



Ethiopia Country Office

Africa Avenue, Bole Road
Addis Abeba, Ethiopia

Tel : (251-11) 5176000
Fax: (251-11) 6627717

February 23, 2022

Ato Melese Didamo
Vice Dean of the College
Hawassa Polytechnic college (HPC)

Dear Ato Melese,

Subject: Review of Audited financial statement of the East Africa Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Program (EASTRIP), Implemented by HPC for the year Ended July 7, 2021 (P163399- IDA63350)

We would like to thank you for submitting the audit report of the above-mentioned project for the year ended July 7, 2021 on February 11, 2022 with a delay of more than a month. Timely submission of audit report must be given utmost attention as it is a requirement.

We are pleased to note that the auditors gave unmodified (clean) audit opinion on the accounts of the project. On the management letter, the auditors noted the low performance against the annual budget. Furthermore, transfer of resource from USD account to local currency account was made without taking into account the performance capacity of the college exposing the project to currency loses. Due attention should be given to the implementation progress of the project. It will be important to flag critical issues to the Bank, MoLS and MoF to get timely resolution to issues.

According to the Bank's access to information policy, the audited financial statement will be disclosed on the website. The project is also encouraged to disclose the audited statements through the college's website. Should you have any question on the above, please do not hesitate to contact the Bank financial management team.

Sincerely yours,

Kirill Vasiliev

Kirill Vasiliev
Task Team Leader, EASTRIP – Ethiopia

Cc: Emishaw Seyoum
Financial Specialist, EASTRIP
Hawassa Polytechnic College

Kalkidan Tadesse
Project Coordinator, EASTRIP
MoLS