

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL MEDIA ADVISORY

For immediate release: 25 February 2008
AI Index: PRE 01/334/2008

Kenya: Hundreds of activists worldwide to demonstrate in solidarity with Kenyan people

Hundreds of Amnesty International activists around the world will be holding an International Day of Action in solidarity with the people of Kenya on **Wednesday, 27 February**. This date will mark two months since the disputed Kenyan election, after which the country was wracked by political violence that left more than 1,000 dead.

Events will be held in 12 countries, including: Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, UK, USA, Australia, Germany, Canada, Mexico, Uruguay, Uganda and the Netherlands. Amnesty International members across the world will also be participating in online actions, posting photos and sharing their activities on flickr.com and facebook.com.

Thousands of Kenyans suffered gross human rights abuses in politically-motivated and ethnic attacks after the disputed elections.

While recent attention has been directed at the negotiations between the two opposing party leaders – President Mwai Kibaki and opposition leader Raila Odinga – Amnesty International believes that the commitment to bring perpetrators of human rights abuses to justice during the elections must not be sidelined.

Wednesday's International Day of Action follows a recent Amnesty International fact-finding mission to Kenya, during which Amnesty International delegates visited some of the areas worst affected by the violence.

During the fact-finding mission, Amnesty International collected testimonies from victims of human rights violations and abuses during the violence, including those who were injured during the politically-motivated violence in parts of the Rift Valley, Nairobi and Western Kenya, where gangs of armed youth attacked people on the basis of their ethnicity. They also obtained testimony from victims of police shootings.

Testimony will be available to download at <http://www.amnesty.org/en/appeals-for-action/kenya-action>.

Amnesty International is calling for all those responsible for human rights abuses and violations to be brought to justice in fair trials and for victims of the violence to be provided with reparations.

The organization is also calling on the Kenyan government to take all appropriate steps to protect people from human rights abuses caused by politically-motivated and ethnic attacks.

[Sections: Please insert local event details here]