

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 409/92 (AFR 24/14/92, 22 December 1992) - Torture and legal concern

EQUATORIAL GUINEA: Over 100 people including:

Celestino Bacale)
Pedro Esono) teachers
Máximo Mikó (note corrected name))
Arsenio Moro)
Angel Obama)

and new names **Catholic priests fathers Luis María Ondo Mayé
and Pedro Ncogo**

Amnesty International has learnt of the release of over 100 prisoners arrested in Malabo on 17 December 1992 including those named above. Following intense international pressure at least 36 prisoners were released between 19 and 21 December 1992. The remaining prisoners were released following a presidential amnesty on 29 December 1992.

Accounts by released prisoners suggest that most, if not all, were severely beaten or tortured, some with particular brutality. Among the most seriously ill as a result of the torture are Celestino Bacale, who sustained severe kidney injuries and broken teeth, Arsenio Moro who sustained a perforated eardrum and broken ribs and the two Catholic priests fathers Luis María Ondo Mayé and Pedro Ncogo - the nature or extent of their injuries is not known to the organization. The Equatorial Guinean authorities have so far refused permission for the injured to leave the country for medical treatment despite requests for their urgent evacuation.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes and airmail letters

- welcoming the release of all the detainees arrested on 17 December 1992;
- expressing concern at reports that most of them were subjected to beatings or torture and many sustained severe injuries as a result for which they are not known to have received medical treatment;
- expressing concern about the state of health of the ex-detainees, particularly that of fathers Luis María Ondo Mayé and Pedro Ncogo and of Celestino Bacale and Arsenio Moro, and urging that they be immediately allowed to leave the country to seek appropriate medical treatment;
- calling for a public inquiry into these reports and for those responsible for torture to be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO

1) President

Su Excelencia

General de Brigada Teodoro Obiang Nguema

Presidente de la República

Gabinete del Presidente de la República

Malabo, República de Guinea Ecuatorial

Telegrams: Presidente Obiang Nguema, Malabo, República de Guinea Ecuatorial

Telexes: 5405 GBNOM 5405 EG

Faxes: + 240-9 33 13

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Salutation: Su Excelencia/Your Excellency

2) Minister of Justice and Religion

Su Excelencia

Mariano Nsué Nguema

Ministro de Justicia y Culto

Ministerio de Justicia y Culto

Malabo, República de Guinea Ecuatorial

Telegrams: Ministro de Justicia Nsué Nguema, Malabo, República de Guinea Ecuatorial

Telexes: 5405 GBNOM 5405 EG

Salutation: Su Excelencia/Your Excellency

3) Minister of Foreign Affairs

Su Excelencia

Benjamín Mba Ekua Mikó

Ministro de Asuntos Exteriores

Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores

Malabo, República de Guinea Ecuatorial

Telegrams: Ministro de Asuntos Exteriores Mba Ekua, Malabo, República de Guinea Ecuatorial

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Salutation: Su Excelencia/Your Excellency

and to diplomatic representatives of Equatorial Guinea accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 18 February 1993.