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ASSOCIATION DES  
ETHIOPiens EN SUISSE

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## **Urgent action!**

**Voice your anger to stop deporting Ethiopian Asylum seekers from Switzerland to the hands of the atrocious regime**

### ***Article 5. Universal Declaration of Human Rights***

*No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.*

### ***Article 3. UN Convention Against Torture & Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatments***

- 1. No State Party shall expel, return ("refouler") or extradite a person to another State where there are substantial grounds for believing that he would be in danger of being subjected to torture.*
- 2. For the purpose of determining whether there are such grounds, the competent authorities shall take into account all relevant considerations including, where applicable, the existence in the State concerned of a consistent pattern of gross, flagrant or mass violations of human rights.*

It is to be recalled that last July the Ethiopian ambassador to the UN in Geneva, Fisseha Yimer has said the Swiss authorities want to deport more than 1240 Ethiopian asylum seekers and the mission had instructions from the Ethiopian Ministry of foreign affairs to issue travel document to any Ethiopian whom the Swiss Authorities want to deport. It was also learned that the Ethiopian Government has signed agreement with the Swiss authorities to take all asylum seekers in exchange of a promised financial assistance.

**Daniel Ambachew** and **Israel Ambachew** are the latest in the deportation row from Switzerland.

In this harsh winter the immigration authorities dumped the two in an old gardening equipments store of the town in Alpanac Dorf, Canton **Obwalden**. The building doesn't has official address, no electricity and proper heating system. Because of the sever cold, Israel has fallen sick and suffered for long before a benevolent woman saved his life paying for his medical treatment. They have been living on 10 CHF a day, some times they had to search the whole town to find the pay master, who happened to be the town's chief gardener.

Two months ago they were handcuffed and dragged by police who claimed to take them to Ethiopian embassy. After spending two days in prison, the police took them, handcuffed, to Bern city to meet with two persons who said to be representatives of the Ethiopian Permanent mission in Geneva. The two embassy agents asked them few questions which they said just a formality and assured them that nothing bad will happen. Last week the immigration office informed them that their travel documents have been issued by the Ethiopian mission so they have to leave the country. The authorities ordered them to pick their travel document, tickets and 100 Swiss Francs from one office in the airport and handed them travel details to Addis Ababa scheduled for Saturday, February 18, 2006 from Zurich airport.

- In Zurich two more Ethiopian Asylum seekers, one woman, are in prison for not leaving Switzerland as ordered by the authorities.
- In some cantons those who refused to sign forms to organise the travel document for eventual deportation receive half of the original monthly social money. Others are returned back to centres from private apartments as a punishment.
- Large numbers of asylum seekers are ordered by police to terminate their work contracts and most of them are denied the right to get unemployment benefits after working for long time.
- Considerable number of Ethiopian asylum seekers are simply abandoned on the streets and others living in substandard conditions.
- One Ethiopian Asylum seeker from Canton Sion is already deported to Ethiopia. His friends say he sent an e-mail from Ethiopia but they could not reach him afterwards for he doesn't replay for their message.
- Dozens disappeared with out leaving a trace about their whereabouts after they receive words from immigration authorities about the issuance of travel document to deport them.
- A lot more are unnerved after being informed that their travel documents are on process.

Mean while the regime in Addis Ababa is feverishly working round the clock to liquidate the world wide struggle of the Ethiopian Diaspora which unmasked its hidden horrific nature to the world consequently calling international condemnation and loss of financial assistance from donors.

By deporting Ethiopian Asylum seekers who are echoing the voice of the millions suffering under the brute guns of the atrocious regime in Ethiopia, back to the ruthless regime's death fields and horrible torture camps where innocent Ethiopians fed to crocodiles and other wild animals, the Swiss government is playing a part in the ongoing brutal repression in the country.

While the international media describe the repression in Ethiopia to exceed any thing in the recent history of the continent and the EU calling the UN to establish an international commission of inquiry to investigate horrendous human rights violation in the country it is a regrettable heartlessness to send those who escaped the horror back to their nightmares.

