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URGENT - STOP PRESS

African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to appeal for a halt to executions in Rwanda

Further to the release of an Amnesty International press release yesterday calling for a halt to the public execution of 23 people this Friday, please note the following update:

Following appeals from Amnesty International delegates attending the 23rd session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in the Gambia, the African Commission requested its Special Rapporteur on killings to transmit an urgent letter to the Rwandese authorities, appealing to them to stop the executions of 23 people announced for tomorrow.

The Special Rapporteur, Hatem ben Salem, stated that there are concerns that the accused may have been denied the right to fair trial and the executions may be in violation of the right to life guaranteed by the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

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