

EDITORIAL

The *Ethiopian Journal of Health Development* is a publication of the National Health Development Network of Ethiopia (NHDN-E). Background on the NHDN-E can be found elsewhere in this first issue of the *Journal*; in brief, it serves as an institutional framework to mobilize, organize, coordinate and strengthen Ethiopia's capabilities to meet the challenge of achieving Health For All by the Year 2000. The *Journal* is being founded at a very timely moment, since, for the first time since the sanitary revolution of the last century the world appears to be on the brink of another real revolution in health, as witnessed by ideas newly raised in the international arena such as the Economic Order (with all its implications for better health), Health by the People, Primary Health Care and Health For All by the Year 2000.

The Ethiopian Journal of Health Development will be a forum for the exchange of ideas on all aspects of health development and primary health care. It is a multi-disciplinary journal for administrators and planners in many fields, as well as for concerned non-professionals. The breadth of its interests is illustrated by the variety of institutions which are members of the NHDN-E. Ethiopia, and East Africa in general, lack such a forum for the thorough articulation and exchange of ideas on the policy, organizational and technical alternatives of the coming revolution in health.

The Journal will publish articles which meet high scientific standards and focus on important topics in community health and health development. Issues of interest include (but are not limited to) management of health services, health economics and financing, planning and evaluation of different methods of delivering health services, training and use of health manpower, socio-economic factors related to health and health services, medical geography, broader topics from scientific work on health care and intersectoral approaches of PHC. A more extensive list will be found the "Information for Contributors".

The Editorial Board and Editorial Consultants are jointly publishing in this first issue and extensive article on "Health, Development and Primary Health Care" in order to raise some of the issues that may be addressed in future numbers of the Journal. We have also attempted to present articles on a variety of topics and from a number of different perspectives. The Board sincerely invites contributors from Ethiopia and other countries to submit both short articles and in-depth studies on activities in their countries and to use the Journal both to learn and teach about health development.

Lastly, the Editorial Board has found it an exciting experience to bring out this first issue of the *Ethiopian Journal of Health Development*. In spite of the difficulties, we are pleased to be involved in starting a journal that is both timely and has a genuine purpose, that of helping to attain "health for all". In Ethiopia, it is most encouraging that the *Journal* has been given priority at the national level (under NHDN-E). The strong and generous support of high officials in Ethiopia and the World Health Organization is demonstrated by the introductions to this issue from the Ministry of Health, the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council and the African regional Office of W.H.O. The Editorial Board members would like to express their profound gratitude for the support offered by Comrade Brigadier General Dr. Gizaw Tsehai, Comrade Mersie Ejigu and Dr. Comlan A.A. Quenum. The Editorial Board also thanks the Ad-Hoc Committee members - Drs. Yayehyirad Kitaw, Hailemariam Kahasay and Nebiat Tafari - for laying the ground work for the *Journal* and for their continuing help to the Board.

Welcome to the *Ethiopian Journal of Health Development!*