

**EXTERNAL (for general distribution)**

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**16 August 1993**

**Further information on UA 238/93 (AFR 44/07/93, 20 July 1993) - Health Concern/Legal Concern**

**NIGERIA: Ken Saro-Wiwa, 51, writer and spokesperson for the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP)  
N.G. Dube, member of MOSOP  
Kobari Nwile, member of MOSOP**

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Amnesty International has learned that Ken Saro-Wiwa was transferred to Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital on 19 July 1993 to receive treatment for his heart condition. He was released on bail on 22 July 1993 and has now left hospital. N.G. Dube and Kobari Nwile remain in custody.

Ken Saro Wiwa, N.G. Dube and Kobari Nwile, who are prominent members of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP), were arrested in Port Harcourt, eastern Nigeria, on 21 June 1993 in connection with their activities on behalf of the Ogoni community. On 13 July, they were charged under the Criminal Code of Eastern Nigeria on six counts relating to unlawful assembly, seditious intention and seditious publication. They were refused bail and remanded in custody until 20 September 1993. Whilst in custody, Ken Saro-Wiwa's health deteriorated after he was denied regular medication for his heart condition. On 16 July he was reported to have lost consciousness twice. Requests from his doctor for his admittance to a hospital were initially turned down, despite an order issued by the High Court in Port Harcourt on 17 July authorizing his transfer from prison to hospital. It was only on the night of 19 July 1993 that he was finally taken to Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/express and airmail letters either in English or in your own language:**

- welcoming the transfer to hospital on 19 July 1993 and the release on bail on 22 July of Ken Saro-Wiwa, who was arrested because of his non-violent opposition to the government, and calling for all charges against him to be dropped as, if convicted, he would be a prisoner of conscience;

- continuing to express concern about the imprisonment of N.G. Dube and Kobari Nwile and urging that they be immediately and unconditionally released, as they are prisoners of conscience who were arrested because of their non-violent opposition to the government.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) General Ibrahim Babangida  
President and Chairman of the National Defence and Security Council  
State House  
Abuja  
Federal Capital Territory  
Nigeria  
**Telegrams: President Babangida, Abuja, Nigeria**  
**Telexes: [0905] 91529 or 91530 EXTNAL NG (via Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs)**

**Salutation: Dear President**

2) Mr Clement Akpamgbo  
Attorney General of the Federation, Minister of Justice and member of the  
National Defence and Security Council  
Ministry of Justice  
Abuja  
Federal Capital Territory  
Nigeria

**Telegrams: Attorney General Akpamgbo, Abuja, Nigeria**

**Telexes: [0905] 91529 or 91530 EXTNAL NG (via Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs)**

**Salutation: Dear Attorney General**

3) Mr Rufus Ada George  
State Governor  
Government House  
91000 Port Harcourt  
Rivers State, Nigeria

**Telegrams: State Governor Rufus Ada George, Port Harcourt, Nigeria**

**Salutation: Dear Governor**

4) Mr Acho Ogbonna  
Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice  
State Commission for Justice  
POB 5020  
Ikwerre Road  
91000 Port Harcourt  
Rivers State, Nigeria

**Telegrams: State Attorney General Acho Ogbonna, Port Harcourt, Nigeria**

**Salutation: Dear Attorney General**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:** any of the following newspapers:

Daily Times  
PMB 21340  
Ikeja, Lagos  
Nigeria

The Guardian  
PMB 1217  
Oshodi, Lagos  
Nigeria

Newswatch  
PMB 21499  
Ikeja, Lagos  
Nigeria

and to diplomatic representatives of Nigeria accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 27 September 1993.