

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

**AI Index: AFR 62/12/90
Distr: UA/SC**

21 December 1990

Further information on UA 503/90 (AFR 62/11/90, 14 December 1990) - Fear of ill-treatment/Legal Concern

**ZAIRE:Professor Dibinga wa Said
Katako Said
Yusuf Simba**

Amnesty International has learned that Dibinga wa Said, Katako Said and Yusuf Simba were released from detention on 13 December 1990.

They had been arrested on 9 December 1990 in front of the main post office in the capital Kinshasa. At a press conference held on the evening of his release, apparently at the request and in the presence of President Mobutu Sese Seko, Professor Dibinga reportedly said that he and the two men detained with him had been arrested after they had decided to pray in front of the post office as a gesture of solidarity with demonstrators protesting against the rising cost of living. Dibinga wa Said is reported to have said that he was not ill-treated during his period in custody.

However, Amnesty International had earlier received reports that Dibinga wa Said, Katako Said and Yusuf Simba had been subjected to severe beatings after their arrest and that Dibinga wa Said was hardly able to walk as a result. According to unofficial reports, Dibinga wa Said was limping at the time of his release and is now receiving medical treatment, although details of his current state of health are unclear. Amnesty International is continuing to make inquiries about the circumstances of their arrest and their treatment in custody.

Amnesty International believes that all three men were prisoners of conscience.

No further action by Urgent Action participants is requested. Thank you to all those who sent appeals on their behalf.