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PASTORALIST FORUM ETHIOPIA

## 12<sup>th</sup> Ethiopian Pastoralist Day (EPD) Celebration Report

(January 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Jigjiga/Somali Regional State)



*PFE, Ministry of Federal Affairs (MoFA), and  
FDRE House of Peoples' Representatives  
Pastoralist Affairs Standing Committee (PASC),*

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## **Executive Summary**

The Ethiopian Pastoralists Day (EPD) is a multifaceted advocacy instrument and a common platform for the pastoralists and their partners to converge their collective voice to better heard, to enhance and build pastoral solidarity, and to share cumulated experiences, cultures, living customs and environment. Since its first commemoration on 25<sup>th</sup> Jan 1999, EPD has been celebrated every year using different venues. 12th EPD has been celebrated at national, regional and Woreda level in January 2009.

At national level, PFE jointly with the Ministry of Federal Affairs (MoFA), and the Pastoralist Affairs Standing Committee (PASC) in the EFDR House of Peoples' Representatives organized the 12th EPD celebration from 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009 in Jijjiga town, Somali Regional State. The overall objectives of the 12th EPD were to consolidate encouraging achievements obtained so far in pastoral development and recognition of pastoralists; to enhance pastoral solidarity and amplifying pastoralists' voice to be heard; and, to influence policy makers and all pastoral actors to renew their commitment for the overarching goal- enhancing good governance and sustainable pastoralist development in the Ethiopian Millennium. The motto of the day was "We Ensure Ethiopian Renaissance on Firm Ground by Upholding Achievements in Pastoralist Community". The celebrants of the 12th EPD were more than 2000 representing pastoralist communities from all pastoral regions, senior officials from federal and regional governments, donor communities, NGOs, academic and research institutions, private sector representatives, etc.

The celebration of the 12th EPD was undertaken successfully as per the schedule and celebration modalities. All planned activities of the event were delivered effectively and efficiently. The celebration of the 12<sup>th</sup> EPD was well organized and accompanied by field visit in two selected laces in Jijjiga Zone. The contributions of various stakeholders in organizing the celebration, especially the role of Ministry of Federal Affairs, Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia, and Somali Regional State were immense.

PFE has supported the celebration both technically and financially. PFE contributed ETB 800,000 (ISS – 379,589.94, SAVE US - 139,941, CORDAID – 54,000, WFD- 200,000) for celebrating the day at national level.

In addition to the national level celebration, the day was celebrated at regional level. The day was celebrated at regional level in most of the pastoral regions (Oromia, Somali, SNNP and Afar) through the coordination and leadership of the regional governments.

The following bullet points summarize the key outcomes of the 12th EPD

- **OUTCOME ONE: Momentum of pastoral advocacy on realizing right for development ensured in our Constitution Kept on and pastoralists' integration in national socio-economy ensured**
  - ✓ *H.E Prime Minister Meles Zenawi officiate the opening ceremony while members of his cabinet were accompanying him. In his key note address the PM called for all pastoral actors to explore and scale up best pastoral development practice through convincing and mobilizing pastoral communities at large.*
  - ✓ *Elder pastoralist from Afar, Oromia, Somali and SNNP regions made blessings and forwarded a key message of the day.*
  - ✓ *The PM awarded 209 people with medals and certificates (129 hero pastoralists, 12 model kebele workers, 12 Model Kebele leaders, 12 model Kebeles, 12 model woredas, 8 civic Associations and pastoral cooperatives, 12 model pastoral cooperatives, 12 developmental investors; and the PFE Board of Directors chairperson.*
  - ✓ *The pastoral representatives held a panel discussion with the Head of the State (H.E. Girma W/Giorgis, President of FDRE)*
  - ✓ *The pastoral representatives held a panel discussion with the Head of the Government (H.E. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of FDRE). The key points raised was land matters, infrastructural development and conflict.*
  - ✓ *Pastoralists and partners held panel discussion on key pastoral issues and passed a ten - point resolution.*
  - ✓ *The Head of State/Government of Somali region has arranged accommodation and food in group for participants for all the days whereby the pastoralists got an opportunity to discuss and share their practices and culture among each other.*
  
- **OUTCOME TWO: The status of pastoral development in the country known and gaps discussed**
  - ✓ *The Minister of MOFA, Dr. Sheferaw Tekelemariam, presented the achievement attained so far on pastoral development by the Government vis-à-vis the resolutions passed during the 11th EPD. The report showed that there is a progress in basic service coverage and availability of other services such as electricity, telecommunication and road*
  - ✓ *Representatives from each pastoral regions has presented regional development best practice and lessens*
  - ✓ *Camels marched carrying pastoral concerns on their back*
  
- **Pastoral solidarity through promotion of multiculturalism/cultural pluralism under the pastoral context enhanced**
  - ✓ *Pastoralists coming from different areas have showed their cultural songs, costumes, their living environment, etc. This can be taken as an ideal stage that the pastoralists strengthen their solidarity to voice together.*

- **OUTCOME FOUR: The Public Domain reached out and the profile of pastoralists and pastoralism raised**

