

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AFR 44/32/95

10 November 1995

Further information on UA 200/94 (AFR 44/03/94, 24 May 1994) and follow-ups (AFR 44/07/94, 27 June 1994, AFR 44 25/95, 31 October 1995, and AFR 44/29/95, 8 November 1995) - Unfair trial / Death penalty / Prisoners of conscience / Legal Concern / Health Concern

NIGERIA Ken Saro-Wiwa, writer and environmentalist, President of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP)

Dr Barinem Kiobel, former Rivers State Commissioner (minister)

Saturday Dobe

Paul Levura

Nordu Eawo

Felix Nuate

Daniel Gbokoo

John Kpuinen, student

Baribor Bera, farmer

Amnesty International has learned with dismay that Ken Saro-Wiwa and the eight other Ogoni supporters of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP) named above were executed on 10 November 1995. The News Agency of Nigeria announced the executions.

The executions took place less than two weeks after the nine defendants were convicted on 30 and 31 October 1995 after two simultaneous trials by special tribunal. The trials were politically-motivated and grossly unfair and the special tribunal appointed to try them was neither independent nor impartial.

Amnesty International believes that at least two of those executed - Ken Saro-Wiwa and Dr Barinem Kiobel - were prisoners of conscience, sentenced for the non-violent expression of their political views, and that the other defendants were possible prisoners of conscience.

The ruling military Provisional Ruling Council swiftly and unanimously confirmed the death sentences on 8 November and dismissed clemency appeals by numerous governments, world leaders and human rights organizations.

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

- condemning the executions of Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other men after grossly unfair trials;
- reiterating that Amnesty International considered that at least two of those executed - Ken Saro-Wiwa and Dr Barinem Kiobel - were prisoners of conscience, and that the other defendants were possible prisoners of conscience.

APPEALS TO:

General Sani Abacha
Chairman, Provisional Ruling Council
State House
Abuja, Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria
Telegrams: General Abacha, Abuja, Nigeria
Faxes: +234 9 523 2138
Telexes: (0905) 91529 or 91530 EXTNAL NG
Salutation: Dear General

Lieutenant-General D. Oladipo Diya

Vice-Chairman, Provisional Ruling
Council and Chief of General Staff
State House
Abuja, Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria
Telegrams: Lieutenant-General Diya, Abuja, Nigeria
Salutation: Dear Lieutenant-General

COPIES TO:

1. Your Head of State

2. Chief Tom Ikimi
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Maputo Street
PMB 130, Abuja, Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria

3. Lieutenant-Colonel Dauda Musa Komo
State Military Administrator
Government House
91000 Port Harcourt
Rivers State, Nigeria

and

The Editor, *The News*, PMB 21531, Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria
The Editor, *Tell*, PMB 21749, Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria
The Editor, *Vanguard*, PMB 1007, Apapa, Lagos, Nigeria
The Editor, *The Guardian*, PMB 1217, Oshodi, Lagos, Nigeria
The Editor, *Nigerian Tide*, PMB 5072, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria
The Editor, *Point*, 222 Aba Road, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria
The Editor, *Sunray*, 220 Aba Road, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria

and to diplomatic representatives of Nigeria accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.