

**EXTERNAL (for general distribution)**

**AI Index: AFR 44/13/93**

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**1 September 1993**

**Further information on UA 238/93 (AFR 44/07/93, 20 July 1993 and follow-up: AFR 44/12/93, 16 August 1993) - Health Concern/Legal Concern**

**NIGERIA: Ken Saro-Wiwa, 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 N.G. Dube and Kobari Nwile were released on bail on 25 July 1993.

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. While in custody, Ken Saro-Wiwa's health deteriorated after he was denied regular medication for his heart condition. 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. On 19 July he was finally transferred to Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital and bail was granted on 22 July. On 25 July N.G. Dube and Kobari Nwile were also released on bail.

Amnesty International believes that Ken Saro-Wiwa, N.G. Dube and Kobari Nwile were arrested and charged because of their peaceful political activities and continues to call for all charges against them to be dropped.

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

- welcoming the release on bail of N.G. Dube and Kobari Nwile;
- expressing concern that Ken Saro-Wiwa, N.G. Dube and Kobari Nwile were arrested and charged because of their non-violent opposition to the government;
- calling for all charges against them to be dropped as, if convicted, they would be prisoners of conscience.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) Chief Ernest Shonekan  
Head of the Interim Federal  
Executive Council

State House  
Abuja  
Federal Capital Territory  
Nigeria

**Telegrams: Ernest Shonekan, State House, Abuja, Nigeria**

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

**Salutation: Dear Mr Shonekan**

2) Mr Clement Akpamgbo  
Attorney General of the Federation,  
Secretary for Justice  
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**

**AND COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

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 13 October 1993.