Mr Atilla Toros

Head of Migration Management

Çamlıca Mahallesi 122.

Sokak No:4 Yenimahalle

Ankara

Türkiye

Dear Mr Atilla Toros,

We write to express our concern about the authorities' imminent plans to forcibly return Eritrean nationals who are detained at Aydın Removal Centre. A civil society representative told Amnesty International that around 180 Eritreans were deported from Türkiye in the past weeks. Most of them are now detained at Adi Abeto prison, a

major prison complex outside Asmara, the capital of Eritrea. A further 100 individuals have been deported in the previous months. Eritrean nationals currently detained in Türkiye have alerted their family members via phone calls and letters that the authorities are preparing to deport them as well and that it can happen any time now.

Amnesty International believes that these individuals have not had the opportunity to challenge their deportation decisions before a court or to apply for international protection in Türkiye. According to information obtained by Amnesty International, people in the group of detained Eritrean nationals were also held in inadequate conditions, due to a lack of access to water, adequate food, poor sanitation, and very limited access to legal assistance and phones, making it hard to communicate with family and loved ones. Amnesty International has documented in the past that people returned to Eritrea have been detained incommunicado and tortured upon return because leaving the country without authorisation is a crime. The Turkish authorities must immediately halt all deportations of Eritrean nationals to Eritrea where they would be at risk of serious human rights violations including torture.

We urge you not to forcibly return people to Eritrea, where they would face a real risk of serious human rights violations. We also urge you to respect Türkiye’s international obligations under the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, the UN Convention Against Torture and customary international law to uphold the principle of

non-refoulement, which is binding on all states. Pending their release, ensure that Eritreans detained in Türkiye are given access to fair and effective asylum procedures, and are held in conditions meeting international standards on the detention of migrants and asylum-seekers.

Yours sincerely,