The headlines are full of stories about turmoil in Africa whether it be the continuous struggles of Somalia or the religious divides tearing apart countries like Nigeria and Mali. The events of the Arab Spring have unleashed a whole new set of dynamic forces whose outcome is far from clear. Where is all this leading? What are the causes and what might be done to limit the violence and make sure that governments across the continent continue to provide for their citizens.

October 25th, 2012 4:30pm – 6pm

Campus Center 2nd Floor Room 2540

Gebreselassie Yosief Tesfamichael is the former Finance Minister of Eritrea where prior to leaving the government in 1999, he led Africa’s fastest growing economy. His unusual background spans vast extremes in development and post-war reconstruction, from rebel fighter and front-line combatant fighting for political, social and economic transformation to peace negotiator and development economist creating genuine participatory development. Throughout his 35 year career, he has had broad and direct experience in mobilizing people at the national and community levels. He has worked towards creating genuine people-based development, both in his own country of Eritrea and throughout the world. He conducted a World Bank client review in post-conflict countries in preparation for a Head of State meeting and was the chief advisor to the East Timor government for their national development plan prior to independence. He is a former governor of the World Bank and African Development Bank. Mr. Tesfamichael was educated in the United States, Ethiopia and Eritrea.

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