

PUBLIC

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Further information on UA 105/01 (AFR 16/030/2001, 24 April 2001) and follow-ups (AFR 16/031/2001, 27 April 2001 and AFR 16/032/2001, 2 May 2001) - Fear of torture / incommunicado detention

BURUNDI Lieutenant Pasteur NTAKARUTIMANA

Raphaël MANIRAKIZA, PARENA member

Ildéphonse NDAGIJIMANA, PARENA member, trade union representative at ONATEL
Over 130 members of the armed forces

The Commission of Inquiry into the attempted coup d'état of 18 April has now submitted its report to the Minister of Justice. A total of 54 people have been charged in connection with the attempted coup d'état and will be tried by a military court. No date has been set for the trial, but the Minister of Justice has stated publicly that he wants the case to be dealt with quickly.

Twenty-three of those charged are in custody, including Raphaël Manirakiza and Ildéphonse Ndagijimana, who are members of the opposition *Parti pour le redressement national* (PARENA), National Recovery Party. All are held in Mpimba Central Prison, in the capital, Bujumbura, except for their alleged leader, Lieutenant Pasteur Ntakarutimana, who has reportedly been transferred to Muramvya prison, north of Bujumbura.

The identities of the other 51 accused have not yet been made public, although they are reported to be mainly junior officers.

At least 160 people were arrested after the attempted coup. Some were only held for a short time, including 28 members of PARENA who were arrested when they tried to visit Raphaël Manirakiza and Ildéphonse Ndagijimana. All were held incommunicado while investigations were completed.

The remaining detainees are no longer considered to be at risk of torture and no further action is required by the Urgent Action network. Thanks to all who sent appeals.