

Minutes of IDA Annual Teleconference Meeting – May 22, 2016.

Diaspora IDA annual teleconference meeting was successfully conducted on Sunday May 22, 2016.

Agenda for the meeting were:

1. IDA activities and performances in 2015 (general)
2. IDA financial reports for year 2015 (focused on diaspora)
3. IDA plans for 2016 (general)
4. Questions and comments session

The Meeting was opened By Mr. Tesfa Hagos, the chairman of IDA international around 2:00 pm Washington, DC time. About 40 Irobs participated from different parts of the world including from USA, Europe, Israel, Canada, and Africa. They discussed for about 4 hrs.

Mr. Asgedom Berhe, IDA general board secretary, from Ethiopia briefed participants about general activities and progress of IDA back at home since the new general board management was elected in early 2015.

Mr. Asgedom has taken questions from participants and clarified all the questioned raised by the participants.

Mr. Chairman then took the stage and presented agendas as follows:

1. IDA activities and performance in 2015
 - a. New IDA main board was elected by general assembly in Adigrat in 2015
 - b. 12 years' IDA financial audit report filed and presented to new board and approved at IDA members assembly meeting in Adigrat recently. No misappropriations or financial misuse was indicated in the audit.
 - c. New branch committees elected by Irobs in adigrat, Addis Ababa, and Mekelle (in process)
 - d. Irob university students (ISA) organized as part of IDA branch
 - e. IDA coordination office opened in Adigrat in 2015
 - f. One employee hired and started working in the IDA office in Adigrat.
 - g. IDA renewed its license from Ministry of Justice of Tigray regional Gov't to continue as NGO in Ethiopia.

2. Financial Report
 - a. USA \$9,653.64 in hand-in US Bank
 - b. Wired to IDA Account in Ethiopia: \$7,520.00
 - c. Expense of 2015 in USA: wiring fee, \$50.00
 - d. Annalizing fee, \$67.00. Total expense in 2015 =\$117.00
 - e. Canada \$2,454.74 in hand, no expense
 - f. EU \$2,520.00 in hand. Sent to IDA Account in Ethiopia: \$1,550.00
 - g. Israel \$5,100.00 in hand from \$9,960.00 pledge
 - h. KSA \$1,866.44
 - i. Australia: no funds reported yet.

Total sent to IDA Account in Ethiopia: \$9,070.00

Total in hand : \$21,594.82

3. 2016 plans:

- a. Fund raising and get together meetings in future summers, the date to be determined by committee and presented to members as early as possible
- b. To Continue pushing on collection of member fees and adding new members to IDA activities and goals
- c. Special fund raising of IDA to collect its share to build Vocational school in Irob Wereda on two hectare land as soon as the project is ready for estimated cost of 120 million Birr. Will nominate fund raising irob expert committee in the future.
- d. To Apply for nonprofit/ NGO status in EU/UK and open bank Account in EUROPE

4. Questions and comments session

Conference members raised important questions mostly around membership mobilization/annual membership fees, ways and means of wide participation/involvement of all Irobs. Clarifications were given for each question and concerns by the chairman and other diaspora committee members.

Many participants expressed their happiness and appreciation for the achievements made so far and recommended to do more.

The meeting was civil, peaceful, with mutual respect and understanding except the inherent background noises of teleconference meetings.

Diaspora committee appreciates every participant's dedication and discipline

We thank you!!!!

Together, we can be heard more and accomplish more

IDA DIASPORA COMMITTEE

May 22nd, 2016