

Maitre Mory Doumbouya
Minister of Justice
BP: 564 Conakry
GUINEA

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). Although he was recently released from prison in the wake of the military coup in Guinea on September 5 after nearly a year in custody, his conviction was not quashed. He is charged with "communication and dissemination of false information, violence and threat of death".

He was (re)arrested in Conakry, the Guinean capital, on 29 September 2020 while peacefully mobilizing people to engage in a protest. On June 10, 2021, he was sentenced by Conakry's Court of Appeal to three years in prison. Oumar Sylla's health deteriorated severely during his imprisonment and he had to be hospitalized several times. Oumar Sylla has been targeted by the authorities and arbitrarily deprived of his liberty as punishment for peacefully exercising his rights to freedom of expression and assembly.

In light of the above, I urge you to to acquit Oumar Sylla of all charges without delay.

Yours sincerely,

Copy:

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