

PETITION

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



To: His Excellency Paul Biya, President of the Republic, Office of the President
P.O. Box 100, Yaounde, Cameroun, Fax: +237 2222 0870, Email: cellcom@prc.cm

«JEAN-CLAUDE MBEDE, JAILED FOR HOMOSEXUALITY»

His Excellency

May I write to you in the case of Jean-Claude Roger Mbede , who has been sentenced to 36 months in prison for homosexuality; thereby he became a prisoner of conscience imprisoned solely because of his sexual orientation.

Jean-Claude Roger Mbede appeared before a court in Yaoundé on 10 and 24 March. On 28 April the court found him guilty of homosexuality and attempted homosexuality and sentenced him to three years' imprisonment. He is currently serving his sentence at Kondengui central prison where he is at risk of homophobic attacks, as well as ill-treatment by fellow inmates or prison authorities because of his real or perceived sexual orientation.

In addition to his detention, we are very concerned about Section 347a of the Cameroonian Penal Code. It does not recognize the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights, nor the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

May I kindly ask you to:

- Release Jean-Claude Roger Mbede immediatly and without any conditions
- Repeal Section 347a of the Penal Code in accordance with your obligations under the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights and under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Respectfully yours,

Name	City	Signature
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Copies to:

- M Marafa Hamidou Yaya, Ministry of State for Territorial Administration and Decentralisation, Yaounde,
- Ambassade de la République du Cameroun, Brunnadernrain 29, 3006 Bern, Fax: 031 352 47 36

Deutsch: Der Kameruner Jean-Claude Roger Mbede wurde aufgrund eines SMS verhaftet und wegen Homosexualität verurteilt. Amnesty International verlangt seine Freilassung, seinen Schutz vor Misshandlung und die Abschaffung des Artikels 347^a des Strafgesetzbuches (Homosexualität). Mehr auf: www.queeramnesty.ch