral areas

Ato Beruk Yemane, Oxfam, GB

EPaRDA's peace making in South Omo

Ato Zeihun Ambaye, EPaRDA

After the presentations were made, the group was divided into mini groups and discuss on the specific recommendations to tackle the problem of famine and drought effects.

The presenters have prepared a paper on their presentation that will come out as proceedings.

1.7 The 5th Ethiopian Pastoralist Day

The 5th Ethiopian Pastoralist Day was celebrated on January 25,2003 at a place called Turmi in South Omo Zone of the Southern Nation and Nationalities people regional State. The region, PFE and other NGOs working on pastoral issues, organized the event. The pastoralists from all regions celebrated the day with a great intensity. There were traditional shows and songs, panel discussion of pastoralists, a visit to the area and cultural exhibitions. At this Day of celebration, the president of the SNNP region made the welcoming speech on behalf of the region showing his contentment to host the event. He also appreciated the initiatives and support of the Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia and other organizations for bringing the pastoralists' plight into picture. Ato Melakou also made the second speech representing the Forum. On behalf of the Forum, he also expressed his gratitude to the pastoralists who have been gathered to celebrate the day. He pointed out that the idea of celebrating the day was first initiated by the pastoralists themselves. Regional representatives also forwarded their messages regarding their position of the pastoralist plights and recommendations.

The event

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Speech by the president of the SNNP region

He welcomed the pastoralists from different regions, representatives of NGOs working on pastoral development. He stated that the SNNP region consists of a huge and vast albeit untapped natural resource base. continuing his speech he said that” We very well know how much work is expected of us to tackle the problems pastoral regions are facing. The Ethiopian Pastoralist Forum creates the opportunity for all the pastoral regions to come together and share their experiences. The event will introduce NGOs to the pastoral regions and facilitate their work in these regions. Moreover it also strengthens the capacity of the pastoralists to participate in their own development. At this juncture, I will like to forward the expectation we have to get the support of NGOS in working hand in hand for a better pastoralist life. I also have the belief that the regional government will implement the pastoral development vision taking in to consideration the specific feature and need of the region. Eventually, we would like to express our appreciation to PCAE for initiating this Day and Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia for coordinating the NGOs working on pastoral issues.

Speech by Melakou Tegegn, PFE, chairman

On behalf of the Forum, he welcomed all to the 5th Ethiopian pastoralist Day. He said the pastoralists themselves first initiated the pastoralist day. The event will serve as a forum whereby pastoralists from all regions come, introduce each other and share experiences. Most importantly, it is an opportunity to raise the pastoral issues to both the level of local and national levels and hence is to help formulate a pastoral policy that is suitable to their situation. The event also will help to advocate for suitable development strategies and initiatives by both governmental and non- governmental organizations and hence the poverty will be reduced,

Representative from the Afar region.

he first greeted the Southern regional administration and also congratulate the pastoralists who have been marginalized for long time. He thanked for the opportunity to see the pastoralists in the South region. Despite the mariginalization by the consecutive governments, the pastoralists in Ethiopia have been trying to survive. He forwarded a message that unlike the Afar and Somali regions, the environment in the South has not been degraded and not much deforestation is observed. This protection should be sustainable.

Representative from the Ormiya region

This event will be given a significant place in the history of pastoral development. While Pastoralists have names, they were remembered by what they were not, praise to the pastoral concerned organizations, they have now got their name back. he congratulated pastoralists for this development. In Oromiya region, pastoralist development commission has been established which gives a particular attention to the pastoralist situation. He thank our government for such imitative.

Representative from Somali region.

He thanked God for all this. He said pastoralists were fighting in the jungles for long. Now they are at the event together in peace. This is a very good sign. He remembered the time pastoralists were marginal in their own country's development. They also know that the strategies they have formulated that were suitable to them were not for long time implemented. Nowadays they see some light of democracy. he said the initiatives taken in Dire Dawa shows the positive development and the governments willingness to have a vision for pastoralists. But this vision will come true when the non- governmental organizations collaborate and work together towards a common goal. Three Woredas in his region have been selected for pilot projects to implement this vision. In many pastoral regions, coordination of work is poor and the role of NGOs would be crucial in coordinating development work further in these regions. Lastly, the regional government is trying to tackle its political problems, lack of vision and improper development directions through its reformative program.

his message on this event was that pastoralist day is a good initiative and around 3% of the total natural resource is found in the South region. And it requires protection. He also observed that the role of NGOs in the South is quite good, He believed that there is a lot to see in terms of coordination between the government and NGOs.

