



July 3, 2008

For Release: **Immediately**

The America Team for Freedom of Eritrea has learned that Eritreans living in Ethiopia will be staging a large and historic demonstration in Addis Ababa to oppose the deportation of Eritrean refugees from Egypt, to Eritrea. This is to be conducted on Saturday, July 5th, 2008. It had been planned for earlier in the week, but has been rescheduled. This demonstration is a continuation of the activities that have been taking place in many parts of the world with regard to the deportation of asylum-seeking Eritreans from Egypt.

Furthermore, over 1,000 refugees are planning a supporting demonstration at Shimelba Camp on July 5th. Also, plans are being made for a demonstration at the new refugee facility in Ethiopia, Mai-Aini Camp

The America Team has been fully engaged in these activities with the objective of creating awareness of the situation including by stimulating and encouraging efforts for the successful demonstration of Eritreans at the Egyptian Embassy in Washington DC, and facilitated contacts with some governmental and non-governmental bodies explaining the unacceptable measure taken by the Egyptian government and creating awareness of the probable consequences that the deportees will face when returned to the merciless police state of Eritrea. Pertinent resources have been included on the America Team's web site, including links to credible news articles, notices for demonstrations, and means for users to make their wishes on this know to US Congressmen and the Egyptian government.

While various similar efforts, both secret and open in nature are underway, it is interesting to note that the demonstration in Addis Ababa is taking place at a time when the Ethiopian government has indicated its willingness to host these helpless Eritreans if the deporting governments would cooperate in sending them to Ethiopia where they can get reliable protection and shelter, instead of returning them to Eritrea where only torture and possibly death await them.

Our team supports the aims of the Addis Ababa demonstration and stands by the side of all Eritreans fighting to bring about democracy and the rule of law in Eritrea, and offers assurance that it will continue its efforts to help the people of Eritrea to achieve freedom, justice and equality.

Meanwhile, the team would like to take this opportunity to extend its appreciation and express its admiration for the relentless help rendered by the Ethiopian government to needy Eritreans.

www.Freeeritrea.org