

2022, the Federal Government of

As you are all aware, on March 24,

Dear Friends,

Ethiopia declared an indefinite humanitarian truce in Tigray to expedite the delivery of humanitarian assistance to those in need in the Tigray region. In a statement, the Government asked that TPLF forces reciprocate this

humanitarian truce immediately so that aid delivery could take place without further delay. The government also

urged the TPLF "to desist from all acts of further aggression and withdraw from areas they have occupied in neighboring regions." The decision by the Ethiopian Government has been widely accepted by the international community. According to ABC News on March 24, 2022, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the United States strongly supports the declaration

of an indefinite humanitarian truce. He further stated: "this commitment to a cessation of hostilities should be a critical step towards the resumption and sustainment of humanitarian assistance to the people in Tigray and all Ethiopian regions and communities in need." The UN, European Union, and many other countries praised the Government of Ethiopia for this timely decision. After some reluctance, it was also reported that the TPLF agreed to a humanitarian truce. According to BBC News on March 26th: "rebel forces fighting in northern Ethiopia have agreed to a government offer of a truce to allow aid deliveries to reach millions of people in urgent need of assistance."

are now being transported by road to the Tigray region.

AEPAC believes the step taken by the Government of Ethiopia and TPLF's

members of the Ethiopian family, the people of Tigray have the right to live in

dignity like Ethiopians living in other parts of the country. The much-needed relief assistance should continue to Tigray to save lives.

Despite some intransigence by the TPLF, it has been widely reported that the much-needed humanitarian supplies including food, medicine, and fuel delivery acceptance of the humanitarian truce is a positive development in Ethiopia. As regions have exposed millions of Ethiopians to atrocities and untold suffering.

In addition to the barbaric acts of mass killings, rape, burning of crops, and

killing of animals; Infrastructures including clinics, schools, and roads were

uprooted from their communities. Generally, the livelihood of millions of citizens is hanging in the balance. We

The senseless and cowardly terrorist attacks by the TPLF on Amhara and Afar mercilessly destroyed. Civilian properties were looted, and millions have been urge the Government of Ethiopia and Ethiopia's international development and Tigray regions so that all who were affected by the war unleashed by the

partners to accelerate help in rehabilitating those affected in the Amhara, Afar, TPLF as of November 4, 2020, can start to rebuild their lives. While we recognize the government's systemic approach when dealing with Ethiopia's complex situation, American Ethiopian members, and supporters of AEPAC call on the Ethiopian Government to make a concerted effort to support the people living in Welkait. The region is struggling to recover after enduring

27 years of inhuman atrocities, including a possible genocide committed by the TPLF. It is also in the best interests of the United States and the wider international community to appreciate the historical importance of Welkait when advocating for peace in Ethiopia. A united and strong Ethiopia will be a loyal and democratic ally. To ignore the

history of the great people of Welkait would be a major misstep with unintended

negative consequences and would certainly damage efforts to advance US

I thank you for your continued support of AEPAC and for your dedication to

interest in the Horn of Africa and the African continent at large.

promoting US/Ethiopia relations! Thank you. Sincerely, Mesfin Tegenu, AEPAC Chairman

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**Ethiopia** 

**Ethiopia** 

Overview

and notable individuals.

American allies to fight it back.

be published soon - watch this space!

The American-Ethiopian Public Affairs C... @AmericaEthi... · Apr 11

"Humanitarian goals are incompatible with military insurgency goals."

Media

**Digital** 

29,000 impressions.

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**AEPAC ACTIVITY UPDATE** 

AEPAC and its partners and stakeholders have rigorously lobbied members of

Congress to stop the unjust and biased draft bills authored by Rep. Tom Malinowski (HR6600) and Senator Bob Menendez (S3199). Both draft bills have passed their respective Foreign Affairs Committees and they are now waiting to be presented to their respective floors for next approval. These bills are very dangerous for Ethiopia and will be detrimental to the bilateral relations between Ethiopia and the United States. That was the reason why AEPAC worked to influence the progress of these draft bills and eventually stop the passage as law of the land. First and foremost, AEPAC and its partners held a meeting and discussed in detail the content of these draft bills and understood its implications for Ethiopia, the Horn of Africa, and US/Ethiopia bilateral

relations. We overwhelmingly agreed that these bills are dangerous for the

cause of peace, stability, and sovereignty of Ethiopia so called on Ethiopian-

Americans, Eritrean-Americans, and American friends of Ethiopia to work

together to stop it. To achieve this objective, we charted out a strategic plan on

how to delay and finally stop these draft bills from progressing forward.

