

Europe External Programme with Africa

# SITUATION REPORT - HORN OF AFRICA

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**Europe External Programme with Africa** is a Belgium-based Centre of Expertise with in-depth knowledge, publications, and networks, specialised in issues of peacebuilding, refugee protection, and resilience in the Horn of Africa. EEPA has published extensively on issues related to the movement and/or human trafficking of refugees in the Horn of Africa and on the Central Mediterranean Route. It cooperates with a wide network of universities, research organisations, civil society, and experts from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Djibouti, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, and across Africa. The Situation Reports can be found [here](#). To receive the situation report in your e-mail, [click here](#). You can unsubscribe at any moment through the link at the bottom of each e-mail.

## Situation in Ethiopia (per 7 July)

- The Ethiopian government has announced that it will stop subsidising fuel, which will result in a 38% increase in the price of the diesel. This has led to a fuel shortage at petrol stations, with people waiting for hours to fill up.
- According to a source in Addis Ababa, flights from Asmara to Addis Ababa stopped today. Major divisions are said to have arisen between the tripartite alliance of Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Somalia. The reasons for disagreement mainly relate to ongoing conflicts and an unfulfilled promise by Ethiopia to live up to its commitments on the use of the port of Assab.
- Furthermore, an intelligence team is monitoring the movements, passports and visa applications of Eritreans living in Addis Ababa. Eritreans without a visa are allegedly being questioned, harassed, and jailed.
- The Chairperson of the AU Commission, H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, issued a statement condemning the attacks in the Oromia region and the death of hundreds of civilians.
- H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat called on the Ethiopian government to take the necessary measures to investigate and protect civilians in the future.
- OLA Spokesperson Odaa Tarbii, called for an investigation by a neutral party.
- "Asking the regime to safeguard civilians from attacks is akin to expecting an arsonist to extinguish the fire" said Odaa Tarbii, about the AU's call for the government to protect civilians.
- Ethiopia's parliament passed a resolution on 6 July to set up a commission to investigate the "inhumane massacres of civilians", says Africanews. Several regions were named, without direct reference to the latest attack in Oromia.
- The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) urged Ethiopian officials to free all detained journalists.
- According to CPJ informants, the location of 'Ethio-Forum' journalist Abebe, who was arrested a day after Yayeew Shimelis, remains undisclosed. Although Addis Standard asserted that Abebe was in Awash Arba, Afar, CPJ could not confirm it.
- CPJ sub-Saharan Africa representative Muthoki Mumo said, "[...] the silence around his whereabouts is distressing and sends a clear message that authorities will not hesitate to run roughshod on the rights of critical journalists."
- In addition, Temesgen Desalegn, chief editor of 'Feteh magazine' was released on bail by a federal court on 4 July but is still in custody.
- The New York Times reported that various crises are escalating under PM Abiy's administration. Ethnic violence is worsening in the Oromia area, where hundreds of people have reportedly been killed in recent weeks.

- Even though Abiy is a member of the Oromo ethnic group, his aim to centralise power has made young Oromo nationalists “switch from peaceful protests and registered political parties to the rebellion” fronted by the Oromo Liberation Army, said William Davison, a senior Ethiopia analyst at the International Crisis Group.
- The New York Times report also said that Africa's second-largest country is suffering “hunger from the worst drought in four decades, skirmishes with neighbouring Sudan and a brutal 20-month civil war in northern Tigray.”

### Regional Situation (per 7 July)

- Lt. Gen. Mohan Subramanian is said to be replacing Gen. Shailesh Tinaikar, as the incoming force commander of the UN mission to South Sudan (UNMISS).
- UN Secretary-General António Guterres thanked Gen. Tinaikar and said Subramanian is an experienced successor, with a successful career, serving over 36 years in the Indian army.

### Situation in Tigray (per 7 July)

- UNFPA Ethiopia said that 30 healthcare professionals were trained in Tigray to help victims of Gender Based Violence with the help of Irish Aid, to improve treatment and enhance prevention.
- In an explanation of the Tigray refugee crisis, UNHCR stated that conflict in the Northern region of Ethiopia that began two years ago has resulted in a catastrophic humanitarian crisis. 2.5 million people were internally displaced in 2021, with 60,000 migrating to Sudan.
- The report also states that “the vast majority of those fleeing are women and children who are undertaking dangerous journeys to reach safety, carrying just a few of their belongings with them”.
- UNHCR stressed that 9.4 million people are in dire need of food and other essential support and partners should collaborate in helping refugees.

### International Situation (per 7 July)

- A UN report estimates that complications from chronic severe malnutrition have led to stunting in 22 percent of children under the age of five in 2020 globally. 45 million globally suffer from wasting, which increases the risk of death by as much as 12 times.

### Links of interest

- [Twitter: UNFPA Ethiopia](#)
- [The UN refugee Agency: Ethiopia's Tigray Refugee Crisis Explained](#)
- [CPI: Ethiopian journalist Abebe Bayu detained 1 day after colleague Yayesew Shimelis arrested](#)
- [The New York Times: Ethnic Killings in Ethiopia Add to Crisis](#)
- [Al Jazeera: World hunger rising as UN agencies warn of 'looming catastrophe'](#)
- [Sudan Tribune: UN chief appoints new force commander in South Sudan](#)
- [Twitter: African Union Chairperson statement](#)
- [Twitter: OLA International Spokesperson](#)
- [Ethiopia: MPs set up commission of enquiry into recent massacres](#)
- [Drivers Wait Eight Hours to Refill in Ethiopia's Fuel Crisis](#)

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