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£SOUTH KOREA

**@New Appeal for the Release of
Kim Sam-sok**

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Amnesty International is renewing its calls for the release of Kim Sam-sok, following allegations that his conviction and sentence were based on false evidence provided by the Agency for National Security Planning (ANSP), South Korea's intelligence service. These allegations reinforce Amnesty International's own findings about the activities of the ANSP and its involvement in the conviction of Kim Sam-sok.

Kim Sam-sok, aged 28, and his sister Kim Un-ju were arrested in September 1993 for alleged offences under the National Security Law. They were accused of contacting an alleged pro-North Korean group in Japan and leaking "state secrets". Amnesty International adopted the two as prisoners of conscience on the grounds that the charges against them were unfounded.

Kim Sam-sok

In February 1994, Kim Un-ju was given a suspended sentence and released. Kim Sam-sok was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment, reduced to four years on appeal and is now held in Youngdungpo prison in Seoul. When Amnesty International delegates tried to visit him in October, they were denied access on the grounds that meeting him would be harmful to his "re-education".

Amnesty International believes that on several occasions in recent years exaggerated or false information provided to prosecutors by the ANSP has led to the conviction under the National Security Law of known dissidents and other government critics. The National Security Law, which forbids any unauthorized contact with North Korea or North Koreans in other countries, defines the crime of "espionage" in broad terms and has often been used to convict people who were exercising their rights to freedom of expression and association.

Park Heung-yong (also known as Pae In-oh) used to work for the ANSP. On 31 October 1994 he claimed that in mid-1993 he was told by the ANSP of plans to "fabricate" a case against Kim Un-ju and Kim Sam-sok. He said he was ordered to frame Kim Un-ju by asking her to deliver a parcel which contained pro-North Korean literature. He also claimed that since 1992 he had been told to make incriminating links between alleged pro-North Korean organizations in Japan and several political non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in South Korea, including NGOs working on South Korean human rights issues.

Amnesty International has written to the South Korean Government urging it to order an independent investigation into the circumstances in which the ANSP allegedly provided false evidence to convict Kim Sam-sok and Kim Un-ju.

In October 1994, Kim Un-ju told Amnesty International that during 17 days of questioning by the ANSP she was repeatedly kicked and slapped and forced to do physical exercises. She was also deprived of sleep for four days and threatened with sexual harassment. Kim Sam-sok said that he had been beaten, stripped naked and sexually assaulted during his interrogation by the ANSP. To Amnesty International's knowledge the South Korean authorities did not carry out any independent inquiry into these allegations of ill-treatment.

Kim Sam-sok studied Russian language at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul. During 1992 he worked as a staff member of the Korean Alliance of Anti-Nuclear and Peace Movements and in 1993 he became Secretary General of the Pacific War Victims Committee. He has written a number of published articles on anti-nuclear and disarmament issues. In June 1993 he attended the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna, Austria, as a delegate of KONUCH (Korean NGO Network for the World Conference on Human Rights).

KEYWORDS: PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE1 / POLITICALLY MOTIVATED CRIMINAL CHARGES
/ DETENTION FOR RE-EDUCATION / PEACE ACTIVISTS / TORTURE/ILL-TREATMENT /
SEXUAL ASSAULT / MISSIONS / PHOTOGRAPHS /

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT, 1 EASTON STREET, LONDON WC1X 8DJ, UNITED KINGDOM

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Please send letters and faxes to the South Korean Government:

- ◆ *Calling for the immediate and unconditional release of Kim Sam-sok, imprisoned for the non-violent exercise of his rights to freedom of expression and association;*
- ◆ *Calling for an independent investigation into the circumstances in which the Agency for National Security Planning allegedly provided false evidence to convict Kim Sam-sok and his sister Kim Un-ju.*

Appeals to:

- ◆ President Kim Youngsam
The Blue House
1 Sejong-no, Chongno-gu, Seoul
Republic of Korea
Fax: +822 770 0253
- ◆ Mr Kim Doo-hee, Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
1 Chungang-dong
Kwachon-myon, Shihung-gun, Kyonggi Province
Republic of Korea
Fax: +822 504 3337
- ◆ Mr Kim Deok, Director
Agency for National Security Planning
Presidential Office, The Blue House
1 Sejong-no, Chongno-gu
Seoul, Republic of Korea
Fax: c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs +822 720 2686
- ◆ *and to diplomatic representatives of South Korea in your country.*

This appeal is being sent to Korea coordinators and South Korea Action File groups

**INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT, 1 EASTON STREET, LONDON WC1X 8DJ, UNITED
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