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# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE 124/94

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NEWS SERVICE ITEMS: EXTERNAL - LUSOPHONE SUMMIT

**PLEASE NOTE:** TRANSLATORS AND PRESS OFFICERS - The final and approved text of the Annual Report news release EMBARGOED FOR 0600 hrs GMT 7 JULY 1994 was enclosed in News Service 123/94.

## NEWS INITIATIVES - INTERNAL

### INTERNATIONAL NEWS RELEASES

USA - 14 June - SEE NEWS SERVICE 114/94

Turkey - 22 June - SEE NEWS SERVICES 118/94 AND 104/94

Pakistan - 27 July - PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE. SEE NEWS SERVICE 81/94

### TARGETED AND LIMITED NEWS RELEASES

**\*\*Denmark - 21 June\*\*** - PLEASE NOTE ANOTHER CHANGE OF EMBARGO DATE. Apologies for the numerous changes to the embargo date. This is the final date. SEE NEWS SERVICES 118/94 AND 105/94

Mozambique - 23 June - SEE ENCLOSED ITEM, SEE NEWS SERVICE 115/94

Myanmar - 20 July - SEE NEWS SERVICE 99/94

### FORTHCOMING NEWS INITIATIVES

Annual Report - 0600 hrs GMT 7 July 1994 - SEE NEWS SERVICE 51/94

**News Service 124/94**

**AI INDEX: AFR 01/WU 01/94  
EMBARGOED FOR 27 JUNE 1994**

**LUSOPHONE SUMMIT: A CHANCE TO PUT HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE AGENDA**

**On the eve of the birth of a new community grouping of the world's seven countries who use Portuguese as their official language, Amnesty International calls on that community to build seven human rights tenets into the foundations of their new unity.**

**The seven countries -- Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, São Tomé e Príncipe -- will meet in Lisbon from 27 to 29 June 1994. The meeting is expected to produce final resolutions declaring the basis upon which the new community will operate.**

**"These Portuguese-speaking countries should be united not just by a common language and by cultural, economic and political ties, but by a common resolve to protect and promote human rights among the community," Amnesty International said.**

**At the birth of this potentially constructive and beneficial community of nations, Amnesty International recommends the following seven points to the countries meeting at the summit:**

**1. Put human rights on the forefront of the new community's agenda, by ensuring that the issue is on the agenda of each ensuing summit and by creating a permanent body to oversee this issue.**

**2. Act together as a community to promote and protect human rights throughout the Lusophone world, in part by establishing a body to promote and fund human rights education projects and materials.**

**3. Ratify, if all member countries have not done so, international human rights treaties such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights along with its optional protocol and the second optional protocol aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.**

**4. Make any necessary legislative changes to ensure that not only international human rights treaties, but all other United Nations human rights standards, are incorporated into all member countries' respective national laws.**

**5. Protect human rights workers and create an environment in which local human rights organizations can pursue their aims.**

**6. Assure the widest scope of debate on human rights in community summits by ensuring that non-governmental organizations are able to fully participate in subsequent summits.**

**7. Work together as a community to promote adequate human rights monitoring in Portuguese-speaking countries where human rights violations are particularly severe, such as Angola and East Timor.**

**Amnesty International wishes the community success in making the Lusophone summit into a forum for concrete action on issues of importance to all seven member countries -- not least of which are human rights.**

**"A joint commitment to these seven tenets would be an important step in advancing human rights protection within this new community", Amnesty International said.**

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