ሃገሬ ኤርትራ ሚኒስትሪ ጉዳያት ወጻኢ



دولة الرتوبا

## The State of Eritrea

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## **Press Release**

## Eritrea Requests the AU to Respect its Membership Rights

The Government of Eritrea has urged the African Union to respect its membership rights and not to discuss any matter regarding Eritrea at AU Summits convened in Addis Ababa. Eritrea's concerns are predicated on the following:

- i. Ethiopia continues to occupy sovereign Eritrean territories –
  including the town of Badme by flouting the Algiers Peace
  Agreement and the Charter of the African Union;
- ii. Ethiopia continues to obstruct Eritrea's right to participate in AU Summits and other AU meetings in Addis Ababa by its refusal to observe the basic diplomatic provisions spelled out in the HQ Agreement and that are extended to all Member States.

In view of these facts, Eritrea expressly requests that any agenda item that relates to Eritrea should not be discussed in Addis Ababa but must be deferred to the next Summit that is routinely held in some other African country. Should Ethiopia refuse to agree or continue to violate this provision, Eritrea calls on the AU to stop holding Summits in Addis Ababa.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs 29 January 2010 Asmara