EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AFR 36/10/92 Distr: UA/SC

14 April 1992

Please bring this action to the attention of the person in your section responsible for outreach work as it is felt that appeals from trade unions may be particularly effective.

Further information on UA 114/92 (AFR 36/09/92, 6 April 1992) - Legal concern/fear of extrajudicial execution

MALAWI: Chakufwa CHIHANA, aged 52, international trade union official and new names: William CHISIMBA } staff members of the Florence LUNGU (female) } Southern Africa Trade Union Yaredson NGWIRA } Coordination Council Lloyd TEMBO } Joseph MARIBOWE }

Amnesty International has received a report that after the arrest on 6 April 1992 of Chakufwa Chihana, Secretary General of the Southern Africa Trade Union Coordination Council (SATUCC), police arrested five members of staff at SATUCC headquarters in Lilongwe, including the Deputy Secretary General, William Chisimba.

The whereabouts and legal basis for the detention of all six prisoners are not known, although one report suggests that they are held at Kanengo police camp in Lilongwe. William Chisimba and the other SATUCC officials appear to have been arrested solely because of their association with Chakufwa Chihana and his non-violent criticisms of the Malawian system of government.

The police are reported to have closed the offices of SATUCC, which is an international body which coordinates the activity of domestic trade union federations throughout the southern Africa region.

# FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/airmail letters:

- requesting information about the whereabouts and legal basis for the detention of William Chisimba and four other staff members of SATUCC;

- seeking assurances that they are physically safe and that they have access to visits from their families and lawyers of their choice; in the case of Florence Lungu, who is reported to be pregnant, also seeking assurances that she has

- calling for their immediate and unconditional release as prisoners of conscience.

access to the necessary medical attention;

Page 2 of FU 114/92

#### APPEALS TO:

1) H E The Life-President Ngwazi Dr H. Kamuzu Banda Office of the President and Cabinet P/Bag 301 Lilongwe 3 Malawi Telegrams: Life-President Banda, Lilongwe, Malawi 44389 PRES MI; 44766 JUSTICE MI; Telexes: 44113 EXTERNAL MI

+ 265 731878 Faxes:

### Salutation: Your Excellency

2) Hon. J Z U Tembo Minister of State in the Office of the President P/Bag 301 Lilongwe 3 Malawi Telegrams: Minister of State Tembo, Lilongwe, Malawi

#### Salutation: Dear Minister

3) Mr MacWilliam Lunguzi Inspector-General of Police P/Bag 305 Lilongwe 3 Malawi Telegrams: Inspector-General of Police Lunguzi, Lilongwe, Malawi

Salutation: Dear Sir

## COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Southern Africa Trade Union Co-ordination Council PO Box 1271 Lilongwe Malawi

The Editor The Weekly Post Private Bag EF 352 Lusaka Zambia

The Editor <u>The Weekend Gazette</u> PO Box 66070 Harare Zimbabwe

and to diplomatic representatives of MALAWI in your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 26 May 1992.