

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 04 January)

- Ethiopian National security advisor and lead negotiator Ambassador Redwan Hussein said the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) will be delisted as a terrorist organisation after the completion of its disarmament.
- According to today's edition of the Ethiopian reporter, Redwan disclosed the conditions for lifting of the terrorist charge against TPLF in his briefing with parliament members.
- Housespeaker of the Ethiopian parliament Tagesse Chafo and attorney general Gedion Timotiws were present in the briefing meeting with parliamentarians.
- Once the parliament removes the terrorist designation of the TPLF, ongoing criminal charges against its leadership will be lifted, according to Redwan.
- Federal police are deployed in Mekelle and in Adigrat, Maychew, and the Tekeze hydropower station.
- The Ethiopian reporter quoted Redwan as saying "to bring peace some bitter measures will be taken. That will be the price for peace".
- Redwan acknowledged that the TPLF has handed over heavy weapons to Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF).
- He also disclosed that safeguarding the security of Tigray will be a joint responsibility of ENDF and Tigray Defence Forces (TDF). TPLF will deploy selected and trained forces to protect the security of the region.

Situation in Tigray (per 04 January)

- The Ethiopian Islamic Affairs Supreme Council issued a statement that it will visit Tigray soon together with other religious institutions in the country.
- The council stated its delegation will be composed of its representatives all regional states of Ethiopia
- The aim of the delegation will be to identify roles of the Muslim community in supporting the people of Tigray.
- Medical doctors at Mekelle Ayder Hospital, Tigray's largest hospital, said that "there is a shortage of medicine supply" in the hospital despite the peace agreement.
- CEO of the hospital, Dr Kibrom Gebresellassie said "Nothing is changed even after the peace agreement; the federal government is not supplying the much needed medicines including laboratory reagents to the hospital".
- The CEO said there is a lack of essential medicines such as cancer, antibiotics and laboratory reagents and the federal government should give special attention to it.

Situation in Eritrea (per 04 January)

- According to Reyot media, General Filipos Woldeyohannes, Eritrean Chief of Staff and Yemane Gebreab, Advisor of President Isaias Afewerki, had a meeting in the weekend with Amhara authorities in Bahir Dar, capital of Amhara region.
- It is not known whether the meeting took place with the knowledge of the Federal Government of Ethiopia, adds Reyot.
- Reported that a “large number” of Eritrean soldiers entered Oromia via Amhara. Also larger numbers of Eritrean soldiers are said to be in Beni-Shengul.

Situation in Ethiopia (per 04 January)

- Former Ethiopian permanent representative at the UN in Geneva and Amb Zenebe Kebede told the Ethiopian Press Agency that Ethiopia has not accepted the establishment of the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia (ICHREE).

International Situation (per 04 January)

- President Biden nominates first assistant secretary Ervine Masinga of African Affairs of the State Department as US Ambassador in Ethiopia, according to *Ethiopia insider*.
- According to the *American Military News*, the USA will deploy its 294th national guard to the horn of Africa.
- A Southwest Missouri National Guard unit will reportedly leave next week for almost a year-long mission to Africa.
- In a statement, the Missouri National Guard said the 294th will deploy to the Horn of Africa, including “all or part of Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Djibouti and parts of Kenya, Sudan, South Sudan and Uganda.”
- The national guard said “Their mission will be to conduct vertical and horizontal construction projects with an emphasis on vertical construction to establish and maintain the infrastructure required to achieve and sustain activities across the range of military operations in the area,”
- The statement added “ “These construction tasks throughout the country are crucial for contingency operations and will have a positive impact on real-world issues.”
- The Board of Directors for the Export-Import Bank of the United States’ (EXIM) unanimously approved two transactions totaling more than \$688 million approved transaction, the first of which guarantees \$281 million from the Private Export Funding Corporation (PEFCO) to Ethiopian Airlines Group.

Links of interest

- [Ethiopian parliament to delist TPLF as a terrorist after disarmament](#)
- [The Ethiopian Islamic Affairs Supreme Council to visit Tigray](#)
- [News: Tigray's biggest hospital remains short of medical supply despite peace deal, pleads for laboratory reagents](#)
- [Ethiopia to keep insisting ICHREE mandate termination](#)
- [Eritrean and Amhara authorities meet in Bahir Dar, Amhara region](#)
- [National Guard's 294th to deploy to Horn of Africa](#)
- <https://ethiopiainsider.com/2023/9259/>
- <http://www.exim.gov/news/export-import-bank-united-states-board-directors-approves-final-commitments-for-transactions>

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