

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AFR 47/27/95

15 December 1995

Further information on UA 268/95 (AFR 47/23/95, 30 November 1995) and follow-up (AFR 47/23/95, 11 December 1995) - Fear for safety / "Disappearance"

RWANDA Jean RUBADAKA
Abbé André SIBOMANA
Jean-Baptiste BARAMBIRWA

Jean-Baptiste Barambirwa, the president of the human rights organisation CLADHO, was released on the evening of 12 December, apparently as a result of international pressure. He had been held at a gendarmerie station, the "brigade de Remira", in the eastern part of the Rwandese capital Kigali. During his detention, he was interrogated about his speech at the conference on human rights the previous week, in which he had criticised human rights violations in Rwanda. He was not ill-treated in detention. However, his case is still under review by the Public Prosecutor's office.. It is not yet known whether he will face any formal charges.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in French, English or in your own language:

- welcoming the release of Jean-Baptiste Barambirwa;
- asking the reasons for his detention, and whether he is facing any formal charges;
- appealing to the authorities to put an end to the pattern of intimidation of human rights activists in Rwanda (you can continue to refer to the contents of UA 268/95, 30 November 1995) and asking them to honour their public declaration to protect human rights by ensuring that such activists can operate freely, without fear for their lives.

APPEALS TO:

Président Pasteur Bizimungu
Présidence de la République
BP 15, Kigali, Rwanda
Faxes + 250 83975; 84769
Telexes: 22502
Telegrams: President Bizimungu, Kigali, Rwanda
Salutation: Monsieur le Président/ Dear President

Général Paul Kagamé
Vice-Président de la République
et Ministre de la Défense
Présidence de la République
BP 15, Kigali, Rwanda
Faxes: + 25063980; 84769; 72431
Telexes: 22502
Telegrams: Vice-President Kagamé, Kigali, Rwanda
Salutation: Monsieur le Vice Président/ Dear Vice President

Colonel Alexis Kanyarengwe
Vice-Premier Ministre et Ministre de l'Intérieur
Ministère de L ' Intérieur
BP 446, Kigali, Rwanda
Faxes: + 250 85714
Telegrams: Ministre de l'Intérieur, Kigali, Rwanda

Salutation Monsieur le Ministre/Dear Minister

Mme Marthe Mukamurenzi
Ministre de la Justice
Ministère de la Justice
BP 160, Kigali, Rwanda

Faxes: + 250 86509

Telegrams: Ministre de la Justice, Kigali, Rwanda

Salutation Madame le Ministre/ Dear Minister

Note: You may experience difficulty in getting through to Rwanda by fax, although this has improved in recent weeks. It may still be easier via the international operator.

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of RWANDA accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 January 1996.