Amnesty International has learned that Oleg Pyatnicky's death sentence has been commuted. In a letter to the Swiss organization "Action of Christians for the Abolition of Torture" President Lennart Meri stated that he shared the view that the death penalty is a violation of the right not to be subjected to inhuman punishment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. He has therefore commuted Oleg Pyatnicky's death sentence to a prison term.

Thank you very much to all those who sent appeals on Oleg Pyatnicky's behalf.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send airmail letters in English, French or German or in your own language:

- welcoming the decision to commute the death sentence passed on Oleg Pyatnicky;

- stating you are pleased to learn of President Lennart Meri's stance on the death penalty.

APPEALS TO:

President of the Republic of Estonia
Lennart Meri
President of the Republic of Estonia
Lossi plats 1A
Tallinn EE0100
Republic of Estonia

Salutation: Dear President

COPIES OF YOUR LETTERS TO: diplomatic representatives of the Republic of Estonia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND LETTERS IMMEDIATELY.