

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 192/91 (AFR 32/20/91, 7 June 1991) - Medical Concern/Prisoner of Conscience

KENYA: Kenneth Matiba

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Kenneth Matiba was freed from detention on 9 June 1991, while still in Nairobi Hospital, on the orders of President Moi. The Kenyan authorities denied that he suffered a stroke but only said that he had been taken to hospital for tests. No more information is yet available on his medical condition, which is evidently the reason for his release.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Express and airmail letters:

- welcoming the release of Kenneth Matiba, a prisoner of conscience, from detention;
- urging that the government does not detain any more people simply for their non-violent opinions;
- appealing for an independent inquiry into conditions under which political prisoners are held, in view of the serious and life-threatening medical complaints suffered in the past few weeks by Kenneth Matiba, Charles Rubia and Gitobu Manyara (all prisoners of conscience) as a result of harsh conditions of imprisonment and denial of adequate medical treatment or regular family access.

APPEALS TO:

President Daniel arap Moi  
President of the Republic of Kenya  
Office of the President  
P O Box 30510  
Nairobi, Kenya

COPIES TO:

Mr James Mareka  
Commissioner of Prisons  
Kenya Prison Service HQ  
PO Box 30175  
Nairobi, Kenya

Assistant Commissioner Geoffrey Kinoti  
Kenya Police HQ  
PO Box 30083  
Nairobi, Kenya

Mr Amos Wako  
Attorney General  
Office of the Attorney General  
PO Box 40112  
Nairobi, Kenya

Mr Mwai Kibaki  
Minister of Health  
Ministry of Health  
PO Box 30016

Nairobi, Kenya

and to diplomatic representatives of Kenya in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS AS SOON AS YOU CAN.