

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.

Peace negotiations (per 24 November)

- Olesegun Obasanjo, High Representative for the Horn of Africa region, is visiting Ethiopia to encourage both parties to faithfully implement the Pretoria Cessation of Hostilities (CoH) agreement, especially the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) elements.
- Dr Debretsion Gebremichael, President of the Tigray Regional Government, received Obasanjo at Mekelle airport.
- During the event at the airport, Tigray Television quoted Obasanjo as saying "nobody should accept the presence of foreign country in this land (Ethiopia)"
- Bankole Adeoye, the AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, briefed the A3 (Ghana, Kenya, Gabon) on the dynamics that marked the negotiations among the parties in Pretoria.
- He stated the guiding principles of the negotiation were: territorial integrity of Ethiopia, national sovereignty, affirmation of the existence of a single Ethiopian national army.
- He stated 10 observers will be deployed to monitor the CoH; they will be supported in this mission by satellite imagery as noted in article 11 (7) of the CoH agreement.
- During the extraordinary session of the African Union in Niger, Demeke Mekonnen, Ethiopian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, and Nigerian Foreign Minister, Geoffrey Onyeama, discussed the CoH agreement, reports *Fana Broadcasting Corporation*.
- Mekonnen said that the Ethiopian government is interested in implementing the CoH agreement, is facilitating humanitarian support, and preparing for reconstruction, added *FBC*.

Situation in Tigray (per 24 November)

- *Fana Broadcasting Corporation*, an Ethiopian state-owned news source, reports that 738 internally displaced Tigrayans started returning from IDP centres in Dubti and Logiya of Afar to Tigray.
- Efforts are also underway to repatriate similarly displaced people in Kirebti Resu, Berahle, Conniban and Dalol of Afar to Tigray, added *FBC*.

Situation in Ethiopia (per 24 November)

- According to the Ethiopian Ministry of Health, the country is in need of 1.4 billion US dollars to rebuild medical infrastructure in the country's northern region.
- Lia Tedese, Ethiopian health Minister, deplored the poor state of health facilities in other regions of Ethiopia such as Oromia and Benishangul Gumuz, both hit by conflicts.
- The ministry stated that across the Afar, Amhara, Tigray, Oromia and Benishangul Gumuz regions, 3.666 health facilities have been destroyed, most being located in Tigray.
- Ben Hunter, Africa analyst at risk intelligence firm Verisk Maplecroft, states the conflict in Oromia and Oromo nationalism has been intensifying since 2018, as Abiy failed to deliver on campaign promises.

- This worsened as the federal government armed Amhara forces in their war against Tigray and those groups in turn conducted attacks on Oromo civilians, driving up support for the OLA, states Hunter.
- Rene Lefort, a historian specialising in Ethiopia, stated that the OLA remains weak in terms of armament and command structure.
- *Addis Standard* reports that the outbreak of cholera in the Oromia and Somali regions is worsening, now affecting 491 people and having killed 20. The UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs estimates that 550.000 people are at high risk of contamination.

Regional Situation (per 24 November)

- The Somali army conducted a military operation in the village of Buulo Madiino, Lower Shabelle region, and killed 49 al-Shabab militants, according to the Somali Information Ministry.
- The military operation took place on 23 November and destroyed weaponry and military vehicles of Khawarij Al-Shabaab.
- Kate Kizer, foreign policy strategist and legislative advocate, criticises the silence around the US bombing campaign in Somalia against Al Shabaab.
- She argues the narrow view of warfare as 'boots on the ground' poses a risk as the US Congress is incentivized to turn a blind eye to the humanitarian record of operations such as the one in Somalia.
- Dr. Asma Awes Abdallah, medical activity manager with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in Somalia, states the country is facing the worst drought in 40 years as well as outbreaks of cholera and measles.
- Sudan's Army Chief and current leader of the military administration, Gen. Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan, stated that he would accept any non-partisan government that maintains the country's unity.

International Situation (per 24 November)

- The *Sudan Tribune* reports that Sudan's military administration has not been invited to the US-Africa summit taking place 13 to 15 December. 50 of the 54 African leaders have been invited. Sudan was reportedly not invited as their membership to the AU remains suspended following the military coup.
- Michael Rubin, senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, scrutinises the list of leaders invited to the US-Africa summit, criticising the human rights records of many of those invited.
- He states that the US Biden administration and Blinken are showing "condescending racism" by failing to hold African leaders "to the same standards they would expect of European, Middle Eastern, or Latin American leaders".

Links of interest

[Olesegun Obasanjo, AU high representative for the horn of Africa visiting Mekelle, Tigray](#)

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[After Tigray war, Ethiopia in need of \\$1.4 billion to rebuild](#)

[Ethiopia's Other War: The Shadowy Oromia Conflict](#)

[Number of people killed by latest Cholera outbreak in Bale, Oromia and Liben, Somali regions](#)

[Somalia: Military Operation Kills 49 Al-Shabab Militants](#)

[Sudan Army Chief says he will accept any non-partisan government](#)

[Did Anyone Notice the US Military Bombed Somalia?](#)

[Somalia: "We haven't had enough time between one disaster and another."](#)

[Sudan is not invited to U.S. African summit](#)

[The strategic confusion of Biden's African leaders summit](#)

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