

December 2, 2011

H.E. Ms. Susan E. Rice

140 East 45th Street

New York, NY 10017

Fax: 212 415-4443

Dear Ambassador Susan Rice,

I am outraged that you are pushing the Security Council to place more sanctions against the people of Eritrea. This latest call for sanctions, like the one in 2009, is politically motivated and doesn't serve the cause of peace in the Horn of Africa.

You know well that the allegations being thrown at Eritrea are pure fabrication. The charges, concocted by Ethiopia, are groundless. For example, the Ethiopian accusation of a "bombing plot of an African Union session in Addis Ababa" like what a US embassy cable from 2006 exposed is a pure fabrication by the Ethiopia government. The SEMG report's main actor of this fictional plot, Colonel Gemetchu Ayana, is in fact an Ethiopian army officer, not an Eritrean as the report falsely alleges.

The draft resolution you are pushing was the one authored and orchestrated by Ethiopia. Don't try to prop up the lawless regime in Ethiopia at the expense of the people of Eritrea. I would like to remind you that Ethiopia is a country that had brought untold suffering on the people of Eritrea for six decades and it continues to do so. Don't let the people of America and Eritrea down.

The Eritrean population, which suffered seven decades of repeated UN injustices, shouldn't be made to suffer more injustice from your office. This is a reckless act designed to reignite existing simmering conflicts and to create new ones. It doesn't serve the US national interest.

Finally, the solution is not in scapegoating or isolating Eritrea. The solution is on constructive engagement; that is what President Obama campaigned for. Don't sabotage his foreign policy for your own adventure. That is why I strongly urge you to work to lift the sanctions that were imposed on this young nation on Dec. 23, 2009 and instead push Ethiopia to implement the final and binding demarcation decision of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC) without preconditions or further delay. Ethiopia's refusal to implement this decision is at the heart of the entire crisis in the Horn of Africa. It is this issue that must be addressed first and foremost.

With my highest respect,

Name: _____

Address: _____

Country: _____

Signature: _____