

# URGENT ACTION

## FAMILY OF OPPOSITION LEADER ARRESTED

**The wife and brother of the of an opposition party leader in Equatorial Guinea were arrested in the capital Malabo in the early hours of 20 May. They are being held incommunicado, apparently to pressure the opposition leader to hand himself in.**

**Medianera** is the wife of **Jerónimo Ndong**, the Secretary General of the Unión Popular – UP (People's Union) opposition party and **Ubaldo Mesi Ndong** is his brother. About seven soldiers went to Jerónimo Ndong's house to arrest him just after midnight on 20 May. As he fled the house the soldiers took his wife and brother, leaving Medianera and Jerónimo Ndong's five children, aged between six months and six years alone in the house. Medianera and Ubaldo Mesi Ndong are being held incommunicado. UP's president said that he the police told him that they will be released when Jerónimo Ndong gives himself in.

Jerónimo Ndong had been arrested at about 8am on 15 May in the context of a peaceful demonstration planned later that day. The demonstration did not take place owing to the heavy military and police presence in Malabo on the day. He was held at Malabo central police station until his release without charge at about 2pm on 19 May.

Another 10 people remain in incommunicado detention following arrests on or around 15 May in connection with the demonstration. They include **Luis Nzo**, arrested on 13 May, in the street in Malabo, as he was announcing the demonstration with a megaphone; **Salvador Bibang Ela**, leader of the opposition party Convergencia Social Democrática Popular (People's Social Democratic Convergence) who was arrested on his way to the demonstration on 15 May; and two women, **Clara Nsegue Eyí** and **Natalia Angue Edjodjomo**, coordinators of the demonstration and founders of the political party Partido Democrático de la Justicia Social – PDJS (Democratic Party for Social Justice), who were arrested Malabo and detained at the police station but later transferred to the Gendarmerie in the city of Mongomo, in the north east of the mainland part of the country.

All these detainees appear to be prisoners of conscience, arrested for attempting to exercise their right to freedom of expression and assembly. Amnesty International calls for their immediate and unconditional release

### Please write immediately in Spanish or your own language:

- Express concern about the arrest and incommunicado detention of Medianera and Ubaldo Mesi Ndong, who appear to have been arrested solely for their family ties to Jerónimo Ndong, and the detention of 10 others, arrested in connection with the planned peaceful demonstration on 15 May;
- Call for the immediate and unconditional release of all these prisoners of conscience, as they have been arrested solely for exercising their rights to freedom of expression and assembly.

### PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 1 JULY 2013 TO:

#### Attorney General

David Nguema Obiang  
Fiscalía General de la República  
Malabo, Equatorial Guinea  
Fax: +240 333 09138; +240 333 094961  
(Please try from 8.30am to 3.30pm GMT)

**Salutation: Sr Don/Dear Attorney  
General**

#### Minister of Interior and Local

Administration  
Clemente Engonga Nguema Onguena  
Ministerio del Interior y Corporaciones  
Locales, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea  
Fax: + 240 333 09 2683/2688/3406  
(Please try from 8.30am to 3.30pm GMT)

**Salutation : Sr Don/Dear Minister**

#### President

General Teodoro Obiang Nguema  
Mbasogo  
Gabinete del Presidente de la República  
Malabo, Equatorial Guinea  
Fax: + 240 333 09 3313/3334  
(Please try from 8.30am to 3.30pm GMT)

**Salutation: Excelencia/Your  
excellency**

**Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.**

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Partido Democrático de la Justicia Social - PDJS (Democratic Party for Social Justice) was founded in January 2013 but the authorities have refused to legalise it. In late April 2013 the Movimiento de Protesta Popular (People's Protest Movement), which comprises individuals as well as some political opposition was created, partly to protest at the refusal of the authorities to legalise the PDJS and to demand fundamental freedoms and dialogue with the government. On 2 May the informed the authorities in writing of their intention to stage a peaceful demonstration on 15 May. The authorities did not respond. However, the Minister of Interior reportedly told some of the organisers, verbally, that they had no permission to demonstrate.

On 8 May, at about 2 pm, one of the organisers of the demonstration, Enrique Nsolo Ndong, a university teacher, was beaten by a group of six young men as he was preparing a banner for the demonstration, who then dragged him out of the building and put him in a waiting police car. He was taken to the central police station in Malabo police station. He was released later that evening without charge. He has since been dismissed from his teaching post at the university. His father and elder brother were arrested in their town on the mainland on 14 May and transferred to Malabo, to the ministry of Interior. They were released late in the evening of 15 May after being told to persuade Enrique Nsolo to desist from his political activities.

Equatorial Guineans go to the polls on 26 May to elect a new parliament, over 230 local councillors and, for the first time, 55 of the 70 members of the new Senate. The remaining 15 will be appointed directly by President Obiang Nguema. The government has a record of cracking down on political opponents ahead of elections, often citing security reasons and alleging coup attempts.

Name: Medianera (no other name known to Amnesty International) (f), Ubaldo Mesi Ndong, Luis Nzo (m), Salvador Bibang Ela (m), Clara Nsegue Eyí (f), Natalia Angue Edjodjomo (f) and six other detainees  
Gender m/f: Both

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