

Regional Youth Peace Forum for the Horn of Africa



Political Resolution

Convinced that peace is of vital importance for allowing youth to develop and contribute to national and regional prosperity, while affirming that all conflicts in the Horn of Africa are interlocked and cannot be addressed in isolation from each other nor outside the broader regional context through a collective framework by countries of the Horn, the participants of the Regional Youth Peace Forum as members of the Horn of Africa Peace Initiative Network (HAYI Network) resolve to:

- **Support** the unity of the youth of the Horn of Africa and reaffirm our responsibility to mobilize the youth to build a culture of peace;
- **Commit** to empowering and unifying initiatives by young people in the Horn of Africa to stand firm in the face of regional as well as global challenges;
- **Reaffirm** that unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries should be respected and that countries of the region can only end foreign conspiracies and outside interventions by taking upon themselves to resolve their internal and inter-state conflicts;
- **Urge** our governments to respect democracy, human rights and the rule of law;
- **Refuse** external intervention, competing and often rival mediation processes have served only to deepen conflicts;
- **Reaffirm** that the ongoing crises in Somalia cannot be resolved without the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Ethiopian forces from Somalia and leave Somalis to resolve their internal disputes on their own;
- **Condemn** the atrocities happening to the people of the regions within Ethiopia as well as the atrocities taken against the people of Somalia
- **Renounce** the manipulation of the international organizations to serve the agenda of other countries as a manifestation of the meddling with the sovereignty and territorial integrity of countries.
- **Demand** the implementation of all signed peace agreements which have been witnessed by regional and international powers. In this context we call for the immediate withdrawal of Ethiopian forces from Eritrean territories delineated by the virtual mapping produced by the EEBC.
- **Reaffirm** that as youth, we are the future of this region and we are fully dedicated to realizing sustainable peace and development for our region.

Asmara, 24 July 2008