  - ✓ *Ethiopian Radio and Ethiopian television (ETV) have broadcasted a program on success stories of socio economic development effort in pastoral regions ( Afar, Somali, Oromia and SNNP ) and broadcasted using various languages.*
  - ✓ *H.E Dr. Shiferaw Minster of MoFA, has delivered press conference for journalists of different media in the country*
  - ✓ *MoFA higher officials and PFE executive directors delivered several interview in Radio and on Television as well as Newspapers to address the public on the progress and objective of the EPD*
  - ✓ *There was series of ETV NEWS Spots on ETV promoting the DAY*
  - ✓ *Promotional materials reflecting the key message of the event prepared and distributed: One big Digital Billboard stood in Jigjiga; regional government flags and 1000 national flag prepared and posted in different places of Jigjiga town; 1300 hand flag, 2000 copies of magazine, 2000 copies posters, 1500 T-Shirts, and 2000 Capes depicting key issues of 12<sup>th</sup> EPD prepared and distributed to GOs and NGOs, regions, donors and other pastoral friends*
  - ✓ *Ethiopian Television, Ethiopian Radio and Radio Fana have adequately transmitted the ceremony of the event live in different languages, while the print media gave good coverage*
  - ✓ *A program on the process and activities achieved during the event was prepared and transmitted by ETV and Ethiopian Radio using different languages.*
    - *A program has been developed on the discussion of the Pastoralists with PM and disseminated in different languages*
    - *Similarly a program has been developed on the field visit of the participants to two areas of Somali region and broadcasted in different languages*
  - ✓ *Representatives of Civil Society Organizations and other non-state actors mobilized to participate in the event*
  
- **OUTCOME FIVE: The whole process and outcomes of the 12<sup>th</sup> EPD documented and disseminated: Video, photographs, and a magazine on the event prepared and reached users**

  - ✓ *The whole process of celebrating the event was photographed and documented through video cassette.*
  - ✓ *The report on the whole process and achievements prepared and ready for circulation*
  - ✓ *All organizers accompanied by the Minister and State Minister of MoFA gathered together and evaluated the effectiveness and efficiency of celebrating the event and passed the way forward.*
  - ✓ *The resolutions of the 12<sup>th</sup> EPD were compiled, endorsed and circulated by MoFA*

## 1 Background

The Ethiopian Pastoralist Day (EPD) is a multifaceted advocacy instrument and a common platform for pastoralist and partners. EPD serves pastoralist and partners to converge their collective voice to better heard by decision makers and the public; enhance and build pastoral solidarity; and, leverage an opportunity to them share cumulated experiences, varieties of culture, living customs and environment. Since its first commemoration on 25th Jan 1999, EPD has been celebrated every year using different venues. The Ethiopian Pastoralist Day (EPD), which is marked on Tir 17 (25th/26th January) and commemorated annually, is an important event that brings together almost all pastoral actors in the country for a common goal-sustainable pastoral development and promoting good governance.

The EPD raises the pastoral profile, and enhances their solidarity to influence decision makers in order to give attention to pastoralist and pastoralism. Since its establishment in 1999 in Filtu area<sup>1</sup>, EPD has been celebrated consecutively for the last eleven years. The celebration avenues included pastoral regions as well as Woredas. The EPD has been jointly organized by the Ministry of Federal Affairs (MoFA), the Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia (PFE), and the FDRE House of Peoples' Representatives Pastoralist Affairs Standing Committee (PASC) in partnership with pastoral regional governments.

In the 8<sup>th</sup> EPD celebrated in Addis Ababa in Jan 2006, our Prime Minister (PM), H.E Meles Zenawi, has officially endorsed the EPD as a national day and assured that the FDRE Government would continue supporting the pastoral livelihoods. H.E. has said that the government is committed to support pastoral livelihood on the 9th EPD celebrated in the General Assembly Hall on 25th Jan 2007. Moreover, the Premier statement during the 10th EPD celebration on Jan 25th 2008 in Adam assured further that the Renaissance of Ethiopia cannot be effective without the participation of pastoralist. The 11th EPD has been celebrated at national level in Afar Regional Government in Semera Town from 25th-26th Jan 2009. The day was magnificently celebrated in presence of the PM, and higher federal and regional government officials, representatives of pastoralist from all pastoral regions, donor representatives, NGO communities, research and academia, and media. The PM has emphasized the need for committed leadership and technical support for successful pastoral development and he called for all pastoral actors to explore and scale up best pastoral development practices through convincing and mobilizing pastoral communities at large.

The PM has officiated the EPD for four times as of the 8th EPD. The change in perception towards pastoralism and the space created as a result of EPD has an incremental value in recognition of pastoralist and pastoralism, and enhancing sustainable pastoral development. These include there are different programs directed to develop the pastoralist; commitment of the government and non-state actors to develop pastoralist; and, establishments of Pastoral Affairs Standing Committee (PASC) in the Federal Parliament, the Ministerial Board coordinated by the Ministry of Federal Affairs at the federal level and establishments of pastoral commissions and/or formulation of pastoral institutions at the regional levels.

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<sup>1</sup> Following to the Somali and Borena elder pastoralist' recommendation of the EPD, Pastoralist Concern Association Ethiopia (PCAE), a local NGO, organized the first EPD in 1999 in Filtu Town in Liben Zone of the Somali Regional State.

