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Statement of the Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council on Current Situations

Addis Abeba, February 10, 2023, The Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council (ECSOC) has been issuing a series of statements and raising its voice on various events affecting the nation.

The Council watches with grave concern the worsening condition in relation to the developments surrounding the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahdo Church (EOTC) and the escalation of the situation thereof. The harassment, injury, and death of citizens following these incidents are tragic and if the situation continues unabated, it may lead our country to fall into deeper turmoil. The growing polarization and the brewing crisis also cast a shadow on the peace and nation-building efforts of the country.

ECSOC calls on all parties involved to refrain from actions that will aggravate the situation, respect the principle of secularism, which sets a boundary between religion and the state, and exert efforts to resolve the issue by giving priority to dialogue. The Council also calls upon stakeholders to do their part so that the problem can be resolved amicably.

The Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council expresses its readiness to contribute to any efforts aimed at resolving the problem.



About Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council (ECSOC)

The Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council is an independent institution established as per Article 85 of Proclamation No. 1113/2019 and is mandated to operate in Ethiopia on behalf of all civil society organizations. Currently, over 4,400 civil society organizations are members of the council.