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The Government of National Regional State of Tigray ቤት ዕሕፌት ርእስ ምምሕዳር

Office of the President

ዕለት 16 ጥቅምት 2013

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Excellency,

EPRDF elected Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed in April 2018 to spearhead a reform program. He, however, forsook the reform agenda and focused on building a system subservient to his dictatorial ambitions. The political process that started with the intention of reforming the political establishment has been hijacked by Dr. Abiy Ahmed and his group and the much celebrated reform has faltered.

Excellency,

Dr. Abiy Ahmed unilaterally and indefinitely postponed the May 2020 election. TPLF vehemently opposed the decision and appealed to the international community to help resolve the crisis through an all-inclusive dialogue and warned that there would not be a legitimate entity, including the Prosperity Party, to administer the country after the end of the term of Dr. Abiy Ahmed's government. The international community was silent and it sent a wrong signal to the, then, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed. Subsequently, he imprisoned the leaders of major political parties who challenged his unilateral and unconstitutional decision to indefinitely postpone the election.

Dr. Abiy Ahmed took the silence of the international community as a sign of approval and escalated his policy of undoing the constitutional order and stifling political dissent. Now the government is at war with its own people and endangering not only the democratic order but also the unity of the country.

Excellency,

After the end of his term in October 6, 2020, Dr. Abiy Ahmed has escalated the crisis rather than attempt to address the underlying constitutional and political problems through inclusive dialogue. The despotic behavior of Dr. Abiy Ahmed and the indifference of the

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The Government of National Regional State of Tigray ቤት ፅሕፌት ርእስ ምምሕዳር Office of the President

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international community have made a peaceful and democratic resolution of the crisis impossible.

As it has repeatedly warned in its many letters to the international community, Tigrai has recalled its representatives from the elected bodies and the Council of Ministers at the federal level and made clear that all legal enactments and political decisions would not be applicable to Tigrai. It has also underlined that in the interest of the continued existence of the Ethiopian state, it will continue to work with the federal civil service and respect and enjoy the attendant rights and obligations.

Excellency,

The regime is, yet again, focusing on aggravating the already complicated crisis. It has declared it will not have any bureaucratic relationship with the Tigrai National Regional State and has decided to stop sending the allocated budget to the Tigrai National Regional State and has already started to halt all other federal services that every member of the federation is entitled to.

The regime is pushing Tigrai further to the edge. It has excluded Tigrai from receiving COVID 19 masks which were distributed to all schools throughout the country. It has also denied Tigrai the necessary support to its efforts in combating the recent locust invasion that has threatened the livelihood of poor Tigrian farmers while discriminately supporting neighboring regional states.

The central government has now extended its discriminatory policy against Tigrai by denying it the benefits of various support programs provided by international development partners and particularly the poverty alleviation program financed by the World Bank. The safety net program has been one of the most effective interventions in lifting millions of rural and urban poor Ethiopians out from abject poverty since 2005. Manufacturing hunger and using a contagious disease like COVID 19 as biological weapons are crimes under international law. Such criminal and discriminatory actions of the administration are tantamount to declaring Tigrai as being an independent and sovereign entity.

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Office of the President

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Excellency,

The regime has declared war not only on the democratic order but also on the continued existence of the country as a united nation. We would like to once again make clear to your Excellency and the rest of the international community the following,

- Any attempt by the regime to cut the current and capital budget, projects financed by development partners and halting infrastructural and social services Tigrai is entitled to as a member of the federal republic will have serious negative implications on the peace and unity of the country and the regime will be responsible for the attendant adverse consequences. We would also like to underline that the international community can't absolve itself from the grim repercussions of its inaction.
- The only way out of the constitutional crisis Ethiopia has been plunged into is the
 peace plan presented by the Coalition of Ethiopian Federalist Forces. TPLF and the
 Tigrai people don't believe that an incomprehensive and selective approach to
 resolving the crisis will bring about sustainable peace.

The growing interest and engagement of the international community, notably, the European Union, is encouraging, but it is not commensurate with the level of crisis the country finds itself in and the mounting danger of a national collapse. It is in this context, the National Regional State of Tigrai, once again implores to your excellency to play your part in averting the looming crisis in the country through an all-inclusive and comprehensive dialogue.

Sincerely

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n GAlichaet/PIID/ President

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