

# ADDA BILISUMMAA OROMOO



OROMO LIBERATION FRONT

جبهة تحرير اورومو

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## Statement on the formation of Alliance for Freedom and Democracy

We are surprised to read the name of the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) attached to the agreement which was signed between Mr. Daud Ibsa and Ethiopian political organizations such as the Coalition for Unity and Democracy Party (CUDP) and Ethiopian People's Patriotic Forces (EPPF) in Utrecht, the Netherlands, on May 21, 2006. The agreement made by the signatories of the so-called Alliance for Freedom and Democracy (AFD) opposes the basic principles for which hundreds of thousands of Oromos had laid down their lives and is not acceptable to the genuine OLF and is of no significance for the Oromo nation.

Oromia is an Ethiopian colony with full legal and political right to be independent. The OLF had been waging diplomatic and armed struggle for the realization of this right. It has shown its willingness to go extra miles to negotiate with the incumbent Ethiopian government and peacefully resolve the conflict that had existed between them for more than a century. The OLF upholds its 1973 program as amended by its Congress of 1998 and it shall still pursue this and any other means that the situation demands and shall not succumb to the interests of reactionary organizations.

The alliance formed by Mr. Ibsa's faction and some chauvinist Ethiopian political organizations which are aspiring to bring back the days of the King of Kings of Abyssinia is intended not only to oppose the struggle of the Oromo people for independence but also is to renounce the gains they had made through a bitter struggle during the last three decades. Therefore, we call on Oromo nationals and genuine political organizations, to not only stop their collaboration with the illegal actions of the faction led by Mr. Daud Ibsa as a matter of priority, but also put pressure on the faction to cease its anti-Oromo activities.

It is to be recalled that the OLF had conducted an extraordinary congress from January 20-23, 2006 and fully considered the internal split within the OLF as a consequence of the actions of the said faction and issued a declaration that the OLF had elected a new leadership. Once again, we would like to confirm that the faction led by Mr. Daud Ibsa has no legal or moral basis to represent the OLF. As far as the OLF is concerned, any agreement signed by him or any other member of his faction is null and void. Therefore, we would like to emphasize that the said formation of AFD has nothing to do with the OLF whatsoever.

Oromia shall be free!

The Oromo Liberation Front Executive Committee

May 27, 2006

Copy to: The United Nations, The European Union, The African Union, Permanent Members of Security Council of the UN