



PRESS RELEASE

STATEMENT BY APR PANEL OF EMINENT PERSONS ON THE AWARD OF THE 2019 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE TO H.E. ABIY AHMED, PRIME MINISTER OF ETHIOPIA

Midrand, South Africa, 16 October 2019



The African Peer Review (APR) Panel of Eminent Persons of the African Union congratulates H.E. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed of Ethiopia for winning the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize. The Panel recognises that central to the award was the fact that Prime Minister Ahmed reconciled Ethiopia and Eritrea in July 2018 soon after his assumption of power, after hostilities between the two countries had lasted for two decades following their border war in 1998-2000.

The Panel also commends Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's leadership in promoting pluralism, releasing political prisoners, opening political and economic space and supporting gender equality and free speech, as well as mediating conflict in the Horn of Africa, including in South Sudan and Sudan.

The Panel celebrates this historic achievement with the people of Ethiopia and Africa, and believes that promoting peace in Africa is a necessary precursor to Silencing the Guns by 2020, and in reaching the African socio-economic development goals enshrined in Agenda 2063 and the Global 2030 Agenda.

Viva Ethiopia, Viva Africa!