

PUBLIC

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Further information on UA 47/99 POCs/Legal concern/risk of ill-treatment

8 April 1999

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Modeste Mutinga
Andre Ipakala
Docteur Kambamba Mbwebwe
Marie-Ange Lukiana (f)

Modeste Mutinga, André Ipakala and Doctor Kambamba Mbwebwe were released without charge on 29 March 1999, reportedly on the orders of President Laurent-Désiré Kabila.

It had been feared that they would be put on trial at the *Cour d'ordre militaire*, Military Order Court, where they had been transferred on 24 March. The court is notorious for fundamentally unfair trials, including trials of prisoners of conscience, with no right to appeal to a higher court. The court has sentenced scores of people, both civilians and soldiers, to death, dozens of whom have been executed. On 26 March, however, the three detainees were transferred to the former Makala prison in Kinshasa, now known as the *Centre pénitentiaire et de rééducation* (CPR).

No further action is required by the Urgent Action Network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.