Joaquim Veríssimo

Minister of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs

Av. Julius Nyerere 33

Maputo

Mozambique

Dear Honorable Minister Joaquim Veríssimo,

I write concerning Amade Abubacar, a journalist with Nacedje community radio based in Cabo Delgado province.

Amade was arbitrarily detained while being investigated for “public incitement using electronic media” and “violation of State secrecy.” Prison authorities have restricted Amade’s right of access to family, limiting his access to letter exchanges.

Amade has not been tried or formally charged with a recognizable criminal offense. It has been over 90 days since his detention, violating the Criminal Procedural Code, which forbids such a lengthy detention.

I urge you to ensure the immediate and unconditional release of Amade, who is a prisoner of conscience detained solely for his work as a journalist. Please ensure that, pending his release, Amade is protected from ill-treatment, that his detention conforms to international standards, and that he has prompt and regular access to family and lawyers. Finally, I ask that you ensure the right to freedom of expression and that journalists are free to carry out their work without fear of attack, intimidation, harassment, or censorship.

Yours sincerely,