

Iseyas' Poem Letter to UN Council

I

Dear gentlemen
I promise you I will never play as a destabilizer
But this doesn't mean Eritrea goes towards the rule of law

I am a very serious and I do not play a jock
The Eritrean constitution, university, G15 ... remain under the lock
Here there is no scruples of conscience because it is local havoc

Dear Eritrea and Somalia Sanctions Committee
You know that I am not conducting proxy war anymore
Because after 'General' Mola Asgedom it is ended in smoke

ድህነትወሰኑ ኢትዮጵያውያን ቡን እውን ወርቁ
ከመ ቀደም አይአልሎን ሐደ ዓቢይ ስርቁ
ሎሚ እየ ድፍእ ናብ ገበረ ሐደ ቀይዲ

Dear commission
አነ አይአትውን ከትቶ ናብ እቱ ግራት ዝሩእ ናይ ዕፍን
ንምታይ እዙ እዩ ልማድ ናይ ሐደ መፍልሰ እውን ሞጭል

ፍትዊ Ambassador Kairat
በጅጃኻ መሐረኒ እቶም ናተይ መሞቲ ሓጢአት
ድሕሪ ሕጅጂ አነ እወዛወዝ ከም እታ ስርዓት (as a rule)

ፍቱዋት Security Council
አነ እገድፎ ናይ ለእኹ ሰልጺ እውን ከላሽን
ንግደፎም Al-Shabaab **ገሀጸ አቲ ድንኩል**

አ Dear **UN** ርግጽንነት ምክሪ!
አነ እለእኹ ሽሕ ሰዕመት ልዕሊ አቲ እግሪ
በጅጃኹም ግበሩኒ ወጸ ግዳም ካብ እዙ ጉዳም ቀኑርሪ

O my beloved UN community ብሐበራ!
አነ አበሰሰር ዝ አነ አይእገብርን ናይ እቲ ኮንትራባዶ እውን ዘረፋ
እንተ እዩ ክኡል አነ እከውን ቶሎ **UN** ሀገራዊ ሰላም ሐልላዊ ሚሊዝያ (milizia)

Lifting sanctions imposed on Eritrea
Without taking into account the state of democracy
It is always dictator's boost of energy

II

ግን እንታ አልሎ ይበሃል?



Iseyas and Qatar are divorced
The worst is nobody know the cause
But we are not strange to this type of cloud

ኩልሉ አልሎ ይብል ውንዕንዕ
ከምዙይ ቃታር ትውጽእ ግዳም እውን ግብጹ ትመጽእ
ግን እቲ ሀለዋ ናይ ባድመ መዓልቲ ድሕሪ መዓልቲ ይከይድ ክፉእ

China, Angola, Egypt, Russia and Venezuela
እዚአ ኢያ ሐንቲ ዓብባይ መዓልላ
ዝ ይግብበኣ ሽሕ ሜዳ ከም እዙ ጎልጎል ዓላ

After my adventure for fresh oxygen
Qatar pulled its troops out of the region
but they can comeback at rainier season

ግን እንተ ኣብ ድንገት ይክፈት ሐውዊ
መንጎ ሐደ ጅቡቲ እውን ሐደ አርትራዊ
ብዘይ ጽላሎት ናይ ጥርጠራ ድሕሪ እዙይ አልሎ ሐደ ኢትዮጵያዊ

when we are committed to the Yemen war
In my opinion, we must prevent quarrel
To make the king arrive at desired level

For this everything is on the table
Ports, airports, military and civil
If this is not the case, people may have another dream

ድሕሪ ቃጣር, ኢስስ እዩ ክቡብ ናይ ጸገም
ንምንታይ ንስሱ አይይፈልጥን ልዕሊ አየነይቲ ፖሊቲካ ይጋደም
ግን እዩ ዕጡቕ ምእንቲ ተቐብበለ ማንም ነገር ብዘይካ እቲ ቀይዶሕ ቀለም

ህሩም ብ እቲ ሀለዋ ናይ እቲ ጸሓይዕራርቦ
እቲ መንግስቲ ናይ ኢስያስ እዩ ምዉት ካብ ዐንተቦ
አምበአር, አይንግረምን እንተ ንሕና ንረአይ ኩልሉን እተን ነገራት ይመጻ ካብ እቲ ጎዶቦ

ኢዮብ ጎብረእግዚአብሔር በይን

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Addesso no

By Aaron Maasho

ADDIS ABABA (Reuters) - Djibouti has asked the African Union to deploy observers along its disputed border with Eritrea after Qatar withdrew its peace-keeping troops two weeks ago, the Djibouti foreign minister said on Monday.

