

## **Six Eritrean Opposition Organizations Joint Press Release on the Current Border Crossing Ethiopian Army to Eritrea**

The tyrant, dictatorial regime of Afwerki and his ruling clique in Eritrea have persisted practicing their unjust policies against our people aimed at subjugating, humiliating, and depriving the people of Eritrea of their basic rights to live with dignity and freedom in their home country. In addition, the regime is creating strife, wars, crises, and tensions with the neighbouring countries, in intentional attempts to abuse and damage the relations between the Eritrean people and their neighbouring countries. A real testimony of this is the recent attempt of Afwerki's regime to call for a conference of the civil administration leaders in Eastern Sudan to be held in Asmara bypassing all the diplomatic frameworks, traditions and customs of foreign relations policies and practices globally adopted by all countries of the world community.

The recent military intervention against the territorial and people's affairs during the internal conflict that broke out among the Ethiopian-Ethiopian sides in support of one of the warring parties, inflicting a flagrant loss in the lives of innocent Eritrean national citizens, members of the army and forced conscripts. By waging unnecessary, unjust, and brutal war against the neighbouring Tigray's territory and its people the committed the most heinous acts of murder, abuse, starvation and displacement of its people and the destruction of its infrastructure. In a joint act of aggression, the Ethiopian federal government and the Afwerki regime invaded this region in a blatant interference in the affairs of a neighbour country without accounting for the bonds of relations, the ties of blood existing and the common interests between the peoples of Eritrea and the Tigray, without justifiable cause and motive other than the evil spirit that possess Afewerki and his clique.

Now, we see once again Afwerki working to detonate and escalate the Ethiopian crisis, by amassing large army forces in preparation for a new round of war in the west of Tigray. Making Eritrean forces to wear the official military uniform of the Ethiopian army to mislead and camouflage them as Ethiopian military units are on standby at the southern border of Eritrea in preparation for an attack on the Tigray region. From that front, which has already begun, a matter that will make Eritrea a theatre of military operations for the Ethiopian warring parties is

underway. This war will cause unforeseen destruction, future direct and severe damage to the sovereignty and interests of the Eritrea's land and people.

From this point of view, we assure the world that the Eritrean people do not bear the consequences and burden of the actions of Afwerki regime and his adventurous and irresponsible group in waging these absurd and meaningless wars and their consequences. In addition to condemning and denouncing the regime, both for the violations and abuses committed by against the rights of our citizens at home and the blatant and the treacherous aggression war its waging against all neighbouring countries in general, and the region and the people of Tigray in particular. Following these developments: -

We call on the members of the Eritrean forces to reject and confront the orders and directions issued by f Afwerki and the leaders of his faction, aimed at plunging them into his absurd wars outside the borders of the homeland, and call upon the Eritrean forces to staying within their well-known geographical borders of their country and commit only within the framework of performing their national duty to defend the homeland whenever it is threatened.

We also call on the Ethiopian federal government to refrain from using Eritrean lands in the future and to immediately withdraw its army that is currently there to its borders and to desist from further attempts to launch its hostile wars from our lands against the people of Tigray and against all the neighbouring countries around us.

We call on the two parties in conflict in Ethiopia to exercise restraint and give priority to the option of peace and stability in order to work for the advancement and prosperity of their peoples by returning to the dialogue and negotiation table in order to prevent further unnecessary bloodshed and to preserve Ethiopia's unity, security and stability, the safety of its people, and the security and stability of the entire region.

We call to draw the attention of the Ethiopian federal government to the fact that Afwerki is not a dependable ally due to his volatile nature and positions who is an enemy of peace, stability, and democracy in the region in general and for Ethiopia's unity and cohesion and the interests of its people. We also call upon them to work seriously to build complementary and cooperative relations with the Eritrean people and their credible national political forces to achieve the

common interests between the two countries and the two neighbouring peoples and to contribute to promoting security, stability, and regional and international peace.

In the end we conclude by commending the struggles of our Eritrean youth and their heroic resistance in the countries of the diaspora against the exploitative festivals and their ongoing response to thwarting the disgraceful festivals by peaceful and legal means. We call upon all sectors of our people to escalate their struggling and resistance on all fronts against the dictatorial regime of the Popular Front currently ruling Eritrea with an iron fist.

September 2, 2022

1. Eritrean Unity for Democratic Change (EUDC)
2. Organization of Eritrean Unity (OEU)
3. Democratic Front for Eritrean Unity (DFEU) SAGEM
4. Democratic Movement of Blen Eritrea (DMBE)
5. Eritrean People's Congress (EPC)
6. Eritrean Movement for Democracy Justice & Equality (EMDJE)