EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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8 December 1992

Further information on EXTRA 103/92 (AMR 49/03/92, 4 December 1992) - Death Penalty

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: Brian FRANCOIS
Lal SEERATAN

Brian Francois and Lal Seeratan, who were scheduled to be executed in Trinidad and Tobago on 8 December 1992, have received stays of execution pending a hearing on their cases which is scheduled to begin on 11 January 1993.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express or airmail letters either in English or in your own language:

- welcoming the stays of execution granted to Brian Francois and Lal Secratan;
- urging the government not to issue further execution warrants;
- urging the commutation of the death sentences passed on Brian Francois and Lal Secratan;
- expressing deep concern at this renewed attempt to resume the use of the death penalty in Trinidad and Tobago after 13 years without executions;
- calling on the authorities not to take such a retrograde step especially at a time when more countries worldwide are moving towards the abolition of the death penalty;
- expressing sympathy for the victims of violent crime and their relatives but argue that research has shown that hanging prisoners will not deter others from committing similar crimes.

APPEALS TO

1) His Excellency Noor Hassanali
Office of the President
Port of Spain
Trinidad and Tobago

Telegrams: President Hassanali, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Telephone: + 1 809 624 1261 Faxes: + 1 809 625 7950

Salutation: Your Excellency

2) The Hon Patrick Manning

Prime Minister

Whitehall

Port of Spain

Trinidad and Tobago

Telegrams: Prime Minister Manning, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Telephone: + 1 809 623 2971 Faxes: + 1 809 623 8123

Salutation: Dear Prime Minister

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3) The Hon Keith Sobion

Attorney General

Red House, St Vincent Street

Port of Spain

Trinidad and Tobago

Telegrams: Attorney General Sobion, Trinidad and Tobago

Telephone: + 1 809 623 2971 Faxes: + 1 809 623 8123

Salutation: Dear Attorney General

4) The Hon Russell Higgins

Minister of National Security

Knox Street

Port of Spain

Trinidad and Tobago

Telegrams: Minister of National Security Higgins, Port of Spain,

Trinidad and Tobago

Telephone: + 1 809 623 2441/2461-6

Faxes: + 1 809 622 3853

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Newspaper:

Trinidad Guardian

22 St Vincent Square

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Faxes: + 1 809 625 7211

Newspaper:

Trinidad Express

Independence Square

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Faxes: + 1 809 627 1451

Radio Company:

Trinidad Broadcasting Corporation

11B Maraval Road

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Faxes: + 1 809 622 2380

and to diplomatic representatives of Trinidad and Tobago accredited to your

country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 19 January 1993.