URGENT ACTION

ACTIVIST AND HIS LAWYER RELEASED WITHOUT CHARGE

Jean-Marie Kalonji, an activist with the youth movement *Quatrieme voie/ il est temps,* andhis colleague and lawyer Sylva Mbikayi were released without charge on 17 July. The two had been held in incommunicado detention by military intelligence agents since 23 June.

**Jean-Marie Kalonji** and **Sylva Mbikayi** were released without charge on 17 July after 24 days in incommunicado detention at a military facility.

Jean-Marie Kalonjiwas arrested on 23 June when he was stopped by soldiers at an exit checkpoint of a military camp in Kinshasa. When he explained that he could not show his passport as it was with an embassy where he had applied for a visa, the soldiers started questioning his nationality and searched his bag which contained flyers for a Lumumba scholarship programme set up by the youth movement *Quartrieme Voie/ il est temps* (the fourth way/ it is time)*.* Sylva Mbikayi was arrested when he arrived at the military camp to assist Jean-Marie Kalonji.

Jean-Marie Kalonji is the coordinator of the youth movement *Quatrieme voie/ il est temps*.which aims to defend the rights of the Congolese youth and has campaigned for peace and democracy in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).Sylva Mbikayi is a lawyer who supports the youth movement.

No further action is requested of the UA network. Many thanks to those who sent appeals.

Name: Jean-Marie Kalonji and Sylva Mbikayi

Gender m/f: Male

Further information on UA: 162/17 Index: AFR 62/6766/2017 Issue Date: 20 July 2017