

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 64/93 (AFR 63/01/93, 9 March 1993) - Legal concern

ZAMBIA:

Bweendo Mulengela
Bonnie Tembo
Peter Lishika
Christopher Muyoka
Wezi Kaunda
Steven Moyo
Rabson Chongo
Stan Mutanga
McPherson Mbulo

William Banda
Rupiya Banda
Sianda Ilukena
Cuthbert Nguni
Henry Kamima
Philemon Lwabila - released
Peter Mwanza - released
Stanley Mhango - released
Ackim Zimba - released

and new names:

Panji Kaunda
Wilfred Wanani

Panji Kaunda, the eldest son of Zambia's former President Kenneth Kaunda, was arrested on 14 March 1993 and is reported to be in police custody in Chipata in Eastern Province. Wilfred Wanani, Chairman for Local Government and Housing in the opposition United National Independence Party (UNIP), was arrested on 18 March 1993. These are the most recent detentions of UNIP members under the Preservation of Public Security Regulations which came in force after a State of Emergency was declared on 4 March 1993. The regulations allow indefinite detention without charge or trial.

Amnesty International is also concerned by allegations that at least two detained UNIP members have been ill-treated. It has been alleged that Cuthbert Nguni, member of parliament for Chipata, was questioned without a break for 39 hours during which time he was made to balance on two bricks. It is also alleged that he was made to perform exercises that involved spinning in one place to induce dizziness and that when he fell to the ground he was kicked. Henry Kamima, former head of security when UNIP was in government, is reported to have been tied to a chair and punched.

On 17 March 1993, however, the authorities released Philemon Lwabila, Peter Mwanza, Stanley Mhango and Ackim Zimba without laying any charges against them. Weze Kaunda is reported to have ended his hunger-strike.

Those who remain in detention, now 16 in number, have been dispersed around the country to different civil prisons. There are as yet no signs that the authorities intend to bring criminal charges against them. Indeed one, Steven Moyo, a lecturer at the University of Zambia and former head of the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation, has been served with a 28-day detention order which suggests that the authorities are not in a position to bring criminal charges against him at least.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The government led by President Frederick Chiluba claims to have discovered a UNIP plot to make the country ungovernable through an orchestrated campaign of civil disobedience. The evidence so far made public is a document entitled The Zero Option which was discovered in UNIP headquarters in Lusaka. The UNIP leadership has denied that the document was party policy. The authorities claim to have subsequently uncovered a second document which gives details of a coup plot.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes and airmail letters in English or your own language:

- expressing concern at the detention without charge or trial of Panji Kaunda and Wilfred Wanani and 14 other United National Independence Party (UNIP) members named above (please select two or three names from the list as examples) who Amnesty International believes may be prisoners of conscience detained for their non-violent opposition to the government;
- expressing Amnesty International's opposition to administrative detention

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procedures which provide for indefinite detention without charge or trial;

- expressing concern at allegations that Cuthbert Nguni and Henry Kamima have been physically ill-treated;
- urging that allegations of ill-treatment be independently, impartially and thoroughly investigated and that the government makes public the findings of the investigations;

- welcoming the release of Philemon Lwabila, Peter Mwanza, Stanley Mhango and Ackim Zimba and urging that all the other detainees be released if they are not to be charged with a recognisably criminal offence and brought promptly to a fair trial.

APPEALS TO

1) His Excellency Frederick Chiluba
President of the Republic of Zambia
Office of the President
State House
PO Box 30208
Lusaka, Zambia
Telegrams: President Chiluba, Lusaka, Zambia
Telexes: 41998 or 41460

Salutation: Your Excellency

2) The Hon. Newstead Zimba
Minister of Home Affairs
Ministry of Home Affairs
PO Box 32862
Lusaka, Zambia
Telegrams: Hon. Newstead Zimba, Minister of Home Affairs, Lusaka, Zambia
Telexes: 40344

Salutation: Dear Minister

3) The Hon. Vernon Mwaanga
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Charter House
PO Box 50069
Lusaka, Zambia
Telegrams: Hon. Vernon Mwaanga, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lusaka, Zambia
Telexes: 41290

Salutation: Dear Minister

4) The Hon. Dr Roger Chongwe

Minister of Legal Affairs
Ministry of Legal Affairs
PO Box 50106
Fairley Rd
Lusaka, Zambia

Telegrams: Hon. Dr Roger Chongwe, Minister of Legal Affairs, Lusaka,
Zambia

Telexes: 40564

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The Editor
Weekly Post
Private Bag EF 352
Lusaka, Zambia

The Editor
The Times of Zambia
PO Box 30394
Lusaka, Zambia

and to diplomatic representatives of Zambia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 April 1993.