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Public Statement Pinochet Case

Amnesty International has received many questions on whether judicial review will be sought against the action taken by the Home Secretary with regard to the medical condition of Augusto Pinochet.

Amnesty International urges Spain, Belgium, France and Switzerland -- the states which have sought his extradition -- to take all possible steps, including challenges in court, to ensure a fair and transparent process.

Such steps may include seeking immediate judicial review of the Home Secretary's decision to conduct a medical examination of Pinochet in secret, without permitting the states requesting extradition to have an observer present during the examination, to see the medical report and to appoint their own medical expert.

Amnesty International would expect the states to ask for a stay of any further decisions by the Home Secretary pending a decision by a court on the request for a judicial review.

ENDS.../

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