

Date: 11 December 2015

To: **Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights**  
United Nations Office at Geneva 1211 Geneva 10,  
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Oromia Support Group Australia (OSGA) extremely shocked about the killings and torture of innocent Oromo students including Primary School Children in Oromia. Oromo student peaceful protests are spreading throughout Ethiopia, Oromia region, as people demonstrate against the endanger that hundred thousand of Oromo farmers, residents and their families living near the capital, Finfinnee (Addis Ababa), could be evicted from their lands by the name of Addis Ababa expansion policy.

Since the first week of December 2015, horrifying, and heartbreaking images and videos of Oromo children peacefully marched on a street and voiced their anger being beaten to death and killed by shootings. There are credible reports of severe injuries and arbitrary arrests in many locations that the Ethiopian government armed forces and authorities are unable to deny and publicly admitted the killings of Oromo children.

The Ethiopian Federal forces, racially affiliated and heavily armed, known as *Agazi* and part of the select force of the dominant Tigrean People's Liberation Front (TPLF), violently respond when Oromo students and children from various universities and institutions in the country protested against the Master Plan since the beginning of December 2015. (*please see attached further statements and evidence*).

Ethiopia's tight restrictions on civil society and media make it difficult to external sources to verify the current, escalating killings, torture and mass arrest, and the exact details of the ongoing protests emerging from cities, towns and rural areas in Oromia.

It is OSG Australia's fresh recall that the current Oromo students and children protests resounded the bloodshed events of the last year 2014 when the Ethiopian Federal forces fired into groups of largely peaceful Oromo protesters, killed and injured hundreds. Hundreds students were grossly arrested, tortured and remained behind bars. Both then and today, the demonstrators are evidently protesting not only the fear of displacing millions of Oromo from their land but Oromo are marginalised and discriminated against by successive Ethiopian governments and are unable to voice their concerns over government policies in their country, on their land.

Therefore, by covering the Master Plan with "industrialization" and "development" the Federal government has hidden a systematic genocidal agenda against Oromo people in the region. If it is for development, the Oromo people must be supported and included in the development scope and opportunities, instead of being evicted from their land and thrown them on the street to become homeless through the Ethiopian Government's apparent militarised implementation of the 'Addis Ababa Expansion Master Plan'.

Oromia Support Group Australia (OSGA), strongly condemns that let alone opening fire on primary school children and brutally killing, the practice of using excessive force against peaceful demonstrators have no place in the modern world. Therefore, OSGA kindly requests the United Nations Human Rights, The International Community and those who support peace, justice and humanity to interfere to avoid further disaster and to make sure:

1. The Ethiopian Government should ensure to the international community that the use of excessive force and brutality action by its armed personnel stops immediately. Those responsible for the killings, torture and serious human right violations should be prosecuted.
2. OSGA requests the International Community concern and support to denounce about the deaths and injuries legislated and committed on Oromo students and civilians, the use of live ammunition against peaceful protesters, including primary school children in Oromia, and that those who committed the human right violations are properly punished.
3. OSGA kindly request the United Nations Human Rights Office of the Higher Commissioner to make a personal visit through sending delegates to universities, colleges and schools, and communities in Oromia those who have been heavily affected by the Ethiopian armed forces of brutal action, and to take appropriate measures to prevent further loss of thousands of life and human tragedy.

Oromia Support Group in Australia respectfully awaits your prompt response,

Sincerely,

Oromia Support Group Australia

Cc:

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**P.S.1.****Funeral Processions for Oromo Killed While Protesting Against the Master Plan**

(Source: <http://finfinnetribune.com/Gadaa/2015/12/funeral-processions-of-oromo-killed-while-protesting-against-the-master-plan/>)

As the Oromo peaceful protests grow in depth and size across Oromia against the Addis Ababa Master Plan, the number of persons killed by shots fired from the Ethiopian government's police has increased to at least 10, according to a list compiled using latest media reports.

