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**THE CROWN COUNCIL OF ETHIOPIA**

## On the Unveiling of the African Union State of His Imperial Majesty Emperor Haile Selassie I

*A Statement by His Imperial Highness Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie,  
President of The Crown Council of Ethiopia*

February 6, 2019 / 29 ጥር 2011

It is with great joy that we welcome the unveiling during the coming week of the first official statue to the blessed memory of His Imperial Majesty Emperor Haile Selassie I to be erected on his Continent since the Ethiopian coup of 1974 (2 Maskarram 1967).

It is fitting that this statue should be unveiled at the Headquarters of the African Union during the 32nd African Leaders' Summit and in the presence of Ethiopia's Prime Minister, Dr Abiy Ahmad Ali. The creation of the Organization for African Unity (OAU), the predecessor to the African Union (AU), in 1963 was one of the great achievements which the Emperor, my Grandfather, delivered to the People of Africa.

We thank the African Union and the Government of Ethiopia for ensuring that this healing event is occurring. It is a sign not only of the resurgence and optimism of Africa, but of the great healing which has begun to occur over the past year in Ethiopia and the regional nations which form a family with Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Crown has never wavered in its belief that prosperity, mutual respect, and unity would return to the lands of the Ethiopian families.

We thank the African Union and the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the consideration they have shown in ensuring the participation of the Solomonic Family in the unveiling of this important icon to our shared history. The erection of the statue also commemorates the tireless and diligent work behind the scenes of those Ethiopians who helped to create the OAU.

We ask for God's Blessing on this solemn yet joyous occasion, and on those who work for the restoration of Ethiopia's ancient history and values, and who work for peace and prosperity throughout Africa.

God Bless Ethiopia! God Bless the African Union!