**Short description of Shengo**

Upon realizing the dangerous political development and intending consequences stirred by the TPLF/EPRDF’s brutal and dictatorial rule, various Ethiopian opposition groups set out to collectively find solutions towards bringing democratic changes and lasting peace to our suffering people. About three years ago, a few prominent Ethiopians started the process by calling on all Ethiopian opposition forces to form an alliance. This call was positively received by a number of political and civic organizations as well as other prominent Ethiopians and joined the alliance-building effort. Much effort was made to make the process all inclusive. Finally after 22 months of preparation, an all-parties conference attended by several Ethiopian political & civic organizations and renowned individuals was held in Canada’s capital Ottawa from May 18 to 21, 2012. The participants assessed the prevailing situation of Ethiopia and reflected on the lessons learned from past experiences of alliances and coalitions. The Conference culminated in a unanimous agreement to form an alliance and the establishment of the Ethiopian People’s Congress for United Struggle (hereinafter “The Shengo”).

The Shengo stipulated five unifying points, namely:
- Accepting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ethiopia;
- Respecting the rule of law;
- Accepting a democratic system of governance;
- Believing in the equality of all citizens before the law; and
- Believing in the removal of the dictatorial regime of TPLF/EPRDF and replacing it with a democratic political system accountable to the people.

Further, the Congress approved its bylaws together with its structure and it named its executive leadership and various departments. The Shengo had its second congress on July 8, 2013. In between congresses the higher body is the Shengo Council constituted by 3 representatives from each member organizations. The council regularly meets every three months. Under it is the executive committee (13 members) which manages the day to day activities.

The Shengo extends its open arms for any political and civic groups as well as individuals who share our five cornerstone values to join us in the struggle for a better Ethiopia.

Elected officers at by the second congress are:

Chairman – Dr. Taye Zegeye  
V/chairman – Dr. Ermias Alemu

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Member organizations in Shengo are:

**Political organizations:**

Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Party (Democratic)  
The Ethiopian Medhin Democratic Party (Medhin)  
Tatek Movement for Freedom, Democracy and Unity for Ethiopia.  
Tigrean Alliance for National democracy (TAND)  
All Ethiopia Socialist Movement (ME’ISONE)

**Civic Organizations:**

Ethiopian Civic Consortium in UK  
Solidarity Committee for Ethiopian Political Prisoners Canada (SOCEPP Canada).  
Ethiopian Civil Society Support Group in London Ontario  
Dallas Support Committee  
Ethio-Canada Democratic Forum in Ottawa  
Beruh Ethiopia Democratic Movement  
Democracy For Ethiopia Forum San Jose