President of the Republic

Miguel Mario Díaz-Canel Bermúdez

Presidente de la República de Cuba

La Habana

Cuba.

Your Excellency:

I write to you with great concern for imprisoned human rights defender Dr. Eduardo Cardet Concepción.

On 26 May 2018, prison officials informed the family of Dr. Concepción that his rights to family visits have been suspended for six months because of complaints that his family made to the international press and human rights organizations.

Under international law, prisoners have the right to communicate with the outside world, to receive visits from their families and lawyers, and to access adequate health care. Such rights are fundamental safeguards against other human rights violations, including torture or other ill-treatment.

I respectfully call on you to release Dr. Concepción immediately and unconditionally, as he is a prisoner of conscience, imprisoned solely for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression. I urge you to ensure that access to his family is immediately reinstated and that he is allowed regular contact with his family and the outside world, as well as access to the lawyers and medical care of his choosing.

Yours sincerely,