## Ethiopian People-to-People Forum On Our Future

Sunday, February 14, 2016, 1:00 to 5:00 PM.

Sheraton Silver Spring Hotel 8777 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910,

You are invited to attend an *Ethiopian People-to-People Forum on Our Future* on Sunday, February 14, 2016, sponsored by the SMNE. The focus will be how the SMNE could contribute to the resolution of the urgent issues in Ethiopia of injustice, mass protests accompanied by increasing violence, imminent famine with present food insecurity and the effect of these on the future stability of Ethiopia. What happens in the next weeks, months and year in Ethiopia and how it is addressed could make a huge difference to our future.

At this forum, the SMNE will present a view based on core principles and values that must be at the foundation of a New Ethiopia where humanity comes before ethnicity or any other differences and where we care about each other as we care for ourselves because no one is free until all are free. All citizens must be treated as equal partners.

In order to ensure such a new paradigm; we must be thoughtfully equipping and preparing ourselves to avoid either continued ethnic-based tyranny like we have under the TPLF/EPRDF or non-ethnic-based tyranny under some other model. Neither do we want our country to destabilize through mass violence and destruction. This is the time for reaching out to talk to each other rather than about each other.

At the forum, the SMNE will present an initial plan for what we believe are the first steps to avert a dangerous crisis, followed by a constructive dialogue that must take place first among ourselves and then among other stakeholders.

We invite you to take part in this forum where diverse Ethiopians will share their views on the future as we establish core values and principles in our pursuit of greater freedom, more equitable justice and opportunity, reconciliation, peace and prosperity for all.

Harmonious society starts by talking to each other rather than about each other.

For more information please contact Mr. Obang Metho, Executive Director of the SMNE Email: Obang@solidaritymovement.org Website: www.solidaritymovement.org