

Europe External Programme with Africa

# SITUATION REPORT - HORN OF AFRICA

No. 325- 06 December, 2022

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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 06 December)

- Eyewitnesses from Shire reported that 80-90 trucks of Eritrean troops moved today (05 December) towards Axum and Adwa, despite expectations for their withdrawal based on the Cessation of Hostilities agreement.
- The sources indicated that the troops might have departed from Eritrea and entered Tigray via the Sheraro area, North-Western zone of the region.

## Situation in Tigray (per 06 December)

- *Globe and Mail* reports that family members outside Tigray are still unable to get in touch with families inside Tigray, as the communications blackout persists.
- A source from Tigray reports that Eritrean and Fano forces committed murder, violence, kidnapping, looting and burning in the Central zone of Tigray.
- The source states 604 civilians were killed and 498 injured, 85 women were raped and 132 youths were kidnapped (unverified).

## Situation in Ethiopia (per 06 December)

- The Oromo Liberation Army (OLA) International Spokesperson, Odaa Tarbii, says that protests have erupted in the Oromia region against "Fano's ethnic cleansing campaign & the regime's silence".
  - He said that Fano stormed several districts in Oromia that border the Amhara region over the last few weeks and massacred hundreds of civilians and decapitated people they had abducted.
  - The Oromo Liberation Front has published a press release in which they call for Oromo unity in resistance to what they state are killings committed by Ethiopian federal forces and expressed support for the ongoing teacher and youth strikes.
  - The National Movement of Amhara has called on the federal government to intervene to end what it terms a "genocide" of Amhara civilians in the Oromia region.
  - They stated that the Oromo regional government is actively participating in the massacres, the Oromo special forces committing crimes alongside the Oromo Liberation Army.
  - Pictures are circulating on Twitter reportedly of Amhara Fano militants taking a selfie in front of two decapitated Oromo people.
  - University and school students are protesting the violence in multiple locations in the Oromia region of Ethiopia, says *Oromia Media Network*, OMN.
  - The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) called on the Ethiopian Federal Government and Oromia Regional Government to stop the "attacks on civilians largely by Shene armed groups".
  - UNICEF's 2023 appeal highlight for Ethiopia states 31.4 million people are in need in Ethiopia, including 16.5 million children and 7.8 million women. Around 4.5 million people are internally displaced.
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- The ongoing drought in Southern Ethiopia has triggered Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 4. It has destroyed the livelihood of 24.1 million people and destroyed all means of community resilience, states UNICEF.
- The IOM estimates that over 3.5 million livestock have died between the end of 2021 and May 2022 in the Oromia and Somali regions, destroying the livelihoods of millions.
- According to the FAO's January to October 2022 report, market value of animals has also dropped due to their decreasing condition, further hurting communities dependent on livestock.

### **Situation in Eritrea (per 06 December)**

- *Assenna TV* reported on 06 December that an estimated 60,000 Eritrean troops have lost their lives in the round of fighting since August 2022.
- Eritrea forces are still present in Shire, Axum and Adwa and they also have a military training centre in the Maykintal area, between Adwa and Abi Adi, adds *Assenna TV*.

### **Regional Situation (per 06 December)**

- *The New York Times* reports that protesters took to the street in Khartoum, Sudan, in complaint of the newly signed transitional government deal signed on 05 December.
- The deal states that the new Prime Minister will be selected by the “forces of the revolution” who have endorsed the deal. The deal also promises to unify the nation’s armed forces, under the PM’s control.
- The deal states that there will be engagement with civil society regarding questions of transitional justice, security reforms and review of the 2020 peace agreement for Darfur. No timeline was provided.
- The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General in Sudan, Volker Perthes, urged the future Sudanese transitional government to respect the rights and freedoms of all the citizens, regardless of their ethnic, religious or political background.
- *Le Monde* reports that two years after the start of the war in Tigray, those that were forced to move to camps in Sudan are happy about the peace deal but remain pessimistic as to its viability.
- Many of the Tigrayans in those camps came from the Welkait region, still occupied by Amhara forces.

### **Links of interest**

[Despite peace deal, Tigray still cut off from world as internet shutdown persists](#)

[Fano militia gunman takes selfie against background of slain Oromo](#)

[Twitter: Odaa Tarbii, OLA International Spokesperson](#)

[Amhara movement demands Ethiopian gov't stop genocide](#)

[Press release by the OLF](#)

[University and school students protesting in Oromia region of Ethiopia - Ethiopia.](#)

[Ethiopia : Human Rights Council links massacres to gov't inaction](#)

[Humanitarian Action for Children 2023](#)

[Ethiopia: Drought response situation \(January - October 2022\)](#)

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[Human Rights issues that need attention, a statement from ERCO](#)

[Water and Hope Quickly Drying Up: Families Grapple with the Realities of Drought in Ethiopia](#)

[Sudan Military and Pro-Democracy Coalition Sign Peace Deal](#)

[Top UN official urges respect for human rights in Sudan](#)

[Guerre en Ethiopie : au Soudan, les réfugiés tigréens entre espoir et scepticisme](#)

[Government forces enter Adan Yabal district](#)

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