

East African Human Rights Coalition Endorses September 13th March to Stop Genocide and Dictatorship in Ethiopia/Africa

Presses Releases

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The East African Human Rights Coalition (EAHRC) gives its full support to the upcoming **March to Stop Genocide** and Dictatorship in Ethiopia/Africa. This event is scheduled to take place Sunday, September 13th, 2009. We are calling on all our members and associates to join with Ethiopians, Somalians and others in the Horn of Africa. This March is to raise awareness of the Ethiopian governments ongoing and widespread human rights atrocities they are committing with impunity in the Ogaden, as well as other regions of Ethiopia and Somalia.

We believe all peace loving people must join together to stop the serious international human rights law violations which are endangering the very survival of the people of Ogaden region and are in the midst of a crisis thousands have been internally displaced due to the human rights abuses and destruction of homes, crops, cattle and livelihood. Civilians are targeted for extra-judicial killings, disappearing, arrests, torture and widespread rape (including the young and the elderly).

Food and medical assistance from humanitarian organizations have been blocked and many NGO's have been forced to leave the country for allegedly supplying information to the world for their recent negative human rights report on Ethiopia. With the ominous reports of greater famine, food shortages and crop failures, the situation for the Ogaden and the rest of Ethiopia are only deteriorating.

We are warning the international community ethnic tensions may lead further explosion of violence in the already "war zone!" region. The EAHRC will add our voice and aid to this struggle for justice, the rule of law, self-determination and the respect for the human rights of all people. We affirm the principles of the Solidarity Movement for a New Ethiopia where "humanity would come before ethnicity" and where the respect, rights and well being of all who live within the boundaries of Ethiopia—and beyond—were upheld, because "no one will be free until all are free!"

We encourage everyone to come out and be part of the right side of history and support this march, which is meant to finally bring attention to the "silent Darfur" of the Ogaden, and all over Ethiopia. Let us work together to achieve our hopes of becoming a free society, enriched by mutual respect, productive partnerships and harmony.

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