

ATO BEYENE W. GABRIEL SPEAKS ABOUT ADDIS ABABA BUS TERMINAL DESIGN COMPETITION.

"Your Excellencies, Mr. President, Members of the Ethiopian Association of Engineers and Architects.

Today at the opening of the First National Conference of the Ethiopian Association of Engineers and Architects, His Excellency, Dr. Haile Giorgis Workneh, the Lord Mayor of Addis Ababa, was to be here in order to award the prizes for the winners of the Architectural Competition for the New Bus Terminal of Addis Ababa. Unfortunately, due to another urgent matter he is not able to attend the meeting. Though he is not with us in person, he is with us in spirit and has asked me to convey his best wishes for the success of the Association and its first National Conference and has delegated His Excellency Ato Abdella Abdurhman, the Vice-Mayor of the Finance Department, to award the prizes on his behalf in the presence of Ato Bekele Gabre Mariam and myself.

Please allow me to say a few words on the importance, necessity and advantages of competition in design works of projects. Most of what I shall be saying is known to most of us, since it is based on our training, experience and professional ethics.

Although based on, and some times restrained by certain internationally accepted and locally imposed conditions, any architectural design is a creation based on the ideas of an individual or of a group of individuals working as a team.

When a number of individuals or groups of individuals participate in a competition there are usually many solutions to the design problems of a given program. A competition enables the client, the future owner of the project, to choose from various solutions. The design standards are usually much higher in a competition than otherwise because the competitors will be on the lookout to keep themselves up to the standards of the latest developments in the respective field. Even for a successful person or firm, competitions are good as they act as stimulants.

Competitions for important projects help to avoid some of the unethical practices which could prevail when projects involving a large sum of money are concerned. In our country there is no building code as we know it in other countries. Therefore it is important also in this matter that technical problems in their variety should be treated from several approaches rather than relying on a single solution by one consulting firm.

The main object of an architectural competition is to obtain the best possible solution in a short

period of time for a reasonable amount of money. A competition is desirable because, the greater the number of architects who consider the problem, the better will be the solution.

Guided by the principles of professional ethics the Municipality of Addis Ababa has conducted this competition for the design of the Bus Terminal of Addis Ababa. A second Architectural Competition has been arranged for the Market Hall. Other competitions will follow, I hope.

Now coming back to this competition I would like to state that the Municipality of Addis Ababa invited thirteen firms to compete. There have been only three participants and these three entries have been judged by a jury.

The Municipality of Addis Ababa invited representatives from other organisations and government bodies including the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Public Works to participate. However, these two Ministries did not favour us with their representative. The Jury consisted of:

1. CHAIRMAN

H.E. Ato Mulugeta Sine Girogis
Vice-Mayor of the Technical Services Department

2. MEMBERS FROM THE MUNICIPALITY

Mr. Vladimir Balkansky, Acting Chief of the Architectural Section

Mr. Auguste Stoppa, Town Planning Expert

Mr. Manel Juran, Road Expert

Mr. Actan Ben-Yehoshua, Chief Traffic Engineer

Mr. Pierre Jayez, Civil Engineer

3. INVITED MEMBERS

Ato Yohannes Hailu, Town Planning Lecturer at H.S.I. University

Ato Bekele Geleta,
Ministry of Communication

INVITED EXPERTS

(for purpose of giving advice only)

Ato Abraham Workneh, General Manager of "Anbessa" Transport Co.

Mr. Nikolay Vlaykov, Civil Engineer,

Associate Professor at the College of Technology.

The prizes for the Bus Terminal Competition are being awarded today at the opening of the first National Conference of the Ethiopian Association of Engineers and Architects and correctly in the presence of His Excellency Lij Endalkachew Makonnen, Minister of Post, Communication and Telecommunications.

On behalf of the Municipality of Addis Ababa I would like to express my thanks to the participants of the competition, to the jury members, and particularly to Mr. Balkansky, Acting Chief Architect of the Architectural Section, and all those who helped us in connection with this competition and, last but not least, the Ethiopian Association of Engineers and Architects, for making it possible that these prizes be awarded at the opening of the first National Conference here today.

Now I would like to call on the winners of the competition:

The first prize winner is Technoexportstroy, Consulting Engineers and Architects. The second

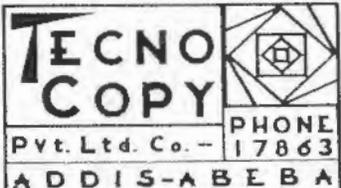
prize winner is Z. Enav and M. Tedros, Architects and Town Planners. The third prize winner is Mr. Lazas Popovich of Centro Project Ethiopian branch."

At this stage the Chief City Engineer read out the letter which His Excellency Dr. Haile Giorgis Workneh had written to each of the winners. The letter, the prize and a copy of Jury's report were handed to each of the winners in turn by His Excellency Ato Abdella Abdurahman, Vice-Mayor of the Finance Department of the Municipality of Addis Ababa.

In the letter His Excellency Dr. Haile Giorgis Workneh wrote: "It is with great pleasure that we inform you that your design for the Architectural Competition for a Bus Terminal Building in Addis Ababa has been awarded the first (or the second or the third) prize.

Please find enclosed herewith a cheque for the prize and a copy of the jury's report."

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