However, the growing attention towards pastoralism and pastoral development have still faced challenges which is emanated from complexity and depth of pastoral problems and the consequence of denied rights of the pastoralist for more than half a century. The knowledge gaps and myths towards pastoralism and pastoral development have not been yet totally faded away. Rather, the challenges are still part of the inherited pastoral problems that contravening efforts of the multi-actors. That means, although the outcomes of the subsequent deliberations are encouraging, there is still an uphill struggle ahead of the pastoralist and partners/stakeholders to get the age-old pastoral issues addressed. For instance, the mechanism to use livestock as collateral to get loan from bank, and lack of micro-finance institution are among the few.

The Government and concerned decision makers are expected to present the developments so far made in regard to the resolutions and related matters that have been passed the other year and before. As is it well known Ethiopia is one of the prim countries affected by climate change especially by drought in which the pastoralist have been suffering from severe challenges of climate change. Thus, issues of climate change and maximizing best experiences from across the pastoral regions need to be scaled up will take attention.

Therefore, it is imperative to commemorate the 12<sup>th</sup> EPD to leverage the renewal of all pastoral actors' commitment and to converge efforts of actors to take extra-steps in order to support the pastoral livelihood to build renaissance of Ethiopia in a strong base. To this effect, Ministry of Federal Affairs (MoFA) jointly with Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia (PFE) and the Pastoralist Affairs Standing Committee (PASC) in the FDRE House of Peoples' Representatives, with full support and involvement of the Somali regional government, organized the 12<sup>th</sup> EPD from January 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in Jigjiga town of the Somali region. The motto of the day was ***"By Scaling up Our Best Achievements, the Pastoralist Build Ethiopian Renaissance on Strong Base"***

The primary objectives of the 12<sup>th</sup> EPD were to consolidate encouraging achievements obtained so far in pastoral development and recognition of pastoralist; to enhance pastoral solidarity and amplifying pastoralist' voice to be heard; and, to influence policy makers and all pastoral actors to renew their commitment for the overarching goal- enhancing good governance and sustainable pastoralist development.

The event was attended by more than 2000 celebrants drawn from representatives of pastoralist of all pastoral regions various levels government institutions, donor community, NGOs/ CSOs, researchers and academics, private sector and journalists.

This report discusses the overall processes, contents, and outcomes of the celebration. The report is organized in to six major parts, the first three parts deal with the introduction, objectives and expected outcomes. The fourth part described the setting and organization of the event. Part five summarize the major achievements of the celebration. Part –six presents Appendixes.

## **2 The setting**

- The 12th EPD will be celebrated from 25th- 26th Jan 2009 in Jigjiga Town, the Somali Regional State's Capital , Jigjiga, and accompanied by various festivity, field excursion, and best practices sharing
- The 12th EPD focuses on scaling up of best achievements so far obtained in the pastoralist areas to build the renaissance of Ethiopia in the strong base, that is, sharing experience and best practices on research findings, livestock development and marketing, natural resource management, and social development, etc among pastoral institutions at the federal and regional levels.
- Climate change issues and its consequences on pastoral development and promotion of the potential of pastoral regions, for instance, investment opportunities through exhibitions, eco-tourism through camel beauty contest, livestock march, etc
- Decentralizing the celebration modality to the regions and Woreda levels to increase involvement of pastoralist and partners
- Invitation of Head of the State/Head of the Government to officiate opening of celebration, and pass key message(s) on the way forward to advance pastoral development in the country
- Response to the issues raised during the 11th EPD and previous EPDs by the Government and Non-State Actors (NSA), in depth discussions, and passing the resolution of the day
- Special award to successful pastoralist, and partners
- Enhancing pastoral empowerment through facilitating and enabling pastoralist to speak for themselves through passing key messages for the policy makers and pastoral actors at large, to open up space for discussion and debate on matters that affect their lives and livelihoods, and come up with resolutions
- Promotion of pastoral solidarity focusing on multiculturalism through cultural songs/shows
- An action plan for the coming year will be developed and agreed up on by partners
- Reaching out to the Public Domain through Press Conference/releases/ and use of various message conveying tools like brochures, billboards, flyers, banners, etc
- Keep the ISSUES alive through sustaining coverage of findings/stories and Editorials
- Policy advocacy and more linking the issues to Political Structures like Pastoral Affairs Standing Committee (PASC)

## **3 Goal and Objective**

The overall objectives of the 12th EPD are to consolidate encouraging achievements obtained so far in pastoral development and recognition of pastoralist; to enhance pastoral solidarity and amplifying pastoralist' voice to be heard; and, to influence policy makers and all pastoral actors to renew their commitment for the overarching goal- enhancing good governance and sustainable pastoralist development.



The specific objectives are to:

- Create a stage for the decision makers and other actors to present/reflect on what have been done so far vis-à-vis the resolutions passed during the 11th EPD and before;
- Discuss and debate on selected pastoral related policy/strategy/programs developed and implemented so far in the country to narrow development gaps between the nation and the pastoral regions;
- Enhance pastoral solidarity through promotion of multiculturalism/cultural pluralism under the pastoral context;
- Keep momentum of promoting pastoral potentials and deal with climate change consequences;
- Ensuring sustainability of pastoralism through provision of special awards to successful hero pastoralist and partners; and,
- Document and disseminate the process and resolutions of the Day.

