

PUBLIC

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FURTHER INFORMATION ON MEDICAL LETTER WRITING ACTION
(See AFR 47/09/98, 31 March 1998)

Philomène Mukabarali
RWANDA

Philomène Mukabarali, who is 55-year-old and has advanced breast cancer, was released from Kigali Central Prison on 19 May 1998. An earlier report suggested incorrectly that she had been released on 30 April. She had been arrested in December 1997 and had been detained since that date without trial.

Philomène Mukabarali was charged with endangering the security of the state. It is believed that this charge related to leaflets expressing support for Rwanda's past monarchy which are reported to have been found at her house during arrest. Philomène Mukabarali is married to Sylvestre Kamali, a former diplomat and former president of the Gisenyi branch of the *Mouvement démocratique républicain*, Republican Democratic Movement, the main opposition party in Rwanda. He is aged 62 and has been imprisoned for over three years without trial following his arrest in 1994. He was among the first people to be arrested in July 1994 when the Rwandese Patriotic Front formed the new government and has since been detained on accusations of participation in the genocide in 1994. Philomène Mukabarali lost many relatives during the killings and several members of the family have been subjected to attacks and threats under both the previous and current governments.

No further action is required. Thank you to those who have appealed on Philomène Mukabarali's behalf.