

# Amnestyaktion mot Östtimor

Den 14 maj kom en vädjan från Amnesty International med anledning av att dussintals människor hade arresterats och torterats i Östtimor p.g.a. säkerhetsoperationer i distriktet Baucau för att gripa Mauk Moruk (Paulino Gama) och hans anhängare. Den tidigare självständighetskämpen leder det förbjudna Maubere Revolutionary Council och har starkt kritiserat den nuvarande regeringen. Han uppges ha krävt att regeringen ska avgå och parlamentet upplösas. I januari och mars ska hans anhängare ha utfört attacker mot polisen i Laga och Baguia, varefter myndigheterna svarade med övervåld.

Med denna bakgrund skickade Östtimorkommittén den 18 maj till justitieminister Ivo Valente, landets permanenta representant vid FN i Genève, Marciano da Silva, och människorättsombudsmannen Silverio Pinto Baptista nedanstående brev:

It has come to our knowledge that dozens of individuals have been arbitrarily arrested and tortured or otherwise ill-treated by Timor-Leste security forces as part of security operations in the Baucau district by the police and military to capture Mauk Moruk (Paulino Gama) and his followers.

Security forces also reportedly destroyed property of individuals suspected of supporting Mauk Moruk, as part of the operations. Some also allege that food and money were stolen from their houses. Hundreds have been traumatised by these operations.

Followers of Mauk Moruk allegedly carried out attacks on the police in Laga and Baguia in January and March 2015. In response, the authorities launched a number of security operations where the use of unnecessary and excessive force has been documented.

With this background we, as long time supporters of East Timor's right to self-determination, independence, democracy and human rights, urge Timor-Leste authorities to

- Halt the arbitrary arrests and torture or other ill-treatment by security forces as part of the joint security operations being conducted in Baucau district
- Ensure that all those tortured or otherwise ill-treated have access to any medical attention they may require, including psychological treatment
- Urgently initiate an effective and independent investigation into all the allegations of arbitrary detention, torture or other ill-treatment and the destruction of property by security forces, and bring all those responsible to trial, including those with command responsibility.

On behalf of the Swedish East Timor Committee

Gabriel Jonsson  
Chairman

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