



Official Correspondence GSTS-O.C-2022-379  
The Global Society of Tigray Scholars  
and Professionals (GSTS)<sup>1</sup>

Classification: OPEN

10<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**Amb. Nicolas de Riviere**

Permanent Representative of France to the UN  
UNSC President for the month of September 2022

**Re: Urgent Demand for a Swift and Unified UNSC Response to the Ongoing  
Renewed War and Catastrophic Humanitarian Crisis in Tigray, Northern Ethiopia**

**Your Excellency,**

The Global Society of Tigray Scholars and Professionals (GSTS) welcomes your presidency of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the month of September 2022. We are deeply mindful of the work that Your Excellency and the government of France are doing to promote peace and human rights across the world. We are particularly grateful for the ongoing efforts to address the world's deadliest war and humanitarian catastrophe in Tigray, Northern Ethiopia.

At this extraordinary time, when the Russian invasion of Ukraine is rightly at the center of international concern, we plead with Your Excellency to ensure that the existential threat to over 7 million people of Tigray and the precarious situation in Ethiopia is given due attention during your presidency. The timing of your presidency is critical for the people of Tigray who are under a new wave of the genocidal war declared and launched by allied Ethiopian federal, and Amhara regional governments in violation of a fragile truce agreed upon in March. The civilian population of Tigray is suffering terrible rounds of genocide and deprivation under a medieval siege and humanitarian blockade imposed by the Ethiopian government in concert with its war allies. Last March, researchers reported more than half a million civilian Tigrayans have already perished to mass killings, weaponized starvation, and preventable diseases.

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<sup>1</sup>GSTS is a 501(C) and 33/2011 legally registered non-partisan and autonomous Global Knowledge Network of over 5,000 Tigray Scholars and Professionals aimed at creating Knowledge-based economy and society in Tigray, and beyond. It stands for academia, multidisciplinary and cross sectoral research and applied policy development, human capital development, fostering and advancing science, technology, and innovation, technology and knowledge transfer, youth and gender development, migration and displacement, and other educational and development related endeavors. It also works in educational advocacy and collaborates with various stakeholders towards promoting peace, good governance, human rights, and humanitarian activities.

Furthermore, the Eritrean regime has taken advantage of the silence and inaction of the International Community (IC) on its earlier mass atrocities in Tigray, to persist in its intransigence and meddling in the internal affairs of Ethiopia and neighboring countries and has once again launched a coordinated, multipronged, and massive military offensive on Tigray from various fronts alone and, in tandem with the Ethiopian and Amhara regional Forces. Eritrean forces have intensified their offensive as of the 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2022 and are indiscriminately shelling various Tigray villages and cities.

With this alarming development in mind, we, at GSTS, are writing to you at this critical time to appeal to Your Excellency to call an urgent UNSC assembly to:

1. Take every practical measure to force the Ethiopian and Eritrean governments to call off their renewed massive military offensive against Tigray and bring the Ethiopian and Tigray governments to the negotiation table by enforcing an immediate cessation of hostilities, and facilitating an all-inclusive, genuine and transparent negotiation pathway, overseen by a nonpartisan body of conveners who are acceptable to all stakeholders;
2. Facilitate unified action as per UNSC Resolutions 24/17 (2018), to realize:
  - a time-constrained ultimatum to end the inhumane siege and humanitarian blockade and establish protected mechanisms for unfettered humanitarian aid using alternative routes to land transportation including airdrop of food aid and other essential ingredients indispensable for survival to save the lives of the over seven million of the Tigray population
  - the immediate resumption of all essential services including electricity, telecommunications, banking, financial services, fuel, civilian transport (land and air), trade, and other public services;
3. Put into effect Resolution 2467 (2019) to realize:
  - a survivor-centered approach to address the double victimization of survivors of weaponized sexual violence and rape through the denial of aid, medical services, access to bank savings, and other essential services
  - Ensure the deployment of independent investigation without temporal and territorial limitation and full accountability for all alleged violations of human rights, amounting to war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide committed against the people of Tigray;
4. Enact immediate, unconditional, permanent, and verifiable withdrawal of Eritrean Defence forces (military) security, and intelligence units from all territories of Tigray and Ethiopia, and Amhara regional forces and militia from Western Tigray, in keeping with United Nations Human Right Council resolution 47/13, and guarantee the rights of refugees and IDPs to return to their places of origin, home, land, and property; and administration;
5. Impose a UNSC-led arms embargo on the governments of Eritrea and Ethiopia to inhibit the ability of these unreliable actors to protract and escalate the war on Tigray, further fragmenting Ethiopia, and destabilizing the Horn of Africa region; and prevail on foreign countries supplying weapons including armed drones, and other technical and logistics apparatus; and hold them to account.
6. Utilize Resolution 2573 (2021), to:

- Condemn and take practical steps to halt indiscriminate, and aggressive aerial attacks including using armed drones by the Ethiopian and its allied forces on the civilian population and civilian infrastructure in Tigray
- demand the deployment of protective mechanisms for humanitarian workers and an end to coordinated attacks by the Ethiopian government on humanitarian agencies, including hate speech, conspiracy theories, and incitement of violence;
- 7. Denounce and take concrete measures to stop the new wave of incarceration, forced disappearance, and detention of Tigrayans in Addis Ababa and across all parts of Ethiopia, and call for the release of tens of thousands of Tigrayans still languishing and dying in entertainment camps.

Your Excellency,

The UNSC has had cause to review in more than thirteen meetings on the situation in Ethiopia thus far but has repeatedly failed to take concrete measures to address the deadliest war in the world today, the war on Tigray. We appeal to you to use this opportunity to address the lack of political will and the abysmal failure of leadership on all levels to prioritize human rights over political concerns that is deterring meaningful and principles-based responses. The time to act to prevent another renewed tragedy such as seen in Rwanda (1994), and Sri Lanka (2009), is right now.

Sincerely,

The Global Society of Tigray Scholars  
and Professionals (GSTS)

**CC:**

**Amb. Linda Thomas- Greenfield**, US Ambassador to the UN

**Amb. Dame Barbara Woodward**, Permanent Representative of the UK to the UN

**Amb. Vassily A. Nebenzia**, Permanent Representative of Russia to the UN

**Amb. Zhang Jun**, Permanent Representative of China to the UN

**Amb. Ferit Hoxha**, Permanent Representative of Albania to the UN

**Amb. Ronaldo Costa Filho**, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the UN

**Amb. Michel Xavier Biang**, Permanent Representative of Gabon to the UN

**Amb. Harold Adlai Agyeman**, Permanent Representative of Ghana to the UN

**Amb. Ruchira Kamboj**, Permanent Representative of India to the UN

**Amb. Fergal Mythen**, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the UN

**Amb. Martin Kimani**, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the UN

**Amb. Juan Ramón de la Fuente Ramírez**, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the UN

**Amb. Mona Juul**, Permanent Representative of Norway to the UN

**Amb. Lana Zaki Nusseibeh**, Permanent Representative of the UAE to the UN

