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**PREFACE**

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Ato Abdulmelik Abubeker;

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The writer is privileged to get important ideas from the instructors and students of the course on the workshop held in August 2008. The writer wants to express his indebtedness from the within his heart for their contribution. The first task made according to the comments of the instructors is related to its bulkiness: accordingly, the material is reduced to some 256 pages from 345. In the course of revising the material,

* the concept of legal pluralism is more elaborated;
* the units on sources of law, and interpretation of law are made short to the extent possible;
* the unit on juridical acts is made simple;
* the unit on alternative dispute resolution is very much summarized;
* the contents are reflected on the outline of the course;
* practical court cases are included;
* some additional materials are included and the material is updated.

With regard to the nature of the material, the writer has tried to make it more original than the first one. What is more, varieties of questions are included in the material. In general the material is upgraded and simplified. Finally the writer extends his thanks to the Justice and Legal research Institute with out it such a task could not be made.

Tesfaye Abate Abebe

Addis Ababa, October 9, 2008

**ABBREVIATIONS USED**

* **UNDHR**- United Nations Declarations of Human Rights
* **FDRE Const**- the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Constitution
* **Civ. C**. – Civil Code
* **Art.-** Article
* **Proc. No**.- Proclamation Number
* **JOL**-Journal of Ethiopian Laws
* **RFC**-Revised Family Code
* **Cri. Pro. C**.- Criminal Procedure Code
* **ECSC**- Ethiopian Civil Service College
* **USAID** -United States Agency for International Development
* **ICCPR**-International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights