

URGENT ACTION

THREE DETAINEES RELEASED

Celestino Okenve, Antonio Nguema and Miguel Mbomio were released unconditionally from police detention on 30 January 2015.

Celestino Okenve, Antonio Nguema and Miguel Mbomio had been arrested between 14 and 16 January in Equatorial Guinea in relation to the distribution of pamphlets protesting against the hosting of the Africa Cup of Nations in the country. They were arbitrarily detained for over two weeks without charge. The three men were also given restricted access to their families and a lawyer, who was not allowed to be present during police interrogation.

The three men were discharged unconditionally by the Chief of Police following a public appeal for their release by Amnesty International and other human rights organizations. Celestino Okenve stated "I wish to thank international human rights organizations, Equatoguinean activists, and the US Department of State for their advocacy in support of freedom of expression in Equatorial Guinea. It would not have been possible to secure my release and that of the two other young men detained with me, without the invaluable work by Amnesty International, EG Justice, and other organizations committed to the fight against abuse and impunity. Freedom of expression, association, and assembly are fundamental human rights. They are the foundation for any society that aspires to be democratic. I will continue to work to ensure that international human rights laws, as well as the national constitution, are fully implemented in Equatorial Guinea. I look forward to the support of the international community."

No further action is required from the UA network. Many thanks to those who sent appeals.

This is the first update of UA 24/15. Further information: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR24/001/2015/en>

Name: Celestino Okenve, Antonio Nguema and Miguel Mbomio

Gender m/f: m

Further Information on UA: 24/15 Index: AFR 24/002/2015 Issue Date: 10 February 2015

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