

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 333/93 (AFR 32/12/93, 21 September 1993) and follow-up (AFR 32/13/93 29 September 1993) Legal concern/Fear of ill-treatment

KENYA: Koigi wa Wamwere, human rights activist, former political prisoner, former member of parliament
Mirugi Kariuki, lawyer and human rights activist, former political prisoner
Susan Wangui (f), nurse, wife of Mirugi Kariuki - released
Francis Mureithi Kanothe, farmer - released
Joseph Thiga Kariuki, brother of Mirugi Kariuki, cooperative society official - released
Geoffrey Kuria Kariuki, cousin of Koigi wa Wamwere, former political prisoner - released
John Njoroge Wamwere, brother of Koigi wa Wamwere - released
John Kinyanjui, member of a faction of the Release Political Prisoners (RPP) campaigning group - re-arrested
and also Kariuki Kiboi, former trade unionist - released
Joseph Njoroge - released
& new name Mathu wa Ing'oku

On 28 September 1993 Kariuki Kiboi and Joseph Njoroge were released without charge.

On 5 October Koigi wa Wamwere and Mirugi Kariuki were charged with an additional charge of "administering an unlawful oath". No details are known about this charge, but there is no suggestion that they had been involved in the advocacy of violence. A new application for bail will be heard on 13 October. They had previously applied for release on bail with Francis Mureithi Kanothe, Joseph Thiga Kariuki, Geoffrey Kuria Kariuki, John Njoroge Wamwere. These four were released on bail of Kenya shillings 300,000 each (UK£3,000 equivalent) on 6 October. Under their conditions of bail they are not allowed to visit the restricted security zone in Nakuru district and must report weekly to the police.

On 6 October John Kinyanjui was re-arrested with another member of the National Democratic Human Rights Organization (NDEHURIO, which is headed by Koigi wa Wamwere), Mathu wa Ing'oku. No reason for their arrest has been given and they have not been brought to court. They are currently being held in police custody where they have reportedly been beaten. John Kinyanjui had originally been arrested on 18 September and released on 27 September. Following his release he was given medical treatment for beatings by the police.

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

- calling for an independent investigation into well-attested reports that several of these prisoners, some of whom have now been released, were beaten by police;
- seeking public guarantees of humane treatment of Koigi wa Wamwere and the three others still held and urging that they are given immediate, regular and private access to their families, legal representatives and doctors of their choice;
- reiterating concern that Koigi wa Wamwere, Mirugi Kariuki, John Kinyanjui and Mathu wa Ing'oku appear to be prisoners of conscience imprisoned for their non-violent opinions, and if so, should be immediately and unconditionally released.

APPEALS TO:

His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi
Office of the President
P O Box 30510, Nairobi, Kenya

Telegrams: President Moi, Rais, Kenya

Telexes: 22003 FOREIGNRB or 22796 FOREIGNRB

Faxes: +254 2 337340

Salutation: Your Excellency

Mr Amos Wako

Attorney General

P O Box 40112, Nairobi, Kenya

Telegrams: Attorney General Wako, Sheria, Kenya

Faxes: +254 2 211082

Salutation: Dear Attorney General

Mr Shadrack M'Laaria Kiruki

Commissioner of Police

Kenya Police Headquarters

P O Box 30083, Nairobi, Kenya

Telegrams: Commissioner Kiruki, Police, Kenya

Salutation: Dear Police Commissioner

COPIES TO

Mr Justice Fred Apaloo

Chief Justice

Law Courts

P O Box 30041, Nairobi, Kenya

Law Society of Kenya

P O Box 72219, Nairobi, Kenya

and to diplomatic representatives of Kenya to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 22 November 1993.