

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 25/010/2001

10 May 2001

Further information on UA 99/01 (AFR 25/006/2001, 18 April 2001) and follow-up (AFR 25/007/2001, 20 April 2001; AFR 25/008/2001, 27 April 2001) - Fear for safety / Use of excessive force by security forces

ETHIOPIA Students at Addis Ababa University
Civilian demonstrators in Addis Ababa, including students from secondary schools
Lidetu Ayalew, EDP Secretary General
Tamerat Tarakegn, EDP Central Committee member
Tadiwos Tantu, EDP Central Committee member
Over 30 members of the All Amhara People's Organisation

Released: Seifu Mekonnen, journalist for the Amharic weekly *Mebrek*

Journalist Seifu Mekonnen was released without charge on 26 April.

There is no news on the fate of the members of the Ethiopian Democratic Party (EDP) and the All Amhara People's Organisation (AAPO), who are believed to be held incommunicado, or of the over 100 students still held in custody. All of them were apparently detained following the riots in Addis Ababa on 17 and 18 April. They are feared to be at risk of torture or ill-treatment. Please continue to send appeals on their behalf.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English or in your own language:

- welcoming the release of Seifu Mekonnen;
- expressing concern that over 100 students are reportedly still detained, and that the "disappeared" EDP and AAPO members are still missing;
- asking the authorities to clarify where they are being held, and why;
- calling for the detainees to be allowed immediate access to lawyers of their choice, their families and necessary medical care;
- urging the authorities to guarantee that they will not be tortured or ill-treated;
- calling on the authorities to either charge those still detained with a recognizably criminal offence, or to release them;
- expressing concern that more than 31 people were reportedly killed and hundreds injured during the riots, and calling on the authorities to launch independent and impartial investigations to determine whether any of these killings were unlawful, and, if so, to bring those found to be responsible to justice.

APPEALS TO:

His Excellency
Meles Zenawi
Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
PO Box 1031, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Fax: + 251 1 552020
Salutation: Your Excellency

Commissioner of Police
Office of the Commissioner of Police
Ministry of Justice
PO Box 21321, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Fax:+ 251 1 550278
Salutation: Dear Sir

Mr Werede-Wold Wolde
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
PO Box 1370, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Fax:+ 251 1 550278
Salutation:Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

Mr Kinfe Gebre-Medhin
General Manager, Public Security
Office of the Prime Minister
PO Box 1031, Addis
Fax: + 251 1 552020
Salutation: Dear Sir

Ms Genet Zewdie
Minister of Education
Ministry of Education
PO Box 1367, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Email: moe@telecom.net.et
Salutation: Dear Minister

and to diplomatic representatives of Ethiopia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 20 June 2001.