



## PRESS RELEASE

### “I have a Dream...” Circus Show Tour

November 26, 2019

Addis Ababa Ethiopia

Circus Debre Berhan (CDB) in collaboration with Selam Ethiopia started the educational circus tour entitled: ‘**I have a Dream...**’ in the city of Hawassa, Hossana, Wolayita Sodo, Durama and Arbaminch cities up until December 17, 2019. The purpose of this circus tour is to raise awareness and promote equal opportunities for girls in various socio-economic activities within local communities. Most importantly CDB aims to share experiences with other circus group in the different cities of SNNPR (south nations and nationalities of people region).

‘I have a Dream...’, has been developed based on the theater for development approach which is an effective tool to deliver educational messages through an entertaining and engaging circus shows. The circus production is a result of an extensive assessment in various towns and cities in Amhara which findings identified prevailing socio-cultural challenges facing young girls and women. I have a dream is an interesting story of a young girl’s quest to follow her dream of becoming a musician against the fierce objections from her parents. The show invites the audience for dialogue to find a compromise between the strong traditional convictions of the parents and the tantalizing dreams of the young girl.

The circus tour will be presented at universities, elementary and junior schools, and in public squares. Selam Ethiopia is implementing a three-year project “**Culture Leads the Way**” which is supported by Sweden Embassy, and circus is one of the four thematic areas of project activities. Circus Debre Berhane is one of the partners for circus project activities within CLtW project and this circus tour will be implemented by Circus Debre Berhan. The overall objective of CLtW project is to strengthen the role and participation of young women and men artists in social and development issues through culture expression.



### **Note to Editors:-**

**SELAM** is an international, non-government, and non-for-profit organization established in Sweden in 1997. SELAM is committed to create an enabling environment for cultural growth that shall contribute to economic, political, and social development. SELAM, through its country office Selam Ethiopia, is a reputed name in the culture sector for catalyzing Sectoral Transformation, facilitating cross-cultural exchange and brokering knowledge via capacity building trainings.

### **Circus Debre Berhan**

Circus Debere Berhan (CDB) was the first professional circus in Ethiopia started in 1998 in the city of Debere Berhan. It began giving circus art classes for poor children to help improve their conditions and provide them with the opportunities to break their cycle of poverty, through earning an income from the circus art. Disabled children are also in CDB's program and its circus shows. Circus Debere Berhan is the first African circus to be working with disables, and CDB currently includes members who are deaf, blind and physically disabled.

### **For more information, please contact: -**

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