

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Media Advisory

AI Index: AFR 01/008/2002 (Public)
News Service No: 116
8 July 2002

Africa: Invitation to a press conference on the launch of a report on policing in Southern Africa

Amnesty International invites journalists to the launch its report: ***Policing to protect human rights: A survey of police practices in the countries of the Southern Africa Development Community, 1997 - 2002.***

The report is being launched in connection with the start of a campaign involving Amnesty International members and other civil society organizations in member countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), together with Amnesty International's membership worldwide.

The report includes a survey of human rights and policing in 12 of the member states of SADC. It shows that human rights violations by the police continue to occur in the majority of SADC countries. It also notes efforts by individual countries to increase protection for human rights, as well as initiatives undertaken by the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs' Cooperation Organization (SARPCCO) to promote best practice through training programs and the development of a code of conduct.

It recommends specific actions that should be taken by governments and police authorities to ensure that police respect the rights of all communities without distinction.

Further Conference Details

DATE: 9 July 2002
TIME: 12:00
VENUE: Gaborone 2
Gaborone Sun Hotel
Tel: 267 717 53268/ 267 351 111

SPEAKERS

Alice Mogwe, Director of Dithswanelo - Botswana Centre for Human Rights

Chris Madeley, Chair Amnesty International Botswana

Norman Molebogo, Police Commissioner and former SARPCCO Chairperson

Manuel de Araujo, Campaign Coordinator, SADC Policing Project, International Secretariat, Amnesty International

H.E. Daniel Kwelagobe, Minister of Presidential Affairs and Public Administration, Office of the President of Botswana

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Public Document

For more information please call Amnesty International's press office in London, UK, on +44 20 7413 5566

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