

Deprived of freedom in “transit zone” – From French airports to Moroccan airports.

Anafé Joint Report (National Border Assistance Association for Foreigners [1]) – GADEM

This report deals with detention issues in airport waiting areas in France and Morocco (notably with the example of Mohammed V airport in Casablanca).

Persons who have been refused entry into the territory are deprived of their liberty and threatened with removal at any time of , and prevented from continuing their journey while in transit, who are seeking international protection or being turned back from another country’s borders.

“The decision to remain in a waiting zone should be taken as a last resort and for as short a period as possible, however, the GADEM and the Anafé demonstrate, through their respective field experiences, testimonies gathered and two missions conducted in 2012 and 2015, that many people are kept in waiting zones in Morocco without any legal procedures, without independent judicial control, in unworthy conditions and beyond the maximum allowed time limits “. While presenting the legal framework in force and analyzing its effective application on the ground. in, this report questions the responsibilities of the different actors involved in the management of border control and holding in waiting zones. It demonstrates the opacity of the procedure and the total lack of visibility on the situation of people held in waiting zones and their future. “This report calls for the respect without discrimination of guarantees and legal procedures, a deep reform the law and the administrative and police practices that give priority to increased border controls to the

detriment of the rights and dignity of persons. “The report recommends the establishment of a real right of scrutiny in places of confinement and an independent control mechanism for more visibility on the situation of people held in waiting areas.

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