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[The Honorable (full name)]
House Office Building / Senate Office Building
United States House of Representatives / United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515]

Dear Representative/Senator [insert last name],

My name is [insert], and I am one of your constituents. I am reaching out to you today regarding the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation throughout the Oromia region of Ethiopia. As you may be aware, the Horn of Africa is currently experiencing a severe drought, and recent reports by UN OCHA suggest it has affected at least 8 million individuals throughout the Somali, Oromia, Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples', and South-West regions of Ethiopia. Oromia is one of the regions that has been hardest hit by this disaster, and the World Food Programme has recently reported that 3.3 million people inside Oromia are facing food insecurity.

Unfortunately, I believe that the situation inside Oromia is even more dire than official reports suggest. I know many individuals who live inside Oromia, and they have reported that many residents have been unable to farm for the past two years, due to conflict in the region. However, throughout that time, they also claim that they have not received any assistance from the government or NGOs, nor have they been visited by them. Recently, the head of Oromia's emergency relief office in the Sabbaa Boruu District of the Guji zone reported that 38,000 people in that district, alone, were facing "acute starvation." In addition, reports have been circulating online showing that over 500,000 people in the Bale zone are in immediate need of humanitarian assistance.

I believe that the US government should do more to raise awareness to the dire humanitarian crisis affecting civilians throughout Oromia and southern Ethiopia, much like it is doing in response to the humanitarian situation in northern Ethiopia. In addition, I also believe that USAID can and should do more to ensure that humanitarian assistance is provided to Oromia and other southern regions of Ethiopia, and that that aid reaches populations who are most in need.

I, therefore, respectfully urge you to publicly call for greater humanitarian assistance to be provided to Oromia and throughout Ethiopia, and to work with USAID to:

- a) Assess the levels of humanitarian need inside Oromia, including by conducting monitoring visits to conflict-affected areas;
- b) Ascertain the amount of humanitarian assistance that has been provided by USAID to Oromia;
- c) Ensure that humanitarian aid reaches those individuals who are most in need by working with local NGOs.

This issue is very important to me, and I thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,
[Your Name, Your Address]