19 September 1996

Further information on UA 152/96 (AFR 22/02/96, 25 June 1996) - Medical concern / Possible prisoner of conscience

CONGOColonel BUISSA MATOKO

On 6 September 1996, Colonel Buissa Matoko was sentenced to two years in prison for an attack on state security. He is appealing against his conviction and his appeal is likely to take about four months to complete. Although there are still concerns about Colonel Buissa Matoko's health, he now has access to a doctor, as well as to his lawyer and family members. This was confirmed in replies from the Congolese authorities to members of the Urgent Action Network.

Amnesty International remains concerned that Colonel Buissa Matoko may be a prisoner of conscience, and the organization continues to monitor his case. However, no further action by the UA Network is requested. Thank you to all who sent appeals.