

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

AI INDEX: AFR 34/08/97

News Service 168/97

8 OCTOBER 1997

## **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION TO LIBERIA**

An Amnesty International delegation is visiting Liberia between 5 and 10 October to discuss with the country's President Charles G Taylor and the new government the organization's concerns about the implementation of human rights standards in the country.

During the visit, the delegation will also meet with senior commanders of the West African Peace Keeping Force (ECOMOG), representatives of various United Nations agencies, and officials of local human rights organizations.

Significant political and constitutional changes have taken place in Liberia since Amnesty International's last visit in May 1997, and the organization will raise human rights issues such as dealing with the legacy of past human rights abuses, establishing a legal and institutional framework to ensure the protection of human rights in the future, and the return of refugees and Internally displaced people.

During the visit the delegation will also launch its report, titled *LIBERIA: Time to take human rights seriously – placing human rights on the national agenda*.

The delegation is headed by Roger Clark, Africa Program Director at the organization's international headquarters in London. Other delegates include Nana K Busia junior and Antonella Attardo from the International Secretariat of Amnesty International.

Members of the delegation will be available for interviews in Liberia and will hold a briefing for the media at:

**9:30 am, Friday 10 October 1997  
Press Union of Liberia, Monrovia**

**For further information please contact:**

**Antonella Attardo, Mamba Point Hotel, Monrovia Tel: (+231) 226 693/452**

**International Secretariat, Press Office:**

**Tel: (+44) 171 413 5566/5831**