



22 January 2026

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**Hon. Ervin Massinga,  
US Ambassador to Ethiopia.  
Entoto Street,  
P.O. Box 1014,  
Addis Ababa,  
Ethiopia**

## **OPEN LETTER**

***Subject – Your Excellency’s Visit to the Ethnically Cleansed and Genocided Western Tigray***

**The Honourable Ervin Massinga,**

We, concerned UK citizens and residents of Tigrayan Ethiopian origin organised under an independent, open and democratic platform of Mekete Tigray UK are writing to you regarding your recent visit to the ethnically cleansed and genocided Western Tigray.

As your excellency is aware of, it is the evidence-based official position of the US Government that over one million Tigrayans have been ethnically cleansed from Western Tigray by Amhara regional forces supported by the Ethiopian and Eritrean forces. Western Tigray has experienced mass atrocities including war crimes, crime against humanity and genocide according to credible reports by the UN HRC, UK Parliament, HRW, Amnesty International and the New Line Institute as well as research by the Yale University Law School in the USA and Ghent University in Belgium.

Moreover, according to the Ethiopian Constitution the forcefully occupied Western Tigray is an integral part of the Regional Tigray Administration. Indeed, according to the expressed position of USA, as expressed by Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield in her statement at the UNSC in April 2021, the USA is opposed to forcefully changing Ethiopia’s external and internal boundaries. Furthermore, according to the Pretoria Peace Agreement, identity and boundary issues must be resolved according to the Ethiopian Constitution and demands the removal of occupying Amhara forces and administration from Western Tigray and the restoration of Tigray’s constitutionally designated administration and boundaries in occupied Western Tigray. Here, there need not be confusion or excuse of alleged complexity to blur the core issue of the constitutionality and objective reality of Tigray’s claim to Western Tigray.

**Your Excellency,**

It is in the context of the above that we found your recent visit and comments regarding Western Tigray very concerning and as well as it being out of line with hitherto position of the US Government. Specifically, we deem it inappropriate for the US Ambassador to confer with US sanctioned perpetrators of mass atrocities and ethnic

cleansing in Western Tigray without expressing and condemning such facts. Secondly, your failure to describe the constitutional status of Welqait as Tigrayan, or mention Humera as part of Western Tigray is at best a misplaced diplomacy, at worst appeasement of aggressors and proven perpetrators of war crimes, crime against humanity, ethnic cleansing, and genocide in Western Tigray.

We urge your excellency to uphold the hitherto position of the US Government regarding the war in Tigray and including the status of Western Tigray. Specifically, we ask you,

1. To urge the Ethiopian Government to fully implement the Pretoria Peace Agreement including the return of the millions of Internally Displaced Tigrayans, the vast majority of whom are from Western Tigray, and the restoration of Tigray's constitutionally designated administration and territories in Western Tigray. We at Mekete Tigray UK and the Global Tigrayan Diaspora are asking you to press the Government of Ethiopia to identify clear measurable outcomes promised in the ceasefire agreement for Tigray to which the U.S. government will hold them to account. Moreover, there is a need to start urgently transitional justice to hold perpetrators of mass atrocities to account. Failure to do so will only advance impunity and continuation of unhinged mass crimes.
2. To urge the Ethiopian Government to stop its siege and encirclement of Tigray by severely curtailing the flow of services, fuel and its lawfully allocated federal budget. As you may be aware, 90% of the population in Tigray are in urgent need of humanitarian aid and the Government of Ethiopia continues to block the delivery of that aid. You may be aware that only 60% of rations are getting to 2.2 million Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in makeshift camps in Tigray. Only 7% of the population in camps are receiving supplementary feeding intended for severely malnourished IDPs. Recognising the U.S. will not supply a limitless amount of aid, we urge you to press the GoE to urgently facilitate the safe and secure return of IDPs to their farms. You may be aware that because of the critically low level of rations, IDPs themselves have taken to the streets in protest crying "ENOUGH is ENOUGH!". Moreover, hunger and starvation continue to be weaponised against the people of Tigray, which is akin to a silent genocide.
3. To urge the Ethiopian Government to stop its war mongering rhetoric and threat of a second-round genocidal war against Tigrayans. The onslaught of daily propaganda against and demonisation of Tigrayans must stop. The instigation of subversive activities to sow disunity and destruction in Tigray by the Ethiopian regime are not only against the letter and spirit of the Pretoria Peace Agreement but are also a preparation for war against Tigray. This needs to stop. A war in Tigray will further accentuate the deteriorating regional peace and security in East Africa.

We have attached below for your information pertinent documents from the UK Parliament Report on Tigray, UNHRC Investigation Report on the war in Tigray, the Yale University Law School Report on Tigray and the New Lines Institute Report on the Genocidal war on Tigray.

Finally, we trust the US Government will continue to promote peace, stability and justice in Tigray and Ethiopia as well as the wider Horn of Africa by opposing mass atrocities and holding perpetrators to account. Mekete Tigray can be contacted at the above address. We thank you for your time and attention.

Most respectfully,

**Mekete Tigray UK**

**(Community of the UK and Global Tigrayan Diaspora)**

**APPENDICES**

[NEW LINES INSTITUTE TIGRAY GENOCIDE REPORT \(29 Pages\) -Tigray-Summary-for-Policymakers-Ltr-FINAL.pdf](#)  
937.3kB

[ICHREE REPORT ON THE GENOCIDAL WAR ON TIGRAY October 2023.pdf](#)  
927.5kB

[Tigray-Report\\_29-September-2023.pdf](#)  
1.6MB

[YALE UNIVERSITY REPORT O TIGRAY GENOCIDE JUNE 2023 all of us are in constant hunger.pdf](#)