

1 July 2002

Further information on UA 101/02 (AFR 25/010/2002, 3 April 2002) and follow-ups (AFR 25/014/2002, 19 April 2002, AFR 25/016/2002, 21 June 2002) - Fear of torture / Excessive use of force by security forces / Incommunicado detention

**ETHIOPIA**      Hundreds of school students & others arrested in Oromia region  
 Bekele Jirata (m) - vice-president of Macha Tulama Association, agricultural engineer  
 Gameda Dinagde (m) & Dereje Sibru (m), medical doctors, Nekemte  
 Wakjira Abdissa (m) - medical doctor in Gimbi  
 Ayana Kabata (m), Tesfaye Burayu (m) & Getachew Ummata (m) - teachers in Nekemte  
 Biratu Qanani (m), Atsede Tola (f) & Lemlem Tesfaye (f) - students in Nekemte  
 Zelalem Abebe (m) & Bekele Tedla (m) - students in Najjo  
 Biratu Qanani (m), Berhanu Ismail (m) & Tadelle Kalbassa (m) - teachers in Mendi  
 Mohamed Abera (m), Ahmed Said (m) & Meseret Tamiru (f) - students in Gimbi  
 Tolessa Debela (m) & Daniel Gemechu (m), Addis Ababa University students  
                     Dinkenesh Deressa Kitila (f) - mother of four children, production manager of Total Oil company

**Released:**      Professor Ephraim Mammo (m) - retired President of Alemayehu

Universit  
 y in Harar  
 (eastern  
 Ethiopia)  
 , aged 64

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Professor Ephraim Mammo, who was arrested on 4 June in Dembi Dollo in western Oromia, has been released without charge after about two weeks in detention.

Dinkenesh Deressa Kitila, who was arrested in Addis Ababa on 7 June, is in need of medical treatment. She has been brought before a court on two occasions but has not yet been formally charged with any criminal offence.

These arrests follow hundreds of similar detentions in connection with student demonstrations in the Oromia region in March and April. Some of those arrested are still being held incommunicado and are at risk of torture.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or your own language:**

- welcoming the release of Professor Ephraim Mammo;
- expressing concern for the safety of Dinkenesh Deressa Kitila, arrested in Addis Ababa in June, and hundreds of others detained in connection with the demonstrations in the Oromia region;
- calling for Dinkenesh Deressa Kitila and the other detainees to be allowed access to any medical treatment needed, as well as to their family and legal representatives;
- urging that Dinkenesh Deressa Kitila as well as all others currently under arrest without charge should be formally charged in court with recognizable criminal offences and given a prompt and fair trial, or released.

**APPEALS TO:**

His Excellency Meles Zenawi

Prime Minister  
Prime Minister's Office  
P O Box 1031, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
**Telegrams: Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**  
**Fax: + 251 1 552 020 (this number may be difficult to get through to  
but please keep trying)**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Major Befkadu Tolera  
Federal Commissioner of Police  
Ministry of Justice  
P O Box 21321, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
**Telegrams: Federal Commissioner of Police, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**  
**Fax: + 251 1 517 775**  
**Salutation: Dear Commissioner**

**COPIES TO:**

Mr Getachew Assefa  
General Manager of Public Security  
Prime Minister's Office  
P O Box 1031, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
**Fax: + 251 1 552 020 (this number may be difficult to get through to  
but please keep trying)**  
**Salutation: Dear Sir**

Mr Harke Haroye  
Minister of Justice  
Ministry of Justice  
P O Box 1370, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
**Telegrams: Minister of Justice, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**  
**Fax: + 251 1 517 775**  
**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 12 August 2002.