|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| AFR 24/8083/2024 – Guinée équatoriale - 29 mai 2024 | | |
| FURTHER INFORMATION | URGENT ACTION | FI UA 021/24-1 |
| Human rights defender’s whereabouts unknown | | |
| EQUATORIAL GUINEA | | |

Anacleto Micha Ndong, an Equatoguinean human rights defender, was sent to the Malabo prison of Black Beach on pre-trial detention on 1 March. He has been accused of outrage and calumny by a gendarme who Anacleto Micha Ndong had accused of torturing him the last time he was detained in Black Beach, in 2023. On 15 April, his lawyer went to Black Beach to visit him when he was told that he cannot see him because he was not there. Since then, no one has seen Anacleto Micha or has received any official confirmation of his whereabouts, in what amounts to an enforced disappearance. According to some sources, he has been transferred to Oveng Ansem prison, where torture is reported to be prevalent. The authorities must immediately disclose Anacleto Micha Ndong’s fate and whereabouts.

Anacleto Micha Ndong is an Equatoguinean human rights defender, active on social media, and member of the civic platform Guinea Ecuatorial también es nuestra, that opts for non- violent opposition and political dialogue in the country.

On 26 January, Anacleto Micha was arrested in his house in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea’s capital, by four members of security forces in civilian clothes. Witnesses to his arrest described it as a very violent event. The gendarmerie officers beat him, allegedly put his head in a bucket of water and tore his shirt in front of his children who were crying in panic.

His ongoing detention seems to be motivated by his activism, especially his critical posts against the government on social media, which would make it arbitrary.

After several attempts to meet privately with his client, on 10 April, Anacleto Micha’s lawyer received an official letter authorizing him to visit his client on 15 April at Black Beach prison. That day when the lawyer went to the prison, he was informed that his client was not there because he had left to testify in Court. The lawyer later found out that this was not true and that his client was not at Black Beach prison because, according to unofficial sources, he had been transferred to Oveng Ansem prison.

Oveng Ansem is a prison in Mongomo municipality with a very concerning record of allegations from prisoners who report having been tortured there. Some prisoners have also allegedly died due to the torture inflicted on them, including Julio Obama Mefuman, member of MLGE3R (Movement for the Liberation of the Third Equatorial Guinea), who died in January 2024. His body was never returned to his family.

TAKE ACTION

* Write an appeal in your own words or use the **model letter** on **page 2**.
* Please take action before **24 July** 2024.
* Preferred language: **Spanish\*, English**. You can also write in your own language.
* **INFO POSTAGE**: Post delivery is possible to almost all countries. Please check at the Swiss Post whether letters are currently being delivered to the destination country.   
  If not, please send by email, fax or social media and/or via the embassy with the request for forwarding to the named person. Thank you !

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| APPEALS TO | COPIES TO |
| Presidente de Guinea Ecuatorial Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo Palacio Presidencial de Guinea Ecuatorial Avenida de Libertad Malabo Guinea Ecuatorial  **Additional target:** Vice-president, Teodoro Nguema Obiang Mangue Twitter/X: @teonguema | Ambassade de la République de Guinée Equatoriale Chemin de la Voie-Creuse 3C 2ème étage, no 22 1202 Genève  Fax: 022 734 39 60 E-mail: [mision.guineacuatorial\_gva@yahoo.com](mailto:mision.guineacuatorial_gva@yahoo.com) |
| ⭢ **\*Spanish model letter** and **social media guidance** see online: [amnesty.ch](https://www.amnesty.ch) 🔍**UA 021/24** | |

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Presidente de Guinea Ecuatorial  
Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo  
Palacio Presidencial de Guinea Ecuatorial  
Avenida de Libertad  
Malabo  
Guinea Ecuatorial

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

His Excellency,

**I am writing to you regarding Equatoguinean human rights defender, Anacleto Micha Ndong, a member of the civic platform,** «**Guinea Ecuatorial también es nuestra**» **that opts for non-violent opposition and political dialogue.**

On 15 April, Anacleto Micha’s lawyer went to the Malabo prison of Black Beach where he was detained and was told that Anacleto Micha was not there. Anacleto Micha had been sent to Black Beach on 1 March where he was held in pre-trial detention for causing outrage and calumny by a gendarme who works at Black Beach prison, after Anacleto Micha started proceedings against him for allegedly torturing him the last time he was detained at Black Beach, in 2023.

Since 15 April, when his lawyer was not able to see him, there has not been any official information about Anacleto Micha’s whereabouts. According to different sources, he was allegedly transferred with other prisoners to Oveng Ansem prison in Mongomo municipality, in the continental part of the country and more than 400 km away from his home.

Concealing Anacleto Micha’s whereabouts amounts to an enforced disappearance under international law, placing him outside the protection of the law and exposing him especially to the risk of torture and other ill-treatment. Furthermore, Oveng Ansem prison – where it is believed he has been transferred to – has reportedly high rates of torture, which has even led allegedly to the death of some prisoners.

**In light of the above, I urge you to immediately disclose Anacleto Micha’s fate and whereabouts, ensuring that wherever he is held he is protected from torture and other ill-treatment, and to take all necessary steps to grant his immediate release from arbitrary detention which stems from his peaceful activism. I further urge you to ensure his allegations of torture are promptly, thoroughly, impartially, independently, transparently and effectively investigated and anyone suspected to be responsible is brought to justice in a fair trial.**

Yours sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Copie**

Ambassade de la République de Guinée Equatoriale, Chemin de la Voie-Creuse 3C, 2ème étage, no 22, 1202 Genève

Fax: 022 734 39 60, E-mail: mission.guineaecuatorial\_gva@yahoo.com