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Press Release

Eritrean Dictator Isaias Afework's Shameful Act in a Press Conference in Nairobi, Kenya

February 14, 2023

The Eritrean Political Forces (EPF) are gravely concerned and express their condemnation of the arrogance and disregard for truth by the Eritrean dictator, Isaias Afeworki, in a press conference held with the Kenyan President William Ruto in Nairobi, Kenya, on February 9, 2023. The press statements by President Ruto and the dictator of Eritrea were followed with questions by three international media reporters from BBC Africa, Washington Post and Associated Press (AP).

The Eritrean dictator's press statement and his non-responsive and ridiculous answers to the important questions asked by the international media was absurd and unstatesmanlike. Most importantly, they underscored the dictator's sociopathic and tyrannical behaviours, that he has no respect for human dignity and life, doesn't take any accountability for his actions in sending and sacrificing thousands of young Eritreans to unnecessary wars to satisfy his personal desires, and no regard for justice and rule-of-law for his people or anyone else. He has been ruling Eritrea for over three decades with no accountability, no transparency, no free press, and no elections.

Under Isaias Afeworki's rule, Eritrea is dubbed as the "North Korea of Africa," with tens of thousands of political prisoners and hundreds of thousands of Eritreans serving in unlimited military service in slavery-like conditions. Eritrea is one of the leading nations producing both economic and political refugees. Today, Eritrea has more than half of million refugees protected in the Sudan, Ethiopia, and various Arab and European countries. Furthermore, his interference in the Ethiopian internal conflicts is a continuation of his earlier adventures in various areas of Africa

including the war he orchestrated against Yemen in the early days of his ascendancy to power.

It is the fact that, the Eritrean dictator does not tolerate free media that seeks to uncover the facts. He likes to formulate questions himself for journalists to ask him and answer them in his acrobatic way to blur the facts and mislead the Eritrean people, as he does with his private media.

We take this opportunity to call on all Eritrean social and political forces to double their efforts and challenge the rogue regime in Eritrea. There is no better time than now to come together and lead the struggle for democratic change in Eritrea. We also call on the international community to support the efforts of democratic change that the political forces resisting the Afwerki regime aspire to.

On behalf of the justice and peace-loving Eritrean people, EPF would like to thank the international media for asking those important questions and urge them to continue asking tough questions of the evil motives and actions of the dictator of Eritrea, Isaias Afeworki. We call for more follow-up and interest in exposing the policy of repression practiced by the regime against the Eritrean people, to make room for listening to the voices of the Eritrean opposition political forces, and the voices of the victims of the regime's terror in the refugee camps in Ethiopia, Sudan, and elsewhere.

Eritrean Political Forces Diplomacy Committee