

## Tigrai Interim Regional Administration\*

Empowering the People of Tigrai to Regain Democratic Principles and Governance.

Tesfai Gebre-Kidan, MD  
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### Statement of Purpose

We, the parents, children, brothers, and sisters of Tegarù in the Diaspora, have come together to establish a Global Coalition of Tegarù (**GCT**) to advocate for the return of power to its legitimate owner, the people of Tigrai, to self-determine and self-govern. There will be no self-appointed vanguards or spokespersons for the people other than **the people** who must be free to determine their destiny.

We must live with the **incomplete and impossible** to implement Pretoria Agreement in the spirit of peace. Therefore, until a general election by the people of Tigrai is carried out, a legitimate Interim, decentralized, but less bureaucratic (eliminate Zoba/zone) transitional administration must be established, according to the Agreement. It shall be **inclusive and non-partisan**. In the name of those who gave their today for Tigrai, we must all pledge to seize this opportunity to cross the bridge over the troubled waters. Then and only then shall Tigrai prevail.

### Goal

Empower the People of Tigrai to establish a credible, functional, effective, and efficient interim regional administration.

### General objectives

1. Sovereignty
2. Accountability
3. Peace
4. Democracy
  - a. Universal rights
  - b. Repatriation
  - c. Free Tegarù political prisoners
5. Self-determination
6. Preparation of **election-level-playing-field**
7. Reconstruction & rehabilitation

A transitional interim government shall be established to enable the above and within the spirit of the Pretoria Agreement. It shall consist of:

1. **A council** overseeing and monitoring the interim government's functions includes scholars, daily laborers, parties, civic organizations and NGOs, business

associations (within and outside Tigrai), peasant's association, truck drivers, women's association, youth association, professional health (Medical) association, health associations. Teachers' association, lawyers, judges, police, military, cultural association of Tigrai, Diaspora and Diaspora associations, etc, 50% of whom must be women. The council reports its quarterly findings on the functions of the TIRA to a combined Council and Cabinet meeting. The council's findings are released to the public through the TIRA information office (which has no authority to edit, modify, or censor the report) and the public and private media. It will be published and broadcast.

2. **A cabinet** that reports to the president will consist of **sectoral nonpartisan experts**. They will not be political appointees; instead, they will be meritorious experts who would have served or excelled in the field they become candidates to win. For instance, a medical doctorate in medicine will not qualify a candidate an appointment who must also have experience in management and leading a team in the business of achieving healthy populations effectively and efficiently.

### Specific objective I, Tigrai

3. Interim people's government: representative of, but not elected by, the people. This should be coordinated and facilitated by **reputable Tigrai scholars** as the products of the institution of democracy in Tigrai. The sole purpose of this exercise is to establish and guarantee a **level playing field** that would allow and assure all political groups can **participate equally** as members of society in a fair election at the end of the transition. The overseers have no exclusionary biases or authority but will assure **equal participation** of:

### Specific objective II, Global Diaspora

1. Establish a coalition of Tegar Advocacy organizations around the world to empower the people of Tigrai:
  - a. Campaign and create awareness that the people have the right to **Self-determination**.
  - b. They also have the right to good **Self-governance**.
2. Campaign and advocate rigorously to free the people of Tigrai:
  - a. From fear and coercion to accept and support one-party rule.
  - b. Establish unity of Tegar in the Diaspora around this: **freedom of the people**.

### The Process

- Elect scholars
  - Names of scholars & political experts with the most negligible bias, preferably zero bias, will be sought from senior experts in Tigrai & the Diaspora.
  - The list will be discussed, revised, and approved at a webinar meeting of Tegar in Tigrai and the Diaspora.
  - Timelines will be set at the webinar meeting.
- Elect council members (total # ???)

- Members of the transitional governing body will be elected at an international conference in Mekele. The political parties will identify pools of candidates, of whom four will be selected to represent TPLF and two each to represent Baitona, Salssai Woyane, Wudib Netsanet Tigrai, and Aarena. A cross-section of the people of Tigrai society will also be nominated and elected.
- Elect a Cabinet
  - Tegar
- Council and Cabinet will elect the president of the TIRA.
- 4. Organize a united front in support of democratic self-governance.
  - a. Predetermined vanguardism or exclusion is not allowed.
  - b. All who follow the basic principles of democracy (created equal and have inalienable rights) are accommodated.
- 3. Create knowledgeable communities and informed society
  - a. Establish awareness and knowledge at the lowest organizational level.
  - b. Assure a democratic governance structure that promotes the growth of democratic institutions. Ensure all citizens know the pillars of good governance (transparency, accountability, the rule of law, responsive, equitable, inclusive, and consensus-oriented).

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\* Note that the same outline was proposed in November 2022. A draft proposal to USAID to fund GCT to implement **Democratization in Tigrai** is pending the establishment of a credible TIRA.