

His Majesty King Mswati III
Office of the King
Lozitha Palace
PO Box 1
Kwaluseni
ESWATINI

2024

Thulani Maseko, unlawful killing

Your Majesty,

On 21st January 2023, Thulani Maseko, a human rights lawyer, activist and former prisoner of conscience, was shot in his house through an open window of his living room by unknown people. His wife was witness to the murder.

Amnesty International suspects that the crime was motivated by Thulani Maseko's work as a human rights lawyer, who had repeatedly criticized the country's judiciary, the government's abuse of power, and the wasteful mismanagement of the country's resources, also calling for democratic reform.

The day before Thulani Maseko was killed, your Majesty reportedly threatened activists like Thulani Maseko in a public address saying that those calling for democratic reform in your country would be "dealt with".

I urge you to ensure that the unlawful killing of Thulani Maseko is thoroughly, impartially and independently investigated, and that anyone suspected to be responsible be promptly brought to justice in a fair trial. The authorities in Eswatini must respect and protect all citizens' human rights, including those of critics and members of the opposition.

Yours sincerely,