Message from the Oromiya.

He said he would like to say few words about the pastoralists in Oromia in the last few years; the region has shown a considerable change in this respect. Pastoralists inhabit the biggest size of the country's land. These pastoralists not only inhabit the land, they also own a stock of knowledge and traditions and natural resources. However due to lack of attention, they could not benefit from the resources and knowledge they own. Lately, the government of Ethiopia

gave due attention to the pastoralist issue and that is a good starting point for pastoral development.

A panel discussion was held on main problems of the pastoralist regions and the following statements are made.

Southern region

The representative from Southern region said that all pastoralists from regions came together in peace; this event will encourage us to have a common development vision. Pastoralists need to stop fighting among each other; truly this event is blessed and will give all pastoralists recognition as pastoralists and Ethiopians. With this understanding, he thanked the organizers of the event.

Afar region

He thanked the SNNP administrative region for inviting them to this great occasion. The challenges of pastoralists are all rounded in the regions. However, he said he would like to talk about the challenges of Afar pastoralists. The livestock and resource base of Afar has been affected by the recent drought. People are prone to death. The health sector is poorly developed. they have known drought for long time, but for the first time they have seen camels and goats dieing. they also conflict with the neighboring people over deforestation and charcoal making. Deforestation by town charcoal makers has been the major problem the Afar people are facing nowadays. he said he uses this opportunity to appeal to the government to do something about it. The causes for these conflicts mainly are grazing lands and deforestation. Moreover, they have water shortage. So he recommended Ngos to solve the problem of water in our region.

Somali Region

The representative said the main purpose of coming to the event is to know pastoralists friends and discuss on the common problems and their solution. The Somali life is mainly based on livestock production. They did not have electricity; they make fire by friction, they sleep on animal skin. Since this life did not help them much, they have now diversified their income. Since we face recurrent drought, and the water and pasture is declining, the produce we get from animal production has been reduced. Oxfam has assisted the Somali in many ways with

the harvesting of water." Our people think that we came here to the UN meeting to tell about our problems. They will have many questions to us when we are back. Now there is a need for urgent action. The urgent action is required from the government, NGOs and the pastoralists themselves. The three groups need to act upon together. We know we cannot sustain ourselves with pastoralism alone. Education is very important. There must be a wide campaign on teaching our children. Lastly, I would like to thank the SNNP administration and pastoralists. I also appreciate the effort being made by the region and organizations to solve the problem of the pastoralists."

Oromiya region

Kerersa from Borena in Oromiya region mentioned that he witnessed and was part of many pastoralist days and now feel ownership of the event. he thanked the government and NGOs who made this event came true. He said " We are pastoralists without market; we have livestock and do not have market to sell them. The other thing we need is education. We request for the NGOs to help us educating our people because we believe that education can solve all- the multifaceted problems we have. The other problem we want to mention is the expansion of unwanted bush and trees in the region. The bush has encroached a wider area and diminishes the range. The pastoralists you see here have come from Afar, Somali and Oromo regions, we have been fighting among ourselves, we raid each other. We need to stop this." he also stressed the role of government in the peace making.

The Southern region.

" Our problems are various. We face recurrent drought. We have problem of production too. Needless to say that we are underdeveloped, you can see us. We have unremitting question on what is the role of government to solve our problems, how is it going to solve our problems? We need answers. We are human but wear mud; we are not educated. We need education, which assist us to catch up with the rest of the society. Nowadays, the government gives attention even to wild animals, why not to us? Since our problems are many, we need the cooperation of the NGOs. Do not compare us with any other group of the country! we are in worse situation. " The representative also noted that that all pastoralists in the country face problems a great deal, but the situation in the south is incomparable

7. Trainings & workshops

Media Development, Evaluation, Monitoring, Publicity, and Promotion Workshop (Kampala, Uganda April 15-21).

