

PUBLIC

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Further information on EXTRA 93/98 (AFR 62/39/98, 1 December 1998) - Unfair trials/death penalty

Democratic Republic of Congo Leonard Fuka Unzola

On 4 December 1998, the military Order Court in Kinshasa found the former governor of Bas Congo province, Leonard Fuka Unzola, guilty of treason and sentenced him to 15 years' imprisonment. Another regional administrator, Massibu Nkudi, who was tried with Unzola, was sentenced to 10 years. Two other connected cases were acquitted.

Those convicted will appeal directly to the President, as the court offers no opportunity for appeal.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please continue with appeals for those previously sentenced to death, but omit reference to Leonard Fuka Unzola.