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Burkina Faso: Interim Secretary General Claudio Cordone to discuss maternal death with Burkinabe authorities

Amnesty International's interim Secretary General Claudio Cordone will lead a mission to Burkina Faso from 9 to 13 February 2010.

While in Burkina Faso, Claudio Cordone and other Amnesty International delegates have requested meetings with senior government officials including President Blaise Compaore, Prime Minister Tertius Zongo and Health Minister Seydou Bouda to discuss maternal healthcare in the country.

On 9 February Claudio Cordone will join the last day of Amnesty International's campaign caravan which has toured the country spreading news of the campaign against maternal death and acting as a vehicle for education, triggering debate and starting a process of empowerment of communities, especially women and girls.

He will meet with women and men in Ougadougou to discuss maternal healthcare and visit a hospital to meet victims and healthworkers.

Claudio Cordone will use his meetings with government officials to pass the messages of the people who became involved with the caravan during its tour and to discuss feedback and action from the Amnesty International report *Giving Life, Risking Death. Maternal Mortality in Burkina Faso* which was released at a press conference in Ouagadougou on 27 January.

Claudio Cordone will be available for interviews from Burkina Faso on request.

Please contact:

Aurelie Chatelard, +226 75 35 66 11, achatelard@amnesty.fr (French and English),

Christian Ouedraogo, +226 78 21 36 56 (French)

Katy Pownall +44 (0)207 413 5729, katy.pownall@amnesty.org (English)

Notes to Editors:

Amnesty International is tackling maternal mortality as part of its recently launched Demand Dignity campaign which calls for an end to the human rights abuses that drive and deepen poverty