

A letter to Mr. Atilla Toros, Ankara, Turkey

Mr. Atilla Toros
Head of Migration Management
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Dear Mr. Atilla Toros,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the authorities' imminent plans to forcibly return Eritrean nationals detained at the Aydın Removal Centre. A civil society representative informed Amnesty International that approximately 180 Eritreans were deported from Turkey in recent weeks, with most now being held at Addi Abeto (ዳድዲአበይቶ) Prison, a major complex outside Asmara, the capital of Eritrea. Additionally, over 100 individuals were deported in the preceding months.

Eritrean nationals currently detained in Turkey have alerted their families through phone calls and letters, warning that deportations may happen at any moment. Amnesty International believes these individuals have not been afforded the opportunity to challenge their deportation decisions in court or to apply for international protection in Turkey.

According to Amnesty International's information, the detained Eritreans are also being held in inadequate conditions, lacking access to water, sufficient food, sanitation, and legal assistance. The limited access to phones makes it difficult for them to communicate with family members and loved ones.

Amnesty International has previously documented that individuals returned to Eritrea are often detained incommunicado and tortured, as leaving the country without authorization is considered a crime. The Turkish authorities must immediately halt all deportations of Eritrean nationals, as they would face the serious risk of human rights violations, including torture, upon their return.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,
Eyob Ghebreziabhier
09.09.2024
[Your Name]