

**ERITREANS FOR FACILITATING NATIONAL DIALOGUE (EFND)
DIALOGUE AND UNITY CONFERENCE**

**Path to Unity for Democracy in Eritrea: Victory is a Function of
Unity!**

October 23 – 25, 2014

WASHINGTON, DC

Conference Theme

Under the current regime in Asmara, the Eritrean society is facing increasing fragmentation. There is no healthy and constructive relationship between the Eritrean people and the current regime. Eritrea's youths who are the hope and future of Eritrea are fleeing the Country by the thousands to escape oppressive and inhumane forced labor. Forced labor is illegal under the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Opposition political organizations have been unable to work together and have become ineffective in bringing new ideas and presenting themselves as welcome alternatives to the tyranny of PFDJ. Civil society organizations have also mushroomed in different countries but with little coordination of their activities.

Eritreans for Facilitating National Dialogue (EFND), as it has explained in its previous communiqués, is not another civil society organization. It is simply an ad hoc group with the sole objective of trying to facilitate dialogue among all Eritrean civil society groups, political organizations, and individuals on how to reverse the fragmentation of our society. Needless to say, EFND believes that such a dialogue would enable us to chart a broad based platform which would allow all groups, despite their programmatic differences, to work together in bringing about a government that represents equitably all segments of the Eritrean population and respects

all the rights bestowed on them by their citizenship. Dialogue, we believe, is the only venue for reversing further fragmentation, reigniting the process of nation-building and averting the risks of state failure.

With this single purpose EFND is organizing a conference where Eritreans from all walks of life come together to dialogue on how to establish a broad based platform that would accommodate all civil society groups and political organizations, despite their particular programs, to act in unison in reversing the frightening trend that our country is placed under. The planned conference is organized in the following parts:

1. The introductory part aims to assess the degree of our fragmentation and examine the price of disunity.
2. The second part of the conference will provide an open dialogue towards envisioning a broad based platform that would allow all activist groups to form a united front under a common program.
3. Identifying common grounds and transmitting them to stakeholders for their reaction to be discussed in an ensuing forum.

EFND strongly believes that progress towards the establishment of an accommodating visionary platform can be developed expediently and the planned conference can serve as the first step.

A FULL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE CONTAINING THE LIST OF TOPICS AND SPEAKERS WILL BE POSTED SOON!

Thank you.

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