

7 UK protests - Wed 28th March Against Deportation to DR Congo

1. London -10.00am - The Home Office, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF. Nearest tube: Westminster. Organised by Congo Support Project - Liz Atherton: 07931 524654; Okito Tongomo: 07961 325167. Supported by Pasteur Jean Bosco: 07960 034384; APARECO - Amisi Kilosho: 07950 698307; Bakolo Kongo - Michael N Ikala: 07932 864448; Israel Matone: 07956 843828; CCUK - Ackys: 07957198606; Michael Kabwe: 07862 296283; CCUK/MLC - Richard Ntala: 07847 841206; COCORICO - Thompson Bikebi: 07960 737192; Congolese Rights - Albert Mukendji: 07908 492522; DIASPORA - Aime Kabangu: 07946 741995; FONUS - Omer Kanyinda: 07956 842235; PACORU - Pasteur Danny: 07946 277345; RNS - Laurent Mbangou: 07932 847840; UDPS - Theo Ngombo: 07956 101111; Philippe Mandangi: 07870 540179; Wake-Up Congo - Jean-Rene: 07961 235893

2. Birmingham - 12.00 noon - Asylum & Immigration Tribunal, Sheldon Court, 1 Wagon Lane, Birmingham, B26 3DU. Organised by Congolese communities in Coventry, Wolverhampton, Birmingham and beyond, including Congo Support Project, CADA, COCOA, Cité Celeste. Contact - Michael: 07903 850708; Mango: 07940 629953.

3. Glasgow - 12.00 noon - Asylum & Immigration Tribunal, Eagle Building, 215 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2. Organised by Congolese communities in Glasgow, Aberdeen, Edinburgh and beyond, including Congo Support Project, Africa Umoja Scotland, Lisalisi, Sarco, Karibu. Contact - Matta: 07738 444526; Dhali: 07877 577059.

4. Leicester - 12.00 noon - Leicester Magistrates Court, 15 Pocklington Walk, Leicester LE1. Organised by Congolese communities in Derby, Nottingham, Stoke-On-Trent and beyond, including Congo Support Project, African Initiative Support, Satelite, African Action, Leicestershire Congolese Mutual Group, SOS Immigration, Bondeko Congolese Association, Apareco, North Staffordshire Congolese Community Association. Contact - Leicester - Patience: 07951 226599; Derby - Didier Matamba: 07949 282445; Stoke-on-Trent - Jean: 07930 803589 / mouko_jean@yahoo.fr

5. Nottingham -1pm - The Market Square, off South Parade, Nottingham, NG1. Organised by No Borders Nottingham, Nottingham Congolese Community, Nottingham Refugee Network. Contact - Patrick Essalo 07877489626

6. Newcastle -12.00 noon - Asylum and immigration Tribunal, Kings court, Royal Quays, Earl Gray Way, North Shields, NE29 6AR. Organised by Congolese Community of the North East. Contacts ; Paty Omari Mungwande : 07958 606300 (Newcastle), Gauthier Matho : 07956 972274 (Sunderland), Tresor Bukasa : 07946 702652 (Middlesborough)

7. Manchester - 12.00 noon - Assemble HMP Strangeways, 1 Southall Street, Manchester M60 9AH. March to the Peace Gardens, off Lloyd Street (behind the Town Hall), Manchester M1. Organised by Congolese communities in Manchester, Leeds, Bradford and beyond, including Stop Deportations to the Congo Campaign and others. Contact - Innocent Empi 07871 676129 / innocentmuststay@yahoo.co.uk, Honoré Efangje 07910 668465; René 07944 342049 r.lundonga@yahoo.fr

In a few months there will be a Country Guidance tribunal case to challenge the Home Office official report on the DR Congo that says there is no risk to failed asylum seekers forcibly returned. It's not true and means that many people are being sent back to the Congo to face imprisonment and torture. If the tribunal is won, it could mean that further deportations are suspended. Please come and show your support !



Manchester, March 7th 2007

Background on the DRC : In spite of so-called “democratic” elections, placing Western-backed president Joseph Kabila in power, the situation in the DRC shows little sign of improving ; extrajudicial killings, disappearances, torture, rape, arbitrary arrest & detention by security forces and rebel groups increasing, enjoying continued total impunity. Life-threatening conditions in detention facilities prevail, security forces continue to recruit child soldiers, and compel adults and children into forced labour. Ethnic hatred is a serious problem; journalists and human rights advocates continue to be arrested & ill-treated, while political opposition members suffer persecution and detention !

Caught working and paying tax “illegally”, some Congolese asylum seekers are in prisons like HMP Strangeways in Manchester - left homeless and destitute by the cruel asylum process, with no “right” to work, they had no choice to survive. Photo below left : Outside Manchester Asylum & Immigration Tribunal where many feel Congolese asylum claim have been dismissed unfairly.



Glasgow, March 7th 2007