

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information (1) on UA 77/95 (AFR 16/04/95, 27 March 1995) - Torture

BURUNDI Jean MINANI, peasant farmer
Tharcisse NZIMPORA, bike taximan
and ten others

Following appeals made by Amnesty International, the Burundi Minister of Justice, Monsieur Melchior Ntahobama, has formally requested in a letter, copied to Amnesty International, that the *Procureur général* (Procurator) investigate and report on the above-mentioned cases. The letter is dated 12 May 1995.

The twelve, who were suspected of involvement in the assassination of the former mayor of Bujumbura, Lieutenant Colonel Lucien Sakubu, were tortured during interrogation at the Brigade spéciale de recherche (BSR) in Bujumbura.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters

- welcoming the Minister of Justice's intervention;
- asking if he has received a response from the *Procureur général* and asking to see a copy of the report into the cases;
- asking if those who carried out the torture have been identified and what measures have been implemented to prevent recurrences of torture;
- asking for clarification on the judicial status of the detainees, if they are still being held, their place of detention, and if they have been charged;
- calling on the authorities to release the detainees immediately if they are not to be charged with a recognizably criminal offence and brought to trial in accordance with international standards of fairness.

APPEALS TO:

1) Minister of Justice

Monsieur Melchior NTAHOBAMA
Ministre de la justice et garde des sceaux
Ministère de la justice
BP 1880
BUJUMBURA
République du Burundi
Telegrams : Ministre Ntahobama, Bujumbura, Burundi
Faxes : + 257 22 2148
Salutation : Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Prime Minister
Monsieur Antoine NDUWAYO
Premier Ministre
Présidence de la République
BP 2800
BUJUMBURA
République du Burundi

and to diplomatic representatives of BURUNDI accredited to your country.

Please send appeals immediately. Check with the International secretariat, or your section office if sending appeals after 21 July 1995.