

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

Date: 29/09/2026

Statement on Eritrean Intervention and the Escalating Conflict in Ethiopia!!

RSAMC expresses grave concern over the rapidly deteriorating security situation and the involvement of the Eritrean regime in the unfolding conflict in Ethiopia. We view the Eritrean government's role in establishing and organizing *Tsimdo*, which has subsequently emerged as a coalition force declaring its intention to fight the Ethiopian government, as a serious development with potentially far-reaching consequences for the peoples of the region.

The leadership of Eritrea has repeatedly demonstrated its willingness to interfere in the political and security affairs of neighbouring states. During the 34th anniversary of Eritrea's independence, the Eritrean leadership once again articulated a confrontational approach toward developments in Ethiopia. Of particular concern is the reported statement by Isaias Afwerki that "**Afar region will be a battleground of the coming war.**" RSAMC considers such rhetoric deeply alarming, particularly given the vulnerability of civilian populations in Afar.

For more than three decades, the policies of the government of President Isaias Afwerki have subjected Eritrean people, particularly Afar communities, living along the Red Sea coast, to displacement, political marginalization, restrictions on livelihoods, and severe socioeconomic hardship. Communities have been pushed away from their traditional lands and deprived of opportunities to exercise their political, social, and economic rights. RSAMC considers the continued marginalization of Eritrean Afar communities a matter requiring urgent national, regional, and international attention.

RSAMC categorically opposes any attempt by the Eritrean regime to expand its military and political involvement in Ethiopia. The deployment of Eritrean troops into Afar and support for armed groups risks transforming Afar into another arena of regional confrontation. Such developments would

place civilian populations at greater risk, deepen displacement, disrupt livelihoods, and further militarize the region.

Eritrea must respect Ethiopia's sovereignty and refrain from interference in Ethiopia's internal affairs and must refrain from using Afar communities and territories as arenas for proxy confrontation. The Eritrean people must not be made to bear the consequences of political and military strategy pursued by the regime in Asmara.

RSAMC also reaffirms that the **legitimate political, social, economic, and self-determination rights of the Afar people in Eritrea must be respected to secure the country's future**. In this regard, RSAMC will continue to work with democratic Eritrean opposition forces and other legitimate stakeholders seeking fundamental political change in Eritrea and an end to policies that threaten the rights and security of Eritrean people. We call upon our communities to **remain vigilant and stand together to support our cause of fighting the regime in Eritrea**.

RSAMC is deeply concerned about the safety of **Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers in the Afar region of Ethiopia**, whose vulnerability could increase as the conflict expands. We call upon the Ethiopian government, international humanitarian organizations, and relevant international institutions to ensure their protection, guarantee humanitarian access, and safety.

RSAMC calls on the international community to act with urgency. Renewed Eritrean military involvement in Ethiopia risks aggravating instability across the Horn of Africa and will have wider implications for neighbouring states and the security of the Red Sea. International actors must closely monitor developments and respond appropriately to prevent further escalation.

Office of Information and Public Relations

Red Sea Afar Movement for Change