

Europe External Programme with Africa

SITUATION REPORT - HORN OF AFRICA

No. 219 - 9 June 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.

Situation in Tigray (per 9 June)

- Dutch news reports about a missionary, Ángel Olan, living in Wukro, Tigray. The Priest indicates that people are dying of hunger every day due to the siege, while the international community does nothing to speed up aid.
- Olan also recalls horror stories from the war. One boy was “forced by Eritrean military to loot houses together with four other boys, and to take especially chickens and lambs. When the Eritrean military men had loaded everything, they shot the five boys.”
- USAID announces that it has been able to send over 1,100 trucks to Tigray with essential items like food & medicine for civilians through humanitarian aid partners.

Situation in Ethiopia (per 9 June)

- AP publishes that over 4,500 people have been arrested in the Amhara region as of May 23.
- The Ethiopian government is being accused of targeting ethnic Amhara people. The Ethiopian government is concerned that its authority could be undermined as it tries to find a way out of the crisis in Tigray.
- Dutch public radio discusses how the alliance of PM Abiy and President Isayas has weakened in the last period, over accusations that the military militia FANO is supported and trained by Eritrea and that FANO is challenging the authority of PM Abiy as he seeks a way out of the conflict with Tigray.
- According to state media, Fana Broadcasting Corporate, Ethiopian army chief of staff Field Marshal Birhanu Jula and his delegation arrived in Turkey on 8 June to take part in the EFES-2022 military exercise organised by the Turkish government.
- Field Marshal Birhanu Jula has discussed with his Turkish counterpart General Yasar Guler on bilateral issues of mutual concern. He also met with the Turkish Minister of Defense, Hulusi Akar.
- A military cooperation agreement between Ethiopia and Turkey that was approved by the Ethiopian parliament on 17 May includes joint military exercises and anti-piracy collaboration.
- A report by Bloomberg says high inflation and a lack of hard currency in Ethiopia are driving up the price of the US dollar on the black market and is spurring increased use of crypto currencies.
- Two traders in Addis Ababa told Bloomberg that the Ethiopian birr traded at 82 per US dollar on the informal market on June 6, down 26% since 1 May. The official rate is now 52 birr per US dollar.
- The Central Bank of Ethiopia said it has detected a rise in the use of crypto currencies and other virtual assets, some of which “are being used for illicit financial flows and money laundering.”

Regional Situation (per 9 June)

- A report by the Associated Press (AP) said that hundreds have died in Somali malnutrition treatment centres as the Horn of Africa region is facing famine.
- AP further said that many more are dying beyond the notice of authorities.
- "Definitely thousands have died," said Adam Abdelmoula, the UN humanitarian coordinator for Somalia. AP also stated that the current drought in the Horn of Africa is like no other and the COVID-19 pandemic and now Russia's war in Ukraine have greatly affected humanitarian assistance in the Horn region.
- "An explosion of child deaths is coming to the Horn of Africa if the world focuses only on the war in Ukraine and doesn't act now," said UNICEF.
- Famine also threatens Somalia's capital as displacement camps outside of Mogadishu are overcrowded with new arrivals being sent to treatment centres for the extremely malnourished where rooms are full and some people must sleep on the floor.
- Dr. Mustaf Yusuf, a physician at the treatment centre, said: "The center is overwhelmed and admissions more than doubled in May to 122 patients."
- AP also said according to data by aid groups and local authorities, at least 448 people died this year at out-patient and in-patient malnutrition treatment centres across Somalia through April.
- Aid workers warned that the data is incomplete and total death from drought could be higher. "We know from experience that mortality rises suddenly when all the conditions are in place - displacement, disease outbreaks, malnutrition - all of which are currently being seen in Somalia," said Biram Ndiaye, UNICEF Somalia's Chief of nutrition.

International Situation (per 9 June)

- According to informal reports a row among Oromo activists was triggered the day before yesterday by Jawar Mohammed. In a meeting with the Oromo diaspora in the Netherlands, Jawar is reportedly said to have referred to the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA) as "bandits".
- In The Netherlands, a 67 year old man, who was found guilty in 2017 of war crimes committed under the brutal Marxist Derg regime that ruled Ethiopia in the 1970s, has lost his appeal. The conviction and life sentence handed to a Ethiopian-Dutch man was upheld by the Dutch appeals court.

Links of interest

[Dollar squeeze, accelerating inflation pummel Ethiopian currency: Bloomberg](#)

[Ethiopia's central bank says it's illegal for businesses to accept Bitcoin](#)

[Ethiopia's chief of staff of army meets with his Turkish counterpart: FBC](#)

[Ethiopian parliament nodded to military cooperation agreement with Turkey](#)

[Russian war crimes in Ukraine: EU supports the International Criminal Court investigation with €7.25 million](#)

[Tigreeërs in de val door enorme blokkade](#)

[Missionaris Ángel Olan is boos dat de wereld niets doet aan de honger in Tigray. 'Mensenrechten tellen niet meer'](#)

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@eeпа.be any additional information and corrections.