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## PRESS STATEMENT

### **Move to finally resolve the “no war no peace” situation between Ethiopia and Eritrea: African workers’ commendation and call for genuine and determinate process and outcome**

The African Regional Organisation of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-Africa [www.ituc-africa.org](http://www.ituc-africa.org)) welcomes with excitement the historic visit of an Eritrean high delegation to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 26 June 2018 on the official invitation of the government of Ethiopia.

ITUC-Africa also commends this meeting between the two neighbouring countries after a twenty year frozen relationship arising from a border conflict that snowballed into a full blown war and later became a “no war no peace” situation in spite of repeated efforts to achieve lasting peace.

We commend the government of Ethiopia and its Prime Minister Ahmed Abiy for the initiation of this peace process. We are impressed by the Prime Minister’s commitment to this process which was not dampened by the bomb blast some days ago at a rally he attended in Addis Ababa. We equally salute the Eritrean government for accepting to honour the invitation and to commit to effectively engaging in the peace talk process.

African workers consider this historic talk as a major step to ending one of Africa’s longest border conflicts. We are convinced that this initiative when effectively and successfully completed will also contribute to reducing the unstable and volatile situation in the Horn of Africa in particular and Africa in general. This is so because the benefits of peace and stability that include safety and security of people, their communities and properties, and revival of commercial and economic activities will scale up and impact positively on the two economies and the region as a whole.

We urge the governments of Ethiopia and Eritrea to genuinely commit to this peace talk process and to guard against making it an endless process. In essence, we hope that the talk process will deliberate and agree on a timeline; and adopt

a robust communication process so that the citizens of the two countries and allies to the peace process can be well informed of the development of the talks.

ITUC-Africa will continue to monitor this historic process and we express our best wishes for the success of this important development.

**Signed: Kwasi Adu-Amankwah**

**General Secretary ITUC-Africa**

**June 29, 2018**