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The Government of Tigray  
ምምሕዳር ከተማ መቐለ  
Mekelle City Administration



Ref No. 67019200/59

Fax: 03 44 41 69 63

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**Recommendation Letter to Mr. Ephrem Admasu Yekun**

I have known **Ephrem Admasu Yekun** when he was doing voluntary work at Mekelle Administration Office since September 2022. At the time, our office was in charge of economic affairs pertaining to internally displaced people (IDP): people who were displaced from different parts of Ethiopia (particularly from parts of Tigray) into Mekelle due to the recent war that broke out in October 2020. Our team's task mainly revolved around monitoring IDP data – making sure aid packages (such as food and nonfood items) are impartially and fairly distributed, and sending IDP information of various types to different NGOs such as WFP, IMO, World Vision, Save the children etc., among others. We were handling a huge number IDPs, and everyday presented different challenges with regards to processing this information.

When I first met **Mr. Ephrem**, he approached us with a proposal titled “Web-based Aid Data Management System for Mekelle Administration Office”. In it, he proposed a locally networked dynamic web application that keeps track of all the IDPs residing in Mekelle city and prevents IDPs from cheating by requiring them to present supporting evidence – i.e. authenticated certificates – when registering family members. It also extracts people that register in more than one subcities – a common practice among some IDPs in order to receive aid more than once in one round – using a fuzzy duplicate name identifier algorithm that he implemented. Moreover, the system selects IDPs for aid using an algorithm that prioritizes those that did not receive aid in previous rounds, and who have high percentages of vulnerable groups (such as women, children, or members with chronic diseases) in their households. He deployed the system in all the seven subcities of Mekelle and in the main office using local servers. To facilitate fast registration and data processing, he configured and set up a WiFi network that works locally in each office so that it can be accessed by as many workers as necessary at the same time (as of writing this letter, there is no Internet or communication service due to the war; hence, the need for a local WiFi). To make sure the data encoders in each subcity are well-acquainted to the system, he recruited seven volunteers, mostly lecturers from Mekelle University, to train them on how the system works. Needless to say, the system was of tremendous help to our city administrators as it automated and eased most of the complicated, time-consuming, and error-prone tasks and it is still functional as I am writing this recommendation letter.

**Mr. Ephrem** also possesses excellent communication skills. I was able to witness this after he deployed the system. When we encounter new challenges at work and our team asks if it can be solved by adding features into the system, he would easily understand our point of view and bring working solutions swiftly. During his voluntary work, he maintained a good reputation and relationship among data encoders and subcity administrators. He also demonstrated outstanding team and leadership skills among his teammates as I was able to see him firsthand fostering conducive environment of enthusiasm in the workplace.

In summary, **Mr. Ephrem** is an intelligent and hardworking person with strong technical competence (mainly in areas of software development and data analysis) and is endowed with admirable communication and leadership skills. If you are looking for a person with the aforementioned skills and qualities I am very confident he is the right person for you. If you need further information, please feel free to contact me at my address below.



Regards,

**Mebrat Haftu Berhe (M.Sc.)**  
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