COUNCIL OF MINISTERS REGULATION No. 327/2014

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS REGULATION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ETHIOPIAN ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE

WHEREAS, it is found necessary to make the development activities underway in the country ensure environmental protection and sustainable forest management and use, to succeed the green development strategy for the planned climate change mitigation and to enable the country to get appropriate benefit from its natural resources;

WHEREAS, it is found necessary to make the research activities to be undertaken in an integrated and consistent system that ensures the highest benefit to the country by giving special attention to environment and forest research activities;

WHEREAS, it is found necessary to give due attention to activities of environmental protection and, forest development, protection and utilization activities by linking forest research with environmental protection research at an institutional level for the attainment of the objectives of the Government which initiated establishment of the Ministry of Environment and Forest;

NOW THEREFORE, this Regulation is issued by the Council of Ministers pursuant to Article 5 and 35 of the Definition of Power and Duties of the Executive Organs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Proclamation No. 691/2010 (as amended by Proclamation No. 803/2013).
1. **Short Title**
This Regulation may be cited as the “Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute Establishment Council of Ministers Regulation No. 327/2014”.

2. **Definitions**
In this Regulation unless the context otherwise requires:

1/ “environment and forest research” means conducting research on forestry and agro-forestry development, management, conservation and utilization and environmental conservation and thereby generate and disseminate technologies, information and knowledge;

2/ “ecology” means a system in which plants, animals and micro organisms, which are known as living things, are living in continuous evolutionary interaction with non-living things in a specific place;

3/ “environment” and “pollution” shall have the meanings assigned to them under Article 2 (6) and (12) of the Environmental Pollution Control Proclamation No. 300/2002, respectively;

4/ “Region” means any state referred to under Article 47 of the Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and includes Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa city administrations;

5/ “center” means a branch office of Environment and Forest Research Institute that conducts research activities on environment and forest;

6/ “Ministry” means the Ministry of Environment and Forest;

7/ “person” means any natural or legal person;

8/ any expression in the masculine gender includes the feminine.
3. Establishment

1/ The Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute (herein after referred to as the Institute) is hereby established as an autonomous federal government office having its own legal personality.

2/ The Institute shall be accountable to the Ministry.

4. Head Office

The Institute shall have its head office in Addis Ababa and may have branch offices elsewhere, as may be necessary.

5. Objective

The Institute shall have the following main objectives:

1/ identify, import, adapt, utilize and generate technologies that significantly contribute to forest development and environmental protection that focuses on the priorities of the country and demand of users;

2/ coordinate the environment and forest research activities carried out by environment and forest research centers or higher education institutes and other related facilities conduct research on the basis of contract;

3/ build capacity and establish a system that enables the environment and forest research activities to be efficient, effective and development-based;

4/ disseminate the environment and forest research outputs to users.

6. Powers and Duties

The Institute shall have the following powers and duties:

1/ design environment and forest conservation research strategy based on the development and research policies of the country; prepare action plans and schedules, and implement same upon approval as well as follow up the implementation thereof by the concerned organs;
2/ issue directive that enable the designing of environment and forest research programs and projects that will be in line with the development direction of the country and the need of the users; evaluates budget of programs and projects and ensures that they are prepared as per the directive and submits same to the Government for approval;

3/ organize environment and forest research centers, laboratories and stations; as may be necessary, establish new centers and stations in different regional states and ecological areas based on the budget allocated by the Government, or may close down centers and stations established;

4/ undertake the necessary public mobilization activities in cooperation with the relevant extension organs to disseminate validated environment and forest research findings to the users;

5/ adapt and distribute fast growing tree species that enable to mitigate environmental degradation, desertification, and extinction of species and solve problem of forest products supply;

6/ identify the imbalance, pollutions and other related problems inflicted on environment due to socioeconomic activities and facilitates alleviation of the problems and rehabilitation paths;

7/ collect, store and disseminate research outputs produced and to be produced at local and international level which are useful for forest and environment research works; establish and coordinate information networks and distribution systems;

8/ provide proper information service to regional agriculture, environment and forest research centers and other service seekers, and provide technical support as per the available capacity, when requested;
9/ establish necessary project monitoring and evaluation system in consultation with the concerned organs in order to avoid unnecessary redundancy and wastage of resources for conducting research and follows up its implementation;

10/ establish relationships and cooperate with international, continental, regional and local environment and forest research institutes, donor organizations and with other bodies having similar objectives;

11/ register and keep record of any person who is engaged in environment and forest research;

12/ charge fees for the services it renders in accordance with the rate approved by the Government;

13/ own property, enter into contract and sue and be sued in its own name;

14/ perform such other activities as are conducive to the attainment of its objectives.

7. Organization of the Institute
The Institute shall have:

1/ a Director General and, as may be necessary, Deputy Director Generals to be appointed by the Government; and

2/ the necessary staff.

8. Powers and Duties of the Director General
1/ The Director General shall be the chief executive officer of the Institute and shall, subject to the general direction of the Ministry, direct and administer the activities of the Institute.

2/ Without limiting the generality sub-article (1) of this Article, the Director General shall:

a) exercise the power and duties of the Institute specified under Article 6 of this Regulation;

b) employ and administer employees engaged in support services of the Institute in accordance with the federal civil service laws and, in the case of professionals engaged in the core functions of the Institute, in accordance with the directive
approved by the Government for agricultural researchers;
c) prepare and submit to the Ministry the strategic plan, annual plan, work program and budget of the Institute and implement the same up on approval;
d) effect payments in accordance with the approved budget and work program of the Institute;
e) represent the Institute in its dealings with third parties;
f) prepare and submit to the Ministry the performance and financial reports of the Institute.

3/ The Director General may delegate part of his powers and duties to other officers and employees of the Institute to the extent necessary for the effective performance of the activities of the Institute.

9. Budget
The Institute’s budget shall be allocated by the Government.

10. Books of Accounts
1/ The Institute shall keep complete and accurate book of accounts.
2/ The book of accounts and financial documents of the Institute shall be audited annually by the Auditor General or an Auditor designated by him.

11. Transfer of Rights and Obligations
The rights and duties transferred to the Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organization under Article 17 of the Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organization Establishment Proclamation No. 79/1997 (as amended by Proclamation No. 382/2004) with respect to forestry research and wood utilization research are hereby transferred to the Institute.
12. Effective Date

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

Done at Addis Ababa, this 26th day of December 2014.

HAILEMARIAM DESSALEGN
Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia