

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 47/29/98

12 August 1998

Further information on UA 155/98 (AFR 47/21/98, 19 May 1998) - Fear for safety

**RWANDA**Fidèle Uwizeye

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Amnesty International has learnt that Fidèle Uwizeye is currently detained at Kimironko prison in the capital Kigali. He was transferred there on or around 17 July 1998 and is now able to receive visitors. He reportedly faces charges of endangering the security of the state (*atteinte à la sûreté de l'Etat*).

After his arrest on 1 May and an initial period of detention at the gendarmerie in Remera, he was reportedly transferred to a Presidential Republican Guard military detention centre at Kimihurura in Kigali. He was held there in a tiny cell for around two weeks. His health reportedly suffered as a result of poor conditions and insufficient food.

In June it was revealed that he had been transferred to another military detention centre at Mulindi, outside Kigali, where he could receive a more adequate supply of food and drink but was still not allowed visitors. His detention in military custody for more than two months is not known to have been officially acknowledged by the authorities.

It is believed that international publicity around the possible "disappearance" of Fidèle Uwizeye may have contributed to his eventual safe transfer to a recognized place of detention.

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

- welcoming the news that Fidèle Uwizeye's whereabouts have finally been established and that he is now able to receive visitors;
- expressing concern that he was held incommunicado in military detention for more than two months and that he was reportedly held in poor conditions during part of this time;
- asking for details of the specific crimes of which he is accused and for him to receive a fair trial within a reasonable time;
- calling for all detainees to be held only in publicly recognized places of detention and for their whereabouts to be communicated immediately to members of their family;
- appealing for an end to the practice of detaining civilians in military detention centres;
- reminding Rwanda's government of its commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in particular Article 10: "Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him."

**APPEALS TO:**

Sheikh Abdul Karim HARELIMANA

Ministre de l'Intérieur, du Développement communal et de la Réintégration sociale

BP 446, Kigali, Rwanda

**Telegrams: Minister Interior, Kigali, Rwanda**

**Fax: +250 83170**

**Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister**

Son Excellence Pasteur Bizimungu

Président de la République

Présidence de la République

BP 15, Kigali, Rwanda

**Fax: 250-84769/84390**

**Salutation: Monsieur le Président / Dear President**

Pierre-Célestin RWIGEMA

Premier Ministre

BP 1334, Kigali, Rwanda

**Telegrams: Prime Minister, Kigali, Rwanda**

**Fax: 250 83714**

**Saluation: Monsieur le Premier Ministre / Dear Prime Minister**

**COPIES TO:**

Général-Major Paul Kagame

Vice-Président et Ministre de la Défense

Ministère de la Défense

BP 23, Kigali, Rwanda

**Telegrams: Vice-President, Kigali, Rwanda**

**Fax: 250-72431/76969**

and to diplomatic representatives of Rwanda accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 September 1998.

***"Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him."***

*Article 10, Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

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