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حزب الشعب الديمقراطي
الارتري

**ERITREAN PEOPLE'S
DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

Date: 13 January, 2010

Subject: Distressed Eritrean asylum seekers in Libya

H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres, Antonio.Guterres@unhcr.org
High Commissioner,
UNHCR, Geneva

CCs:

Mr. Alistar Boulton, Boulton@unhcr.org, Executive Assistant to the High Commissioner
Mr. Goerge Okoth-Obbo, Okothobb@unhcr.org, Director, Regional Bureau for Africa
Mr. Rauf Mazou, Mazou@unhcr.org, Deputy Director for Eastern the Horn Sub-Region
Ms. Jeannet Zueflu, Zuefle@unhcr.org, Senior Legal Advisor for Africa
Mr. Kouassi Etien, Etien@unhcr.org, Desk Officer for Eritrea

Dear Mr. Guterres,

It is sad to come to you again with another distressing story about Eritrean refugees. It is also, once more, about Eritreans in Libya.

Sources from within the refugee concentration camps in Libya tell that a quick process is underway at three refugee camps in Libya as to forcibly expatriate 345 Eritrean asylum seekers back to Isaias Afeworki's repressive regime in Eritrea. We are sure you don't need to be told of what awaits them in Eritrea if forcibly returned as planned.

The affected persons are currently held at the refugee camps in Zawiya (47 women), Gharaji (98 men and women), and other 200 Eritreans in camps inside Tripoli. Since 11 January 2010, the Eritrean Embassy personnel in Libya are visiting the said camps to make sure all finish filling of certain forms related with this intended forced deportation.

Trusting the UNHCR will take appropriate action promptly, I remain, Sir,

Sincerely yours,

Wolde-Yesus Ammar, Chairman, EPDP