



REF: SICST//10-2213

Date: 28/10/2022

H.E. Antonio Guterres,

Secretary-General of the United Nations,

760 United Nations Plaza, Manhattan,

New York City, NY 10017

United States

Re: Urgent Call For Action To Halt Genocide in Tigray

Your Excellency,

As the horrified fascination with which the Western world viewed the atrocities of the Russia and Ukraine, another spectacle of mass starvation by design ignored the world's attention, which resulted in the deaths of half millions of Tigrayans, primarily by starvation, was a deliberate a man-made catastrophe design to wipe out a population using food and medicine as a weapon of war.

We Sebhedri International Civil Society (SICS) are certain the current situation in Tigray has all the signs and symptoms of genocide and ethnic cleansing and isolation where people with marginal resources are assured to perish for lack of food, medicine, and shelter. The people are also denied basic needs: communication (phone and internet), electricity and humanitarian aid.

It the most barbaric of the twenty-first century, the death of about 500 thousand Tegraru (Tigrayn) people pales considerably compared to over 6000 Ukrainians who perished through bombing. In two years of war, untold numbers of civilians have been killed, an estimated two million people driven from their homes while millions more are in need of aid.

Tigray and its seven million people are virtually cut off from the outside world, facing dire shortages of fuel, food and medicines and lacking basic services, including communications and electricity.

The advance of Ethiopian and Eritrean forces through Tigray in late 2020 and early 2021 was followed by mass murder, rape and other crimes documented by UN investigators and rights groups. US aid chief Samantha Power said, "the potential for further widespread atrocities" was alarming and "the staggering human cost of this conflict should shock the world's conscience".

The Ethiopian and Eritrean forces, since August 2020 have inflicted an utterly staggering toll on civilians. They raped, murdered, destroyed villages after villages, aerial bombs, drone attacks, shelling of Cities targeting kindergartens, IDP, churches are intensified, with tens of thousands killed, millions displaced.

Recently Eritrean forces detaining of hundreds of young people in concentration camp around Adi Goshu and disturbing report of extrajudicial killing of civilians in Shire and Adwa are a grim reminder of the short-lived occupation and prove the worst is yet to come if deceive halt is not imposed

Trapped with the invaders are vulnerable Tigrayan civilians, who have been suffering under a spiralling humanitarian emergency. A government blockade has prevented critical aid and key provisions from reaching Tigray, stripping hospitals of electricity, medical supplies like insulin, and fuel. Millions of people are now on the verge of famine, and even kindergartens have been targeted by government airstrikes during the war. "There's been no electricity; there's been no internet; there's no banking services; there's no postal services; there's no health care; there's no food delivery for two years "The attacks have resulted in untold civilian casualties, including aid workers delivering food, property destruction, and large-scale displacement,"

The Federal and Eritrean forces are bombing towns and the capital Shire, Adwa, Axum, Alamata, Sheraro and Adi Dearo with impunity. Civilian casualties are mounting very rapidly (mothers, expectant women, children adults); hospitals have now run out of critical supplies and space. Abiy Ahmed, having launched brutal offense against civilians in Tigray claims that "not a single person has been killed during this war". This insane denial adds to Abiy's cruelty and disregard to human life.

We respectfully request that your office:

1. Take the necessary action to prevent catastrophic end as witnessed in Rwanda.
2. Impose on Ethiopia government to allow access to independent and transparent investigation into conducts of grave human rights violations
3. Humanitarian assistance is overdue and all responsible relief agencies and institutions should act with the urgency of now.
4. Press restoration of basic services (water, electricity, medical supply, communication, including the internet) without delay because they contribute to human misery and death.
5. The United Nations must take serious steps by declaring the Tigray area a zone safeguarded under United Nations protection. The United Nations under similar genocidal wars have established protected zones in Bosnia, Timor, Cyprus, Iraq, Sierra Leone et cetera. It is time that similar safety zone be established in Tigray.

The genocide in Tigray is the last warning for the world the UN must devoted to the principle of its charter to protect civilians and venerable population withstand that disaster that is going to come soon. In the interest of justice to the victims and their families, members of Sebhidri International Civic Society (SICS) are pleading intervention of United Nations.

cc:

- **Federico Villegas**, President, United Nations Human Rights Council for 2022
- **Volker Türk**, High commissioner, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Kenneth Roth**, Executive Director, Human Rights Watch
- **Agnès Callamard**, Secretary-General, Amnesty International
- **Dunja Mijatović**, Commissioner, European Commission of Human Rights
- **Samantha Power**, Director, United States Agency for International Development
- **Kristalina Georgieva**, Director, International Monetary Fund
- **Tedros Adhanom**, Director, World Health Organization

Endorsed by the following Organizations:

- Tigray Global Advocacy Group (TGAG)
- Tigrayans Community in Western
- Australia Security Justice for Tigray (SJT)
- Global Society of Tigray and Professions (GSTS)
- Felci for Peace and Democracy Eritrea
- Solidarity of Nations of Ethiopia Solidarity of Nations of Ethiopia
- Stichting Dekena Foundation