A response to Mr A.Abrha By Menghesteab Asmerom

Mr. A.Abrha, in his posting in <u>www.togouba.org</u> under the topic Open letter to Mr Mesfin Hagos (chair of EDP) has said the following:

"Mr Menghisteab Asmerom, EDA's spokesman, has repeated what has been said before i.e. to hold an all inclusive conference in March to form an opposition government in exile."

In the first place I am not EDA's spokesman and these words quoted by Mr. A.Kahsai are not mine. I have not said it in the interview I made with the Ethiopian Reporter and I have not made any other interview with any other news paper. The question forwarded to me by the interviewer, Mr. Yemane Nagesh, and the response I gave were quoted in the Ethiopian reporter of 10 February in the following manner.

ሪፖርተር፦ ጉባዔው የስደት መንግሥት ለመፍጠር ነው ይባላል። እውነት ነው?

ኣቶ መንግስተኣብ፡- የጉባዔው ዓላማ ሁሉንም ተቃዋሚ ድርጅቶች ያካተተ ኣንድ ትልቅ የእናት ድርጅት ለመመስረት ነው። በእሱ በኩል ትግሉን በማፋፋም ሁሉንም መንገድ ተጠቅመን አምባንነኑን የኤርትራ መንግሥት ለማስወገድ ነው። የስደት መንግሥት የመመስረት ኣጀንዳ ግን በኣሁኑ ወቅት ኣልተባለም። በመጪው ጉባዔም የተያዘለት ኣጀንዳ ኣይደለም። ምናልባት ግን ኣንዳንድ ድርጅቶች በተናጠል ኣንስተውት ሲሆን ይችላል።

ሪፖርተር፡- እቲ ጕባኤ፡ መንግስቲ ኣብ ስደት ከቐውም'ዩ ይብሃል። ሓቂ ድዩ? አቶ መንግስተአብ፡- ዕላማ ናይ'ቲ ጕባኤ ንዅሎም ተቓወምቲ ውድባት ዝጥርንፍ ሓደ ጽላል ምጃም ኢዩ። በዚ ጽላል'ዚ ኣቢልና፡ ኵሉ ኣገባባት ናይ ቃልሲ እናተጠቐምና ንቲ ዲክታቶርያዊ ስርዓት ምውዳቅ ኢዩ ዕላማና። መንግስቲ ኣብ ስደት ምምስራት ዝብል ጕዳይ ግን፡ ኣጀንዳ ናይ ኣኼባና ኣይነበረን። ኣብ ዝመጽእ ጕባኤ ከነልዕሎ ኢና ዝብል ኣጀንዳ ውን የብልናን። ምናልባት፡ ገለገለ ውድባት፡ ከም ናይ ውድቦም ርእይቶ፡ ኣልዒሎምዎ ክዀኑ ይኽልል።

In addition, I have never entertained the idea of government in exile before and I have not found any convincing reason to change my mind in this regard to this date of writing my response.

I, therefore, am not ready to be used as a scape goat by any ill intentioned individuals or organizations. Mr. A.Kahsai or for that matter any other person or organization should stand on its own if they are convinced of forming a government in exile.

ብእግሪ ናይ ካልኦት ምሕንካስ እንተገደፍዎ ዝሓሽ ኢዩ።

Menghesteab Asmerom

Head of Information Office ELF-RC 05.03.2005