Send your appeal concerning the two Ethiopian Asylum seekers to be deported to;

**Volkswirtschaftsdepartement**  
**St. Antonistrasse 4**  
**Postfach 6061 Samen**  
**Telefon : +41 41 666 66 70**  
**Telefax : +41 41 666 66 75**  
**E-Mail: [Migration@ow.ch](mailto:Migration@ow.ch)**  
**Attn: Josef Gasser**  
**Migration Obwalden**  
**Abteilungsleiter**

Send your appeal for a change in the general policy of sending back Ethiopian Asylum seekers to;

**Federal Office for Migration**  
**Quellenweg 6**  
**3003 Berne-Wabern**  
**Tel: +41 (0)31 325 11 11**  
**Press**  
**Information & Communication**  
**Tel: +41 (0)31 325 92 53**  
**E-Mail [info@bfm.admin.ch](mailto:info@bfm.admin.ch)**

Send your appeals to Swiss embassies in your respective countries too.

## Swiss Embassies in major cities of the world.

### **Canada**

Ottawa, ON, K1N 8E6

**Tel.** 001 613 235 18 37

**Fax** 001 613 563 13 94

**E-Mail** [vertretung@ott.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung@ott.rep.admin.ch)

<http://www.eda.admin.ch/canada>

Montréal, QC, H3G 1C4

Canada

**Tel.** 001 514 932 71 81 / 82

001 514 932 97 57

**Fax** 001 514 932 90 28

**E-Mail** [vertretung@mon.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung@mon.rep.admin.ch)

Toronto, ON, M5H 3Y9

Canada

**Tel.** 001 416 593 53 71

**Fax** 001 416 593 50 83

**E-Mail** [vertretung@tor.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung@tor.rep.admin.ch)

Vancouver, BC, V6C 3E1

Canada

**Tel.** 001 604 684 22 31

**Fax** 001 604 684 28 06

**E-Mail** [vertretung@van.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung@van.rep.admin.ch)

### **United States**

Washington, DC 20008-3499

United States of America

**Tel.** 001 202 745 7900

**Fax** 001 202 387 2564

001 202 232 1050 (*Kultur / culture*)

**E-Mail** [vertretung@was.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung@was.rep.admin.ch)

**H.page** <http://www.eda.admin.ch/washington>

New York, NY 10017-6706

**Tel.** 001 212 286 1540

**Fax 001** 212 286 1555

**E-Mail** [vertretung-UN@nyc.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung-UN@nyc.rep.admin.ch)

Atlanta, GA 30309-3555

**Tel.** 001 404 870 2000

**Fax** 001 404 870 2011

**E-Mail** [vertretung@atl.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung@atl.rep.admin.ch)

Chicago, IL 60611

**Tel.** 001 312 915 0061

**Fax 001** 312 915 0388

**E-Mail** [vertretung@chi.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung@chi.rep.admin.ch)

Dallas, TX 75201

**Tel.** 001 214 965 1025

**Fax** 001 214 871 0879

### **Belgium**

1040 Bruxelles

**Tel.** 0032 2 285 43 50

**Fax** 0032 2 230 37 81

**E-Mail** [vertretung@bru.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung@bru.rep.admin.ch)

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10557 Berlin

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**Fax** 0049 30 391 10 30

**E-Mail** [vertretung@ber.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung@ber.rep.admin.ch)

<http://www.eda.admin.ch/deutschland>

### **France**

75007 Paris

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16 A 00120 Helsinki

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**Fax 00358** 9 622 95 050

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100 41 Stockholm

**Tel.** 0046 8 676 79 00

**Fax** 0046 8 21 15 04

**E-Mail** [vertretung@sto.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung@sto.rep.admin.ch)

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1256 Kobenhavn K

**Tel** 0045 33 14 17 96

**Fax** 0045 33 33 75 51

**E-Mail** [vertretung@cop.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung@cop.rep.admin.ch)

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28080 Madrid

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**Australia**

Forrest, ACT 2603

Tel. 0061 2 6162 8400

Fax 0061 2 6273 3428

E-Mail [vertretung@can.rep.admin.ch](mailto:vertretung@can.rep.admin.ch)

**United Kingdom**

LONDON

W1H 2BQ

Tel. 020 7616 6000

Fax 020 7724 7001

E- Mail at

[http://www.eda.admin.ch/london\\_emb/e/tool/embassy.html](http://www.eda.admin.ch/london_emb/e/tool/embassy.html)

Thanks for Your Solidarity and urgent action

Ethiopian Association In Switzerland  
Support Committee for Asylum seekers

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