

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AFR 32/40/97

10 July 1997

Further information on EXTRA 95/97 (AFR 32/36/97, 7 July 1997) - Fear for safety / Prisoners of conscience

**KENYA**Wafule Buke (note name correction), human rights activist  
Morris Ochieng  
one other man (appears not to have been arrested)

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On 9 July 1997 Morris Ochieng and Wafule Buke were brought to court and released on bail of Ksh.50,000. A *habeas corpus* had been filed on their behalf on 8 July. They have been charged with publishing false statements "likely to cause fear and alarm to the public", Section 66 (1) of the penal code.

The case has been fixed for hearing on 15 August and it is expected that there will be an option to go to court on 8 August.

Although there was no sign that Morris Ochieng or Wafule Buke had suffered any physical violence while in custody, they appeared traumatised.

Appeals should be continued as Morris Ochieng and Wafule Buke will become prisoners of conscience if sentenced. It appears that the third man was not arrested.

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

- urging that charges against Wafule Buke and Morris Ochieng be dropped and expressing concern that if sentenced to prison terms they would become prisoners of conscience;
- seeking assurances that future peaceful demonstrations and activities organised by pro-democracy activists will not be subjected to violence, threats, harassment or arrests by the Kenyan police;
- urging that democracy activists and human rights defenders be allowed to carry out their non-violent activities without fear of harassment and intimidation.

**APPEALS TO:**

Commissioner Duncan Wachira  
Commissioner of Police, Police HQ,  
PO Box 30083, Nairobi, Kenya  
**Faxes: +254 2 330495 (if no tone please try later)**  
**Salutation: Dear Commissioner**

Mr Amos Wako  
Attorney General  
PO Box 40112  
Nairobi, Kenya  
**Faxes: +254 2 211082**  
**Salutation: Dear Attorney General**

**COPIES TO:**

Kenya Human Rights Commission  
PO Box 55235  
Nairobi

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Kenya

and to diplomatic representatives of Kenya accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 10 August 1997