

URGENT ACTION

MEN FACE EXTRADITION, AT RISK OF TORTURE

Nine men, most of whom are originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), face extradition to the DRC where they could be tortured or sentenced to death. They were arrested in Angola on suspicion of attempting to destabilise the government of the DRC.

The trial of **Kadate Lekumu, Faustino Mananga Gomes, Ilunga Mukendi Cianda, Eduardo Pongo Muaca, Richard Nsabwa Mukendi, Boyeye Marc Eyoku, Akanza Toto, Mbuasi Kitunta François and David Bucur**, all arrested in the Angolan province of Cabinda, began on 24 March in the Cabinda Provincial Court. The men, at least seven of whom are originally from the DRC, were accused of provocation of war or retaliation against Angola; illegally staying in the country; and promotion of and accessory to illegal entry into the country. The trial ended on 1 April and the sentence should be passed on 16 April. However, the Provincial Procurator of Cabinda requested that the men should be expelled from the country.

On 22 November 2012 the nine men were arrested in Cabinda. They were initially held incommunicado in military barracks without access to a lawyer until 22 December 2012. Their families were not informed about their whereabouts. While they were held in the military barracks, the detainees were reportedly beaten with firearms, kicked with military boots, slapped and punched. None of the men received any medical care for the injuries sustained as a result of this torture.

Ilunga Mukendi Cianda and Richard Nsabwa Mukendi hold French citizenship while Kadate Lekumu has Belgium citizenship. David Bucur and Eduardo Pongo Muaca are both Angolans.

There are fears that at least some of these individuals may be sent to the DRC where there is a real risk that they will face further torture, other ill-treatment or the death penalty.

Please write immediately in English, Portuguese or your own language:

- Expressing concern that the men might be extradited to the DRC where they could be at risk of torture, ill-treatment or the death penalty;
- Expressing concern that the men were reportedly held incommunicado and tortured after being arrested in November 2012 and calling on the Angolan authorities to investigate these allegations;
- Calling on the authorities not to extradite any of these men to the DRC where they might be subjected to torture, ill-treatment or the death penalty.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 16 MAY 2014 TO:

Ministro das Relações Exteriores
Jorge Rebelo Chicoti
Ministério das Relações Exteriores
Palácio do Comércio
Avenida Comandante Gika
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Salutation: A sua Excelencia

Ministro da Justiça e dos Direitos Humanos
Rui Jorge Carneiro Mangureira
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Procurador-Geral da República
Dr João Maria Moreira de Sousa
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Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Angola's constitution prohibits the extradition of foreign citizens for political motives, for charges punishable by the death penalty or in cases where it is recognised that extradition may lead to the torture, inhumane or cruel treatment of the individual concerned. While the DRC has not carried out executions in recent years, it retains the death penalty, including for crimes against state security. Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases without exception regardless of the nature of the crime, the characteristics of the offender, or the method used by the state to kill the prisoner.

Extradition of these individuals may put them at risk of further torture, other ill-treatment or the death penalty. Such a measure would violate international human rights law which absolutely prohibits torture and other ill-treatment. The prohibition applies to all states irrespective of their specific treaty obligations. It also prohibits states from sending any person against their will to another country where there is a real risk that they will be subjected to torture or other ill-treatment.

Name: Kadate Lekumu, Faustino Mananga Gomes, Ilunga Mukendi Cianda, Eduardo Pongo Muaca, Richard Nsabwa Mukendi, Boyeye Marc Eyoku, Akanza Toto, Mbuasi Kitunta François and David Bucur
Gender m/f: m

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