

# WORLDWIDE APPEALS — November 2020

An appeal from you to the authorities can help the victims of human rights violations. You can help free a prisoner of conscience or stop torture. Your message can bring liberty to a victim of disappearance. You may prevent an execution.

The victims are many, the violators wide ranging. Every appeal counts.



## ACTIVIST ONCE AGAIN DETAINED ON BOGUS CHARGES

One month after his release, pro-democracy activist Oumar Sylla, alias Foniké Mengué, has once again been arrested and arbitrarily detained. He was riding a motorbike with a friend to mobilize protesters on 29 September when he was arrested by police officers in plain clothing in Matoto municipality in the Guinean capital, Conakry. He refused to follow the police officers on account that they failed to present an arrest warrant. Nevertheless, they brutally carried out his arrest which resulted in him sustaining injuries to his hand and finger. He has since been held in Conakry prison on fabricated charges. Oumar Sylla is a prisoner of conscience who must be immediately and unconditionally released.

**TAKE ACTION: WRITE AN APPEAL IN YOUR OWN WORDS OR USE THIS MODEL LETTER**

**Maitre Mory Doumbaya**  
**Minister of Justice**  
**BP: 564 Conakry**

**Email: [maitredoumbouya@yahoo.com](mailto:maitredoumbouya@yahoo.com)**

Dear Minister,

*I am writing to you concerning **Oumar Sylla (alias Foniké Mengué)**, a pro-democracy activist and mobilisation coordinator for National Front for the Defence of the Constitution (FNDC), who was arrested on 29 September.*

*He has been falsely charged with "unauthorised gathering, disturbance of public order, destruction of public property and endangering state security" and is currently being held in Conakry prison, in the Guinean capital. The police officers refused his lawyers access to him during his custody in the Direction of Judiciary Police headquarters (DPJ).*

*Oumar Sylla was riding a motorbike with a friend through the neighbourhood of Matoto in the Guinean capital, to mobilize people to engage in a protest against President Condé's candidacy for the 18 October presidential elections, when he was arrested. During his arrest, he refused to follow the police officers without them presenting an arrest warrant. The officers tore his shirt and mask and injured his hand and finger during the arrest. This is the second time this year that the authorities have arbitrarily arrested and detained Oumar Sylla in an attempt to silence him and reduce the FNDC's protest mobilization efforts against President Alpha Condé running for a third term.*

*In light of the above, I urge you to:*

- *Immediately and unconditionally release Oumar Sylla and ensure that the charges against him are dropped;*
- *Ensure that, pending his release, Oumar Sylla's conditions of detention are in line with international standards, including access to water, food and regular access to his family and lawyer. If contact visits are restricted due to COVID-19 preventive measures, they must be replaced with other means of communication, by phone, video call or emails, for example;*
- *End the harassment, intimidation and arrests of members of civil society and individuals for simply exercising their right to freedom of expression.*

*Yours sincerely,*

**Amnesty International–Nobel Peace Prize 1977 UN Human Rights Prize 1978**

For more information about the Salisbury branch  
please call Tony Miller 01722 322791 - [www.salisburyai.com](http://www.salisburyai.com)