



Ogaden Youth & Student Union  
Midowga Dhallnyarada & Ardayda Ogadonya

### AGENDA 3: OGADEN YOUTH AND STUDENTS UNION

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Ogaden is a region in the east of Ethiopia neighbouring the republic of Somali and Djibouti.

It is a majority populated Somali territory to the contrary a minority in Ethiopia.

The Ogaden has suffered humanitarian aid and economic blockade for the last decade and much before that.

In the Ogaden there has been an on-going war between the Ogaden National Liberation Front and the Ethiopian Government for the past 3-4 decades though not heard in the mainstream media the war has taken its toll on the Ogadeni civilians. Hence making the Ogaden an open air maximum security prison under Ethiopian rule.

The Ethiopian Government in conjunction with its security apparatus (Military, Police and special militias) have been committing serious and grave human rights violations against the Ogaden civilians prompting an investigation by human rights agencies hence leading to the banning of human rights agencies and free media from the Ogaden.

The Ethiopian Security forces have made a habit of collectively punishing the civilian population by using torture, conducting arbitrary arrest, indefinite imprisonment, extra-judicial killing and mass public execution of dissidents in the Ogaden. These situations mainly occur after the Ethiopian military engages the Ogadeni rebel forces and as a means of revenge intimidates the innocent civilian population.

Due to the on-going conflict, Ogaden civilians have sought refuge in the neighbouring countries, i.e. Kenya and Somali so as to escape the brutal hand of the Ethiopian forces but the threat has not vanished in that since the 7th forum of minority issues last year we have lost dozens of Ogaden civilians in those camps. Ethiopian contract killers have exploited the system and in one case a contract killer sent by Ethiopia was caught in Garissa, Kenya his mission being to eliminate O.N.L.F sympathisers which in many cases means innocent Ogaden civilians.



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In order to harmonise and resolve this conflict.

The Ogaden youth and students union humbly request this forum, the United Nations, donor countries and humanitarian organisations.

1. To investigate the root causes of this conflict
2. Facilitate peace talks between the O.N.L.F and the Ethiopian government.
3. Donor countries to be accountable for their funds towards Ethiopian security.
4. The international community to realise as a minority our life are also valuable we all citizens of this beautiful universe.

Thank you.