Following this strategic plan, we conducted rigorous campaign and lobby

activities involving Congress, the Administration, and other relevant authorities

In addition, successful public activities have taken place. Rallies and

demonstrations have taken place in the states and districts of the authors of the

draft bills, petitions have been signed, phone calls campaign conducted, and

meetings were held with relevant officials to explain AEPAC's position on these draft bills. Furthermore, rallies and demonstrations have taken place in front of the White House, Capitol Hill, and the Department of State opposing these draft bills. The organizers vowed to continue to rally until these legislations are dropped in Congress. AEPAC, while campaigning to stop these draft bills, has noted that there are some Ethiopians who are in favor of these bills. There are also some who

thought that the draft bills are delayed by Congress. AEPAC reminded those

members of the Ethiopian diaspora community that the two draft bills are still

alive and asked all concerned Ethiopians and Eritreans to continue raising their

voices against these draft bills. AEPAC also held panel discussions to build

consensus among Ethiopians by reminding them that these sanction bills are

dangerous for the Ethiopian people and called upon all Ethiopians and their

In April, our media activity has continued to be aimed at opposing HR6600 and

S3199. AEPAC together with its partners held protests in New Jersey and

California with more planned in May and June. Local media in the US and

Ethiopian press have picked up on these efforts and promoted the community's work. Our very own Wassy Tesfa <u>published an opinion piece with Borkena</u> outlining the argument for Welkeit to be governed as part of Amhara, its ancestral home, and highlighting the crimes committed over 27 years of the TPLF's annexation. Wassy also undertook an interview with The Root, with Chairman Mesfin Tegenu, taking about how mainstream media has at times failed to accurately report on the conflict and talking about the failure of the West to support a democratic government. Finally, we supported Professor Ann Fitz-Gerald in strongly challenging Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International. She spoke in detail on Al Jazeera about the issues with methodology and research gathering, and the failure to call out TPLF atrocities in Afar and Amhara. There is a lot activity ongoing. We have a number of live opportunities that will

Digital has continued to push on all fronts, with a particular focus on the

campaign to halt the passage of S.3199 & HR6600 through the house, and

highlighting atrocities that have been committed by the TPLF in Ethiopia. The

result of this has been increased engagement with multiple pieces of content

receiving a high amount of attention on social media. Of particular note is the

content we made from an interview with Professor Ann Fitz-Gerald, which

received over 9,000 views and over 2,300 engagements, and the online

response to our protest outside Bill Menendez's office, which received over

The American-Ethiopian Public Affairs C... @AmericaEth... · Apr 22 ···

We brought our billboard truck to @SenatorMenendez's office to peacefully

protest his bill -- #S3199 -- which is endangering the American-Ethiopian Professor Fitz-Gerald (@afitz3105) recently travelled to Ethiopia's northern regions, and reminds @AJEnglish viewers that TPLF fighters are still occupying #Afar and must withdraw. The bill must be stopped. SEN cupying 5 regions in northern Fr for any humanitarian truce to still occupying five regions in northern Afar. 0:42 9.864 views **Promote** Promote 1 324 ♡ 377 Q 15 177 ♡ 246 1 ılı **NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS** 

A high-level Ethiopian delegation led by Ethiopia's Finance Minister, HE Mr.

Ahmed Shide has arrived in Washington D.C. to attend the 2022 Spring

Meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

that will take place from 22-24 April 2022. The Ethiopian delegation included

HE Dr. Eyob Tekaligne, State Minister of the Ministry of Finance, high officials

from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and from the Prime Minister's office. In

addition to attending multilateral meetings, the delegation will meet US officials

and discuss bilateral matters according to Washington-based Ethiopian

In a related development, during its stay in Washington DC, the Ethiopian

delegation met members of the Ethiopian diaspora and briefed them about the

current situation in the country. According to the information provided by one of

the participants who attended the diaspora meeting, the delegation briefed

them about humanitarian aid activities in the Tigray region. The same source

also noted that the delegation discussed addressing infrastructure rehabilitation

and budget allocation for the Amhara and Afar regions. They also addressed

The World Bank announced on Wednesday it has approved a 300 million U.S.

dollars rehabilitation fund for Ethiopia. In a press statement, the World Bank

said the newly approved funds will be used to rehabilitate those affected by

conflict and its consequences in various parts of the East African country.

