

Elise Biensan
Air France:
Press & Communications Manager
Plesman House,
Cains Lane,
Bedfont
Middlesex TW14 9RL
Fax: 020 8584 4417
Email: <mailto:elbiensan@airfrance.fr>

Dear Naomi Dulfer

I am writing to you regarding **Alliance Ngondiop**, a Cameroon national due to be forcibly removed from the UK on Saturday 15th November 2008 at 06:15hours on British Airways Flight BA302 to Paris **and onward to Cameroon via Air France Flight AF940.**

Alliance came here with her husband in 2005 on a visitor's visa. Her husband had to return back to Cameroon for work reasons after 4 months but Alliance remained in the UK to help her niece who had just given birth to a premature baby. Later in 2005, Alliance fell ill not long after learning from her husband in Cameroon that their little child had died suddenly. In the UK, Alliance had to have some tests done and these tests showed she had TB and HIV. Since that time, she has been receiving vital medical treatment.

Her husband and extended family in Cameroon have threatened to kill Alliance if she comes back to the country. In May'08, Alliance telephoned Cameroon and learnt that her estranged husband had visited her father a week earlier, and that there had been a lot of shouting and screaming between the two men. The neighbour found Alliance's father bound up and dead a few days after that visit by Alliance's husband. The Home Office wants to remove the Alliance because Cameroon is considered safe and her life is not considered at risk despite the fact that Alliance is HIV positive and has no family to return to in Cameroon to help her when her health fails.

She should not be forced back to Cameroon to return to her angry and threatening husband who Home Office agree, *"in looking at the determination of her visit visa application it had been noted that her husband apparently had been a prominent man in Cameroon"*.

To return her to Cameroon now to face isolation and social rejection is a very inhumane act by the UK Home Office. Given that Alliance is getting a lot of support from her local church and also the hospital and Terence Higgins Trust in light of her health issues, and that she has been a victim of abuse and rape (Alliance was a victim of a rape going back about 7 years ago), sending her back where she will not be able to afford the medical treatment for her conditions is going to make her quality of life back in Cameroon very bad indeed, especially to face the lack of family support and financial means to provide accommodation and medical care for herself.

Alliance has a Christian faith and has participated in church services at the local church where she has attended regularly. Her Christian faith is what is keeping her strong through all her suffering and abuse as a victim of exploitation, as victim of ill-health and also a victim of an abusive husband. Alliance would like to feel safe and protected in her life now, and the only way for that to happen is if the UK Home Office grant her leave to remain. She would study or be active with charity work, and if well enough, would like to work, if she is granted leave to stay.

I am requesting that your airline should refrain from the business of carrying passengers who are not physically or mentally fit for long-haul travel. In Alliance's case, she is a very depressed and vulnerable woman who is ill with HIV and is at risk of being stigmatised and abused by her extended family as well as the local community in Cameroon should she be sent back. The police force, due to their corruption, will not be able to guarantee this lady her safety.

I believe that the current Home Office policy of deporting asylum seeker HIV sufferers does not reflect the reality of cases like Alliance's and, should she be removed, will be cast into an arena of fear where even in that large country, there will be no hiding from a man of influential means such as her estranged husband. His threats have deepened her need for protection from domestic abuse or even harassment and discrimination from the corrupt officials acting on orders from her estranged husband determined to fulfil his threats of violence and abuse to Alliance.

The UK Home Office says it is up to the carrier, whether they carry deportees !

Lastly, it is the duty of the Home Office to inform Air France of the fact that Alliance has HIV and to obtain medical clearance from Air France that Alliance is medically fit to fly. As far as I know the Home Office has not done this.

Yours Sincerely,

Name:

Address:

City:

Postcode:

Country:

Date: