



## **Congress of Ethiopian Civic Associations (CECA)**

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### **CECA Categorically Rejects the Oromummaa Project of Hate, Separatism, and Expansionism**

A group of Oromo political entities, convened by the ruling Oromo Prosperity Party, has recently called for a united front of Oromo political organizations and armed groups to facilitate the declaration of an independent state of Greater Oromia. For the second time in six years, separatist Oromo groups have called for the unconstitutional annexation of the federal city of Addis Ababa and significant territorial claims in four other regional states (Amhara, BSG, Somali, and Southern). Such groups have also shamelessly denied the ethnic pogroms in Oromia.

This orchestrated plan to dismantle the Ethiopian state is spearheaded by two power groups who have institutionalized the political culture of capture-and-plunder over the past three decades: the TPLF and the OPP. Popular resistance, especially by the Amhara Fanno, has loosened the grip of these two implacable enemies of Ethiopian unity. Hence, their intensified flirtation with ethnic cleansing, war crimes, expansionism, and secession.

The declaration last week by a faction of the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) and the Oromo Federalist Congress (OFC) contains three notable points:

- (1) It makes territorial claims on other regional states (Addis Ababa, Dire Dawa, Wollo, Moyale, Beni-Shangul-Gumuz, and Madda Wolabu);
- (2) It calls for the establishment of an inclusive Transitional Government of National Unity in the Oromia Regional State, purportedly rejected by the ruling group, to fend off the Fanno challenge against Oromo dominance; and
- (3) the consolidation of Oromo armed groups, including the Oromia militia and special forces and the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA). OLA has rejected the proposed pact as a gimmick to shore up the besieged Abiye regime.

CECA categorically rejects the TPLF and Oromo political entities' divisive false narratives of lost lands and invented victimhood. Pretentious claims of sovereignty,

whether viewed as a trial balloon to test the people's tolerance or as a prelude to invoking Article 39 of the Constitution, inevitably undermine the unity of the Ethiopian people and the territorial integrity of Ethiopia.

As Martin Luther King rightly noted, no one can ride you unless you voluntarily bend your back. Let us all muster the courage of our conviction to reject the reckless adventurism of inept and violent autocrats by calling for abolishing the TPLF and the Prosperity Party. We must also support an inclusive transition program like CECA's to pave the way for a viable democratic constitutional order in Ethiopia!

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