

***The Ethiopian government must stop the discriminatory
approach and find a durable solution***

OSGA Statement on ongoing tensions of civilian conflicts in Ethiopia

Troubled relations between Ethiopia's government and the Oromo people constitute a serious obstacle in the country's path to stability and prosperity. Indeed, the Ethiopian government's recent history has been plagued by ethnic conflict and protracted conflicts with government forces, particularly in Oromia and neighboring regions.

Although it has recently started getting some Oromo media attention, for the past 3 years the ongoing invisible war carried out on Oromo, in the Aniya area, massively affected the local people.

By prompts of the Ethiopian government authorities continuing an irritating war launched by Benishangul-Gumuz armed group on Oromo civilians in East Wollega zone that displaced hundreds from their life now counting its half a decade.

The continuing killings of hundreds of Oromo civilians in Eastern Oromia the heavily armed forces labelled Ogaden Special Police and backed by Ethiopian government invaded the area and continuing killings of hundreds of Oromo innocent civilians.

In 2011-2012 the massacre of hundreds of Oromo people, in Moyale-Southern Oromia, by the Ethiopian military forces is evidence that shows the brutality of the government.

The extremely agonising measure taken by the Ethiopian government is the military activities carrying out on Oromo people in Oromia, Fantalle area. Since last year alone 76 Oromo civilians, including 6 women and 3 very

young children looking after cattle in the field were killed by ambush armed forces fully obtained a military training and supported by the Ethiopian government. Recently the situation advanced from ambush action to invasion engagement and the following record evidence shows the dreadful happening on Oromo civilians:

No	Date	Owner's Name	Type & number of cattle confiscated	Place	Responsible person/group for the action	Damage
1	15.04.13	Mr Boru Okulu's family	10,000 cattle	Dheebiti, Qurqura Mudhi	Government backed Special Police	Omar Boru & Kawo Roba, civilians, were killed while protecting their properties
2	15.04.13	Mr Fanto Dame family	70,000 Cattle	Dheebiti, Qurqura Mudhi	Government backed Special Police	-
3	26.04.13	Mr Ledi Aruso Family	8,953 Cattle	Qararri Haroresa Qal'a	Government backed Special Police	Roba Godana was killed while protecting family properties
4	27.04.13	Goba Rare family	5,000 cattle	Qararri, Leedi Roba	Government backed Special Police	1 child was murdered
5	11.05.13	Boru Roba's family	7 donkeys	Haro Qarsa , Aartu	Government backed Special Police	-
6	11.05.13	Jilo Fantale Wako	9 oxen	Haro Qarsa , Aartu	Government backed Special Police	-

The Ethiopian Government oppressive heavy-handed and discriminatory approach has flagging prospects for peace in the country for years. Oromo

people whose members comprise almost 40% of the population of the country have long been subjected to persecution and mistreatment. Regrettably, the International communities hailed the Ethiopian government action as an important step in the country's promotion to democratic rule, and the economy has made impressive strides. But, the reality is if the regime cannot resolve its long-running conflicts with its own people in the country, all of these promises of progress could be undone and dashed.

If the government does not make genuine progress soon and step back from its discriminatory measures, the international community's enthusiastic support for the country's development expectation will likely dissipate, compromising future progress and jeopardizing the country's people prospects.

Therefore, the Oromia Support Group Australia Inc. calls for increased commitment from the international community and also asks for quick intervention in relation to the full respect of human and civil rights of Oromo innocent civilians who have been invaded and became the target of killings on their land.

Oromia Support Group in Australia (OSGA) Inc

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Cc: United Nations

- Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

Human Right Watch

Amnesty International