



DEMAND DIGNITY



DEMAND DIGNITY



DEMAND DIGNITY

DIGNITY

# IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH IN BURKINA FASO

HEALTH IS A  
HUMAN RIGHT

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**





**Dear Minister,**

As you know, early, mistimed and unwanted pregnancies contribute greatly to the health risks for both women and babies in Burkina Faso. Faced with an unwanted pregnancy, many women, especially unmarried girls, resort to unsafe abortions. Ensuring access to voluntary, safe and effective family planning and contraceptive methods is therefore a vital part of any strategy for reducing maternal mortality.

Your government has acknowledged the importance to every human being of enjoying sexual and reproductive rights when, in December 2005, it adopted a Law on Reproductive Health. However, four years after the adoption of this law, the government has still not done enough to implement it and to inform women and men about their rights.

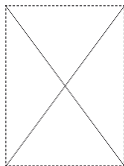
I am therefore asking you to urgently adopt and implement a plan in consultation with civil society organizations that would make these rights a reality for all.

Yours sincerely,

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_



**M. Seydou Bouda**  
**Ministre de la Santé**  
**Ministère de la Santé**  
**03 BP 7005**  
**Ouagadougou 03**  
**Burkina Faso**

Index: AFR 60/004/2009

*Image: A man with his surviving children whose wife and baby died in childbirth, Burkina Faso. © Anna Kari*

**DEMANDDIGNITY.AMNESTY.ORG**

Amnesty International, International Secretariat, Peter Benenson House,  
1 Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW, UK. [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org)