

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 29 February 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Eritrea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter (see annex) from Isaias Afwerki, President of the State of Eritrea, dated 28 February 2012, in connection to Ethiopia's illegal occupation of sovereign Eritrea territories that were awarded by the independent Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission, which was established to delimit and demarcate the border pursuant to the Algiers Agreement.

I would be most grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council and brought to the attention of its members.

(Signed) Araya **Desta**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 29 February 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Eritrea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

It has been 10 years now since the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission rendered its delimitation decision on 13 April 2002 and subsequently technically demarcated the border on the basis of international law and international treaties.

Throughout this period, the United States of America has continued to incessantly and systematically impede the implementation of the “final and binding” ruling in order to promote its misguided policies and interests in the Horn of Africa region.

The ill-advised policies that the United States has pursued in the past 20 years in the international arena as a whole, with its inevitable ramifications in our specific region, are characterized by a propensity to instigate flashpoints of regional instability and crises so as to control, for an indefinite period of time, the suffering of the affected peoples and the economic destitution of countries through “crisis management”. The embroiling in insidious tension and holding hostage of the peoples of Eritrea and Ethiopia for 10 years now, through unwarranted obstacles and by undermining the rule of law, is a vivid illustration of this policy.

The subtle ploy that the United States employs to advance these ill-advised policies is to prop up and give succour to what it terms as “anchor States” and to use them to induce regional instability and insecurity. This is better amplified by the audacity of the regime in Addis Ababa that has been emboldened, through the tutelage and encouragement of the United States, to invade and occupy sovereign Eritrean territories for over 10 years.

Throughout the past 10 years, the United States has been advancing, under the spurious pretext of “dialogue” and contrary to express legal provisions of the Peace Agreement, various arrangements so as to derail and obstruct the implementation of the “final and binding” arbitral ruling of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission and to perpetuate and aggravate the prevailing crisis. In the process, it has created facts on the ground to advance its perceived interests.

The Security Council too has not been spared from these illegal and pretentious schemes. Indeed, to buttress its ill-advised policies of destabilization, the United States has managed to use the mantle of the Security Council to pass and impose resolutions that violate the sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence and unity of States Members of the United Nations through misinformation and fabricated accusations in breach of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. The resolution that it managed to stealthily impose on Eritrea through groundless and unrelated accusations in 2009 and the subsequent resolution adopted by the Security Council in 2011 on the basis of similar spurious allegations constitute ominous illustrations of this established “pattern”. The ultimate purpose of these machinations is to expand and reinforce the “sanctions regime” on Eritrea so as to cover up its own wrongdoings as well as to prepare the ground for a new war of aggression.

The United States misconstrued the crisis in Somalia and the “spectre of terrorism”, which it has itself fuelled to a large extent, ascribing it to and wrongly implicating Eritrea. Similarly, the presumed “border dispute between Eritrea and

Djibouti”, which the United States instigated in the first place and frantically sought to aggravate, was invoked to pile up malicious accusations against Eritrea to justify and ram through punitive measures against it in the name of the Security Council. All of these schemes were woven in order to impair and undermine the capabilities of the people and Government of Eritrea to defend their sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence; to suppress the rule of law; to muzzle them; and to tie their hands so as to weaken their resolve to defend their sacrosanct rights.

In this elaborate game of deceit and subversion, the United States has unscrupulously used the “Monitoring Group”, which it has turned into an appendage of its institutions, to embellish and “validate as truth” all the invectives peddled against Eritrea by its arch-enemies and detractors. This act has made a parody of established norms of independent enquiries and fact-finding missions; and the deplorable collaboration of the “Monitoring Group” in the endeavour to discredit the central issue of the violation of the “final and binding” ruling of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission and to exacerbate regional tension is both inexcusable and indictable.

To cover up the futility of its wrong policies, the United States has not only been confined to making a scapegoat of the people and Government of Eritrea by imposing sanctions against them in the name of the Security Council. To push its agenda of “regime change” that violates the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of countries, and that infringes on the Charter of the United Nations and international law, the United States has financed and armed terrorist groups and used Ethiopian territory as a staging ground and the Addis Ababa regime as a suitable vehicle to conduct and manage illicit and destructive acts against the people and Government of Eritrea. This is corroborated by documented evidence.

Beyond funding and managing these subversive activities, the United States is also engaged in hostile and illegal acts aimed at stifling Eritrea’s economic progress and in aggravating the welfare of the Eritrean people inside the country as well as in the diaspora. These appalling acts are well documented.

What is the position of the Security Council and where does it stand in the face of these misguided United States policies that undermine regional and international peace and security; that suppress law and the rule of law; that strangle treaties and international law; and that exacerbate the suffering of peoples while wreaking havoc on economic development?

The Government and people of Eritrea have persisted in clarifying their stance and renewing their appeals without relent for the past 10 years since the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission gave its “final and binding” arbitral decision and in spite of the numerous injustices, violation of rights and “sanctions” that they had to endure. On the occasion of the tenth year of “the breach of the rule of law” and repetitive and overt transgressions, the Government of Eritrea urges the Security Council to:

- (a) Ensure the respect of the “final and binding” arbitral ruling in accordance with the provisions of international law, and the sanctity of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of States Members of the United Nations; and to ensure the dismantling of the occupation of sovereign Eritrean territories;
- (b) Deter subversive acts conducted by the United States against the people and Government of Eritrea directly or by proxy in its bid to overshadow and derail

the central issue on the one hand, and to cover up its failed policies of stoking regional crises and popular sufferings on the other;

(c) Annul the unjust resolutions imposed on Eritrea in the name of the Security Council through United States pressure;

(d) Establish an independent, transparent and accountable enquiry committee to ascertain the real facts on the ground so as to enable the Security Council to discharge its principal function of the maintenance of regional and international peace on the basis of the rule of law.

(Signed) Isaias **Afwerki**
