

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: ASA 25/40/93  
Distr: UA/SC

27 October 1993

Further information on UA 137/93 (ASA 25/17/93, 27 April 1993) - and follow-ups: (ASA 25/20/93, 19 May; ASA 25/38/93, 14 October). - Prisoner of conscience/fear of ill-treatment. New Concern: Prisoner of conscience sentenced to eight years' imprisonment

South Korea:Hwang Suk-yong, 50, writer

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On 25 October 1993 Hwang Suk-yong was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment by Seoul District Criminal Court. He was sentenced under the National Security Law for making several unauthorized visits to North Korea and contacting North Korean officials. When handing down the court's verdict the judge is reported to have said that Hwang Suk-yong had fallen into a "propaganda trap" set by the North Korean Government. He said that "the defendant deserves to receive criticism because his rash acts brought about confusion in the South, as the North had intended".

Hwang Suk-yong, arrested in April 1993, justified his visits to North Korea as motivated by his desire to help achieve peaceful reunification of the two Koreas. Amnesty International has adopted him as a prisoner of conscience and his calling for his immediate and unconditional release.

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

- expressing concern that Hwang Suk-yong was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment on 25 October 1993;
- calling for his immediate and unconditional release.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) President

President Kim Young-sam

The Blue House

1 Sejong-no

Chongno-gu

Seoul, Republic of Korea

**Telegrams: President Kim, Seoul, Republic of Korea**

**Telexes: 24651 or 24652 or 24653 WOIMUBU K**

**Faxes: + 822 770 0253**

**Salutation: Dear President Kim**

2) Minister of Justice

Mr KIM Doo-hee

Minister of Justice

1 Chungang-dong

Kwachon-myon, Shihung-gun

Kyonggi Province, Republic of Korea

**Telegrams: Justice Minister Kim, Shihung-gun, Kyongi Province, Republic of Korea**

**Telexes: 24757 MOJUST K**

**Faxes: + 822 504 3337**

**Salutation: Dear Minister Kim**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

1) Editor, Hankyoreh Daily  
1-2 Yangpyeong-dong 2-ga  
Seoul, Republic of Korea  
**Faxes: + 822 710 0310, + 822 671 7797**

2) Editor, Dong-A Ilbo  
139 Sejongro Chongro-Gu  
Seoul, Republic of Korea  
**Faxes: + 822 361 0434, + 822 361 0430**

2) Committee for the Release of Hwang Sok-yong  
c/o Association of Writers for National Literature  
612-5 Ahyn-dong  
Mapo-gu  
Seoul, Republic of Korea  
**Faxes: + 822 392 1838**

and to diplomatic representatives of South Korea accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 8 December 1993.