Präsident Afewerki
Postfach 257
Asmara, ERITREA

Your Excellency, Aster Yohannes has been detained since 2003. After independence in 1991, she brought up her children and was reportedly not engaged in political or public activities. In January 2000, she went to study marketing at Phoenix University, Arizona, USA on a UN grant. Her husband, Petros Solomon, was detained on 18 September 2001 as one of the leaders of the democratic reform movement. In December 2003, after her graduation, Aster returned voluntarily from the USA to be with her children. She was detained on arrival at Asmara airport, despite a government assurance of her safety. Aster is detained without charge or trial or official explanation, evidently as a consequence of her husband's peaceful expression of his political beliefs and subsequent detention in 2001. Aster is reportedly held at Karchele in a secret security section (Wenjel Mirmera) of the 2nd police station in Asmara. She has not been allowed to see her four children since her arrest. The 4 children live with Aster's sister in Asmara. Aster suffers from asthma and a heart condition.Please either charge Aster Yohannes with a recognizably criminal offence or release her immediately. I also urge you to release her husband, Petros Solomon, immediately and unconditionally. Yours sincerely

Name, First Name	Adress	Signature