

# Ethiopian Sports Federation in North America: Challenges and New Strategies

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## Introduction

This article is based on intimate knowledge and understanding of: 1) the practices and rules of the Ethiopian Sports Federation in North America (ESFNA), 2) the enormous sacrifices that selfless patriotic Ethiopians made to build the organization, 3) the challenges that each annual event presented, and 4) the remarkable accomplishments that the Federation achieved during the past two and half decades. This statement is meant to explain the capacity of the writer to write ably on the issues facing the Federation.

The purpose of this article is to: 1) describe the practices and the guiding principles of the Federation, 2) propose new strategy in order to prevent the repeat of same problems, and 3) explain the reasons why the Ethiopians need to make the coming annual sports and cultural events the best ever.

Ethiopian-Americans are facing mounting challenges same as the Ethiopians in the Homeland. Meles Zenawi crafted the idea and forced Judge Birtukan to deliver the message describing the political vainness of the Ethiopians Diaspora. That cut new wounds that may not heal soon, but, a historic moment to prove Dictator Meles wrong about the vainness of Ethiopians and what they can and cannot do is around the corner!

## CHALLENGES to ESFNA

### The Essences of the Federation

In the absence of a legitimately established democratic government in Ethiopia, ESFNA acts like one serving Ethiopians. Members of the EC and BOD are considered Cabinet Ministers and Congressmen respectively. Each officer is thus expected to understand the magnitude of his responsibilities to the Ethiopians, and himself as such at all times.

Ethiopians come from all over the World to celebrate the week of July Fourth at a selected city in North America. They gather at a stadium where the sacred green-yellow-red flag is hoisted along the American Flag high above the giant stadium. They signal the presence of jubilant Ethiopians. Ethiopians of all backgrounds play or watch soccer matches, and celebrate their rich cultural heritages through music, dance, food and costumes. While the Federation accepts all democratic political forces that stand for united Ethiopia, it is prohibited from supporting any particular political philosophy or party. It is prohibited from making any contact directly or indirectly with the dictatorial regime via their agents and cohorts.

### Governments at War

The Dictatorial Regime of Ethiopia is at war with the democratic Institutions of the Ethiopians Diaspora. The dictator, having destroyed the leadership of Kinijit, subdued all other political opponents in the country has turned his forces against individual Ethiopians, associations, professional groups, religious and non-profit organizations that reject his ethnic based policies. The dictator has targeted ESFNA as its next frontier of war.

The current problem facing ESFNA may or may not have anything to do with the regime. However, it is virtually impossible to convince Ethiopians that the dictator is not behind it. On the other hand, it would also be totally unfair and unjust to accuse honest and patriotic officials who are serving the organization of the Ethiopians Diaspora diligently and loyally. And yet, the mounting evidences of irregularities, illogical and unconvincing explanations that members of the EC give, make it hard even to the die-hard supporters of the Federation to deny the rumor of improper connections with agents of the regime in Addis Ababa. However, in the opinion of this author, the cause of the crises is due to complete lack of management skills.

Judging from the press releases and the unofficial and official remarks, it seems that some of the officials of the EC are less impressive and it is clear that they lack basic management skills to run even a small association let alone the huge organization such as ESFNA that is also surrounded by deadly Sharks. The weakness and disarray that the officials displayed might have also attracted avalanche of cadres and paid agents of Woyane. This statement is not meant to belittle the abilities of the entire officials of EC, but to offer a plausible explanation for the cause of the crises at hand better than accusing them of serious misconducts.

### The Critical Issues

Ethiopians feel the pain of the fresh wound inflicted by the absurd remark of Dictator Meles. Almost every word that Meles utters is in nature catastrophic. Meles is an antagonist and negative with skin deep intelligence contrary to the general belief that he is a remarkable leader who would sacrifice everything to protecting the nation's territorial integrity and its sovereign independence. It is well known that he is his own worst enemy who often crafts facetious ideas to destroy others but end up cutting his own throat.

Meles was wisely advised that the forces of his political enemies, the Ethiopians Diaspora were burgeoning and his days in power were numbered if he continued to keep Birtukan in Jail. Meles always responsive to fear than to anything else, had to release Birtukan in hurry from prison. His fear must have hit high point when his hosts in

Washington, D.C. and leaders of nations around the World began avoiding him in public. Meles was clear about the political machinery that the Ethiopians Diaspora played, and bitter Meles had to send a clear message to the Ethiopians Diaspora to confuse and to cover up the reason why he released Judge Birtukan. Meles forced Birtukan to confess that she had wrongly believed that the Ethiopians Diaspora would secure her release if she went to jail. Unfortunately for Meles, the statement brought to surface and exemplified the fact that the opposite was the truth and that the reasons for her release were the political pressures that the Ethiopians exerted in Europe and North America. The Ethiopians did not have to explain that, Meles did it well.

