



SECRETARIAT GENERAL

Paris, July 25th, 2022

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N°: CNRD-FLN/SG/07-E1/07/22

His Excellency Filipe NYUSI

President of Mozambique

Maputo

Subject : *Recurrent assassination of Rwandan refugees*

Your Excellency Mr. President,

First of all, we would like to thank you and the entire Mozambican people for the hospitality that our Rwandan refugee brothers and sisters have enjoyed since 1994. Indeed, Mozambique is one of the SADC countries that have welcomed many Rwandan refugees and facilitated their return to hope. We cannot thank you enough.

However, Your Excellency, for several years now, our Rwandan refugee compatriots in Mozambique have been mistreated, arbitrarily detained, disappeared and even murdered, facts that have become recurrent and yet remain unpunished. To cite only the most recent cases: Louis Baziga, one of the leaders of the Rwandan community in Mozambique, was murdered in Maputo in August 2019, Cassien Ntamuhanga was abducted and reported missing since May 2021, Revocat Karemangingo was shot dead in September 2021, Selemani Masiya was killed in Nampula on 07 July 2022. Reliable and concordant information in our possession attest that the persecutions inflicted to our compatriots refugees in Mozambique are the fact, essentially, of the Rwandan regime whose secret agents, in direct collaboration with the Embassy of Rwanda in Maputo, actively seek all real or supposed opponents to the Rwandan regime to annihilate them.

Unfortunately, it is also reported that Mozambican civil and military officials are actively involved with these troublemakers in the pay of Kigali. Secret agents

coordinated by the Rwandan Embassy in Maputo are said to have applied for and obtained refugee status in Mozambique and to be residing there under the pretext of doing business, when in fact they are there essentially to spy on and entrap genuine Rwandan refugees. And following the two bilateral agreements involving an extradition treaty and a mutual legal assistance agreement in criminal matters that you signed with Kigali on Friday, June 3, 2022, which are added to the permanent Rwandan military presence in the framework of the fight against terrorism, we fear that violations against our compatriots refugees in your country will become widespread and even commonplace.

Excellency Mr. President, as CNRD-FLN -an opposition movement to the Kigali regime- we would like, in the name of humanity and its dignity, to urge you to put an end to the persecution inflicted on Rwandan refugees. In legal terms, you should keep the promise made to refugees in 1983, when your country ratified the Geneva Convention of July 28, 1951, governing the status of refugees, which is reflected in Article 20 of the Mozambican Constitution. Under this Convention, your country has sovereignly committed itself to a set of positive obligations in the area of refugee protection. Among other things, you are responsible for the legal and physical protection of any person recognized as a refugee in Mozambique. In african culture, moreover, even an animal pursued by hunters that finds refuge in your home is now under your protection, it must be allowed to live. Even more so, you should not tolerate that refugees under your protection are massacred on Mozambican soil by the regime they fled.

In the expectation of a better future for our fellow refugees in Mozambique, please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

BIRUKA Innocent Ph, D

Secretary General of CNRD-FLN



Copy for Information to :

- H.E. Antonio Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations
- Mr. Federico Villegas, President of the UN High Council for Human Rights
- Mr. Filippo Grandi, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

- Mr. Kenneth Roth, Executive Secretary of Human Right Watch
- Ms Julie Verhaar, Secretary General of Amnesty International
- The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative - CHRI
- British Broadcasting Corporation - BBC World Service
- Liga Mocambicana Dos Direitos Humanos (LDH)
- Le Procureur Général du Mozambique