14 December 1995

Further information on EXTRA 97/95 (ASA 17/59/95, 24 August 1995) and follow-up (ASA 17/71/95, 26 September) - <u>Death penalty / Legal concern</u>

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Wang Jianye

The death sentence passed on Wang Jianye on 3 April 1995 has just been upheld by the Supreme People's Court and execution may take place within days.

As soon as the approval of the sentence is received by the Guangdong Province High People's Court, the Court may issue the execution order. There is no further recourse after the Supreme People's Court. Appeal for clemency is not a right provided for by law.

The decision was apparently prompted by the fact that Wang Jianye had started a hunger-strike in an attempt to obtain a meeting with his lawyer and relatives. The hunger-strike reportedly lasted at lease 10 days but no further details were available. An appeal to the Guangdong High People's Court was rejected on 31 July 1995 and since then Wang Jianye has not been allowed to receive any visits, nor has he been authorised to send and receive letters from his lawyer or relatives. He is reported to have been denied visits because he continued to protest his innocence. In two years of detention his wife has only been allowed two 30-minute visits, both of which were in the presence of several prison officials.

In a letter to his seven-year old daughter written just after the death sentence was passed, Wang Jianye said: "Even in my last moment, I am ... like a jade tree standing alone in the wind. I have never tried to win any sympathy from those in the procuratorate. At one point, the procuratorate refused to let Mama come to visit me. I immediately announced: 'I will go on hunger-strike if you still refuse to let my wife visit me before supper tomorrow".

Wang Jianye is currently detained in a detention centre in Shenzhen city, Guangdong province in southern China.

People sentenced to death in China are usually kept permanently shackled and handcuffed in cells with other inmates, because authorities fear that they may commit suicide. Wang Jianye reportedly tried to commit suicide when he was first detained in Thailand in September 1993.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/airmail letters in Chinese, English or in your own language:

- urging that the death sentence passed on Wang Jianye be immediately commuted;
- seeking assurances that he is not being subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment by being permanently held in shackles and handcuffs:
- expressing concern that Wang Jianye is not allowed to receive visits from his lawyer and relatives.

APPEALS TO:

<u>Chairman of the National People's Congress Standing</u> Committee

Qiao Shi Weiyuanzhang

Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui Changwu Weiyuanhui Renmin Dahui Tang

Beijingshi

People's Republic of China

Telegrams: Chairman, National People's Congress Standing

Committee, China

Salutation: Dear Chairman

Chairman of the Guangdong Provincial People's Congress

<u>Standing Committee</u> LIN Ruo Zhuren

Guangdongsheng Renmin Daibiao Dahui

Changwu Weiyuanhui

Guangzhoushi

Guangdongsheng

People's Republic of China

Telegrams: Chairman, Provincial People's Congress

Standing Committee. Guangzhou. Guangdong Province.

China

Salutation: Dear Chairman

President of the Guangdong Provincial High People's Court

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People's Republic of China

Telegrams: President, Provincial High People's Court,

Guangzhou. Guangdong Province. China

Salutation: Dear President

<u>President of the Supreme People's Court of the People's</u>

Republic of China

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Salutation: Dear President

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and to diplomatic representatives of the People's Republic of China accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 14 January 1996.