#### **4 Expected Result/Output**

- OUTCOME ONE: Momentum of pastoral advocacy on promotion of pastoralism keep on and pastoralist' integration in national socio-economy ensured
- OUTCOME TWO: The status of pastoral development in the country known and gaps discussed
- OUTCOME THREE: Pastoral solidarity through promotion of multiculturalism/ cultural pluralism under the pastoral context enhanced: pastoralist coming from different area show their culture through songs, shows, their living environment, etc
- OUTCOME FOUR: The Public Domain reached out and the profile of pastoralists and pastoralism raised
- OUTCOME FIVE: The whole process and outcomes of the 12th EPD documented and disseminated

#### **5 Achievements**

##### ***5.1 Preparation and promotion***

###### **a. Organizing committee**

The overall management of organizing the 12th EPD (planning, preparation, coordination) was done by organizing a supreme committee of 9 members supported by sub-committees. Under the auspicious of the main committee there were three sub-committees established having specific roles and responsibilities. Terms of Reference was developed for both supreme and sub committee to guide and monitor their day to day activities. The committee had regular meeting to monitor the progress of the preparation tasks.

The main committee is composed of 9 persons drawn from five institutions- under MOFA, State Minister (Chairperson), Director of equitable Development Directorate for Afar region; Director of equitable Development Directorate for Somali region; Head of Federal PCDP, Director of Public relation directorate; Director of Finance; Property and Procurement Directorate; Pastoral Affairs Standing Committee in the House of Peoples' Representative (member), Director of Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia/PFE, delegate of Somali regional government coordination committee ( Member), and delegate of Ethiopia Radio and Television Agency. The main committee had the following responsibilities:

- The main committee is the leading organ in designing, directing and monitoring the overall activities of the 12th EPD
- Establish sub-committees, review and approve action plans, give directions and undertake M&E
- Decide on motto and venue of the event, type and number of participants, and dispatches the letter of invitation on time
- Prepare a consolidated report based on the resolutions made in the 12th EPD
- Raise fund and decide on budgetary matters
- Facilitate for enough coverage of media
- Decide on all additional activities deem necessary for the good of the event

**b. Celebration modality**

- ✚ The 12th EPD was celebrated at national and regional level. At national level, PFE, the Ministry of Federal Affairs (MoFA), and the Pastoralist Affairs Standing Committee (PASC) in the EFDR House of Peoples' Representatives and the Somali regional government jointly organized the event from 25th – 26th January 2010 in Jigjiga town, Somali Regional State. The motto of the day was "We Ensure Ethiopian Renaissance on Firm Ground by Upholding Achievements in Pastoralist Community".
- ✚ In addition to the national level celebration, the day was celebrated at regional level. The day was celebrated at regional level in most of the pastoral regions (Oromia, Somali, SNNP and Afar) through the coordination and leadership of the regional governments.
- ✚ The decentralized mode of celebration has raised the plight of the pastoralists at all level and had incremental value to address voice poverty at the national level.
- ✚ The key message of the Day was "We Ensure Ethiopian Renaissance on Firm Ground by Upholding Achievements in Pastoralist Community". The message was conveyed to the policy makers and public through various tools.
- ✚ The 12th EPD celebration encompasses three major sessions. Session one is the opening session which encompasses opening speech, Guttural and musical show, Premier speech, elders blessing, pastoralist award, presentation of report by Ministry of Federal Affairs. Session two was the panel discussion session where by the pastoralists openly raised their issues and discussed with the prime minister. Session three was more of experience sharing among different pastoral groups. Under this session pastoralists and all the gusts went to some selected kebeles in Jigjiga zone of Somali region and visited development activities at grass root level and discussed with Somali pastoral community.

- ✚ Representatives of all pastoral regions have also presented their particular experience to the participants. After all the process the pastoralists concluded their celebration through drawing the resolution of the day
- ✚ The celebration of the 12th EPD was undertaken successfully as per the schedule and celebration modalities. All planned activities of the event were delivered effectively and efficiently.
- ✚ The celebration was attended by higher government officials including the PM. During the day pastoralists of the country presented their cultural shows to the celebrants, higher government officials presents reports encompassing responses to the resolution of the past pastoralist days, the PM awarded hero pastoralist, Pastoralists made deep discussion with the PM and raised their issues, pastoralists made field visit in, research institutes shared their experience and finally the pastoralist passed their resolution.

### **c. Proposal writing and fund raising<sup>2</sup>**

A draft project proposal on celebrating the 12th EPD was prepared by Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia, Commented, enriched and approved by the Supreme organizing committee. The total cost of celebrating the event (for costs to be covered at federal level) was estimated as 1,991,661 ETB excluding costs covered by Somali regional government. Out of the total, ETB 800,000 was contributed by Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia (ISS – 379589.94, SAVE US - 139,941, CORDAID – 54000, WFD- 200,000), ETB 500,000 covered by Federal PCDP, where as the rest was covered from the federal government contribution.

In addition to the above, the Somali regional government covered food and accommodation cost of all participants, costs associated with school children mass sport, preparation of celebration venue, police musical band and other music bands, additional cape and shirts and preparation of additional flag.

### **d. Lobbying higher decision makers**

The supreme organizing committee has systematically lobbied for higher decision makers' to officiate the event and participate in the celebration. Accordingly higher decision makers including H.E Prime minister Melese Zenawi and his cabinet attended the event.

