Federal Government of Ethiopia, "<u>Current Situation Update</u>", Annotated

Current Situation Update

The entities leading the African Union peace talks have made an official invitation [1] for the peace talks to begin and have announced both the date and the venue.

The African Union's official invitation is consistent with the Ethiopian Government's prior positions. [2] It is known that the Government of Ethiopia has expressed that, talks should only be mediated by the African Union [3] and should be held without any pre-conditions. [4]

The Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia remains committed to adopting all possible measures to resolve the conflict in a manner that ensures lasting peace, territorial integrity of the country, and will continue upholding this commitment.

October 5, 2022

[1] The invitation to the Tigrayan leadership is public. No counterpart letter to Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has been made public. This is at best lack of transparency and reinforces suspicions that there was no need to issue a letter, because the FGE was itself orchestrating the process.

[2] This is correct in every respect from the nomenclature of the parties, the mediator, and the agenda.

[3] The position of the international partners and the Government of Tigray is that the process should be "AU-led" which is different to an exclusive AU process.

[4] "Without any preconditions" means: without a cessation of hostilities, humanitarian access or resumption of essential services.