

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 57/16/99

23 June 1999

**Further information on UA 112/99 (AFR 57/06/99, 18 May 1999) - Fear of torture / Fear for safety / Prisoner of conscience**

**TOGONADJOMBE Antoine Koffi, human rights defender**

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Nadjombe Antoine Koffi, a Togolese member of Amnesty International, was released from detention on 18 June 1999.

While Amnesty International welcomes his release it is nevertheless concerned that it is provisional pending police enquiries into his case.

The organization considered Nadjombe Koffi to be a prisoner of conscience detained solely because of his human rights work for the organization, and is calling for charges of *dénonciation calomnieuse et atteinte à l'honneur* (false accusations and libel) brought against him to be dropped immediately.

His arrest was connected to an Amnesty International report published in May (*État de Terreur, State of Terror*, AFR 57/01/99, 5 May 1999) accusing the government of allowing the security forces to carry out grave human rights violations with impunity before, during and after the elections in 1998.

Tengue Nestor, Gayibor François and Sant'Anna Brice, who were arrested on 3 May in connection with the same report, were also provisionally released from detention on 18 June (see EXTRA 58/99, AFR 57/04/99, 7 May 1999).

**No further action by the UA network is requested but appeal writers may send telexes, faxes, express or airmail letters in French or in your own language:**

- welcoming the provisional release of Nadjombe Antoine Koffi on 18 June 1999;
- expressing concern that he was a prisoner of conscience, detained solely because of his human rights work;
- urging the authorities to drop immediately all charges against him;
- calling on the authorities to give immediate and unconditional guarantees for the safety of members of Amnesty International and other human rights defenders in Togo;
- urging the authorities to ensure that human rights defenders in Togo are allowed to carry out their work without hindrance.

**APPEALS TO (please note that a few attempts may be necessary to obtain the fax number for the President):**

President of the Republic

Son Excellence

Monsieur le Général Gnassingbé Eyadéma

Président de la République, Palais Présidentiel, Avenue de la Marina,

Lomé, Togo

**Faxes: + 228 21 68 12 (attention of Président de la République)**

**Salutation: Son Excellence / Your Excellency**

Minister of the Interior

Général Sizing Akawilou Wala

Ministre de l'Intérieur et de la Sécurité,

Ministère de l'Intérieur et de la Sécurité

Rue Albert Sarraut

Lomé, Togo

**Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister**

Minister of Justice

Général Seyi Mémène (ancien ministre de l'Intérieur)  
Garde des Sceaux, Ministre de la Justice,  
Ministère de la Justice  
Avenue de la Marina  
Rue Colonel de Roux  
Lomé, Togo

**Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister**

Public Prosecutor

Monsieur Gbandjaba Dabré  
Procureur Général  
BP 342, Lomé, Togo

**Salutation: Monsieur le Procureur Général / Dear Mr Gbandjaba**

**COPIES TO:**

Crocodile (Newspaper), BP 60087 Lomé, Togo  
Togo presse, BP 891 Lomé, Togo

and to diplomatic representatives of Togo accredited to your country.