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Institute for Horn of Africa Studies and Affairs
4979 University Ave, Suite C
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Friends:

I am sorry I could not be in attendance today. This event organized by the Institute for Horn of Africa Studies and Affairs is a wonderful gathering of intellectuals and thought-leaders that are dedicated to solving the complicated issues surrounding the Ogaden Region and their constant quest for peace and justice.

Since becoming aware of the issues surrounding this area, I believe it's important to recognize some of the main challenges facing the people of this volatile area and do what we can to make progress towards a brighter future. We must seriously consider the human rights violations in the region. These displays are unacceptable on any grounds and must be stopped immediately. No one deserves to live in fear and we must do everything we can to stop the abuses of human rights immediately.

While I do not serve on the Foreign Affairs Committee, I am hopeful that Congress will be a partner in learning about ways to best bring lasting peace to this region of the world.

I congratulate you for coming here today to address this issue and ensuring that a proper focus is placed on finding a resolution and a way to move forward.

Thank you again for allowing me to contribute to the dialogue today.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Erik Paulsen".

Erik Paulsen
Member of Congress