



For Peace & Development

ACTION GROUP FOR ERITREA

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Lord Triesman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
Kings Charles Street
London SW1A 2PA

Dear Lord Triesman,

On the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the signing of the Algiers Peace Agreement between Eritrea and Ethiopia, I am writing on behalf of the Action Group for Eritrea (AGE) to raise our concern regarding the current situation in the Horn of Africa. AGE is an organisation representing all sections of the wider Eritrean community and their friends in the UK and works to bring about peace and development in Eritrea and the Horn of Africa.

As you are well aware, the peace agreement was signed after a bitter and bloody war lasting for two years and costing over 70,000 lives. Furthermore, the war had caused the displacement of over one million people in both countries. Some of these internally displaced people still continue to live in makeshift camps, as they are unable to return to their villages.

While the current status quo remains, a return to armed conflict is a clear and present danger. In the meantime, as the current state of no war no peace holds, the level of suffering and hardship felt by both the peoples of Eritrea and Ethiopia is simply too great to merit any more elaboration here. But suffice to say that it is not sustainable.

Any future conflict between the two countries will have wider implications and could lead to instability in the Horn of Africa and beyond. From this point of view, we believe only a complete and unconditional implementation of the Eritrean and Ethiopian border decision will disperse the ever-present clouds of war between the two countries.

Yet again, AGE calls on the British Government to remain engaged in the matter and take firm steps to encourage Ethiopia to accept the decision of the EEBC unconditionally.

Finally, we would be grateful if you could meet with us on the anniversary of the signing of the peace treaty on the 12th of December 2006 to convey our concerns personally.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Marcos
Chairman