



In view of the meeting of the Working Party on Integration, Migration and Expulsion on 6 October 2017, delegations will find attached a revised version of the draft EU-Ethiopia good practices for readmission procedure.

EU - Ethiopia readmission procedure in practice

1. Return takes place on the basis of passport, valid or expired, and ID card, valid or expired, without the need to request an emergency travel document (ETD).
2. For all other cases, EU Member States responsible authorities gather the evidence of the persons' nationality and transfer them to the relevant Ethiopian consulate;
 - a. When a person's data are retrieved on the basis of fingerprints from the Visa Information System (i.e. passport number, name) – the local consulate issues an emergency travel document (ETD) within three working days.

If no ETD is issued within this timeframe, the person is transferred on the basis of the request for ETD and data retrieved from the Visa Information System.

- b. When other evidence of nationality is transferred (for instance driving licence, birth certificate, information gathered about the person's link with country of origin, copy of passport, copy of ID card), the consulate transfers the documents to the Ministry for Foreign affairs and further to Ethiopian National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) for identification.

NISS examines the documents transferred by the MFA and the consulate and informs the latter on the outcome within 14 working days from the reception of the request by the consulate.

The Ethiopian consulate issues the ETD to all identified persons within two working days following NISS reply.

If no reply is provided in this timeframe (16 working days), the transfer is deemed accepted and takes place on the basis of the EU travel document.

3. When evidence of nationality lacks or is not sufficient, interviews are organised by consulates within seven working days. Upon invitation by the EU Member States, NISS can conduct identification missions to hold interviews and proceed with identification of persons.
 - a. Costs of interviews and identification missions are covered by the organising EU Member State or Frontex.
 - b. The identified persons during the interviews are issued an ETD within two working days by the Ethiopian consulate.

If ETDs are not issued within that time frame, the return takes place on the basis of the EU Travel Document for return.

- c. If the outcome of the interview is not conclusive and some additional verification in Ethiopia are needed, NISS carries out the necessary checks and informs the consulate on the outcome within 14 working days from the reception of the request.

The Ethiopian consulate issues the ETD to all identified persons within two working days following NISS reply. In case of negative answer, a written justification is provided.

4. The ETD is issued irrespective of the will of the person to be returned and is valid for a period of 6 months. If necessary, the ETD is renewed within 3 working days
5. Transfers take place either through scheduled or dedicated flights. All costs of the transfer are covered by the EU Member States and Frontex.
6. Persons transferred to Ethiopia who, within a period of 15 working days, turn out not to be Ethiopian are taken back by the EU Member State. In such cases, Ethiopia provides a written explanation.

7. The EU assists the Ethiopian authorities in reintegration of returnees through dedicated projects.
 8. Meetings between the EU and Ethiopian side take stock of cooperation every 6 months or upon request of the EU or Ethiopia.
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