

Europe External Programme with Africa

SITUATION REPORT - HORN OF AFRICA

No. 313 - 18 November, 2022

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 18 November)

- Annette Weber, Special Representative of the European Union to the Horn of Africa, discussed the Pretoria Cessation of Hostilities (CoH) Agreement with Ethiopia deputy prime minister Demeke Mekonnen, says *Fana Broadcasting Corporation (FBC)*.
- The Deputy PM said that his government is committed to resolving the conflict in Northern Ethiopia peacefully, restoring humanitarian access, basic services and undertaking a national political dialogue.
- The Special Representative expressed the EU's commitment to support the implementation of the CoH agreement and the reconstruction of Ethiopia.
- US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Molly Phee, stated in a hearing in the House Foreign Affairs Committee that the US will consider resuming partnerships with Ethiopia only if the CoH agreement between the Ethiopian government and the Tigrayan leadership is fully implemented.
- The Assistant Secretary stated that Eritrea is playing a negative role in Ethiopia and that it has to withdraw its forces from the country based on the peace agreement.
- According to Alex de Waal, executive director of the World Peace Foundation, the terms of the Pretoria CoH Agreement can be attributed to the use of starvation by the Abiy regime, forcing the Tigray leadership to surrender.

Situation in Tigray (per 18 November)

- According to FBC, 12 WFP aid trucks including two with fuel are heading to Tigray via Afar today (18 November).
- The regional communication office of the Afar government stated that the government and people of the region will work with other stakeholders to facilitate the flow of humanitarian support to Tigray.
- Today (18 November) sources reported from Mekelle that only two trucks of the ICRC have arrived in the Tigray capital.
- Tigray spokesman, Getachew Reda, said Eritrean forces are still killing civilians and looting and destroying property

Situation in Ethiopia (per 18 November)

- OCHA said that there are increasing opportunities to increase the flow of humanitarian support to Afar, Amhara and Tigray because of 'improving' security situation in these areas.
- Operations in Western Oromia remain adversely impacted by continued hostilities, added OCHA.
- Sources state that ENDF are being withdrawn from Tigray, reportedly being redeployed in Oromia where the military situation remains "very difficult"; they are being replaced by Amhara militias and special forces in Tigray.

- Sources state that the ENDF forces present on the northern front of Tigray are withdrawing into Eritrea, the majority of non-Tigray forces present in the region are Eritrean; under whose command they are remains unclear.
- Sources state that TDF troop movement indicates that they are reinforcing strategic defensive positions; it seems both sides are preparing for a long ceasefire and stand-off situation.
- Mastercard debit, credit and prepaid cards will be accepted in Ethiopia following an agreement between mastercard and EthSwitch, Ethiopia's national payment switch, and Ethiopia-based Oromia Bank.

Situation in Eritrea (per 18 November)

- According to *Release International*, a Christian human rights group, Eritrean authorities continue to hold 98 people who were arrested during a raid on a non-state sanctioned church in September.

Regional Situation (per 18 November)

- David Miliband, president of the International Rescue Committee, talked on *France 24* of the broader humanitarian needs of the Horn region, where the IRC experts estimate that 35 million people are suffering from hunger, mostly due to long term climate change consequences.
- According to Bloomberg, Ethiopia has started exporting electricity to Kenya in a deal that could potentially earn Ethiopia 100 million US dollars a year; the electricity is produced by the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam that started producing energy earlier this year.
- Thousands of Sudanese people demonstrated on 16 November to protest the deaths of at least 119 people killed in the regime crackdown on pro democracy militants, says *France 24*.
- Some protesters were manifesting against the proposed deal between the military administration and the Forces of Freedom and Change.
- According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, conducting humanitarian operations in Somalia remains challenging given the security situation in the region resulting from the escalation of conflict between the terrorist movement al-Shabab and the Somali government forces.
- The United Nations Security Council has renewed the arms embargo imposed on Somalia with the objective of diminishing the ability of al-Shabab to arm itself.
- the Somali government regrets the decision, pointing out that the current, though amended and relaxed, arms embargo hinders its ability to restructure and reform its armed forces, limiting its effectiveness against the terrorist group.

Links of interest

- [አቶ ደመቀ መኮንን መንግስት ለሰላም ስምምነቱ ተፈጻሚነት ቁርጠኛ መሆኑን ገለጹ](#)
- [Assessing the Biden Admin's U.S. Strategy Toward Sub-Saharan Africa](#)
- [Facing famine, Tigray concedes to Ethiopian government, and Abiy የሰብዓዊ እርዳታ የጫኑ 12 ተሽከርካሪዎች በእፅፍ ክልል በኩል ወደ ትግራይ ጉዞ ጀመሩ](#)
- [Ethiopia – OCHA Situation Report. 17 Nov 2022](#)
- [Mastercard Withdrawals Arrive in Ethiopia Following two key Partnerships](#)
- [ERITREA – ANOTHER 100 CHRISTIANS DETAINED](#)
- [Aid convoys arrive in Ethiopia's Tigray region following truce](#)
- [Ethiopia Starts Exporting Electricity to Neighboring Kenya](#)
- [Thousands protest Sudan coup, call for justice](#)
- [Humanitarian operations in Somalia remain challenging](#)
- [Security Council Renews Sanctions Regime on Somalia](#)

Disclaimer: All information in this Situation Report is presented as a fluid update report, as to the best knowledge and understanding of the authors at the moment of publication. EEPA does not claim that the information is correct but verifies to the best of ability within the circumstances. Publication is weighed on the basis of interest to understand potential impacts of events (or perceptions of these) on the situation. Check all information against updates and other media. EEPA does not take responsibility for the use of the information or impact thereof. All information reported originates from third parties and the content of all reported and linked information remains the sole responsibility of these third parties. Report to info@eepea.be any additional information and corrections.