

Me Alphonse Charles Wright  
Minister of Justice  
Rue KA 003 – Almamy  
Commune de Kaloum  
BP 564 Conakry – Guinée

Noordwijk, the Netherlands, December 2022

Dear Minister,

I am writing to raise concern activists Oumar Sylla, Ibrahima Diallo and Saïkou Yaya Barry. They are being prosecuted solely for the peaceful exercise of their rights to freedom of expression and assembly. They are being charged with 'participation in an illegal protest, complicity in the destruction of public and private property, complicity in assault and battery'.

On 28 July 2022, the National Front for the Defence of the Constitution (FNDC) organized a protest to denounce the unilateral way in which the political transition following the September 2021 coup was being managed by the authorities. The protest took place despite a national ban on all demonstrations, which the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights stated on 30 May 2022 was violating Guinea's human rights obligations. FNDC leaders Sylla, Diallo and Barry were arrested two days later. Barry was released on 12 October under judicial control following the deterioration of his health during his detention. Sylla and Diallo were evacuated to Ignace Deen Hospital for medical treatment in August and September.

I urge you to ensure that all charges against the three activists are immediately dropped, and Oumar Sylla and Ibrahima Diallo released. In the meantime, I urge you to ensure their access to prompt and regular medical care as necessary.

Yours sincerely,