# The 4th Annual YPFDJ Conference in North America under way in Washington D.C.

**Washington D.C, August 29th, 2008-** The 4th annual YPFDJ conference in North America started off with great zeal with more than 450 youth gathered from all over the United States as well as other parts of the world just outside of Washington D.C. starting on Friday August 29th, 2008. While bad weather and a fallen tree in the area took power away from the conference center for more than half the day, the power of the youth and the always strong Eritrean spirit once again prevailed as the event continued throughout the day as planned.

The slight weather problem could not manage to weaken the joy and excitement of the youth as well as the gathering of friends and comrades as hundreds of young Eritreans gathered at a very unique and highly praised venue which was a great setting for the conference. The hosts of the event have done a great job of finding a gathering place that has been logistically accessible for such an important event and they are to be commended.

The participants who have come from many different cities and towns are here to attend the 4th annual YPFDJ conference in North America for the fourth consecutive year and to re-enforce their commitment and support for a sustainable and strong Eritrea, as well as to build a solid network of enlightened, capable, and motivated Eritrean youth in the Diaspora.

The conference is being attended by the head of the People Front for Democracy & Justice (PFDJ) Mr. Yemane Gebreab, the Eritrean Ambassadors to the United States, Canada as well as other invited guests and officials. The opening ceremony began outside of the camp site with a moment of silence for Eritrean Martyrs followed by the singing of the national anthem while the EPLF and Eritrean Flags were being put up on two separate poles.

Meanwhile inside the auditorium Eritrean youth from the metro DC area started of the day with theatre plays while the Atlanta youth “Hidri” followed up with a couple of special songs and presentations. Mr. Dawit Haile and the members of the organizing committee also made some comments and gave outlines of the weekend’s conference and invited the Eritrean ambassador to the United States to the podium. A statement by Mr. Yemane Gebreab followed with a brief introduction highlighting the achievements of the YPFDJ Global youth movement so far and reiterated the aim and objectives of the weekend’s conference in Washington D.C

Mr. Yemane also included a brief outline of the program for the coming days, and set the future agenda proposals that will be the main topics of discussion for the rest of the conference. The afternoon session saw the lively and engaging presentations by youth members of each individual country, States and organizations on their annual work progress and their upcoming plans for the new-year. YPFDJ would like to emphasize that as a result of early registration people that did not register on time were not able to attend and hope that in the future people must follow the procedures by being active and following the movement throughout the year.

YPFDJ Media Committee.