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# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE 215/94

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS RELEASES

Indonesia - 0400 hrs GMT 28 September - For your information, here are details about the panel of speakers at the press conference launch of the Indonesia campaign:

**Pierre Sané**, Secretary General of Amnesty International - Key message of the campaign;

**Professor Vitit Muntarbhorn**, UN Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, Executive Director of Child Rights Asianet, Professor of Chulalongkorn University Faculty of Law - Universality of human rights;

**Dr Geoffrey Robinson**, Amnesty International researcher on Indonesia and East Timor - Latest news about human rights situation in Indonesia.

France - 12 October - SEE NEWS SERVICE 137/94

Algeria - 25 October - PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE. SEE NEWS SERVICE 137/94

APEC - 3 November -SEE NEWS SERVICE 212/94

## TARGETED AND LIMITED NEWS RELEASES

Mali - 21 September - SEE NEWS SERVICES 212/94 AND 205/94

Egypt - 20 September - SEE NEWS SERVICE 212/94

Turkey - 14 October - SEE NEWS SERVICE 181/94

Iraq - 29 November - SEE NEWS SERVICE 212/94

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**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL ENCOURAGED BY MEETING BETWEEN BURMESE PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE AND MILITARY LEADERS**

Amnesty International hopes that yesterday's meeting between members of the military government and Aung San Suu Kyi will be the first step towards further talks between that country's military leaders and the legitimate political opposition and the resolution of Myanmar's ongoing human rights problems.

"While we welcome this first meeting with Aung San Suu Kyi since her detention more than five years ago we do not want to see it become an empty gesture. We are still calling for her immediate and unconditional release, along with more than 70 other prisoners of conscience detained by the military government," Amnesty International said.

The organization fears that the meeting may have been simply an attempt by the military government to gain international respectability. The State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) has been strongly criticised by the United Nations for its poor human rights record.

Ms Suu Kyi was a founder member of the National League for Democracy (NLD), the main political opposition party in Myanmar. The NLD won a landslide victory in elections in 1990, but the SLORC -- which took power following the violent suppression of a nationwide pro-democracy movement in 1988 -- refused to hand over power. Hundreds of politicians and activists were arrested and imprisoned by the SLORC, many of whom remain in prison today.

As recently as last month, at least four well-known critics of the SLORC were arrested and charged with political offenses, including "passing false information" to the UN Special Rapporteur for human rights in Myanmar, Professor Yojo Yokota. Two of those arrested, Khin Maung Swe, and U Sein Hla Oo are NLD members of parliament-elect, and both have been imprisoned on previous occasions. Amnesty International has adopted these men as prisoners of conscience and is calling for their immediate and unconditional release.

"It is difficult to trust the SLORC's motives when you know that while they were planning to meet Ms Suu Kyi, they were also arresting her political supporters," Amnesty International said.

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