The Qataris were sent to the region after clashes broke out between Eritrea and Djibouti in 2008, but they were pulled out without warning on June 14.

Qatar gave no reason for the withdrawal, but it came days after both Djibouti and Eritrea sided with Gulf Arab nations that had broken off relations with Qatar.

"The Qatari forces left on short notice without really preparing the ground. Leaving the status quo was not in the best interest of both countries," Djiboutian Foreign Minister Mahamoud Ali Youssef told Reuters during a summit of African Union leaders in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

"We proposed to the African Union that it take over the disputed side and fill the gap. We need the African Union to act very quickly," Youssef said.

A dozen Djiboutian troops were killed and dozens wounded in the 2008 clashes with Eritrea. The fighting erupted after Djibouti accused Eritrea of sending troops across the border.

Amid fears the conflict would escalate and spread, the U.N. Security Council requested that both sides withdraw. Qatari volunteered to mediate the dispute and deploy observers.

After Qatar pulled its troops out of the region, Djibouti accused Eritrea of occupying the disputed Dumeira area along their border.

"In the beginning, there were a limited number of Eritrean troops in the disputed areas. But then they pulled back," Youssef said.

The African Union has called on both sides to exercise restraint and said it would deploy a fact-finding mission to the disputed area. Diplomats said Eritrea has not yet responded to that request.

Youssef said a potential African Union deployment could involve conflict-prevention experts or members of a regional "standby force" the union is setting up.

AFRICA

Somalia and Eritrea



Expected Council Action

In July, the Chair of the Somalia and Eritrea 751/1907 Sanctions Committee, Ambassador Kairat Umarov (Kazakhstan), will deliver his 120-day briefing to the Council.

Key Recent Developments

The Council has begun discussions on a review of the sanctions measures on Eritrea, in line with its

intentions outlined in [resolution 2317](#) of 10 November 2016. This resolution was adopted following receipt of the final report of the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group (SEMG), which for the third year in a row had found no evidence that Eritrea was supporting the Al-Shabaab terrorist group. During negotiations on the resolution, China proposed language requesting the SEMG to present a report within 120 days to the Committee on recommendations for lifting sanctions imposed on Eritrea, including benchmarks and a timeframe. This proposal was supported by Angola, Egypt, Russia and Venezuela. However, this was not acceptable to some members. As penholder, the UK brokered a compromise text that included expressing the Council's "intention to review measures on Eritrea in light of the upcoming midterm update by the SEMG due by 30 April 2017 and taking into account relevant Security Council resolutions", which some members preferred as it did not prejudge the outcome of the review. Angola, China, Egypt, Russia and Venezuela all abstained, and the resolution was adopted with only ten affirmative votes.

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Key Issues

The key issue on sanctions is determining how to approach the review of Eritrea sanctions, especially in light of Qatar's withdrawal as mediator between Eritrea and Djibouti and its withdrawal of troops from the border. Relatedly, the Council must now ascertain whether the withdrawal necessitates any action on its part to ensure the maintenance of international peace and security.

Another issue is assessing the Federal Government of Somalia's management of arms and ammunition and implementation of maritime interdiction measures regarding arms and charcoal.

Options

One option for the Council would be to resume discussions on a presidential statement concerning the review of Eritrea sanctions. Such a statement could also provide an opportunity for the Council to address the new tensions between Eritrea and Djibouti. However, given the various complications with such a text, the Council

could instead opt to adopt a statement focusing only on the Djibouti border issue and urging that specific confidence-building measures be taken by the parties.

Council Dynamics

Regarding sanctions, the Council is divided between those members who believe it should reconsider sanctions measures against Eritrea, in light of the absence of any findings by the SEMG of evidence of support to Al-Shabaab, and those who stress that Eritrea's other activities in the region also warrant sanctions. All Council members would like to see Eritrea increase its engagement with the UN, though some advocate a visit by the chair of the Sanctions Committee as a first step, and others view this as being insufficient and object to a potential solo visit by the chair, arguing that he must be accompanied by the sanctions coordinator.

UN Documents on Somalia and Eritrea