



Eritrean National Salvation Front Office of the Chairman

Concluding Statement of the Executive Committee's 6th Session Eritrean National Salvation Front

The Executive Committee (EC) of the Eritrean National Salvation Front (ENSF) convened its 6th Regular Session from 4 till 8 February 2008. Having taken place shortly after the year of 2007 in which turbulent events and dangerous developments caused by the PFDJ regime and threatening the very survival of our country had reached their all time peak, and on the eve of preparations being made by the opposition organisations to re-establish the opposition umbrella, the meeting was timely and highly significant.

In its meeting, the EC observed that those negative factors and developments instigated by the oppressive policies and brutal practices of the PFDJ's dictatorial regime, leading our country towards disintegration and inevitable state of collapse, had reached their dangerous levels during the year of 2007. The EC equally noted the fact that Eritrean youngsters of both sexes have been fleeing the country in the thousands to escape the extreme and unbearable suppression and oppression met out against them by the regime. Like many, it recorded its fear and apprehension that, should this trend continue and is left to reach an irreversible stage, it might end up in the inevitable dispersal of an inestimable size of our young generation, leaving Eritrea with a much weaker mass base to take over the responsibility of running the country in future.

In addition, the EC assessed that the living conditions of our people during the year of 2007 had fallen to unimaginable levels because of the rising prices of basic necessities that had increasingly become far beyond their means, and the spiralling costs of house rents and other essentials that are equally vital for living. Even worse, denying our youth from getting proper education and the freedom to work and earn for their living, the PFDJ regime had been yearly gang-recruiting all youth of adult age and sending them in the thousands either to the army, or forcing them to carry out back-breaking menial tasks without pay and under slavery conditions in the name of "national service". The EC keenly noted the fact that, as consequence of the near absence of productive man power brought about by the regime, agricultural and industrial production had hit rock bottom during the past year ruining the country beyond salvage, and leaving our people to lead the life of abject poverty and desolation ever known in their history.

In its extreme obsession to control and monopolize all power and resources of the country, the rogue regime in Asmara has virtually wiped out the private sector and totally paralysed Eritrean tradition for hard work, flexibility, business entrepreneurship and even the will to struggle for a living. As consequence of this dire and frightful situation, Eritrea has come to be known as country with skyrocketing unemployment, wild inflations and the widespread of man-made hunger and starvation, and with nearly 1/3 of its population dependent on foreign donations, or remittances from relatives working abroad.

In face of the dangers and considerable uncertainties facing the country and its people, the EC took its time and seriously deliberated upon those dangerous events and developments brought about by the PFDJ regime which have far reaching consequences on the survival of the country unless they are reversed. It

came to the conclusion that all opposition organisations should, as a matter of priority, sort out their differences as early as possible and come together under one umbrella, and under the minimum principles of agreements possible, to make a united stand against the regime with the objective of achieving its hasty demise. With the belief and conviction that high priority should be given to the national issue of bringing all opposition organisations under one umbrella, and after having thoroughly discussed and evaluated the processes, models and mechanisms of unity among different organisations, the EC charted our organisation's view on the roadmap to unity among these organisations. Based on our proposal and those forwarded by the other sisterly organisations, the EC decided that our organisation shall contribute its maximum by way of charting out the best working formula for re-establishing the opposition umbrella.

Coming to the internal situation of the organisation, the EC saw that no organisation can effectively deal with external challenges unless it keeps its house in order. Accordingly, it served decisions and took corrective measures dealing with minor problems that have been cropping up now and then with the objective of maintaining workable and efficient administration, internal discipline and consolidating the internal unity of the organisation. Furthermore, it laid out plans and programmes in which members of the organisation at all levels shall contribute equally to extricate the organisation out of the strangulating and debilitating financial crisis it is facing and achieve self-sufficiency.

Victory for peace and democracy in our country!
Downfall to the PFDJ regime and its henchmen!

The Executive Committee
Eritrean National Salvation Front
8 February 2008