**Case: Fred Bauma and Yves Makwambala, Democratic Republic of Congo**

*President Joseph Kabila*

*Cabinet du President de la R*é*publique,
Palais de la Nation,
Av. De Lemera,
Kinshasa-Gombe*

*République Démocratique du Congo*

Dear President Kabila,

In March 2015, Fred Bauma and Yves Makwambala were arrested after organising an event in Kinshasa which encouraged young people to take an interest in politics and go to vote. They have been in prison ever since, awaiting trial for serious crimes against the state despite the lack of evidence against them.

They have been labelled “terrorists and plotters” by officials, in what appears to be an attempt to intimidate activists and stifle democratic debate.

President Kabila, in view of these deeply concerning events, I call on you to:

* Order the immediate and unconditional release of Mr Bauma and Mr Makwambala, and have all charges against them dropped.
* Release and drop charges against other activists, opposition party members, and others detained solely for their political views or having participated in peaceful activities.

Yours,