Subject: Mr. Leti, Banga, Kanyi-Ngiya, Leti, Avoti, Tshombe and others

Las Cruces, USA, June 16, 2003,

Dear Minister,

I am writing you deeply worried by the situation following the failed coup d'état in the Ituri province of north-eastern DRC. Dozens of detainees, including the above mentioned: Mr. Leti, Banga, Kanyi-Ngiya, Leti, Avoti, Tshombe, are being held incommunicado in metal containers and several have been tortured. At least one, Mr. Mboyo, has been executed, and possibly three others as well.

I am thus asking you to intervene urgently to prevent further detainees held by the FAPC in Aru from being extrajudicially executed. You should also make sure that detainees held by the FAPC in Aru be immediately removed from the metal containers, where the conditions amount to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and punishment. They should be given access to their family, lawyers, and to any medical treatment they may require. If they are accused, they must be trialed diligently and in a fair manner that conforms to international standards of fairness.

Finally, the Ugandan government to take all practical steps it can to support and facilitate the deployment of a UN-mandated peace-keeping force to Ituri, including by ceasing all arms transfers and other logistical or financial support to armed groups in Ituri known to have been responsible for human rights abuses.

Thanking you in advance for your time on this important and urgent matter, I am respectfully,

Cc.: Ambassador Edith Grace Ssempala (fax: (202) 726 1727)