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**Oromia Economic and Cultural Development Association of North America**



**Washington DC, USA**

## **PRESS STATEMENT**

May 10, 2010

We, members of the Oromo Community in North America, were extremely disturbed when we heard the shocking news regarding the deadly act of terrorism that took place in Adaba, West Arsi Zone. We, unequivocally condemn this cowardly and desperate act of home grown terrorists who had heartlessly massacred innocent civilians just to intimidate the public and deter them from participating in the 2010 elections. The Adaba massacre on May 8,, 2010, is a heinous act of mercenaries hired by the Eritrean terrorist government of which bitterly envies an impressive and internationally reckoned economic advancement and social progress in Ethiopia. Consequently, he has been relentlessly waging unsuccessful proxy wars to destabilize the country that has now become exemplary to the rest of African nations. It is regrettable that the outdated “Oromo Liberation Front” which failed under the tutelage of the Eritrean tyrannical rule has been acting as a messenger boy by carrying out their impish missions of disrupting peace, stability and development in Oromia in particular. On the other hand, those who have realized the disparaging role of the wicked OLF leadership are now abandoning this defunct organization day by day after realizing the damages they cause their own people. Thus they have been making the right choice by joining the democratic struggle to develop and build the democratic State of Oromia.

We, members of the Oromo community in North America, vehemently condemn this terrorist act intended to kill the innocent people and leadership of Oromo Peoples Democratic Organization (OPDO) that toils day and night to lay down the material and spiritual basis to create a bright future for generations to come. OPDO has already established an impeccable track of record in the area of democratization of the society and economic development unprecedented in the history of the Oromo nation. The Oromo nation, the sole beneficiary of the fruits of progress, have already built a humongous confidence in this Organization and unshakeable trust that such a heinous act of some mercenary terrorists could not by any means deter peaceful, democratic and fair election that is currently underway in the State of Oromia and in the whole country. It is worth to note that during the last five years, the society has gone under remarkable political transformation by embracing civility and responsible citizenship over a culture of vulgarism and irresponsible course of action demonstrated in 2005. OPDO has proved itself worthy of building civil society essential to ensure continuity of the democratic social order.

We, members of the Oromo community in North America, once again renew our commitment to fully support the Oromo Peoples Democratic Organization and the people of Oromia in their endeavor to bring about a speedy growth and development in the Region. We therefore call upon all those who are confused here in Diaspora and skeptical about the State of Oromia to distance themselves from the terrorist organizations which has been indiscriminately shading the blood of innocent civilians and start dialogue to get a better understanding of the political dynamism in Oromia/Ethiopia and be part of the the process.

Oromia Economic and Cultural Development Association

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