"Conflicts in Ethiopia have resulted in the loss of lives, humanitarian crises, and

destruction of private and public assets and have left communities in dire need

of support," the statement said. "Conflicts have also caused the displacement of

thousands of people throughout Ethiopia and have further exacerbated the

incidence of gender-based violence, particularly against women and girls," the

The World Bank also said the new funds will support efforts to address the

immediate needs of communities, rehabilitate infrastructure destroyed by

conflict and increase community resilience to the impacts of conflict in a

sustainable manner. The 300 million U.S. dollars funds will cover the needs of

at-risk people in Afar, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Oromia, and Tigray

The World Bank statement also said the project for the newly released funds

will be implemented by federal, regional, community-based organizations as

A delegation of Israeli medical and parliamentary members has arrived in

Gondar, Amhara Regional State for a two-day visit. Upon arrival at Emperor

Tewodros Airport, officials of the University of Gondar and authorities of the

town received them with a warm welcome. University of Gondar President, Dr.

Asrat Atsedewein told ENA that the mission of the delegation is to support the

Ethiopian government in its efforts to rehabilitate war-torn health facilities in the

regional states, which host a large number of internally displaced people.

Israeli Medical, Parliamentary Members Arrive in Gondar

questions raised in relation to the Wolkait region of Ethiopia.

World Bank approves \$300 million rehabilitation fund for Ethiopia

High-Level Ethiopian Delegation Arrives in Washington DC

Addis Ababa, April 18, 2022 (Walta News)

Embassy sources.

By XINHUA -April 13, 2022

statement said.

The delegation is led by former Israeli Deputy Minister of Security and current member of the Israeli parliament, Gadi Yevarken. The delegation includes leaders and health professionals from Israeli health facilities, including members of the Israeli parliament. During its two-day stay, the delegation will visit the activities of the University of Gondar and the University's General Specialized Hospital. The delegation is also expected to visit Emperor Fasil's Palace, a World Heritage Site. It is expected that they will hold talks with officials in the North Shoa, North and South Wollo, and North and South Gondar zones of Amhara

A team of six surgeons who arrived in Gondar a day earlier began providing

free medical care at the University of Gondar General Specialized Hospital. The

president explained that the surgeons are providing free surgical support for

three days to patients who have been waiting a long time for surgery at the

US Senator Mark Warner Calls on President Biden to Cement Relations

a statement he issued, Senator Mark Warner hailed the Ethiopian

Government's efforts to help those who need humanitarian assistance in Tigray.

He noted the arrival of humanitarian aid into Tigray as a 'positive' progress'

made by the government in Addis Ababa and called on the Biden

administration to cement ties with the Ethiopian government in realizing peace

and development. "Continued efforts to expand access to the Tigray region are

positive progress, as humanitarian organizations work to provide needed aid,"

Senator Mark wrote on Twitter recently. "It's vital that the US advance

diplomatic efforts with the Ethiopian government, and support humanitarian and

Mark Robert Warner is an American businessman and politician serving as the

senior United States Senator from Virginia, first elected in 2008. He is a

member of the Democratic Party, vice-chair of the Senate Democratic Caucus,

Senator Kim Jackson of Georgia Assembly Expressed Apology to

**Ethiopians for Being Misled By TPLF Supporters and Vowed to Issue New** 

Kim Jackson, Senator of the Georgia State Senate, the upper house of the

Georgia General Assembly, apologized to Ethiopian Americans living in

Georgia for being misled by the propaganda of TPLF supporters. Senator Jim

Jackson said she decided to apologize after receiving and reading letters from

Ethiopians and conducting various discussions with the Diaspora community

"I'm sorry for the hurt I brought to Ethiopians, for the pain which my resolution

brought about. I will take full responsibility for that. There are other senators

whose names are on that resolution, but I stand here to take full responsibility,"

She said. The senator said that she realized that great atrocities and crimes

have been committed against innocent civilians in Ethiopia by the TPLF group,

I stand and resist saying laying on the shoulders of all of my ancestors who

resisted when they themselves were in bondage energies. That is the legacy

that I bring into the space and is the legacy that I bring into the work that I do as

a senator, it is one of standing with the oppressed and fighting for and on behalf

of the oppressed. So, friends, I stand with you here today. Again, I'm deeply

LA-based Ethiopian activists are rallying against WHO Director-General Tedros

Adhanom over his alleged involvement with the known Ethiopian terrorist

organization Tigray People's Liberation Front. "The UN should launch an

investigation into WHO head Dr. Tedros. He is attempting to deceive the

organization by deliberately misrepresenting the level of emergency in Tigray.

sorry for the pain the harm that I have caused to your community," she added.

economic initiatives for the Ethiopian people," the US lawmaker further added.

His goal [is] to support TPLF terrorist [organization], of which he is a leading member," reads a Tweet by activist Hermela Aregawi. "Terrorist organization TPLF has massacred civilians, looted assets, raped women and children in Amhara and Afar regions of Ethiopia. Yet, WHO head Dr. Tedros along [with the] mainstream media and corrupt human rights organizations continue to support [the] TPLF." Indeed, the Tigray People's Liberation Front is a well-known ethno-nationalist group in Ethiopia that staged a military coup in 1989 and has committed innumerable human rights crimes.

