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Asmara, 31 May 2010 - In its 7th congress at the NCEW Hall on May 29, the Eritrean Bookshop Association disclosed that parents have vital role to play in efforts to nurture reading habit in the society, especially children and youths.

Speaking at the congress, the director general of human resource development in the Education Ministry, Mr. Petros Hailemariam, indicated that the Government is doing its level best to nurture reading habit through constructing libraries and expanding information facilities at the national level. Encouraging outcome has also been borne as regards upgrading the skill of experts engaged in research and documentation, he added.

Noting that the illiteracy rate in the country has been reduced, he explained that a lot still remains to be accomplished so as to further drop such a rate. Mr. Petros pointed out that expansion of information facilities is imperative for nurturing reading habit.

The chairperson of the Eritrean Bookshop Association, Ms. Azeb Tewelde, stated that the Association is working diligently to promote youth participation in the ongoing efforts to nurture reading habit. It is also offering training courses for its members on bookshop and archive management, she elaborated.

Following discussion on papers presented, the participants of the congress elected an Executive Committee for the next 2 years.