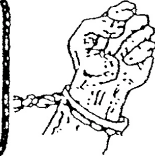




የኢትዮጵያ የፖለቲካ እስረኞች እንደነት ኮሚቴ (ኢፖእኦ)

SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN  
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



May 30/2011

## OPEN LETTER TO THE UNHCR

### PROTECT ETHIOPIAN REFUGEES IN YEMEN

A few days ago four Ethiopian refugees were killed in the ASABA area of Sana'a, Yemen, as result of the fighting between government forces and armed rebels. Very many Ethiopian refugees are facing death in many part of Yemen and their attempt to go to the Sana'a office of the UNHCR has not borne fruit. Aside from taking the names of the dead and the wounded the UNHCR has (once again) called on the police to remove the refugees from its premises. Five months ago, a pregnant refugee miscarried at the UNHCR office as police called by the UNHCR office tried to remove her and beat and mishandled her to no end.

The declared task of the UNHCR is to protect refugees but time and again the UNHCR offices in Djibouti and Yemen (and other places) have failed to come to the help of Ethiopian refugees. In Yemen, very many Ethiopian refugees suffer in desert jails and in precarious condition without adequate protection. The ongoing unrest in Yemen has also made the refugees even more vulnerable. The killing of at least four refugees (whose corpses are in the morgue of the Kuwait Hospital) is a grave example.

SOCEPP has in the past commended the UNHCR for helping Ethiopian refugees but it is forced to register its complaint in cases where neglect of duty has cost and continues to cost the lives of our compatriots. The case in Yemen is an example. The refugees need protection and repatriation to a safe country. Their situation is alarming, it is a tragedy.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE  
SOCEPP, POSTFACH 51213, BERLIN 13372, GERMANY  
SOCEPP, 30 RIGA COVE, WINNIPEG, MB R2P 2Z7, CANADA  
E MAIL: SOCEPP @AOL.COM  
WEB SITE: WWW.SOCEPP.DE