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Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party (EPRP)

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SOLIDARITY WITH THE FRATERNAL PEOPLE OF SOMALIA

The EPRP has for long called for an end to the clan war in Somalia so that the fraternal people of Somalia can live in peace and contribute to the stability of the region. At the same time, the EPRP has not ceased to condemn the war lords and fanatics that held the people hostage for years and the regional forces that have interfered in Somalia's affairs and waged proxy wars on Somali soil.

The EPRP has condemned the invasion of Somalia by the TPLF/EPRDF even though the retrograde elements of the Islamic Courts and their declared jihad against Ethiopia have helped to confuse the issue. The Islamic Courts could be a nuisance in the long run for the region if the horn of Africa in general but Somalia in particular remains without peace and democracy. One thing should be clear that the so called Islamic militia represented little immediate and present danger to the sovereignty of Ethiopia, a sovereignty that had never been a concern for the divisive ruling TPLF/EPRDF in the first place. There was no Ethiopian reason for the invasion and the loss of Ethiopian and Somali lives. It was also evident from the start that the EPRDF backed group of Colonel Abdullahi Yusuf would not instantly get the support and cooperation of most Somalis even if the Islamic Courts get chased out of Mogadishu. The occupation by the TPLF/EPRDF would be continued and any possible relief in the form of an African Union peace keeping force could also face difficulties. The peace that the Somali people desire much might not be easily won either. Current developments in Somalia indicate that more carnage is on the horizon, and this might perpetuate the instability that Somalia does not need.

The EPRP calls for the immediate withdrawal of the invading forces dispatched by the TPLF/EPRDF. The fraternal people of Somalia need peace and an end to the rampage by warlords and fanatic militias. There is no enmity between the people of Somalia and Ethiopia. The EPRP believes that the Somali people should be the ones to find a durable solution for their enduring political problems and the world should only assist them in their search for unity and peace.

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