### **e. Participant selection and invitation**

The supreme organizing committee identified/decided the list and the total number of the participants. The invitation letter was prepared and signed by Minster of Federal Affairs Ministry and distributed through post office, fax and through all other possible means. The invitation letter for NGOs was distributed through Pastoralist Forum Ethiopia. The total number of the federal level 12th EPD participants were more than 2000 (including facilitators, Musical bands, Awardees pastoralists and journalists) drawn from representatives of pastoralist of all pastoral regions, various levels government institutions, donor community, NGOs/ CSOs, researchers and academics, private sector, and journalists.

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<sup>2</sup> This cost is only refers to the fund raised and expenditures at the Federal Level

#### **f. Preparation and distribution of promotion materials**

Promotional materials reflecting the existing situations of Ethiopian pastoralists and key message of the event were prepared, printed in adequate copy, and distributed to the celebrants of the day. The preparation of the promotional materials was done by "*documentation and public relation sub committee*" which was organized by the supreme committee. The following is the major achievements made with regard to promotional materials:

- One big Digital Billboard prepared and posted in key public gathering area.
- 2000 copies of magazine reflecting existing situation of Ethiopian pastoralists and key issues of EPD were prepared, printed and distributed to the participants
- Ten big Banners were prepared and posted in different places in Jigjiga town and in the compounds of Jigjiga Stadium where the day was celebrated
- 1500 T-Shirts and 1500 Capes prepared and distributed to the celebrants of the day
- 2000 posters depicting key issues of 12th EPD prepared and distributed to GOs and NGOs, regions, donors and other pastoral friends. Some of the posters were posted in different places in Jigjiga town and in the compounds of **Jigjiga Stadium where the day was celebrated**
- 50 regional government flags and 1000 national flag prepared and posted in different places of Jigjiga town
- 1500 invitation cards prepared

#### **g. Media coverage**

The overall process and implementation of the 12th EPD has got wider media coverage before, during and after the actual date of celebration. The following are the major achievements with regard to media activities:

##### **Before the event**

- Ethiopian Radio and Ethiopian television (ETV) have broadcasted a program on success stories of socio economic development effort in pastoral regions ( Afar, Somali, Oromia and SNNP ) and broadcasted using various languages.
- H. E Dr. Shiferaw has delivered press conference for journalists of different media in the country
- MoFA higher officials and PFE executive directors delivered several interview in Radio and on Television as well as Newspapers to address the public on the progress and objective of the EPD
- There was series of ETV NEWS Spots on ETV promoting the DAY

##### **During the event (January 25, 2009)**

- Ethiopian Television, Ethiopian Radio and Radio Fana have adequately transmitted the ceremony of the event live in different languages, while the print media gave good coverage

## After the event

- A program on the process and activities achieved during the event was prepared and transmitted by ETV and Ethiopian Radio using different languages.
  - A program has been developed on the discussion of the Pastoralists with PM and disseminated in different languages
  - Similarly a program has been developed on the field visit of the participants to two areas of Somali region and broadcasted in different languages

## 5.2 Celebrating the event

### 5.2.1 Opening

#### a. Opening Speech by officials from MoFA

The program was started on January 25, 2009 at 9:00 am in the morning through brief introduction of the history and objectives of EPD in general and 12th EPD in particular; and tentative programs of the 12th EPD celebration by H.E Ato Mulugeta Wuletaw, state minister, Ministry of federal Affairs. That was followed by invitation of Pastoral elders to deliver traditional blessing

#### b. Elders blessing

Elder pastoralist from Oromia, Afar, Somali and SNNP region made blessings one after another in their own language and forwarded a key message of the day.

#### c. Welcome speech Hon. Ato Dawid Mohammed, President of Somali region

Right after the ceremony of traditional blessing, Ato Dawed Mohammed, President of Somali regional state, has delivered welcoming speech.

#### d. Presentation of Cultural show/Music

Cultural and traditional music teams from Somali, Afar, SNNP and Oromia regional states have showed their *cultural songs, costumes, their living environment, etc* in their own languages one after another. The music teams from all regions wear their traditional wear with some of them having painted their body with different colors (SNNP). This can be taken as an ideal stage that the pastoralists strengthen their solidarity to voice together.





### e. School children Mass sport and show

School children trained by professional decorated the celebration through mass sport and various colorful shows.



### f. Federal Police Music band Marsh show

Federal Police music marsh band also gave special tone and image of the day.



### **g. Animal Marching**

The very interesting part of celebration was the camel marching guided by pastoral women and men from Somali community. More than 10 camels hang various advocacy messages at their back and passed slowly in the front of higher government officials and the celebrants of the day.



### **5.2.2 Presentation of Government report**

The Minister of MoFA, Dr Shiferaw Tekelemariam, has presented progress reports and lesson learnt vis-à-vis the resolutions passed in the 11<sup>th</sup> EPD. In gross, the reports revealed the slight progress in social development as compared to the previous years.

