



Press Release

April 9, 2021

Representatives of several Ethiopian civic organizations from North America and Europe were briefed about a newly established organization, ***American Ethiopian Public Affairs Committee (AEPAC)*** during a virtual meeting on April 3, 2021. AEPAC is a legally registered organization in the United States as a Political Action Committee (PAC,) governed and regulated by the United States Federal Government election laws and the Federal Election Commission (FEC.) Mr. Mesfin Tegenu, Executive Chairman, presented to the participants the mission and objectives of AEPAC.

Major goals of the PAC are to:

- Lead the effort to advance and protect the strategic interests of Ethiopia by identifying and acquiring the services of a reputable public relations and lobbying firm
- Serve as a viable and strong institution that promotes a strong strategic partnership between the United States and Ethiopia
- Marshal Ethiopian Americans to register and exercise their right-to-vote in all federal, state, and local elections
- Lobby for support or opposition of candidates, who run for federal, state, and local offices, as needed. including races for US President, Senate and House of Representatives
- Recruit and encourage Ethiopian-Americans to run for elected offices
- Campaign for pro-Ethiopia US House and Senate candidates to win 10% or more of the congressional seats (about 44 house and 10 senate) during the 2022 and 2024 national and local elections.

Participating civic and advocacy organizations from the US, Canada, and Europe; in cooperation with AEPAC leaders, have established an International Ad Hoc Working Committee. The Ad Hoc Committee and AEPAC will work together in such areas as fundraising, public relations, and outreach activities to identify and acquire a reputable public relations and lobbying firm that will help advance and protect Ethiopia's strategic interests.

They also agreed to support AEPAC as donors, advisors, partners, and in other related services in order to achieve the goals of the PAC. They have committed to rally other Ethiopian Americans and friends of Ethiopia to help the PAC execute its 2022 and 2024 agenda. Many have already started setting up a recurring donation account at the web site. (<https://aepact.org/>) Ethiopian Americans, Ethiopians legally living in the United States, other Ethiopians, and friends of Ethiopia across the globe are invited to collaborate with AEPAC for this noble mission.

AEPAC Executive Committee
Washington DC, April 9, 2021