



Submission No 16

Review of Australia's Relationship with the Countries of Africa

Name: Dr Gelaye Tadesse
Chairman

Organisation: The Ethiopian Democratic Forum (EDF)

4. Forcing detainees to share razor bald with intension to spread HIV virus in the country where HIV Aids is rampant
5. Killing of over 600 ethnic Gambella in 2003/4
6. Killing ethnic Sidama in the regional city of Awasa in 2003
7. Similar killings have taken place since 1999 in various parts of the country including Addis Ababa, Gondar, Bale, Wellega and Areka. No one brought to face justice.

In addition to the above points, there is no freedom speech, no freedom of media and independent judiciary system. Mr Zenawi's cadres are the prosecutors, the judge and jury. Under such a system, many people are thrown in to jail for crime they never committed.

Corruption is rampant, involving the highest office the country. In the country where millions are starving and thousands of children are dying of hanger, the former guerrilla leaders who marched in Addis Ababa in 1991 in their bare foot are today billionaires. International aide and donations go direct into their pocket.

As the case of Ethiopia is huge and could not be covered just in one letter, we are happy to attend in person to discuss the direction of the relationship of the Australian Government with Africa in general and Ethiopian in particular. Meanwhile, we would like to urge you:

- Not to support African dictators in general and Mr Zeanwi of Ethiopia in particular
- To make effort to bring those who committed genocide such Mr Zeanawi to face justice
- To ensure that humanitarian assistances go direct to the people
- To support democratic movements in order to make a fundamental change in Africa in general and in Ethiopia in particular.

For further information please call 0413 587 584 or write to the above address.

Dr Gelaye Tadesse
Chairman
Ethiopian Democratic Forum