

## Work Plan of the Oromo Community Organization (OCO): July 2006-June 2007

Approved in May 13, 2006

| <b>Program</b>   | <b>Activities</b>   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1. OCO Outreach and Membership Drive</b></p> <p><i><b>Goal:</b> Increase OCO membership and improve its financial base to carry out basic activities</i></p> | <p>1. Undertake outreach and consultation activities with leaders and members of all Oromo organizations around WMA to attract members and build “bridges”</p> <p>2. Improve the financial base of OCO and undertake fund-raising activities from members and non-members; and maintain transparent financial records.</p> <p>3. Establish a volunteer program to staff the OCO office on part time basis.</p> <p>4. Strengthen Inter-Community Relations.</p>  |
| <p><b>2. Social Services Projects</b></p> <p><i><b>Goal:</b> Obtain grant support from government and private organizations for OCO functions</i></p>              | <p>Develop social service proposals, seek grants and implement the accepted proposals.</p>  |
| <p><b>3. OCO Radio Program</b></p> <p><i><b>Goal:</b> Ensure sustainability of the OCO radio program in terms of financial needs and technical programming</i></p> | <p>1. Re-activate the technical and programming support committee to recruit more volunteer staff to help with programming and technical support.</p> <p>2. Re-activate the financial committee to improve the financial sustainability of the program by undertaking fund-raising activities.</p> <p>3. Explore opportunities for access to funding from other than members’ donations (e.g. DC government funding)</p> <p>4. To enhance the radio program, integrate instructional technologies.</p> <p>5- Explores possibilities to launch periodic Afaan Oromoo print media; including News paper, Oromo Yellow pages, etc.</p> |
| <p><b>4. OCO House Project</b></p> <p><i><b>Goal:</b> Build or buy OCO house which will serve as a place for business and entertainment for its members</i></p>    | <p>1. Convene the Old House Project Committee, and all past donors to the Project to consult with them how to reactivate the Project</p> <p>2. Develop short-term and medium-term plans to resume fund-raising from OCO members and outside sources.</p>  |
| <p><b>5. OCO Social Events</b></p> <p><i><b>Goal:</b> Create opportunities for informal interactions, networking and celebration among Oromos</i></p>              | <p>1. Organize regular coffee meetings, and diversify activities (e.g. speakers with business expertise; reps of other communities) at coffee meetings to make it interesting for members</p> <p>2. Organize Oromo New Year Party and other holidays.</p>   |

| Program   | Activities   |
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| <p><b>6. Stewardship and Civic Advocacy</b></p> <p><i>Goal: Increase awareness about the Oromo, and the Oromo cause, among governmental and non-governmental organizations in the WMA</i></p> | <p>1. Undertake civil and advocacy activities to counter lies and misinformation about the Oromo People. (For example: prepare demonstrations; write letters to the US congress and State Department; appropriately highlight human rights violations against the Oromo; coordinate civic activities with other Oromo organizations in the WMA).</p> |
| <p><b>7. OCO Reform</b></p> <p><i>Goal: Update and articulate the missions of OCO; clarify the structure and relationship between the OCO Board and the OCO Executive Committee</i></p>       | <p>1. Update, focus, and articulate the OCO mission; review the by-laws of OCO</p> <p>2. In the light of emerging needs of Oromos, streamline OCO's activities and develop amendments to the bylaws for consideration of the Board and the General/ Assembly.</p>  |
| <p><b>8- Education of Qubee, Oromo Culture and History</b></p> <p><i>Goal: Provide Qubee educational services to Oromo children and adults</i></p>  | <p>1. Prepare teaching and learning material to teach/learn <i>Qubee Afaan Oromoo</i>.</p> <p>2. Conduct <i>Qubee and Afaan Oromoo</i> literacy classes; launch summer schools in <i>Afaan Oromo</i> for a period of one month</p>   |
| <p><b>9. Technology for Afaan Oromo</b></p> <p><i>Goal: Develop instructional and broadcasting technology for Afaan Oromo</i></p>   | <p>Explore how existing technologies can be used to (1) promote <i>Afaan Oromoo</i>, (2) increase access of Oromos to more resources, and (3) undertake pilot demonstration units.</p>   |
| <p><b>10. OCO Culture and Resource Committee</b></p> <p><i>Goal: Maintain Oromo culture and tradition and make it available to Oromos and non-Oromos</i></p>                                  | <p>1. Undertake research to locate Oromo cultural and historical resources for use by Oromos in the Washington DC Metropolitan Area.</p> <p>2. Increase Oromo cultural and historical resources for use by the public.</p>   |
| <p><b>11. OCO Self-help and Social Support</b></p> <p><i>Goal: Create a regular social support system among the Oromos in times of sorrow (e.g. death) and happiness (e.g. wedding)</i></p>   | <p>Coordinate Funeral and Social Support; explore the feasibility and interest among members of giving the funeral and social support a formal and permanent structure, <i>a la afoosha</i> and implement it.</p>  |

**P.S:** If you want **to be a part of** any of the above-mentioned committees, please **write** to [info@oneoromo.org](mailto:info@oneoromo.org)