

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 22/004/2005

22 February 2005

**Further Information on UA 33/05 (ASA 22/003/05, 11 February 2005) - Fear of forcible return/fear of torture/medical concern**

**JAPAN Two Turkish Kurds (m), names known to Amnesty International**

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One of the two Turkish Kurds was released on 18 February. The other man remains in custody. Both men are still at risk of being forcibly returned to Turkey, where they would be at risk of unfair trial or torture.

The man who has been released had been detained at the Tokyo Immigration Detention Centre since November 2004, when his visa expired. The UNHCR had recognised him as a refugee, but the Japanese authorities still have not done so: because of this, he is still at risk of forcible return.

The second man is still held at the East Japan Immigration Detention Centre, in Ibaragi Prefecture. He has been in detention since January 2003. He suffers from kidney failure, and several other serious medical conditions.

**Many thanks to all who took action on this case. If possible, please send a final round of appeals, in English or your own language:**

- welcoming the decision to release one Turkish Kurd who had been recognised as a refugee by the UNHCR, but expressing concern that another man is still in custody at the East Japan Immigration Detention Centre;
- reminding the authorities that Japan is a party to the UN Refugee Convention and the Convention Against Torture, which prohibit the return of any person to a country where they would be at risk of torture;
- urging the authorities not to return either of these men to Turkey, where they would be at risk of torture and other serious human rights violations.

**APPEALS TO:**

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**Salutation: Dear Minister**

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and to diplomatic representatives of Japan accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 5 April 2005.