



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General Development and Relations with African, Caribbean and Pacific States

ACP III - Horn of Africa, East and Southern Africa, Indian Ocean and Pacific

**20 DEC. 2006**

Brussels,

DEV/E2\*4/ JDC/mr/D(2006)7874

Dear Mr. Berhane Bereket,

I refer to your e-mail of 11 April 2006 addressed to the Commission's President in which you express your views on the 2000 Algiers Peace Agreement. On behalf of the President I would like to confirm that the Commission is following with concern the lack of progress in the implementation of the different elements of the Peace Agreement.

The EU is concerned with the recent events that increased the tense and volatile situation in the border region and reaffirmed its commitment to see peace and security restored. Furthermore the EU in its dialogue with both countries insists that the demarcation process has to be accepted promptly by both parties in a constructive spirit in order to bring to an end current hostility.

In that context the EU also called upon both countries to refrain from any threat or use of force against each other and, as further part of de-escalation measures, to redirect funds that are used for military expenditure towards development.

As regards the implementation of the 2000 Algiers Peace Agreement between Ethiopia and Eritrea, the EU has been involved since the early negotiations as a witness of the Agreement together with the United States, South Africa, Nigeria, Algeria and the African Union. The only guarantor of the Peace Agreement is the United Nations through the UN Security Council. The witnesses are not in a position to enforce a Peace Agreement.

Yours sincerely,

Susana Roson  
Acting Head of Unit

Cc: Merhawie Woldezion, Dawit Tewelde/UK, Medhanie Tsehaie, Finhas Benyam/India, Petros Yemane, Bruce and Anna Chase, the Abraham family/USA

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