



Senior members of EPRDF will run against top members of opposition figures

The 23 seats in Addis Ababa will be the most heavily contested by the main political groups, Capital analysis has found.

Senior members, including cabinet ministers and state ministers, from the ruling EPRDF will run against a number of elite opposition figures, including presidents and vice chairs. The capital, which is now being administered by EPRDF, will only hold election for parliament seats, as after the former CUD boycotted their city administration seats, another election was staged and the current administration has three more years to govern. The Minister of Mines and Energy Alemayehu Tegenu will run in woreda 18. Former president Dr. Negasso Gidada, who now represents the opposition coalition, the Forum for Democratic Dialogue in Ethiopia, better known as Medrek, will face Alemayehu. While the battle between Alemayehu and Negasso - who is currently the single independent MP in the federal parliament - is expected to be tough, another figure has made it likely to be even closer fought by joining the contest: The Ethiopian Democratic Party (EDP) secretary Mushe Semu is running in the same woreda. Science and Technology Ministry State Minister Dr. Zerihun Kebede of the EPRDF is running in woreda 17. The state minister is running against two opposition parties vice chairs: Engineer Gizachew Shiferaw of Medrek and Sophia Yilma of EDP. Dr. Hailu Araya of Medrek and Engineer Hailu Shaweulm chairman of All Ethiopian Unity Organization, who were in a coalition together in 2005, now face each other in woreda 23. EPRDF also has a strong candidate to offer in the constituency, Minister of Youth and Sports Aster Mamo. The woreda is likely to be a crucial battleground. Aster, who was a speaker of a regional chamber, is expected to benefit from the fragmentation of the opposition camp due to the presence of the two Hailus. These and the remaining woredas reveal that the three major parties will fight hard to win parliament seats in the capital. Former CUD won all 23 of Addis Ababa's seats, but only 11 took their seats in the house, as the disastrous aftermaths of the election left many in jail. For Medrek out of 23 candidates in Addis Ababa 15 come from UDJ: "We did an electoral map and decided that UDJ members have a better chance to win in Addis Ababa. The same was done in other regions where other parties were favoured." Dr. Merera Gudina, chairman of the party, told Capital. Commenting on the EPRDF's Addis Ababa candidates, Sekutire Getachew, EPRDF's Public and Foreign Relations Department head said: "Candidates that have impeccable educational qualities and experience are fielded to aid the ongoing best practice by enacting the The overall list of candidates shows a balanced national representation from all the four member parties of the EPRDF. "State Minister Shimelis Kemal and Ethiopian Telecommunication Corporation spokesperson Abdurahim Ahmed

are among the other candidates representing the EPRDF for election to parliament seats in Addis Ababa. has made it likely to be even closer fought by joining the contest: The Ethiopian Democratic Party (EDP) secretary Mushe Semu is running in the same woreda. Science and Technology Ministry State Minister Dr. Zerihun Kebede of the EPRDF is running in woreda 17. The state minister is running against two opposition parties vice chairs: Engineer Gizachew Shiferaw of Medrek and Sophia Yilma of EDP. Dr. Hailu Araya of Medrek and Engineer Hailu Shaweul chairman of All Ethiopian Unity Organization, who were in a coalition together in 2005, now face each other in woreda 23. EPRDF also has a strong candidate to offer in the constituency, Minister of Youth and Sports Aster Mamo. The woreda is likely to be a crucial battleground. Aster, who was a speaker of a regional chamber, is expected to benefit from the fragmentation of the opposition camp due to the presence of the two Hailus. These and the remaining woredas reveal that the three major parties will fight hard to win parliament seats in the Capital. The former CUD won all 23 of Addis Ababa's seats, but only 11 took their seats in the house, as the disastrous aftermaths of the election left many in jail. For Medrek out of 23 candidates in Addis Ababa 15 come from UDJ: "We did an electoral map and decided that UDJ members have a better chance to win in Addis Ababa. The same was done in other regions where other parties were favoured." Dr. Merera Gudina, chairman of the party, told Capital. Commenting on the EPRDF's Addis Ababa candidates, Sekutire Getachew, EPRDF's Public and Foreign Relations Department head said: "Candidates that have impeccable educational qualities and experience are fielded to aid the ongoing best practice by enacting the EPRDF policy. The overall list of candidates shows a balanced national representation from all the four member parties of the EPRDF. "State Minister Shimelis Kemal and Ethiopian Telecommunication Corporation spokesperson Abdurahim Ahmed are among the other candidates representing the EPRDF for election to parliament seats in Addis Ababa