

PUBLIC

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Further information on UA 293/99 (AFR 62/31/99, 8 November 1999) - Incommunicado detention/fear of ill-treatment

9 December 1999

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO Sister Antho FARI, Prison humanitarian worker

Following extensive national and international pressure, Sister Antho Fari was granted a conditional release on 7 December. She was said to be in poor health, having been denied drugs to treat her diabetes and held in very poor conditions. Although she has not yet been charged with any offence, the conditions of her release prohibit her from leaving the capital, Kinshasa.

Sister Antho Fari, a nun from Katanga province, has been a prison visitor for many years. Many prisoners rely on her and her colleagues for such basic necessities as food, clothes and medicine. On 4 November police questioned her about her work with inmates at a high-security prison in Katanga, and arrested her the next day. She was moved to the capital, Kinshasa, on 6 November.

No further action is requested by the Urgent Action Network. Many thanks to all those who sent appeals. However, those participants who wish to do so may send a final round of telegrams/e-mails/express/airmail letters, in French or your own language:

- calling for the conditions on Sister Antho's release to be lifted.

(Amnesty calls for the unconditional release of prisoners of conscience, and Sister Antho is confined to Kinshasa, unable to return to her home in Katanga)

APPEALS TO:

President

Président Laurent-Désiré KABILA

Président de la République, Présidence de la République

Kinshasa-Ngaliema, Democratic Republic of Congo

Telegrams: President, Kinshasa, DR Congo

e-mail: UPP@ic.cd

Salutation: Monsieur le Président de la République / Dear President

Minister of Justice

Monsieur Mwenze KONGOLO

Ministre de la justice

Ministere de la justice

BP 3137 Kinshasa-Gombe, Democratic Republic of Congo

COPIES TO:

Minister of Human Rights

Monsieur SHE OKITUNDU

Ministre de Droits humains

Ministère de Droits humain

Kinshasa-Gombe

République Démocratique du Congo

and to diplomatic representatives of the Democratic Republic of Congo accredited to your country.