#### **Presentation of Minister of Federal Affairs Ministry**

The Minister of Federal Affairs Ministry, Dr Shiferaw Tekelemariam, has presented detail reports on the responses of the Ethiopian government for the resolution passed during the 11<sup>th</sup> EPDs and the progresses made in socio economic development efforts in pastoral areas. The following were the major achievements made in pastoral regions since celebrating the 11<sup>th</sup> EPD:

#### **Capacity building**

- In Afar and Somali pastoral regions, through public sector capacity building program, various capacity building training was given for government officials and technical staff. Training on BPR was given for more than 100 higher government officials from both Somali and Afar region; for 276 change agents from Somali region and for 247 change agent from Afar region. In addition the two regions were supported by Federal and neighboring region in designing and implementing the BPR. As the result the two region have almost completed the development work processing.
- Various Intensive on job training on different development issues including agricultural extension, livestock resource development – (camel and goat milk production, forage, and fattening), cooperative management, Neutral resource, Marketing, impute supply and distribution, have been given for regional, Woreda and development center workers of Afar and Somali regions.

- Extension departments in Somali and Afar region were provided with 2 lap top computers, 1 digital camera, 1 LCD. In addition 21 desk top computers, 21 printers and 21 photocopy machines distributed to woredas in Afar region.
- Higher level education opportunity was given for 8 master level and 55 first degree level students for technical professionals working in Afar and Somali regions
- In Oromia region capacity building training was given for 131,393 pastoralists. TOT training on project management and M&E was given for 31 Woreda staff. In addition training on livestock development, range management, crop production, and natural resource management was given for 4, 775 Woreda and development center workers..
- Good governance package was translated in Somali and Afan Oromo. In Somali region training on the package was given for 8,807 people at Woreda level and for 331, 213 people at kebele level, similar training was also given in 32 woredas and 380 kebeles in Afar region; in 5 zones and 30 woredas of Oromia region

## **Agriculture/pastoralism and rural development**

### **Somali region**

- Livestock vaccination coverage increased from 36.3% to 60%
- Training on Agricultural input provision and dissemination manual was given for 40 development workers
- Training also organized for 40 development workers on the newly approved Pastoral community participatory extension system
- More than 55843 ha of land developed for crop cultivation
- 800 ha of degraded land protected
- The number extension package beneficiaries increased from 9,631 to 15, 576
- Training was given for 120 technical staff on improved crop production, natural grazing resource management, vegetable and fruit production and production of natural fertilizer.

### **Afar region**

- Livestock vaccination coverage increased from 41% to 50%
- The number extension package beneficiaries increased from 760 to 4,119
- Forage development increased from 205 ha to 6,559 ha and 75,312 qt was produced
- Investment potential study conducted in nine woredas
- Manuals on livestock and cotton marketing were developed
- 20 qu forage seed distributed to woreda

### **Oromia and SNNP**

- Fentale irrigation development project completed and the communities already started benefiting
- Development of 12 ponds completed in Oromia
- In both Oromia and SNNP region commercial destocking was done for livestock before drought affected them
- 25 clan leaders from Oromia and SNNP region shared experiences on modern animal fattening, forage development and export marketing



## **Social service and infrastructure**

- The provisions of social and economic services were remarkably improved in pastoral areas (Water, road, Alternative education, Irrigation development, Animal and human health, Telecommunication, electricity, post office).
- In Somali region potable water supply coverage increased from 40% to 60%. There are also a number of water supply projects under implementation. Potable water supply in Afar region increased from 60.34% to 68%.
- With regard to education service, in Afar region, primary school coverage increased from 40.1% to 58.2%; in Somali region it has increased from 46.7% to 65%
- In Afar the number of towns with electric power service reached 52, in Somali, they are 52; in SNNP 13 and in Oromia 87 village/ towns benefited. With regard CDM service in Oromia 12 towns, SNNP 7, Afar 3 and Somali 6 towns are benefited.
- Concerning mobile service in Oromia 14 towns, SNNP 1, Afar 12 and Somali 3 towns are benefited.

### **5.2.3 Award ceremony**

#### **a. Pastoralist award**

The PM awarded 209 people with medals and certificates (129 hero pastoralists, 12 model kebel workers, 12 Model Kebele leaders, 12 model Kebeles, 12 model woredas, 8 civic Associations and pastoral cooperatives, 12 model pastoral cooperatives, and 12 developmental investors, and the chairperson of the PFE Board of Directors.

According to the briefing of official from Ministry of Federal Affairs (MOFA), the awardees were selected from their community based on their remarkable achievement in improving their life and livelihood through own individual efforts and government extension support. The following were the major criteria are used to select the hero pastoralist awardees:

- Those pastoralists who were able to accumulate higher number of livestock wealth through their own individual effort and which can be taken as exemplary pastoralist for others.
- Those who easily adopt, apply and transfer to others modern livestock production extension methods, livestock market information, and best practices
- Those who used to sell their livestock a head of drought and change in to money before they lose their asset because of drought
- Those pastoralists who earn additional income from crop cultivation and scored tangible improvement their living
- Those who started settling around river banks, practice small scale irrigation ( produce crop, vegetables and fruits) and transformed to permanent settler
- Those who participated in local development efforts

## **b. Memorial Gift**

With the prime objective of strengthening friendship and culture of supporting each other, Ato Dawed Mohammed, President of Somali Region, presented memorial gifts to the PM, Ministry of Federal Affairs and all regional governments participated the event (Afar, Oromia, SNNP, Gambella, Benshangul, Amhara, Tigray regional governments)..

### **5.2.4 Speech of H.E Prime Minister Meles Zenawi**

The Minister of Federal Affairs Ministry, Dr Shiferaw Tekelemariam has invited H.E Prime Minister Melese Zenawi to deliver speech for the participants. Accordingly, the prime minister of FDRE, had started his speech through voicing the motto of the day and through welcoming of the participants.