Meles would rather lose the wars with Isaias and other half dozen nations than to the Ethiopians in Europe and America. When the BOD selected Judge Birtukan to be the Guest of Honor, the person that Meles wanted to see rotting in jail, no doubt he was distraught about it beyond belief. Meles would rather pay millions to agents to disturb the occasion, but never again by keeping her in jail and make her miss the event. When that the BOD reversed the selection the news hit the media and spread like wild fire. The rumor that agents of the regime in Addis Ababa pressured the Federation to change their decision was also everywhere. In the opinion of this writer, the sequences of events do not support the claim that external pressure played any role. That does not mean that Meles and cohorts were not happy hearing that the selection of Judge Birtukan was reversed. In fact, some of them might have begun right away applauding the action of the BOD as democratic and good to the Federation! The war continued in much complicated strategies as the agents of Woyane have become good at. Some supported the BOD others condemned them being on the side of unhappy Ethiopians. Some joined others calling for all kinds of measures against the officials of the Federation. The war game had become sophisticated and difficult for ordinary Ethiopians to see what was good and bad. The cadres played both enemies and friends knowing their ultimate mission – destroy the Federation. Meles likes wars same as a thief likes stealing and a boxer likes fighting, for that is what each does for his existence. Time will tell whose victory it will be. However, it will be impossible to imagine that the Ethiopians Diaspora will lose fighting the enemy on their own turf.

### **Serious Irregularities**

Ever since the tradition of selecting Guest of Honor started, there have always been differences and split among members of the BOD when selecting one among the other best nominees. It is the nature of the business. Ones' best hero is the second best to the other. The difference was always resolved by majority decision and the final decisions of the BOD are accepted and implemented by the EC. The majority decision is not challengeable. However, there is a procedure for reconsideration if anyone wants to challenge it.

The last meeting of the BOD according to the reports, went well in all areas of the business including the selection of the Guest of Honor. There were debates on the merits and qualifications of each nominated person. After long debates

and discussions, votes were casted and counted and the winner declared. To that point, the normal practice was carried out smoothly, and in accordance to the rules and procedures. What followed immediately afterwards, as reported by members of the EC and the BOD, was bizarre and disturbing to say the least. The irregularities that took place were uncharacteristic to the organization and clearly anti-precepts. The irregularities included:

1) Explaining the reasons why the BOD reversed its decision, the officials of EC stated that the BOD selected a political leader nominated by a novice who did not understand the rules. There were two factors that made the statement profoundly wrong. First, a member of the BOD is a delegate of his Club and as such, represents the interests of his Club. A delegate acts on the instructions of his Club how to vote and what position to take on every issue. The claim that the novice did not know his responsibilities as good as the other members of the BOD, and yet stating that the novice convinced the experienced members of the BOD to go along with his nomination is simple baffling and alarming.

2) The votes of the BOD are final and unchallengeable. Normally, the votes are casted after exhaustive debates covering all concerns. The EC has neither the authority nor the means to force the BOD to bring the moot issue up and to compel the BOD to reconsider its final decision minutes after votes were taken. The idea that a member of the BOD or someone who was not a voting member convinced the BOD to change its decision is wrong and stands as it is, inconsequential and inapplicable.

3) There were twenty seven delegates representing twenty seven Clubs, and these make up the exclusive body of the BOD. Each Club sends a representative accompanying its official delegate. The second person is an advisor to the official delegate, who may substitute if the main delegate could not attend the meetings. The second person is often the Coach or Captain of the Team who may advise the official delegate on the technical and other matters privately. This person is allowed to sit quietly behind the main delegate, and is forbidden from uttering a word during the meetings of the BOD. The statement of the officials indicates that the delegates of a Club had become hysterical over the selection of Judge Birtukan and subsequently convinced the BOD to reverse the decision. That happened, according to reports, after the meeting of the BOD was adjourned and some members had already left. This is hard to comprehend, and no wonder the EC wanted to conceal this matter from the public.

