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EMBASSY OF THE STATE OF ERITREA TO SCANDINAVIA, STOCKHOLM

PRESS STATEMENT: 2nd December 2014

Re: The quotation attributed to the Eritrean Embassy Charge d'affaires, Mr. Yonas Manna Bairu, in a Danish Newspaper 'Politiken' report is grossly misleading.

The Eritrean Government has repeatedly stated on record that any citizen who left their homeland for any reason and wants to return to their country on their own accord are always welcome to visit or live in Eritrea. There will be no punishment discharged upon citizens who are victims of irregular migration and human trafficking themselves. Many citizens have already visited or repatriated to Eritrea safely over the last number of years without any imposition from the authorities.

This been the truth of the matter and a phenomena currently suffered by many third world countries, Eritrea's plight has been singled out and politicised by many actors to divert from the main root cause of the injustice perpetrated upon the nation of Eritrea for more than a decade. The unresolved occupation of Eritrea's sovereign land and unjust sanctions imposed on Eritrea.

Eritrean Embassy to Scandinavia 2 December 2014 <u>info@eritrean-embassy.se</u>