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has publicly called out Tedros for backing the group

and demanded the UN launch an investigation into his role. However, such an

investigation has yet to be declared. Additionally, Ethiopia's army chief claims

that Adhanom worked to secure military weapons for the ethno-nationalist terror

operations in the areas of aircraft maintenance and engineering, procurement, information technology, flight operations, capability development, capacity building, development of corporate strategies, airline operation management, and corporate leadership. He earned a Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from Open University in the UK, an MSc degree in Electrical Engineering specializing in Communications Engineering from Addis Ababa University, and a BSc degree in Electrical Engineering from Addis Ababa University. The Board Chairman of the airline, Mr. Girma Wake said, "I would like to congratulate Mr. Mesfin on his new appointment and I am fully confident about his capabilities. We believe that Mr. Mesfin will lead the airline to even greater

success, keeping it on the right track that will see it grow through many

generations to come. I urge the 17,000 employees of Ethiopian and the board

members to stand with the new Group CEO to keep the airline fly high. We are

Ethiopian Airlines (Ethiopian) is the fastest growing Airline in Africa. In its

seventy-five years of operation, Ethiopian has become one of the continent's

leading carriers, unrivaled in efficiency and operational success. Ethiopian

commands the lion's share of the Pan-African passenger and cargo network

operating the youngest and most modern fleet to more than 130 international

Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson confirmed to become the first Black woman

also thankful for the remarkable contributions of the former Group CEO."

About Ethiopian:

The Board of Management of Ethiopian Airlines Group has announced the

appointment of Mr. Mesfin Tasew Bekele, as Chief Executive Officer of

Ethiopian Airlines Group, effective March 23, 2022. Mr. Mesfin has been a

successor to the former CEO of the Airline Group, Tewolde GebreMariam

whose early retirement request due to health issues has been approved by the

board. Mr. Mesfin has 38 years of experience in airline management and

**U.S. Supreme Court Justice** By Ashton Jackson, Thursday, Apr 7, 2022 (https://www.cnbc.com/2022/04/07/) Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson has made history as the first Black woman to be confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court. By a bipartisan vote of 53-47, the United States Senate officially confirmed Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to serve as an Associate Justice on the United State Supreme Court on April 7. The 51-year-old D.C. native served as district judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia from 2013 to 2021. She was then appointed to fill

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer announced the final vote and said that

"in the 233-year history of the Supreme Court, never, never has a Black woman

held the title of Justice. Ketanji Brown Jackson will be the first and I believe the

first of more to come." Jackson is not expected to start her new role until

Justice Stephen Breyer retires this summer. She will then begin hearing cases

In addition to being the first Black woman on the Supreme Court, Jackson will also be the first justice to have experience as a public defender. As an assistant public defender from 2005-to-2007, Jackson says she argued before the appeals court about 10 times. The two-time Harvard grad represented several defendants who otherwise couldn't afford private counsel.

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regular updates. Check out our website - www.aepact.org **Share** 

social media:

Want to help push the voice of American-Ethiopians to the audiences who matter? Then please share these Tweets so that AEPAC's message is seen by more people across **AEPAC Mission Video** 

Contact P.O.Box 636 Kenneth Square, PA 19348 info@aepact.org | www.aepact.org

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state. State, where the health facilities were destroyed by the terrorist TPLF.

Addis Ababa, April 21, 2022/ Walta News

and chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

pledging to stand with all the people of Ethiopia.

**Ethiopian Protesters Called WHO Chief a terrorist** 

The Counter Signal, Thomas Lambert, April 14, 2022

hospital.

with Ethiopia

Resolution

AEPAC News, April 19, 2022

about the realities in Ethiopia.

well as independent third-party entities.

Addis Ababa April 12/2022 /ENA/

group. "This man is a member of that group, and he has been doing everything to support them," said the army chief of staff, General Berhanu Jula, in 2020. "He has worked in neighboring countries to condemn the war. He has worked for them to get weapons." The government has also accused the TPLF of killing hundreds at the time, specifically ethnic Amharas, and creating a refugee crisis that saw 30,000 flee to Sudan. Mesfin Tasew Appointed as New CEO of Ethiopian Airlines Group

Addis Ababa, 24 March 2022, Ethiopian Airlines,

the seat left vacant by Attorney General Merrick Garland in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit by President Joe Biden.

passenger and cargo destinations across five continents.

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once the next term begins in October.