### **Elements Supporting Innocence**

The irregularities were profound and they have put the Federation on difficult course. In spite of these mishaps, there is one thing that a fair person may be inclined to consider, giving the benefit of doubt to the officials of the EC. One may presume that some members of the Board acted believing deep in their hearts that selecting a political leader will ruin the functions of the Federation. Some might be inclined to accept this explanation in good faith. However, it is hard to believe that all those who voted for Judge Birtukan did not know the

reason why they did so. If they did not know, then, it is fair to conclude that the Federation is in danger as it is being managed by incompetent individuals. That is not the case however. No doubt those who freaked out believed the rule was violated and thought the end of the World was near, and fought hard to avert the downfall of the Federation. Those who believed likewise, the die-hard supporters have argued extensively advancing this same thought. Agents of Woyane have found an opportunity to orchestrate the reversal as wise and lawful! To strengthen the idea of innocence, it helps to mention a remark of an official of the EC. The officials of EC explained that if the Federation accepted the selection of Judge Birtukan now, it would be compelled to accept Dr. Berhanu Nega next year!

In as far as Dr. Berhanu Nega is concerned, the rest of Kinijit leadership that made Kaliti the World-fames prison must be included, the Ethiopians may witness the day when the Federation honors them for introducing the first democratic practices in Ethiopia and paying high prices if they survive fighting Woyane in Town Halls of Addis Ababa or in the thick bushes of Assimba.

#### **Honoring Birtukan as Guest of Honor**

Judge Birtukan was not selected for being a woman political leader, but for telling the truth and standing for Justice. As a Judge, she punished criminals and freed innocent people, and when her turn came to tell the truth, she told the truth declaring that neither she nor her fellow leaders of Kinijit let down the Ethiopian people. She stood firm on her principles and justice even when her life was in danger. She accepted the condition to her release because she was most probably informed that her continued imprisonment may trigger chaos. She believed her action would avert imminent danger facing Ethiopia and its people and she did what was important to millions of people. Ethiopians admired her courageous symbolic act. Ethiopians believed that she deserved to be the Guest Honor of the Federation, & believe their voices matter.

### **NEW STRATEGIES**

The structure of the Federation has become outmoded and outdated and it is high time that it becomes re-organized. The new structure may prevent confusions of power overlap and power vacuum. A new body that may be called “Council” or “Commission” must be created to act just like the BOD on matters that the EC could not due to its limited authority. The BOD is a huge body that cannot meet regularly due to costs and other factors. The BOD meets twice a year and the burden is entirely on the EC the rest of the time. The EC has been acting like the BOD often being forced by unforeseen circumstances that required spontaneous decisions. This has caused power overlap and questions of authority. The Commission would be smaller in size and can meet as many times as necessary throughout the year. The Commission may make the Federation insulated from external influences by making it difficult to infiltrators. The Commission makes decisions that have the same weight as those of the BOD. The BOD takes over when it meets, and the Commission will resume its duties again at the end of the meetings of the BOD.

The Commission shall not involve in the day to day activities of the EC. However, it ensures that the decisions made by the BOD are carried out and implemented accordingly. It acts on issues and matters that require the authority of the BOD. The Commission may be composed of seven people or any number that the BOD determines. The Commission may be composed of representatives from different regions of U.S., and one representing Canada. This is to give general ideas, but the BOD shall formulate how the Commission should be established and what power it should have, etc., if it finds first, the proposal a good idea. If so, the BOD should not miss the opportunity to create the Commission when it convenes next.

### **The ROLES of the MEDIA**

There is no better alternative to the Ethiopians than defending and protecting their organization. It is not wise to demolish the organization because agents of Woyane have penetrated it or that they are all over the EC and the BOD. The Ethiopians’ media have shown the right stuff to deal effectively with the Cadres. Information is power and in this highly complex and complicated World, Ethiopians cannot afford to follow leaders of organizations when it is going in the wrong direction. Leaders may not ask the public to help them because they are being pressured or are under pressure. The Ethiopians have to sense that and come to their rescue. The extensive discussions on Radios and Pal-talks, and the articles on many websites have been very informative and extremely helpful to Ethiopians. Some links to websites, radio and Pal-talks that carried some relevant discussions are listed at the end of the article. Addisu Abebe of VOA and Abebe Belew of Addis Dimts have helped the Ethiopians Diaspora to find out the root causes of the problems concerning the recent debacles of ESFNA. This article was inspired by the exchanges of information via the articles and discussions on radios. It is also absolutely necessary to defend ESFNA from abuses, misuses and assaults by hired agents and Cadres of Woyane. If member of EC and the BOD see it, this is to rescue them and to help them carry on their remarkable services. Nothing else will be gained by this article if that is not the goal.

