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May 15, 2006 Anniversary rally at the UN, New York City

On May 15, 2006, the United Ethiopian Democratic Forces (UEDF) held a demonstration outside the United Nations Head Quarters in New York City.

UEDF and its supporters observed May 15, 2005 as a historical anniversary day by recalling the efforts and dedications of millions of Ethiopians who cast their votes to peacefully change the terrorist and dictatorial regime of Meles Zenawi.

The rally was attended by Ato Fasica Belete, the Chairman of UEDF; Meto Aleka Ayal-Sew Dessye, First Vice Chairman; and Ato Kedir Mohammed, member of UEDF Executive Committee from Washington DC; the Boston UEDF Support groups; the New York and New Jersey Support groups; and supporters.

The crowd actively denounced Meles Zenawi's stance of its unlawful regime and demanded the immediate and unconditional release all unjustly and illegally jailed opposition leaders, journalists, students, etc.. as well as the reinstatement of the rule of law.

A letter titled "Memorializing the People's Victory day of May 15, 2005." was submitted to the office of Mr. Kofi Annan, the Secretary General of the UN.

A moving and empowering speech was delivered by UEDF Chairman Ato Fassika regarding the anniversary of the election date of May 2005. He urged that the struggle should continue with more dedication, tolerance, unity and balance in order to attain the ultimate victory of the Ethiopian people.

Placards and banners adorned by the beautiful Ethiopian flag were carried by the demonstrators. Some of the placards read "Reject the Meles Zenawi's government," "Democracy for Ethiopia", "Free Political prisoners".

Two flyers were distributed at the demonstration site and around the UN mission office areas. Copies of the letter submitted to Mr. Kofi Annan were distributed. The message in the second flyer included, "Designer Justice for Africa", comparing the similarities of the acts of genocide in the Sudan with the on-going trumped up charges of "genocide" against opposition leaders already imprisoned and those outside the country by Meles Zenawi's kangaroo court.

Ethiopians in Europe, Washington DC and elsewhere have observed this historic day in a variety of ways.

The New York/ New Jersey UEDF support groups would like to thank everyone who participated in the demonstration including those coordinators who made this special day possible.

Long live Ethiopia!

NY/NJ UEDF Support Group.
May 16, 2006

Regards,
Tsigereda