

*For immediate release*

**Statement by Alice Wairimu Nderitu, Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, condemning the recent escalation of fighting in Ethiopia**

(New York, 19 October 2022) United Nations Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Alice Wairimu Nderitu expressed grave concern over the renewed escalation of conflict in Ethiopia's Tigray region involving Federal Government of Ethiopia forces and allies and forces backing the Tigrayan authorities. Targeting of civilians based on their ethnicity or perceived affiliation to the warring parties remains a key characteristic of the conflict and one that is exacerbated by horrifying levels of hate speech and incitement to violence.

The Special Adviser echoed urgent calls by the United Nations Secretary-General, António

normalization of extreme violence not just in Tigray and neighboring Amhara and Afar regions, but in Oromia and other parts of the country too, she added.