The PM also mentioned that the federal government has given special attention to pastoral areas as these areas are relatively less developed parts of the country. The federal government, in addition to providing budget and technical support to pastoral regions, has performed a remarkable achievement in terms of expanding telecommunication, electricity and rural infrastructure in pastoral areas. He added also these efforts will continue in the coming period.

The PM added that the awardees of hero pastoralist are the indicator of our achievement in pastoral development and congratulated the awardees pastoralists.

In his speech the PM called for all pastoral actors to explore and scale up best pastoral development practice. Finally the PM promised that the Federal government will continue supporting pastoral development.

### **5.2.5 Pastoralist Elders discussion with PM**

Pastoral communities coming from all corner of the country have made an open discussion with the PM. During the discussion representatives of all pastoral communities raised a number of questions which include:

- (1) Livestock related :** The need to improve livestock marketing; the need to improve animal health; Introducing camel to SNNP pastoral areas
- (2) Issues related with basin based development:** The need to ensure community benefit while promoting the development of large scale dam and expanding large-scale commercial farming ( sugar cane plantation) in Awash basin; and the need to expand irrigation in Somali and SNNP
- (3) Controlling invasive species like Prosopis**
- (4) Expansion of basic services such as drinking water, education and health service**
- (5) Expanding basic economic infrastructures such as road, electricity and telecommunication**
- (6) The need to ensure Peace and manage conflict**

The PM promised that the government of Ethiopia will work aggressively to address all the questions raised by the community. He added also that each of the issues raised will be directed to the responsible ministry for immediate action. The PM office will follow-up on its implementation.

### **5.2.6 Field visit in Kebri beya and Fafen woredas**

All participants of the 12th EPD has conducted field visit in two selected woredas of Somali region (Kebri beya and Fafen woredas) for half day long. In Kebri beya woreda, the participants visited a private farm of one household which grow fruits, keep honey bee, producing cereal crop and keeping animal in an integrated manner. The participants have got a good experience of how to maximize benefit through integrating different activities which support one another.

In Fafen, the participants visited Livestock and forage research center run by Somali Pastoral and Agro pastoral research institute. The participants learned that the research center is doing a lot of works in developing improved forage varieties, conserving local pasture varieties and improving the performance of local animal breed ( Dairy cows, sheep) through hybridizing with foreign breeds.

The participants also meet with Somali local pastoral communities and learned their culture, custom and environment. The participants have been surprised by the hospitality and friendship welcoming of the Somali community. All the participants have been invited meat, milk, forage and other traditional food of Somali community.

### **5.2.7 Experience sharing among regions**

Afar and Somali regions have shared their experiences and best practices to celebrants of 12th EPD. The major practices shared by Somali and Afar regions to the participants are summarized below.

#### **a. Afar region**

Representative of Afar region has briefly presented on the history and extent of Prosopis expansion, and its socio economic and environmental impacts in the context of Afar pastoral community. The presenter indicated that the pastoralist livelihoods and ecosystem are further threatened and worsened by the invasion of pastureland and potential lands by non native plant species (Prosopis juliflora).

The regional representative was continued presenting strategies of Prosopis management practiced by Afar community through support of FARM AFrica. He indicated that it is possible to control Prosopis through in depth up - rooting (10 cm deep from the root), converting it in to charcoal for marketing and cultivating the cleared land for maize, vegetables and fodder production using irrigation water from Awash River.

The other experience shared was on the production of improved forage and introduction of improved dairy animals to the community. According to the presentation the government supported the community to engage on pasture seed reproduction. After the production, the communities will sell the seed to the government in reasonable price. The government also supported the community to keep improved dairy breeds and start fattening using the forage produced and addig additional from market.

To sum up the experience from Afar will show that in pastoral areas it is possible to reproduce pasture seed through involving the pastoralists and at the same creating additional income for the pastoral household, particularly, women. The pastoral communities can be engaged on improved animal production and be market oriented if supported and trained on the management practices.

## **b. Somali region**

There is one pastoral & agro pastoral research institute which established in Somali region, Jijiga town. The institute is working in close collaboration with Harroma University and with Ethiopian Agricultural Research Institute. The Somali Research Institute has established four zonal and two sub regional research Institutes in the region. The institutes are working on selecting relevant technologies, forage development, camel disease and feed.

The Somali pastoral & agro pastoral research institute presented to the participants its best research work experiences on participatory improved rice seed selection. Other experiences presented by Somali region include on the provision of education and health service for pastoral community.

