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DENOUNCE SUDAN'S DEPORTATION OF CHADIAN OPPOSITION LEADERS

The Sudanese government handed two leading members of the Chadian armed opposition to Ndjamena two days before a tripartite summit in Khartoum gathering President Idriss Deby and Central African President François Bozizé with President Omer Al-Bashir.

Sudanese security forces are conducting raids in Khartoum and other places to round up Chadian refugees and dissidents just before the visit of Idris Deby to Khartoum. Sudan has blocked many refugees from getting legal refugee status. Sudanese security services since 21 May arrested several members of the rebel movement including two UFR leading figures, Adoum Erdimi, who resides in Khartoum and the deputy chief of Staff, Colonel Daoud Ali Bouyeneou, who is based in El-Fasher, capital of North Darfur state. These were deported to Ndjamena where reports indicate that they have already been tortured.

SOCEPP condemns the illegal action of the Sudanese government not only from the point of human rights and solidarity but also because the same has happened and continues to happen to Ethiopians in the Sudan. Back in 1991, the Sudan handed over to the Meles regime more than 50 EPRP members (and legal refugees) of whom the likes of Azanaw Demile are still one of the "disappeared". Subsequently, Sudan has deported many Ethiopian refugees. The last batch deported, which was made up of 15 people sought by the Meles regime as "rebels" and which included the elderly major Atanaw Wassie, highlighted the illegality of such an action—Major Atanaw was denied prompt medical treatment and has died while the 14 others (who were aslso legal refugees in the Sudan) are still in the notorious Kaliti prison denied due process of law. Sudan has also revoked the refugee status of many Ethiopians and ordered them to reapply. Often, Sudanese security forces raid Khartoum, Gedaref, etc, where Ethiopian refugees are found, and have mistreated and jailed many.

SOCEPP CONDEMNS THE SUDAN GOVERNMENT FOR ITS FORECEFUL DEPORTATIONS OF AFRICAN REFUGEES!!

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