Minister of Justice Ahmat Mahamat Hassan

Ministry of Justice

PO Box 2100

N’Djamena Chad

Dear Minister,

I am writing to call your attention to the cases of Nadjo Kaina Palmer and Bertrand Sollo. These men are being detained at Amsinene prison awaiting a verdict on their case. Both men are charged with attempted conspiracy and calling an unauthorized gathering. The public prosecutor requested that they be jailed for five years. The gathering that these men called for was to be a peaceful protest of government actions and impunity. As such, they were simply exercising their right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly as guaranteed in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

I respectfully request that the Chadian authorities immediately and unconditionally release Nadjo Kaina Palmer and Bertrand Sollo as they are prisoners of conscience arrested and detained solely for peacefully exercising their right to freedom of expression. I urge you to ensure these men are not subjected to torture and other ill-treatment pending their release, and are allowed regular access to their lawyers, to family visits, to medical attention and to all basic necessities. Finally, I urge you to ensure that the Chadian authorities end all forms of intimidation and harassment against all other human rights activists and defenders in Chad.

Sincerely,