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### WORLD REFUGEE DAY AND THE PLIGHT OF ETHIOPIAN REFUGEES

As the world celebrates world refugees day it is necessary to emphasize that the plight of Ethiopian refugees all over the world has worsened. From Israel to South Africa, from Malawi to Libya and Yemen, from Lampadusa Italy to the Middle East, Ethiopian refugees are the targets of deportation, torture, rape, repression and death.

Ethiopians deserve asylum rights without any procrastination because they are the victims of an almost fascistic ethnic based discriminatory and brutal regime. Thousands of Ethiopian refugees risk an almost sure death as they attempt to find a safe haven elsewhere. Alas, they are rejected asylum rights and often deported by countries allied to the repressive regime that serves alien interests. Foreign governments that condone the human rights violations and crimes of the Meles regime are accountable and accomplices in the tragedy that has befallen Ethiopian refugees. In most cases, the UNHCR has failed to protect the refugees and refused to hear the protests against its inaction. Ethiopia is considered a "safe country" because the regime in place, repressive and brutal as it is, toes the line of the powers that be and serves their interests even to the extent of risking the lives of thousands of Ethiopians. This is real politics played on the lives of hapless Ethiopians.

Ethiopian refugees have been subjected to brutal violation of their rights as human beings. This has to stop. They must be accorded asylum rights and full protection.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE  
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