The following are photos and videos from the funeral processions of three Oromos killed while peacefully protesting against the Addis Ababa Master Plan over the last week. In Inchini, there were reports that the Ethiopian Federal police prevented people from holding funeral services for their loved ones killed by the police. Despite the police intimidation, the

#OromoProtests   10 Reported Deaths - 8 Dec 2015						
No	Name	Description	Hometown	Where	When	Picture
1	Gezahegn Oliqa	Haromaya University Student	Horo Guduru, Walaga	Haromaya	1-Dec-15	Available
2	Gutu Abara Dheressa	12th Grade Student at Chaliya High School	Guliso (West Walaga)	Hometown	2-Dec-15	Available
3	Karasa Chala		Guliso (West Walaga)	Hometown	2/3-Dec-15	Not Yet Available
4	Dabala Tafa Robi	Former Political Prisoner	Fiche	Chancho	2-Dec-15	Available (+ Funeral Pics)
5	Dejene Serbessa	10th Grade Student at Bantu Secondary School	Tole (South West Shawa)	Hometown	3-Dec-15	Available
6	Miftah Juneydi Bushra	High School Student	Furda Town, Bedeno (East Hararge)	Hometown	4/5-Dec-15	Not Yet Available
7	Murad Abdi Ibrahim	9th Grade Student at Bate High School	Haromaya	In front of Haromaya University	7-Dec-15	Available (+ Funeral Pics)
8	Bekele Seifu	11th Grade Student	Born in Danse Mariam	Inchini (West Shawa)	7-Dec-15	Not Yet Available
9	Bekele Seboka Hunde	12th Grade Student at Inchini Preparatory School	Muger / Born in Bogor	Inchini (West Shawa)	7-Dec-15	Available (+ Med Docs)
10	Ebisa Mebratu Guta (Father of 4)	Employee of Fincha Sugar Factory	Fincha, Horo Guduru	Hometown	7-Dec-15	Available



funeral of Bekele Seboka (*one of the two killed in Inchini on December 7, 2015*) was attended by many (*see below*); at the funeral, mourners expressed their active protests by holding their hands over their heads.

Funeral for **Dabala Tafa Robi**, former Oromo prisoner of conscience – killed in Chancho on December 2, 2015.









Incorporated under the Association Incorporation Act.



Funeral for **Bekele Seboka**, Oromo student severely wounded by the government's police in **Inchini on December 7, 2015**. Bekele Seboka later died from complications of the injury.

Funeral for **Murad Abdi**, a **Bate High-School** student killed by the police near **Haromaya University on December 7, 2015**.

Student Murad Abdi – killed near Haromaya University



P.S.2

**Sululta in the Aftermath of Violent Federal Police Response at Elementary School  
Oromo Schoolchildren Protesting Against the Addis Ababa Master Plan Met with Federal  
Police's Violence in Chancho**

(Source: Muddee/December 3, 2015 · Finfinne Tribune | Gadaa.com)



Parents and residents of Chancho, a small town in Central Oromiyaa, returned to their children's elementary school on Wednesday, December 2, 2015, to sort through the aftermath of the Ethiopian Federal Police's, known as *Agazi* and part of the elite force of the ruling Tigrean People's Liberation Front (TPLF), violent response when Oromo young students of an elementary school in Chancho (Sululta) protested against the Addis Ababa Master Plan on Wednesday, December 2, 2015. The

following are photos from the incident.



Chancho, as a whole the Sululta region, is one of the areas slated for takeover by the City of Addis Ababa through its new Master Plan. In addition to Chancho/Sululta, the Master Plan has an objective to take over more than 30 towns, and their neighboring rural areas, around the City of Addis Ababa and put them under the City's administration; currently, these towns are thriving in the Federal State of Oromiyaa. As part of the takeover by the City of Addis Ababa, the Master Plan also intends to "urbanize" the region by evicting millions of Oromo farmers, who now live on family-owned farms. Since Addis Ababa is culturally and



linguistically different from the Oromiyaa region surrounding it, the Oromo people take the “urbanization” project of the Addis Ababa Master Plan as a way of de-Oromonizing the region culturally and linguistically. For this reason – everyone, including young students and their siblings in higher educational institutions – and their parents – bitterly oppose the Addis Ababa Master Plan, on top of their opposition to losing their ancestral land. In history, one is reminded about the bitter opposition the Apartheid linguistic policy was met in Soweto, South Africa, in 1976, when Black high-school students rallied against the Apartheid regime’s plan to displace their mother-tongue (indigenous language) and only teach in the regime’s preferred Afrikaans; many young South Africans died on that fateful day for protesting against the undemocratic policy.













Killed and wounded Oromo Students



