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Date: April 2022  
Subject: Ethiopian Government Action to Secure Peace

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## **Overview**

Since June 2021, when the TPLF invaded Tigray's neighboring regions of Afar and Amhara, the international media coverage has dramatically changed.

The atrocities committed by the TPLF have been highlighted on numerous occasions by reporters on the ground and by human rights organizations such as Amnesty International.

Moreover, the media has accurately reported on the positive steps taken by the Ethiopian Government to pursue peace and deliver humanitarian aid to those in need.

It is for those reasons, AEPAC continues to be confused as to the intel Members of Congress are using to justify pursuing additional sanctions against Ethiopia rather than offering rhetorical and financial support to the democratically elected government.

## **Government Efforts at Peace. Timeline**

The steps the government has taken to secure peace are significant, a list of the most prominent measures is below:

- Announced a unilateral ceasefire in June 2021, rejected by TPLF as a "joke" – 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021
- Despite TPLF advance in Afar and Amhara, Ethiopian Government sets up aid flights to Tigray - 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021
- Agreed to joint investigation between the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission and the United Nations – Published, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2021
- Stopped its forces from entering Tigray when rebels withdrew – 24<sup>th</sup> December 2021
- Confirmed intention to set up a national dialogue commission – 29<sup>th</sup> December 2021
- As part of an Ethiopian Christmas amnesty, pardons a number of TPLF and Oromo leaders – 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021
- Announces another unilateral truce for humanitarian aid purposes - 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022
- Releases more TPLF prisoners – 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022
- The first road convey with humanitarian aid reaches Tigray - 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022
- Signalled its intention for negotiations on numerous occasions between Nov 2021 – April 2022



## **Media Reports:**

**[Ethiopian Government Declares Ceasefire in Conflict-Ridden Tigray Region \(forbes.com\)](#) June 29, 2021**

Ethiopia's government... declared an immediate and unilateral cease-fire in its Tigray region where the country's military has been engaged in a deadly conflict with a regional paramilitary group for the past eight months, which has led to famine-like conditions.

**[Ethiopia says aid flights to Tigray allowed, but none has yet left the capital | Reuters](#) July 7, 2021**

Ethiopia said on Wednesday that it had allowed humanitarian flights to its northern Tigray region this week, amid concerns that aid is not reaching people facing famine, but the civil aviation head said no such flights had yet left the capital.

**[Joint Statement on the Release of the OHCHR-EHRC Joint Investigation - United States Department of State](#), November 6, 2021**

We acknowledge the Government of Ethiopia's commitment to provide redress to victims of the violations and abuses identified in the report, noting, in particular, the need for redress and support for victims of gender-based atrocities. We urge a similar commitment be made by the Government of Eritrea and the Tigray People's Liberation Front, and all other parties to the conflict.

**[Ethiopia gov't outlines terms for possible Tigray ceasefire talks | News | Al Jazeera](#) November 11, 2021**

The Ethiopian government has set out conditions for possible ceasefire talks with leaders of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), following days of international diplomatic efforts aimed at halting intensifying hostilities.

**[Analysts: Ethiopian Forces' Halt at Tigray Opens Window for Ceasefire \(voanews.com\)](#) December 24, 2021**

Ethiopia's government said it will hold back its army from entering the Tigray region, after Tigrayan rebels retreated to the region this week. Analysts say the two sides are indicating there could be a window for ceasefire after thirteen months of devastating war.

**[Ethiopia to create national dialogue commission | News | DW](#) December 30, 2021**

Ethiopian lawmakers on Wednesday voted overwhelmingly in favor of establishing a commission for national dialogue. Western powers had recently stepped-up pressure on Ethiopia to de-escalate violence as horrific reports of human rights abuses came to light. The commission, whose creation was promised by Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's government, is meant to establish common ground on contentious issues.



[Ethiopia to create national dialogue commission | News | DW](#) | December 30, 2021

Ethiopian lawmakers on Wednesday voted overwhelmingly in favor of establishing a commission for national dialogue.

[Tigray conflict: Ethiopia frees rebel leaders in Christmas amnesty - BBC News](#) January 8, 2022

Speaking on Friday, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said the government was making the move in a bid to achieve national reconciliation and to promote “unity”. Leaders of the rebel Tigrayan People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) will be among those pardoned in the amnesty.

[Diaspora group: Ethiopia PM open to talks with Tigray forces | AP News](#) January 26, 2022

Ethiopia’s prime minister has said there will be negotiations on a cease-fire between his government and the rival Tigray forces who have been [waging war](#) for almost 15 months, the chairman of a diaspora group that had a private meeting with him told The Associated Press.

[Ethiopia’s national dialogue can bring hope to the American Ethiopian community - New York Amsterdam News](#) March 17, 2022

The proposed national dialogue deserves special attention as a possible way of creating understanding and ending the ongoing and devastating conflict. The prospect of the national dialogue has ushered in a new era of real hope and peace. The process announced late last year began just a few weeks ago with the confirmation of 11 commissioners who will lead the dialogue and reconciliation efforts. The Commission has been given a clear mandate to bring about an end to the political polarization in the country on a range of issues, including the ethnic divisions that plague Ethiopia, the constitution, the type of federalism the country needs to implement, the rights of the individual citizen, the control of the means of production particularly the use and ownership of land, respect for universal human rights, and the implementation of the rule of law, among others.

[Ethiopia declares unilateral truce to allow aid into Tigray | Abiy Ahmed News | Al Jazeera](#) March 24, 2022

Ethiopia’s government has declared “an indefinite humanitarian truce effective immediately”, saying it hoped to help hasten delivery of emergency aid into the Tigray region, where hundreds of thousands face starvation.

[Ethiopia releases former Tigray government officials - lawyer | Reuters](#) March 30, 2022

Ethiopia has released several former government officials from prison, a lawyer working with them said. The group of ethnic Tigrayans included former members of the government-appointed administration and a member of the ruling party.



[Ethiopia's Tigray Region Receives Aid After Conditional Truce Agreed - Bloomberg](#) April 1, 2022

The first international convoy to provide humanitarian aid to Ethiopia's Tigray region since mid-December arrived safely, the latest sign of progress in efforts to end the nation's 17-month civil war.