## **5.3 Formulating and approving of the resolution of the day**

Pastoralists and partners held panel discussion on key pastoral issues and passed Ten - point resolution. Pastoralists and decision-makers and stakeholders came together, discussed and debated on key pastoral issues. The following is the resolution of the 12th EPD:

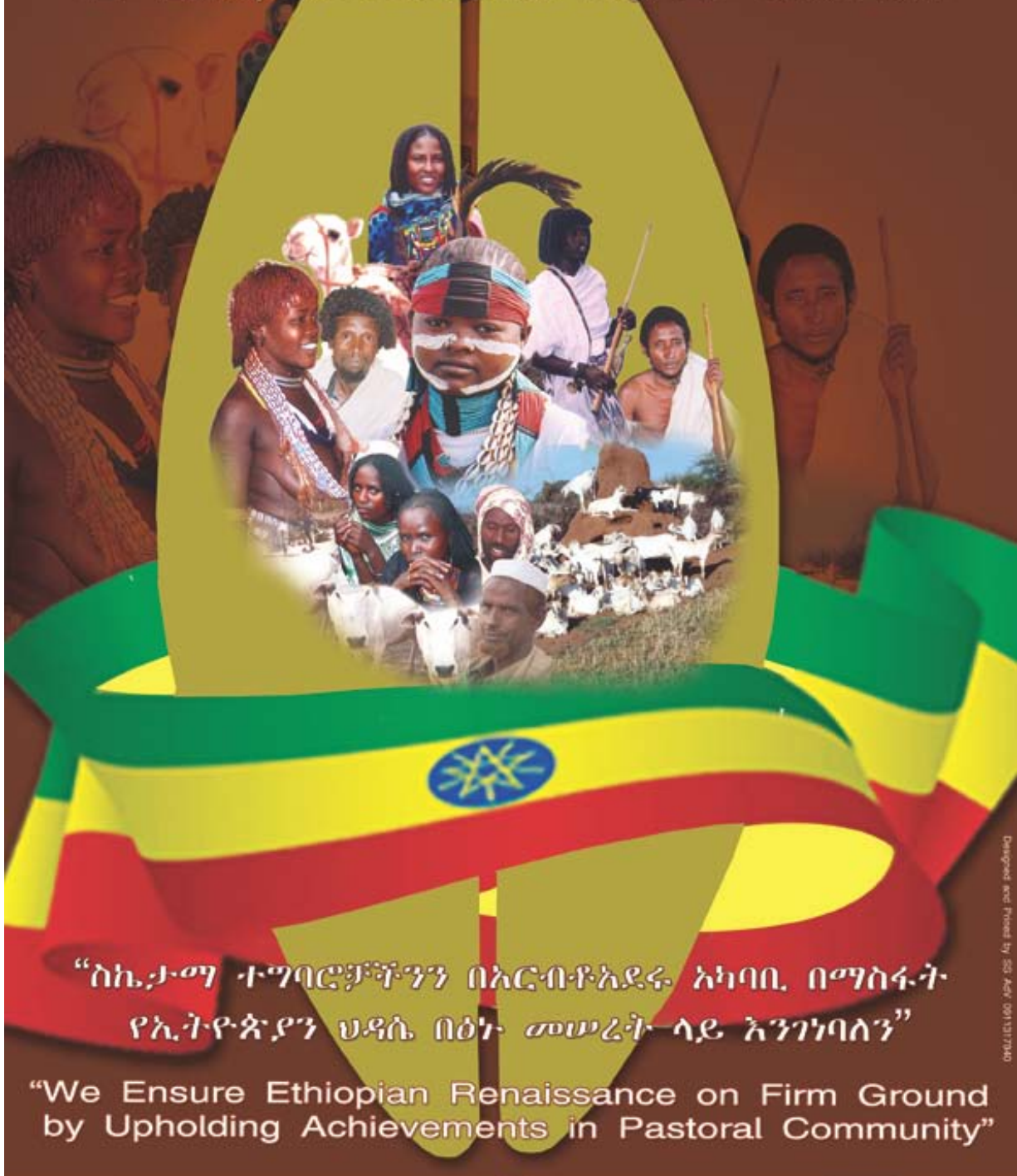
- (1) We would like to present our sincere gratitude for government and all other development partners for properly addressing most the issues that we raised in the past
- (2) We ask for timely completion of ongoing irrigation development project and continued expansion of new irrigation development to other pastoral areas through analyzing local context for sustainable development and benefit of pastoral communities.
- (3) We ask for urgent completion of the ongoing major road projects through strengthening monitoring system by the federal government and we also strongly request the commitment and attention of the regional governments to expand road networks for linking regions with zones; Zone with Zones; Zone with Woredas; and Woredas to woredas
- (4) We strongly request the attention and commitment of Federal and Regional government to give special support to livestock development in general and for provision of livestock feed and drug in particular
- (5) We strongly ask for the development of polices and working system which allow pastoralist to get loan service based on their livestock asset as bank collateral
- (6) We ask for the countries budget allocation policies to take into account the existing ecological situation and the prevailing huge livestock resource potential of the pastoral areas

- (7) Climate change is becoming the major threat of pastoral areas. We strongly ask the government and development partners to give special attention for climate change adaptation and prevention actions in pastoral areas
- (8) We ask for continued collaboration and development support among neighboring regional government to achieve sustainable development and ensure peaceful life among pastoral communities
- (9) To maximize the benefit of pastoral community from its livestock resource, we ask for the development and expansion of livestock marketing centers, strengthen internal and external marketing network and establish and functionalize marketing information system.
- (10) As most of the pastoral issues goes beyond the existing political boundary, we request for the continued collaboration and peace full working relation with the neighboring

countries

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12<sup>th</sup> Ethiopian Pastoralist Day, 25<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2010



“ስኬታማ ተግባሮቻችንን በአርብቶአደሩ አካባቢ በማስፋት የኢትዮጵያን ህዳሴ በፅኑ መሠረት ላይ እንገነባለን”

“We Ensure Ethiopian Renaissance on Firm Ground by Upholding Achievements in Pastoral Community”



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