

Maitre Mory Doumbouya
Minister of Justice
BP: 564 Conakry
GUINEA

Oumar Sylla

Dear Minister,

Oumar Sylla (alias Foniké Mengué), is a pro-democracy activist and mobilisation coordinator for National Front for the Defence of the Constitution (FNDC). Although after nearly a year in custody, he was recently released, 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 period in custody 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 drop all charges against Oumar Sylla.

Yours sincerely,