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Dear Minister,

On 3 August 2019, civil rights activist, Omoyele Sowore was arrested and detained for organizing a protest – tagged '#RevolutionNow'- to demand for a better Nigeria. He is standing trial alongside two others. Olawale Bakare, a young student who was also arrested in the #RevolutionNow protests of August 2019 and detained for 120 days. Agba Jalingo, a vocal journalist is also standing trial for exposing the corruption of Cross River State Governor. If found guilty of the charges – which have been trumped-up solely in an effort to silence and deter dissenting voices - Omoyele Sowore, Agba Jalino and Olawale Bakare would be at risk of the death penalty.

For over one year, Omoyele Sowore, Agba Jalingo and Olawale Bakare have suffered from a prolonged trial. Omoyele Sowore escaped a physical attack at his home where he currently resides in Abuja. Olawale Bakare has suffered physical assault, threats of re-arrest (even while on bail) while Agba Jalingo has suffered harassment from security officials for refusing to give up on his report of corruption of Cross River State Governor.

I urge you to take all necessary steps to drop all charges against Omoyele Sowore, Agba Jalingo and Olawale Bakare and to take necessary steps to ensure they are protected from harassment.

Yours sincerely,

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