



EFF AFRICA DAY STATEMENT

Thursday, 25 May 2023

The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) joins the continent in commemorating Africa Day on this the 25th of May, 2023. Africa Day serves as a powerful reminder of our shared heritage and the common aspirations that bind us together as Africans, as African leaders such as Dr Kwame Nkrumah, Emperor Haile Selassie and Mwalimu Julius Nyerere among others in 1963 in Addis Ababa, formed the Organisation of African Unity.

It is a day to reflect on our progress, confront our challenges, and renew our commitment to building a more equitable and prosperous Africa for present and future generations.

While these leaders have long left us, we remember the words of Dr Kwame Nkrumah: "As far as I am concerned, I am in the knowledge that death can never extinguish the torch which I have lit in Ghana and Africa. Long after I am dead and gone, the light will continue to burn and be borne aloft, giving light and guidance to all people."

In this light, the EFF remains resolute in its pursuit of economic empowerment for all Africans. Our struggle is rooted in the principles of social justice, equality, and the right of every African to access the wealth and resources of our land. We stand firm against exploitation, imperialism,

and economic subjugation, and we are unwavering in our determination to reclaim our economic sovereignty.

On this Africa Day, we call upon all Africans to unite in the pursuit of economic liberation. Together, we must reject the neo-colonial forces that continue to undermine our progress and perpetuate inequality.

We urge governments across the continent to prioritize the needs of their people, implement progressive economic policies, and foster an environment that encourages innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable development.

Today, as we celebrate Africa Day, we commend the leadership of Tanzania for finally lifting the ban and restrictions on opposition parties and allowing them to exercise their freedoms again. We also note the growth of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in leading the discourse on economic growth in Africa and developing worthwhile partnerships of trade amongst African countries.

However, it is not yet uhuru for our continent as we note with agony the continued oppression of LGBTQ+ people in Uganda under proposed monstrous laws; and the revival of war in the Sudan by military and paramilitary forces. As a Pan-Africanist movement, the EFF reaffirms its commitment to the emancipation of all marginalized Africans.

We, therefore, stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters who are fighting against oppression, exploitation, and injustice and remind them of Mwalimu Nyerere's words: "Freedom is not something that one people

can bestow on another as a gift. They claim it as their own and none can keep it from them."

We therefore recognize that our liberation is intertwined, and we will continue to collaborate with progressive movements, organizations, and governments to advance the interests of the African people.

The EFF extends warmest greetings to all Africans, both on the continent and in the diaspora. Let us unite, celebrate our diversity, and collectively work towards a prosperous Africa for all!



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