

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 email, [click here](#). You can unsubscribe at any moment through the link at the bottom of each email.

Situation in Tigray, Afar and Amhara (per 05 October)

- According to the Tigray External Affairs Office over 65 civilians were killed and over 70 injured on 4 October due to a drone attack on an IDP Centre located in a school in Adi Daero, northwestern Tigray.
- Two aid workers confirmed to Reuters that the strike killed more than 50 people.
- Afewerki Gebrehiwot, reporter for Tigray Television, said the number of casualties caused by the strike is likely to increase as the regional health system collapsed due to the ongoing siege.
- A group of UN experts warned that women and girls fleeing the war in Tigray, Amhara and Afar regions are at high risk of abduction and trafficking for sexual exploitation.
- "We are alarmed by reports of refugee and internally displaced women and girls in the Tigray, Afar, and Amhara regions being abducted while attempting to move to safer places," said the experts.
- The experts were particularly concerned about the risk of abduction, trafficking and sexual exploitation for Eritrean refugee women and children.
- The Catholic Eparchy of Adigrat-Tigray has called for an end to the suffering of the people of Tigray due to what it calls the ongoing genocidal war and 700 day siege.
- The Tigray Inter-religious Council has written an open letter to the World Inter-religious Council and the international community urging decisive action to reverse the humanitarian crisis in Tigray.
- The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Ethiopia stated that, supplies of medicines and equipment are running out and replenishment is becoming critical, particularly in Tigray.
- According to Tigray Television, Eritrean forces have continued targeting the University of Adigrat with artillery.
- The Office of the United Nations Secretary General confirms that as of 26 September, the UN has 32 mobile health clinics and 58 health facilities and displacement sites operating in Tigray. They are also continuing the distribution of remaining stocks despite complex operating conditions.
- The UN Secretary General's office states that the UN has been providing newly displaced peoples in Amhara and Afar with food, water and emergency shelter and health services.

Situation in Ethiopia (per 05 October)

- According to a letter from the African Union (AU), the AU has invited the federal government of Ethiopia and the government of Tigray for peace talks in South Africa this weekend (8-9 October).
- Reuters said the authenticity of the letter by the AU Commission Chair, Moussa Faki, on 1 October to Debretsion Gebremichael, President of the Tigray government, is confirmed by three diplomatic sources. The letter addresses Debretsion as President of the National Regional State of Tigray.
- The diplomatic sources told Reuters that a similar letter had been sent to the federal government of Ethiopia.

- The Ethiopian Federal Government Communication Service issued a situation update saying the government has accepted the peace talks invitation by the AU.
- The Communication Service said the peace talks invitation is in line with the position of Ethiopia and their demand for the talks to take place without preconditions.
- Getachew Reda, spokesperson of the Tigray government, said he was not aware of imminent talks.
- Reuters contacted the spokesperson for AU Commission Chair Moussa Faki's office, Ebba Kalond, who declined to confirm the authenticity of the letter.
- The letter of invitation says Olusegun Obasanjo, AU's High Representative for the Horn of Africa, would lead the peace-talks with support of former Kenyan president Uhuru Kenyatta and former South African deputy president Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka.

International Situation (per 04 October)

- Key human trafficker from Eritrea, Tewelde Goitom (known as Welid or Walid), has been extradited by Ethiopia to The Netherlands to be tried.
- Tewelde was arrested in Ethiopia in 2020, together with notorious human trafficker Kidane Zekarias Habtemariam, who managed to escape. The pair is accused of brutal human trafficking for ransom of many Eritrean refugees, who were tortured, raped and imprisoned in Libya. An unknown number of Eritreans did not survive.
- Tewelde will appear before the Dutch court tomorrow, 6 October 2022.
- The European Parliament PPE group submitted a motion for a resolution on the humanitarian and human rights situation in Tigray. The motion will be debated in the plenary session of the EP this week. The motion condemns the human rights violations in Tigray and calls for the "launch of peace talks without delay."
- The UN Relief Chief, Martin Griffiths, says international aid agencies were able to "rotate" staff from Tigray for the first time since humanitarian air and road access was suspended on 24 August 2022.
- He urged all parties to protect civilians, ensure the safety of humanitarian staff, allow the restart of unhindered delivery of humanitarian supplies to the Tigray region and engage in negotiations.

Links of interest

[Twitter: Tigray External Affairs Office Statement on the Second Adi-Daero Massacre.](#)

[More than 50 killed in northern Ethiopia air strike, say aid workers and Tigray forces](#)

[Catholic Eparchy of Adigrat-Tigray calls for action.](#)

[Twitter: Tigray Television, Open letter by Tigray Inter-religious Council](#)

[Twitter: International Committee of the Red Cross \(ICRC\) Ethiopia](#)

[Twitter: Tigray Television "Shelling of Adigrat University](#)

[Noon Briefing Highlight | United Nations Secretary-General](#)

[Twitter: Situation update by Federal Government Communication Service](#)

[Ethiopia says it accepts peace talks invitation by AU: Addis Standard](#)

[African Union invites Ethiopia's warring parties to peace talks: Reuters](#)

[Twitter: UN Relief Chief, Martin Griffiths](#)

[Ethiopia: Critical moment to strengthen fight against trafficking in the Tigray, Afar, and Amhara](#)

[Ethiopië levert mensensmokkelaar uit in strafzaak rondom migratiecriminaliteit](#)

[MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION on the recent humanitarian and human rights situation in Tigray, Ethiopia, notably that of children](#)

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