WHEREAS, the broadcasting service technology has grown and renovated from time to time; and subsequently, it is found necessary to improve the existing organizational structure and utilization of the same technology into place inorder to ensure the benefits of the society;

RECOGNIZING, THAT, the role of broadcast service is highly significant in further strengthening and ensuring the sustainable continuity of development, peace and democracy of the country and democratic unity of the society which is founded on equality and liberal integration;

WHEREAS, it is found necessary that Ethiopian Radio and Television has its own institutional and procedural freedom as well as better legal protection so as to discharge its expected role in serving as bridge to connect the government and the people thereby ensuring civic participation and common benefit of the society and promote free expression of ideologies and views among the society in compliance with the provisions of the Constitution;
WHEREAS, it is found necessary to establish Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation and enable it to provide its service in a more efficient, quality and competent way;

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with Article 55 (1) of the Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, it is hereby proclaimed as follows:

PART ONE
GENERAL

1. Short Title

This Proclamation may be cited as the “Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation Establishment Proclamation No. 858/2014”.

2. Definitions

Unless the context otherwise requires, in this Proclamation:

1/ “employee” includes journalists, technical staffs, supportive staffs, directors and hierarchical officials of the Corporation;

2/ “broadcasting” means audio and audio-visual broadcasting service delivered to the public in order to educate, inform or entertain the society through radio, television, internet and different electronic devices;

3/ “Board” means a body that is responsible to hold steering management responsibility of leading the Corporation comprising members appointed by the House of Peoples’ Representatives upon recommendation by the Prime Minister;

4/ “region” means any state referred to in Article 47(1) of the Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and includes the Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa city Administrations;

5/ “person” means any natural legal person;

6/ “program” means vocal or visual or audiovisual arrangement transmitted to inform, educate or entertain or all-inclusive transmission program;
4. Establishing

The objectives of the Corporation are:
1/ broadcasting main and current issues happening in the country and abroad as well as educational and entertainment events on the radio, television and website in different local and foreign languages;
2/ creating national consensus; supporting all national efforts made to protect and promote national identity and dignity, diversity, tolerance and democratic unity.

5. Objectives of the Corporation

The objectives of the Corporation are:
1/ to collect news and news packages which are relevant and important for the society and deliver them to the beneficiaries on the radio, television and website in different local and foreign languages;
8. The Board

The Board shall comprise a chairman, a secretary and seven members, save this number may increase as it may be necessary.

2/ The chairperson and members of the Board, who have been drawn from pertinent
institution and different classes of society, shall, upon recommendation by the Prime Minister, be appointed by House of Peoples' Representatives.

3. The Board shall be accountable to the House of Peoples' Representatives.

4. The term of the Board shall be five years.

5. The Chief Executive Officer shall be the secretary and member of the Board.

6. The Board shall issue its own working rule.

9. Powers and Duties of the Board

The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

1. to ensure that government policies and laws pertinent to mass media are put into practice in the Corporation;

2. to ensure that the Corporation has timely disseminated and broadcasted government policies and laws that need to be publicized to the society;

3. to evaluate whether or not the public is benefited from the service provided by the Corporation; to present recommendations as to how the public becomes further beneficiary;

4. to ensure political parties and classes of society with different views are given balanced radio and television service fairly;

5. to evaluate the contents of the program broadcasted on the radio, television, internet and other electronic devices and to forward recommendations on the ways of improvement;

6. to assess and investigate complaints presented by audiences and spectators against the Corporation; to give appropriate decision;

7. to draw up employment directive for the staffs of the Corporation; determine salary, allowance and other benefits;
10. Meetings of the Board

1/ The Board shall conduct regular meeting at least once a month.

2/ In case of emergency, the Board may hold a session at any time if the chairperson or at least one-thirds of members so request.

3/ There shall be a quorum where more than half of the members of the Board are present at its meeting.

4/ Decision of the Board shall be passed by majority vote; and in case of a tie, the chairperson have a casting vote.

5/ The Board may adopt its own rules of meeting procedure.

11. The Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation

1/ The Chief Executive Officer, shall, upon recommendation by the Prime Minister, be appointed by the House of Peoples' Representatives.

2/ The Chief Executive Officer shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation and shall carry out the duties of the Corporation with the overall direction from the Board.

3/ Without prejudice to the generality of the provision of sub article (2) of this Article, the Chief Executive Officer shall:

- to design ways to further strengthen the Corporation and improve its procedures;
- to evaluate the annual action plan and budget as well as work performance report of the Corporation and present them to the House of Peoples' Representatives;
- to deliberate and make decision regarding other policy issues related to the Corporation.
12. Deputy Chief Executive Officers

1/ The Deputy Chief Executive Officers, shall, upon recommendation by the Chief Executive Officer, be appointed by the Board.

2/ Each Deputy Chief Executive Officer shall manage, coordinate his department tasks based on the direction provided to him by the Chief Executive Officer; as well as, carry out other tasks assigned to him by the Chief Executive Officer.

13. Reporting

The Corporation shall submit to the House of Peoples' Representatives periodic report regarding the tasks it performs within the limit of its power.
14. **Budget of the Corporation**

The budget of the Corporation shall be drawn from the following sources:

1/ revenues collected in accordance with this Proclamation;
2/ supportive budget that may be allocated to the Corporation by government in order that the Corporation achieves its objectives;
3/ other sources.

15. **Procurement and Financial system**

The procurement and financial system of the Corporation shall be governed by the procurement and financial system of public enterprises.

16. **Books of Account**

1/ The Corporation shall keep complete and accurate books of accounts and financial documents.
2/ The books of accounts and financial documents of the Corporation shall be audited annually by the Auditor General.

**PART THREE**

**MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

17. **Administration of Employees**

The administration of the employees of the Corporation shall be governed by regulation to be issued by the House of Peoples’ Representatives.

18. **Power to issue regulation and directive**

1/ The House of Peoples’ Representatives may issue regulations necessary for the implementation of this Proclamation.
2/ The Board may issue directives necessary for the implementation of this Proclamation and various procedures of the Corporation.

19. **Transfer of Rights and Duties**

The rights and obligations of Ethiopian Radio and Television Agency are hereby transferred to the Corporation.
20. Repealed laws

The following laws are hereby repealed:

1/ Ethiopian Radio and Television Agency Proclamation No. 114/1995 (as amended);

2/ Ethiopian Broadcasting Service Proclamation No. 15/1975; and


21. Transitory Provision

Notwithstanding the provision of Article 20 of this Proclamation, Article 5 (6) and (9) of Ethiopian Radio and Television Agency Proclamation No. 114/1995, provisions of Ethiopian Broadcasting Service Proclamation No. 15/1975 related to registration and licensing of television and Ethiopian Broadcasting Service Regulations No. 20/1975 shall continue to be applicable until a body to be assigned by law overtakes the activities under them.

22. Effective Date

This Proclamation shall enter into force on the date of publication in the Federal Negarit Gazette.

Done at Addis Ababa, this 8th day of November, 2014.

MULATU TESHOME (DR.)
PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA