

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AFR 25/02/93

Distr: UA/SC

5 January 1993

Further information on UA 364/92 (AFR 25/07/92, 20 November 1992) - Legal concern/Fear of ill-treatment

**ETHIOPIA:**   Arega Kitata, businessman  
              Tilahun Hirpassa, teacher  
              Wolde-Yesus Mengesha, teacher  
              Haile Legesse, farmer  
              and large numbers of others from the Oromo ethnic group

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Amnesty International has recently been informed by the Ethiopian government that Haile Legesse, arrested in November 1992 and detained in Ambo prison, has been released.

Arega Kitata, arrested on 7 November 1992, has, according to the Ethiopian government, been detained for "illegal possession of arms". It said that he will shortly be put on trial "to answer to charges". Wolde-Yesus Mengesha, arrested in November 1992 has also, according to authorities, been detained "after being apprehended in the course of committing a crime". The Ethiopian government reports that he receives regular visits from members of his family and will be brought to trial as soon as investigations are complete. There was no response from the authorities about Tilahun Hirpassa or the other mass detentions described in UA 364/92 (AFR 25/07/92, 20 November 1992). No details were given of the charges against Arega Kitata and Wolde-Yesus Mengesha. No judicial proceedings have commenced against any of the detainees mentioned in this appeal.

No further action is requested at this stage from Urgent Action participants on these cases. Amnesty International will continue its investigations and will put its continuing concerns to the relevant authorities through other means.