

[View this email in your browser](#)



NEWSLETTER

February 2024

Dear <<First Name>>>,

The AEPAC Young Ethiopian Americans committee is thrilled to announce its inaugural national discussion, set for March 3, 2024, at 3:00 pm via Zoom. This significant gathering will center on the crucial role of young Ethiopian Americans in exercising civic responsibility and active participation in the upcoming 2024 election. Additionally, the agenda will explore avenues for potential contributions to Ethiopia. Titled "Building a Community & Strengthening US-Ethiopia Friendship," this virtual Town Hall will showcase distinguished speakers: Abiyu Asfaw, a member of the AEPAC executive committee and founder of the Ethiopian American Development Council; Chris Drum, a government relations consultant; and Nathanael Michell, a student and service volunteer with UTRBE NGO. The meeting link will be emailed to you on March 2, 2024. We encourage your attendance and kindly ask you to extend the invitation to other young Ethiopian Americans.



Famine in Ethiopia

As many of you are aware, Ethiopia is once again facing famine, with the Amhara, Afar, and Tigray regions bearing the brunt of its impact. These areas have been grappling with months of severe drought, aggravated by conflict and diplomatic hurdles hindering

humanitarian efforts. This convergence of challenges has led to a new famine, worsening the plight of those already suffering from the effects of war.

Former leaders of the World Food Program have issued dire warnings about Ethiopia's desperate situation. Yet, this crisis largely goes unnoticed on the global stage. The Ethiopian government's denial of the famine only worsens the issue, potentially to avoid responsibility for ongoing human rights violations in Amhara and neighboring regions.

However, there is hope if the Ethiopian diaspora comes together to address this famine. It is also crucial for key global stakeholders, including the United States government, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the UN, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the broader international community, to pressure the Ethiopian government into prioritizing famine relief and significantly increasing humanitarian aid. Hunger is a blatant violation of human rights, conflicting with AEPAC's mission so we plan to mobilize the diaspora in support of our fellow Ethiopians.

If you would like to be part of the effort to alleviate hunger in our homeland, please share your feedback on how we can get it done together. For further insights, please refer to attached Op-ed on The Hill [<https://thehill.com/opinion/international/4450143-the-famine-the-world-is-ignoring/>].

Resolution by City council of West Hollywood.

I am pleased to announce that Team California has successfully passed Resolution #24-006 by the City Council of West Hollywood, condemning the conflict in Ethiopia and standing in solidarity with its people. The resolution urges President Biden and his administration to advocate for an immediate cessation of hostilities, respect for international human rights, and the provision of humanitarian aid, particularly in the Amhara region. Similar initiatives are underway in other states and in the US Congress.

AEPAC has issued a press release condemning the extension of the state of emergency in Amhara region and the massacre in the village of Marawi, calling for an end to the state of emergency. We have also reached out to the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, urging them to convene hearings and draw attention to the rapidly intensifying humanitarian crisis in Ethiopia.

Marawi Massacre

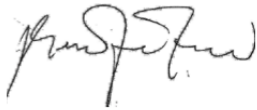
AEPAC, in collaboration with partner organizations, has submitted a letter to the United Nations Human Rights Commission and the International Court of Justice. The letter urges meaningful action, including an independent investigation into human rights violations and atrocities in Marawi and other areas of the Amhara region. Among the requested actions is

targeted accountability for the crimes committed. (For more information, please refer to the detailed letter- <https://sites.google.com/view/merawimassacre/home>.)

2024 US Elections

As the 2024 election season unfolds, the AEPAC national election committee is urging you to register to vote. AEPAC-endorsed candidates will be featured on our 2024 election website, so please check it regularly. As part of the newly approved AEPAC 2024 strategic plan, efforts are underway to engage all three branches of the US government in halting the Ethiopian carnage and ongoing human rights violations. Fulfilling your civic duties by participating in elections will help us achieve this objective and address your local needs and interests. Therefore, we urge you to get registered and vote.

Yours Sincerely,
Mesfin Tegenu
Chairman



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Follow Us

To keep up to date with AEPAC, follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).
Check out our website - www.aepact.org

Share

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 social media: [AEPAC Mission Video](#)

Contact

P.O.Box 636 Kenneth Square, PA 19348

DONATE TO AEPAC

FOLLOW AEPAC



[Add us to your address book](#)

Copyright © 2024 American-Ethiopian Public Affairs Committee, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).