The workshop had two major themes for discussion:

2. Evaluation and Monitoring
3. Organizational Profile raising and projects
 - **Evaluation and Monitoring of projects**

Kitty Wamock, coordinator for DIME, facilitated the first thematic discussion on monitoring and evaluation. In the workshop a Manual for steps of evaluation and tool kit on the process of evaluation was presented. Long discussion was held on the documents. The challenges for incorporating evaluation and monitoring in projects were discussed. Among them were shortage of budget, time and expertise. Yet, all participants agreed that limiting the objectives to what is possible to be done with the available timeframe and budget makes evaluation easier. Evaluation can be done for different purposes at different time and making evaluation a part of the project will help the project understand how far it goes and also informs the community about the activities being done and in addition informs the donors that their money is well spent.

The experience of different Panos offices also were discussed and a proposal on the end violence against women Project from Addis Office was presented for discussion in relation to evaluation of a project. At the end of the discussion, it was agreed that all projects would have an evaluation part at the beginning of the design of their project. Kitty also showed her interest in helping all Panos offices in developing evaluation and monitoring part of their projects. It was also suggested that reports of activities should incorporate evaluation and monitoring aspect of their activities.

- **Organizational profile raising**

The second session on profile raising was facilitated by Mark covey, a media promotion officer at London Panos. Profile raising was stated as the main part of organizational activities. Panos is actively working with Media to advocate its activities and yet many other tools can be used to boost the knowledge and advocacy work. The main elements that lie at the center of profile raising is to understand the objective, what we want to promote, right target groups and the relevant tools for use. It was suggested that the theme of profile raising could be discussed with all staff members and all staff members need to use similar understanding of what their

organization mean and does specially when they give press release on behalf of their organization.

Two days were spent on discussing the experiences of Publicity. Panos Addis also presented its experience with the media (visual and Print). Clippings, posters and publications were taken from Addis and served as examples on how to use print media. The six-day workshop concluded with the suggestion that we need to share these discussions with the rest of the staff members.

As part of advocacy work and to share documents with Panos staff, we distributed 27 proceedings of pastoral development conferences. We also received warm hospitality from Panos-Kampala.

- **UN Convention on Combating Deserertification**

Miss Alemmaya attended 5 days training workshop organized by CARE- Ethiopia and Dryland coordinating Group in Nazereth. The objectives of the training were to raise awareness among experts working on dryland areas about the National Action Plan on International Convention on Combating Desertification. The participants constitute both governmental and non-governmental institutions. Participants discussed on the National Action Plan, made a visit to a deserted area on the process of rehabilitation. The workshop concluded with recommendations on the procedures of the implementation of National Action Plan.

- **Advocacy Training**

The two program Officers, Alemmaya and Tezera, attended a one-day campaigning workshop organized by Oxfam Great Britain. The workshop aimed at awareness creation in organizing campaign and introducing Oxfam International's interest in Coffee Campaign. Contact and experience sharing were made with a team from Somali land who is working for Oxfam GB.

- **Rural Development Strategy workshop**

Alemmaya attended a rural development strategy workshop between 13-15 November at the Ministry office organized by the Federal government and the World Bank. In the workshop, presentations were made both by the government officials and donor representatives.

- **Pastoralist Area Development conference**

A conference on pastoral area development was organized by the Ministry of Federal Affairs, Pastoral Area Development Department (PADD) and was held for six days (April 7-12, 2002) in Dire Dawa town. The participants of the conference were officials and experts from both the Federal and the Regional Ministries/Bureaus; research center, representatives of pastoralists from pastoral Regions; and NGOs. Five Forum member NGOs were participated in the conference. A draft proposal of pastoral area development strategy document by the Ministry was discussed and debated. The core area of the discussions included visions on settlement for pastoral development; capacity building; and human resource development. The representatives of the Forum got chance to meet the Minister of the Federal Affairs and his experts to discuss on matters on how to keep contact in the future.

In the conference, 50 proceedings of pastoral development conference were distributed.

