

URGENT ACTION

TWO ACTIVISTS STILL FACE 10-15 YEARS IN JAIL

José Marcos Mavungo has been held in pre-trial detention beyond the 90 day limit allowed by law. Arão Bula Tempo who was conditionally released on 13 May needs urgent access to adequate medical care outside Cabinda Province, Angola. Both are facing charges that carry a penalty of 10-15 years in jail.

Human rights defender, **José Marcos Mavungo**, was formally charged with 'rebellion' on 27 May, but only officially informed of his indictment on 22 June. He has been in detention since his arrest on 14 March for his participation in the organisation of a peaceful protest against bad governance in Cabinda, Angola. This is beyond the 90 day limit allowed by the Angolan law for detention without trial. José Marcos Mavungo is also accused of associating with a group of unknown men said to have been found with explosives and leaflets a day before the protest he was organising. José Marcos Mavungo has denied this allegation and his lawyer says there is no evidence supporting the claim.

Another human rights defender, **Arão Bula Tempo** was also arrested and detained on 14 March. He has been charged with 'collaboration with foreigners'. Although he was released on 13 May, the conditions imposed on his release have prevented him from seeking the medical care he needs as he is not allowed to leave the province of Cabinda without permission from authorities. His health is deteriorating. Arão Bula Tempo and his family have also been facing intimidation and have received threats from Angolan authorities since his release.

Charges levelled against both human rights defenders are termed as crimes against the security of the state. These crimes carry a penalty of 10 – 15 years in jail.

Please write immediately in English, Portuguese or your own language:

- Calling on the Angolan authorities to immediately and unconditionally release José Marcos Mavungo;
- Urging them to ensure José Marcos Mavungo is not subjected to any torture or other ill-treatment pending his release;
- Urging them to allow Arão Bula Tempo to leave the province of Cabinda to seek the medical care he needs, even if outside the country;
- Calling on the authorities to drop all charges against the two, as they have been charged solely for their peaceful work as human rights defenders.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 24 AUGUST 2015 TO:

Minister of Justice and Human Rights

Rui Jorge Carneiro Manguera
Ministry of Justice and Human Rights
Rua 17 Setembro, No. 32
CP 1986
Luanda
Republic of Angola

Salutation: A sua Excelência

General Prosecutor of Angola

João Maria Moreira de Sousa
Office of the General Prosecutor
Rua 17 Setembro
Largo do Amor, Vila Alice
Luanda
Republic of Angola

Salutation: Exmo. Dr.

And copies to:

Amnesty International – Southern Africa
Regional Office
3 on Glenhove,
Melrose Estate,
Rosebank, 2196
Johannesburg,
South Africa

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the second update of UA 78/15. Further information:

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/afr12/1697/2015/en/>

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Dissent in Angola is frequently dealt with repressively, and often violently, by the different authorities. Amnesty International has documented how the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly have been unlawfully restricted in Angola in its report *Punishing Dissent: Suppression of Freedom of Association and Assembly in Angola* (Index AFR 12/004/2014).

Some of those who have challenged the government of President José Eduardo dos Santos have been subjected to extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture. Despite freedom of expression and peaceful assembly being clearly enshrined in the country's constitution and in several international treaties that Angola has signed and ratified, violations to these rights continue to occur.

Names: Arão Bula Tempo, José Marcos Mavungo

Gender m/f: m

Further Information UA: 78/15 Index: AFR 12/2039/2015 Issue Date: 13 July 2015