

Her Excellency
Madam Vo Thi Anh Xuan
The currently acting President of the
Socialist Republic of Vietnam
Botschaft der Sozialistischen Republik Vietnam
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Your Excellency;

Please forgive me for turning to you on behalf of the incarcerated Christian, Mr. Nay Y Blang, from Phu Yen Province. The 48-year-old was arrested on May 18, 2023, and according to the information available to me, Mr. Blang had been meeting peacefully with other Christians in his home for non-political prayer meetings. He also advocated for the right to religious freedom.

On January 26, 2024, the Phu Yen Provincial People's Court sentenced him to four and a half years in prison for "abuse of democratic freedoms." At the hearing before the People's Court, he was not allowed to have a defense lawyer.

Mr. Blang had previously, from 2005 to 2010, been imprisoned because of his religious beliefs. This incarceration was followed by 24 months in a re-education camp.

Vietnam is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights with the right to freedom of religion. I therefore humbly beseech you, dear Madam President, to do everything in your power to advocate that Mr. Nay Y Blang is released from custody, especially since apparently no fair trial has taken place.

Most respectfully,