#### **New Frontiers to ESFNA**

The positions taken by various individuals against and in support of the Federation by very few were useful and helpful to determine what was right and wrong. However, this author regrets the fact that he found no helpful statement in the brief of a lawsuit that Elias Kifle posted in his website [ethiopianreview.com](http://ethiopianreview.com).

This author will not touch the lawsuit that lawyer Steven Sarfatti representing Eyaya Arega brought against Elias Kifle with a mile-long stick. However, the lawyer may add the following statement if he finds it helpful in support of his client’s soccer skills and outstanding contributions to ESFNA. Eyaya is an exceptionally skilled soccer player. He would pass the ball to himself from defense to midfield to where he sprints and catches the ball at midfield. He again passes the ball to himself to the offense position to where he sprints again and catches it on the air. He then kicks the ball aiming at the corner of the Goal. No Goalie even the late Dula, let alone

Abnet who dives to the left when the ball rolls on the ground at speed of ten feet per minute to the right, could see it before it rests on the net! Eyaya has elevated the caliber of the soccer tournaments as no one did. Because of him, many Sport Clubs had to bring players from Addis, hire professionals from Latin America, Europe and Africa to make the matches a little bit competitive. Many who stopped Eyaya managed to do so only by grabbing his shorts and tearing it down! Not many would understand this sport commentary as much as Endale Tufer and Sebsebe Alemayehu who watch the game up close standing in the middle of the soccer field!

Lawyer Sarfatti is a crafty lawyer, just judging from his brief. Readers must know that this writer is a layman not a trained student of law. No need to be one to see clearly what is being done to our organization and to the Ethiopian-Americans! It is not clear whether or not it is an ambition or an actual legal service to protect the father from his foster kids, the soccer players, and from the big mouth publishers and observers. There is no question that Attorney Sarfatti will sooner or later apologize to the innocent Ethiopian political refugees. In the opinion of this author, the actions of the EC and BOD have nothing to do with the core legal issue, but Lawyer Sarfatti may not agree.

Attorney Sarfatti has initiated lawsuit, representing a client, a private person, and defending the actions of another party, the officials of EC and BOD in a complex set of legal frame as Attorney Sarfatti has devised it. It looks a frivolous act to represent the officials of the Federation, in a case that has not yet materialized and manifested in the court of law. The complainants are simply hypothesized in the mind of Attorney Sarfatti. In any case, it helps to stipulate what Attorney Sarfatti has in mind besides his present client: the officials of the Federation. The Ethiopian-Americans think that the officials of the Federation are their Ministers and Congressmen. For now, there is no evidence of Attorney-Client relationship between him and the officials of the BOD, even though he has extensively defended their actions that the Ethiopian-Americans have complained about.

It is not yet clear whether the whole thing is to defend the dictator by defending ESFNA. The lawsuit is against one person, but the collateral damages of the lawsuit encompass millions of people as it is framed. Representing the officials of the EC and the BOD and defending their actions is totally different from proving the wrong actions wrong of another fighter in a defamation suit. The lawsuit tactfully frames the roles of the officials of the EC and the BOD to be right and correct in order to prove his client was defamed.

Attorney Sarfatti knew that thousands perhaps millions were upset by the actions of the EC. The purpose to present elaborate defense for the officials seems a planned strategy to discourage the Ethiopian-Americans from demanding the BOD to correct the wrong action and to reinstate the original decision to honor Judge Birtukan, and to encourage the officials to continue on the wrong course. The statements are riddled with contradictions. Attorney Sarfatti has caused confusions and conflicts which have far reaching

consequences. The particular statements contained in the briefs of the lawsuit that implicate the Federation and Ethiopian-Americans are partly quoted in the following:

“... On October 16 and 17, 2010, Mr. Arega attended the annual meetings of ESFNA in Atlanta, GA representing the DC Ethio-Stars F.C. team. .... In the civic affairs category, two Ethiopian citizens were considered for the 2011 Guest of Honor distinction: Ms. Birukan Mideksa and Mr. Mohamed Ahmed.

Ms. Mideska initially received approval by a narrow 12 to 11 of the ESFNA Board. However, because the margin of approval was lacking consensus, the Board, minutes later, reconsidered the matter, and after debating the ramifications that the selection of Ms. Mideksa, in light of her political involvements, might have for the ESFNA organization and its ability to carry out its core mission, the Board reversed initial approval of Ms. Mideksa. During the Board's reconsideration of this matter, Mr. Arega spoke about ESFNA's guiding principles and how they relate to the matter of selecting a prominent Ethiopian each year to receive special tribute at the organization's annual soccer event. In his remarks to the Board, Mr. Arega explained why he believed that ESFNA should refrain from considering political figures for its highest award because introducing politics into the organization's decision-making process could further destabilize and divide the Ethiopian community that ESFNA was formed to serve. Mr. Arega also observed that Mr. Ahmed's selection would be more in keeping with the non-sectarian, non-political philosophy of ESFNA, inasmuch as Ms. Mideska has been openly associated with a particular political point of view and political movement. Consequently, the selection of such a person by ESFNA might be construed as an official endorsement by the organization of a particular political movement, party or affiliation. The selection might also offend many Ethiopians and could dissuade them from supporting ESFNA's athletic mission or attending ESFNA's 2011 tournament or other future events.”

The assertion as stated above discourages the officials and others from taking appropriate corrective measures. It gives the officials false cover, and the idea that they were right. Every Ethiopian has vested interest in this matter, and as the legal issue has been framed to encompass the interests of all Ethiopians, it would be necessary to assess the extent that the Federation is implicated in the lawsuit. The strategy that Attorney Sarfatti used to prove the innocence of his client may not be in the best interest of the officials and the Federation and this must be clear to all.

Attorney Sarfatti does not represent the officials of the EC or the BOD. He represents one of the officers with certain capacity either as a member of the Board or as a backup delegate of his Club. Yet, the brief appears to defend the actions of the EC. Attorney Sarfatti may have done that intentionally for other purposes and that is where the unknown harm and danger lies to the Federation.

Attorney Sarfatti is hereby requested to retract his misleading and divisive statements and apologize to Ethiopian-Americans. Attorney Sarfatti may do this if he desires to regain the respect of his invaluable Ethiopian-American friends. Doing so also averts the ongoing destructive activities to the cultural and sport events that Ethiopians are preparing to celebrate at Atlanta.

## Conclusion

The officers of the Federation are volunteers who are dedicated to maintain the continuity of their cultures and traditions. The organization was built by volunteers none of whom were paid. They spend a great deal of their time and resources and sacrifice the needs of their families and their own yearlong. Volunteers are not appreciated as much as they should be, and sadly some are even abused. It must stop!

The current officials have responsibility to serve the Federation loyally till the end of their terms and be able to transfer the tradition to the next leadership. They must remember the fact that they are the Ministers and Congressmen of the Ethiopians Diaspora. They must conduct themselves as such and when they leave, they must leave behind a legacy that they will be proud of for the rest of their lives.

The Federation is a non-profit organization. It seeks and accepts charity from any one and it can also give appropriate services in return without compromising its principles and rules. Former officers of the Federation who may be in positions to help the organization must continue to do so at the same time protecting its interests, images and its legal status.

The selection of Judge Birtukan Mideksa for the Guest of Honor was not different from the selection of Prof. Asrat. The officials of the Federation are capable to do the right thing in this matter in order to revive the excitements that Ethiopians always have at this time of the year. Courage not ego defines the brave Ethiopians. The officials must show great courage to gain respect they deserve. The individuals and publishers of websites and producers of radio and talk shows must continue protecting the Federation as they always have been. There is expectation that Attorney Sarfatti and others would play a positive role to change events and make a landmark decision and create a turning point. Ethiopian-Americans expect it.

*Atlantawoch* may be halfway prepared, and the event will no doubt be the best ever, perhaps as big as one hundred Ethiopians' weddings! The officials of the Federation must resolve this matter quickly so that they can pay full attention to the coming event. They should make the Atlantawoch sing:

**'Ethiopians are coming!'**

Long live Ethiopia and its people!

The following are links to some of the articles and discussions on the issue.

