

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AFR 32/09/96

5 July 1996

Further information on EXTRA 85/96 (AFR 32/07/96, 7 June 1996) and follow-up (AFR 32/08/96, 13 June 1996) - Prisoner of conscience / Health concern

KENYANjehu GATABAKI, aged in his 50s, opposition member of parliament, editor

Njehu Gatabaki did not attend court on 24 June 1996 as had been scheduled because he did not leave hospital until 29 June. He is now due to appear in court for the mention in the sedition case against him on 10 July.

It appears that Njehu Gatabaki may require medical treatment which is not available in Kenya and he is therefore planning to request that his passport be returned to him so that he may leave the country. There is concern that permission to do so may be refused.

The sedition case cannot be heard until a constitutional case brought by Njehu Gatabaki against the authorities has been heard. He is arguing that the charges against him infringe his rights under the Kenyan Constitution. The constitutional case is due to be heard on 30 September.

Njehu Gatabaki was extremely grateful for the work of Amnesty International members and supporters on his behalf. He has asked that his sincere thanks be passed on to all who sent appeals and said that they made a significant difference to his safety.

THIS IS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. Please continue appeals as specified in the original action (changing the date in point 1 to 10 July) until 12 July 1996.