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## **Press Statement**

The Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council Reiterates its Call for Peace and the Delivery of Urgent Humanitarian Assistance to the People Affected by the Resumed Armed Conflict in the Northern Part of the Country

September 16, 2022 Addis Ababa: The Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council (ECSOC) is established under the CSO proclamation to coordinate and represent civil society organizations in the country. The council strives to ensure that civil society organizations continue to utilize the civic space responsibly in pursuit of the public interest.

It is the strong belief of the Council that the goals of sustainable peace and stability can be realized with the full participation of civil society organizations in comprehensive activities including peace, development, and humanitarian assistance.

In line with this, the Council believes that civil society organizations can make statements on national issues and call for peace since this is part of their inherent responsibilities.

At this critical time, the Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council would like to request all concerned actors to urgently coordinate resources for humanitarian assistance to the thousands of people affected by the resurgence of the internal armed conflict.

The Council once again reiterates its readiness to redouble efforts towards peace building and humanitarian support by coordinating the civil society organizations and working in collaboration with relevant actors.

To this end the Council calls on the media to exert maximum efforts towards ensuring constructive and responsible reporting by staying true to the ethics of journalism.

As we celebrate the Ethiopian New Year, ECSOC believes that it is imperative that we work together on common national issues for the advancement of peace, stability and human rights.

Finally, the Council wishes all Ethiopians, at home and abroad, a peaceful, healthy and prosperous New Year.

## About the Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council

The Ethiopian Civil Society Organizations Council is established in accordance with Article 85 of Proclamation No. 1113/2019 and is mandated by the FDRE Civil Society Organizations Authority to operate in Ethiopia on behalf of all recognized civil society organizations. Currently, nearly 4,000 civil society organizations are members of the council.