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<http://ecadforum.com/ethiopian-news/4359>  
<http://www.abugidainfo.com/?p=16985>  
<http://www.ethiopianreview.com/content/30939>  
<http://abbaymedia.com/News/?p=6007>  
<http://ethiovision.com/does-the-letter-%E2%80%9Ce%E2%80%9D-in-esfna-stand-for-ethiopia/>  
<http://ethiopianunitydiasporaforum.com/articles/esfnas-official-account-of-what-happened-by-fasil-abebe/>  
<http://ethioforum.org/?p=4287>  
<http://tsehainy.com/tag/esfna>  
<http://www.ethioguardian.com/news.php?item.4156>  
<http://ethiopianunitydiasporaforum.com/articles/esfna-and-birtukan-by-tesfaye-abebe/>  
<http://addisvoice.com/2010/10/birtukan-mideksa-and-esfna-tesfaye-abebe/>  
<http://addisvoice.com/2010/12/non-transparent-esfna-by-ldj/>  
<http://addisvoice.com/2010/11/esfna-still-misleading-stakeholders/>  
<http://addisvoice.com/2011/01/why-esfna%E2%80%99s-should-fire-its-pr-officers-b-sinziro/>  
<http://ethiomeia.com/augur/4046.html> (Samuel Tiku - ESFNA's guest of honor problem: Mixing sports with politics)  
<http://www.ecadftube.com/content/79> (Ephrem Madebo- Does the Letter E in ESFNA stands for Eth?)  
<http://ethiomeia.com/augur/4032.html> (Tibebe Samuel Ferenj - In Defense of ESFNA A Response to Ephrem Madebo)  
<http://ethioforum.org/?p=3900> (Rosa Abadir – Letter to Samuel Ferenj Ragrding ESFNA)  
<http://nazret.com/blog/index.php/2010/10/26/ethiopia-esfna-and-birtukan-a-member-s-perspective?blog=15> (Tesfaye Abebe – A Member Perspective)  
<http://www.abugidainfo.com/?p=16469> (Yilma Bekele – ESFNA: The Face of Ugly Ethiopia)  
<http://ecadforum.com/ethiopian-news/4327> (LJD, Senior Consultant)  
<http://addisnegeronline.com/2010/10/reforming-esfna/>  
<http://www.ethiopianreview.com/content/30939> (ER Report)  
<http://www.abugidainfo.com/?p=16379> (Robele Ababya – ESFNA: Still Misleading Shareholders)  
<http://www.ethiomeia.com/augur/4424.html>  
<http://tegar.org/?p=65>

<http://nazret.com/blog/index.php/2010/10/23/ethiopia-esfna-s-error-regarding-birtukan-mideksa-as-its-guest-of-honor?blog=15>  
<http://ecadforum.com/ethiopian-news/825>  
<http://ecadforum.com/ethiopian-sport-news/487>  
<http://twitter.com/prnewstoday/status/25785588787449856>  
<http://www.ethiotube.net/video/11597/VOA-Amharic-Discussion--ESFNAs-invitation-of-Birtukan-Mideksa-and-its-reversal>  
<http://www.ethiopianreview.com/articles/32088>  
<http://addisvoice.com/2010/11/is-it-possible-to-reform-esfna-kirubel-bekele/>  
<http://www.ethioguardian.com/news.php?item.4139>  
<http://www.ethiosun.com/2008/06/ethiosun-hopes-that-fifas-action-would-teach-esfna-a-lesson/>  
<http://ecadforum.com/ethiopian-news/5067>  
<http://www.channels.com/episodes/show/6392340/ECADF-interview-Abreha-Belay-and-Shakespear-Feyissa-Part-2?page=3>  
<http://www.ethiosun.com/2010/12/ethiopia-%E2%80%93-esfna%E2%80%99s-guest-of-honor-problem-mixing-sports-with-politics/>  
<http://www.andinetna.com/2010/10/23/esfna%E2%80%99s-factual-and-legal-error-regarding-the-invitation-of-judge-birtukan-mideksa-as-its-guest-of-honor-by-shakespear-n-feyissa/>  
<http://ecadforum.com/ethiopian-sport-news/487> (Kirubel Bekele - Is it Possible to Reform ESFNA?)  
<http://abbaymedia.com/News/?p=5717> (Fekade Shewakena - Resolving the ESFNA Impasse)  
<http://www.ze-abysinia.com/> (ze-abysinia.com - ESFNA's Leading Members direct association with TPLF and Alamoudi)Resolving the ESFNA Impasse)  
<http://www.ethiosun.com/2010/11/boycott-the-atlanta-soccer-tournament-condemn-ethiopian-sports-federation-in-north-america-esfna/> (ethiosun - Boycott the Atlanta Soccer Tournaments & Condemn Ethiopian Sports ..)  
<http://www.aend-ethiopia.com/sports/> (Interview with Kibirt Zenebwork Aregaw)