Administrative activities

Registration and Board election

The Ministry of justice placed some requirements for registration of associations such as the preparation of Memorandum of the association, list of founding members and their CVs. The forum elected seven board members a chairperson and vice chairperson to wards the registration. The board members are:

1. Melakou Tegegn (also chairperson)- Panos
2. Beruk Yemane-Oxfam GB
3. Abdulkadier Ahmed- Panos
4. Ismael Aligrdo- Afar Pastoralist development Association
5. Sora Adi- GTZ
6. Abdi Abdullahi (also vice chairperson)- Pastoralist Concern Association Ethiopia
7. Dr.Mohammed Musa - Private consultant (PENHA)

The memorandum of association has been prepared as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Justice and collecting of the necessary formats to be filled by members have been completed. The proposal document has been forwarded to the Ministry of agriculture for comments and the ministry of agriculture has given some comments. The Ministry of Justice has not yet given its comment. on the other hand, the legislation permitting the formation of association of associations has not been placed yet.

Partnerships and visits

A team from Management System International (MSI-USA) with three members visited Panos and made discussion about pastoralism and pastoral development issues. They were briefed about the PFE objectives and activities as well as achievements so far obtained. In addition, as part of the advocacy work, we handed them with some important documents such as the Forum proceedings and a chapter on pastoralism (PRSP). Finally, the newly developed program proposal was also given to them for purpose of fund raising.

Consultants from World Bank visited Panos and discussed on organizational activities and Joint venture. The World Bank is venturing a new project for Pastoralists on Pastoral Area Development. Parallel to the loan government is receiving, there will be a small grant given to the communities to administer development by themselves. NGOs can support community administered development projects preparing proposal and taking care of the accountings. At the end of February, 2003, the World Bank did the appraisal of the projects.

An IGAD project named "Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism" (CEWARN) contacted Panos on issues of cooperation. The project plans to contact a research institute that can do assessment and analysis of conflict situation in selected pilot areas in IGAD member states. Panos has discussed the issue further with forum members so that NGOs working at the grass root levels can have contact with CEWARN.

Pastoralist Communication Initiative has also contacted the forum on matter of cooperation. PCI has offered a financial support for the transportation and accommodation of pastoral elders from regions.

Annex

Forum members meetings

Oct. 26,2001

Discussed on action plan with budget proposal, lobby and advocacy mechanisms to be developed on a new proposal (2002/2003) & budget revision, experience sharing on PRSP from other African countries that prepare PRSP document, Nov. 23,2001 Forum members participation on the 4 th Ethiopian Pastoralist Day-2002, duties and responsibilities for Pastoralist Day were shared,

Dec. 7,2001,

Discussed on specific responsibilities and progress on Pastoralist Day 2002,,other specifics activities were given to some Member NGOs

January 15,2002

-Review of activities on the Pastoralist Day-2002,report was made on the preparatory field trips and activities accomplished

March 5,20028

The PRSP project representing the Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia in Panos has presented a six-month report for forum members. The report mainly consists of a six-month report of activities, Ethiopian Pastoralist day-2002, draft chapter on Pastoralism, concept paper for activities beyond 2002 and the process of the Ethiopian Pastoralist Day at Dupiti and at Addis Ababa.

A concept paper, which was developed for the coming three years, was discussed briefly. However, it seemed that the members need time to look at the concept paper and come up with comments. Most of the members were not present at the meeting and it was agreed to come back again on **Friday March 15, 2002** to discuss in detail on the findings of the chapter and the concept paper.

-The six-month report, the findings of the consultation workshops and the concept paper will be distributed to forum members before the meeting takes place to enable members reflect on them.

April 24, 2002

Discussed on what should the Forum do regarding the current pastoral development initiatives? **The existing misconception towards pastoralism and lessons learnt from past failures of the pastoral development endeavors** were raised and discussed

May 17,2002

Briefing was made on proposed Policy Recommendations prepared by the Forum to be presented for the Federal Government for discussion and comments were made on the document. Board members were elected.

Mid July

Discussed again on Policy recommendation to the Federal Government and registration of the Forum

September 30,2002

Board members met on the proposal prepared on the drought and famine situation in pastoral regions, discussed on the on the Third National conference

27 October 2002

Discussed on the 5th pastoralist day, and on the specific role of forum members. EpaRDA was chosen to implement activities at the ground.

15 January 2003

The meeting was called to discuss on the progress of the 5th Ethiopian Pastoralist Day Commemoration at Turmi, and to make last minutes brief planning for any uncovered activities

February 13, 2003

Agenda for discussion was on the General assessment of the 5th pastoralist day

- Membership to the forum
- New partnership proposals