



CONGO BRAZZAVILLE: Dr. Alexandre Ibacka Dzabana, coordinator of the Congolese Platform of NGOs for Human Rights and Democracy, member of the M22 Movement and the Coalition Tournons La Page Congo in danger of death

### URGENT CALL

**Douala-Brazzaville, July 8, 2021** : The Human Rights Defenders Network in Central Africa (REDHAC) has received from several sources from several sources the alarming news on the state of health of health of Dr. Alexandre Ibacka Dzabana, coordinator of the Congolese Platform of Human Rights and Democracy member of the M22 Movement and of the coalition Turn the Page Congo coalition, held at the premises of the Central Intelligence and Documentation Center (CID), formerly the Directorate General Directorate of Territorial Surveillance in Brazzaville.



#### The facts

On March 11, 2021, Dr. Alexandre Ibacka DZABANA, a 77-year-old human rights defender, was abducted in front of his home in the middle of the electoral period and detained in the premises of the Central Intelligence and Documentation Office (CID), formerly the General Directorate for Territorial Surveillance in Brazzaville. He is accused of : "attempt to undermine the internal security of the state".

Dr. Alexandre Ibacka DZABANA is forbidden to visit until his lawyers visit him. At the time of his arrest, Dr. Alexandre Ibacka Dzabana had a serious health history requiring regular medical treatment, which is incompatible with his detention.

Our fear is all the greater because the Central Intelligence and Documentation Centre is known to be a place of ill-treatment, with several cases of torture having been reported there.

On July 1, 2021, Dr. Alexandre Ibacka Dzabana was in a critical condition where he could barely eat. He has also lost the ability to speak.

**The Human Rights Defenders Network in Central Africa (REDHAC)** remains concerned about the continued detention of this Congolese citizen, as this is a flagrant violation of the Guidelines and Principles for a Fair Trial in Africa of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, as stipulated in Articles 5, 6, 7 and 26 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights; Conventions and other instruments of the United Nations, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which in its article 9, paragraphs 1 and 5, provide that "1. Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention. No one shall be deprived of his liberty except on such grounds and in accordance with such procedures as are established by law. (...) 5. Any person who has been the victim of unlawful arrest or detention shall have the right to compensation.

**The Human Rights Defenders Network in Central Africa (REDHAC) urges you to take urgent action to:**



- To request the government of Congo Brazzaville to immediately and unconditionally release Dr. Alexandre Ibacka Dzabana, as well as to drop all charges against him and to provide him with adequate reparation for all his violated rights, since it has been established that the elderly are particularly vulnerable to the Covid-19 pandemic;
- Request an urgent evacuation to save the life of Dr. Alexandre Ibacka Dzabana.
- Request that the physical, psychological and moral protection and safety of Dr. Alexandre Ibacka Dzabana be ensured;
- Recommend to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and the United Nations to demand from the Cameroonian government:
  - Respect for national, regional and international human rights instruments, specifically the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Congo, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Guidelines and Principles for a Fair Trial in Africa of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights;
  - Compliance with the Convention against Torture and Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment and other similar acts;
  - the respect of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
  - the establishment of a legal framework for the legal protection of human rights defenders and journalists by adopting the law on the "Promotion and Protection of Human Rights Defenders in Central Africa".

#### FOR ANY URGENT ACTION, PLEASE WRITE TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES

- Mr. Benjamain BOUMAKANY, Secrétariat général du Gouvernement : B.P : 2087 ; E-mail [infos@sgg.cg](mailto:infos@sgg.cg);
- Mr. Lambert Noel MATHA: Minister of the Interior and Security: Tel: (+243) 000 000 000, E-mail: [min1@min.cd](mailto:min1@min.cd);
- Mr. Charles Richard MONDJO, Minister of Defense: Boulevard Denis Sassou NGUESSO, B.P: 2 087 Brazzaville, Tel/Fax: ( 242) 281.52.42, E-mail: [contact@defense.gouv.cg](mailto:contact@defense.gouv.cg) / [journal.officiel@sgg.cg](mailto:journal.officiel@sgg.cg);
- Aimé Ange Wilfrid BININGA, Minister of Justice, Human Rights and the Promotion of Indigenous Peoples of the Republic of Congo P.O. Box 1375, Fax: (+243) 04 002 90 90;
- Jacqueline Lydia MIKOLLO: Minister of Health and Population Minister of the Promotion of Women and the Integration of Women in Development: Tel (242) 05 533 4529 /06 658 7575/05 557 7772, Fax: (+242) 05 533 45 29 ;
- Valère Gabriel Eteka YEMET: Delegation of the Office of the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH).

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