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PRESS RELEASE

Marching for Freedom

Andinet North America Association of Support Organizations (ANAASO) is actively working with the **March 4 Freedom** alliance and other organizations to expose the gross human rights abuses occurring in Ethiopia and the unjust and illegal re-imprisonment of its leader, Ms Birtukan Mideksa, and other prisoners of conscience. ANAASO supports and gives its full endorsement to this national rally for freedom and justice. The march, scheduled for **Sunday September 13, 2009** in Washington DC, is attended by diverse organizations and people of all ages, races, religions, and political affiliations.

The march aims to:

- Unify Ethiopians, other Africans, African-Americans, Americans of any color and others of any nationality by coming together as human beings first; not as people of a certain ethnicity, color, political view, religion, region, country of origin, gender, viewpoint, educational level, economic class or any other distinction, but as people who care about justice, peace and reconciliation.
- Bring the world attention to the gross human rights abuses, tyranny and oppression of Ethiopians under the current brutal government of Meles Zenawi as well as in other countries in the Horn of Africa and in Africa as a whole where similar conditions exist.
- Let the Obama administration and other donor countries to Ethiopia and Africa see solidarity among freedom and justice loving people who want genuine change in Africa.

ANAASO calls on its chapter organizations, members, and supporters to show their solidarity with the people of Ethiopia and all prisoners of conscience by joining this march to stop Genocide and Dictatorship in Ethiopia.

ANAASO calls on the Ethiopian government to immediately release Ms Birtukan Mideksa and all other prisoners of conscience, respect the rule of law, and stop its intimidation and harassment of its citizens.

ANAASO further calls on the international community to stop supporting a regime that stands convicted of wholesome human rights violations, rigged elections, and extra-judicial killings.

ANAASO welcomes the opportunity to work together with such distinguished organizations in the struggle to build a better Ethiopia where its people live in peace as equals and the rule of law reigns supreme.