

Cambodia - Mother Nature Cambodia

Prime Minister of Cambodia
c/o Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the United Nations
327 East 58th Street
New York, NY 10022
United States of America

Dear Prime Minister:

Mother Nature Cambodia has courageously defended the Cambodian environment since 2013. But since 2016, the authorities have repeatedly targeted the group with arrests and prosecution, for nothing more than protecting the environment and exercising their right to freedom of expression. In June 2024, six members of the group were sentenced to between six and eight years in prison. One member fled Cambodia to continue their work, but the remaining five activists are enduring harsh conditions in prisons that are not compliant with international human rights standards.

I call on you to immediately and unconditionally release the five detained activists and quash all convictions against Mother Nature Cambodia activists.

Nobody should face prison simply for protecting the planet.

Yours sincerely,

Ecuador - Guerreras por la Amazonía

President of Ecuador
Palacio de Carondelet
García Moreno N10-43 entre Chile y Espejo
Quito 170401
Ecuador

Dear President:

The Guerreras por la Amazonía are fighting alongside the Union of People Affected by Texaco's Oil Operations and the collective "Eliminen los Mecheros, Enciendan la Vida" (Remove the Flares, Ignite Life) to eliminate gas flares which are causing toxic fumes and environmental devastation in their communities. In 2021, a landmark ruling required the government to eliminate the use of gas flares, yet they continue to burn.

I am deeply concerned that the young defenders are facing stigma and violent intimidation. Rather than investigating the threats against them, the authorities told the group that they will only provide them with protection if they stop their activism.

I demand that you uphold the ruling to eliminate gas flares and ensure the safety of climate defenders.

Yours sincerely,

CC: Embassy of the Republic of Ecuador
99 Bank Street, Suite 230
Ottawa ON K1P 6B9

Honduras - Juan López

Attorney General
Public Prosecutor's Office
Avenida República Dominicana
Colonia Lomas del Guijarro
Tegucigalpa M.D.C.
Honduras

Dear Attorney General:

Juan López was a loving father and husband who tirelessly defended his local environment in northern Honduras from mining and energy projects which have threatened local rivers, forests and the Carlos Escaleras Mejía National Park. On 14 September 2024, he was shot dead in his car by a masked gunman as he left church.

I am writing to demand that you ensure a prompt, independent and impartial investigation into the killing of Juan López. All those suspected of being responsible for the crime must be brought to justice in fair trials, including those who ordered the murder.

Yours sincerely,

CC: Embassy of the Republic of Honduras
130 Albert Street, Suite 504
Ottawa ON K1P 5G4

Madagascar - Damisoa

Director General
National Office of Risk and Disaster Management
Avaratra Antanimora Route Mausolée
Antananarivo 101
Madagascar

Dear Director General:

In 2021, Damisoa and his family fled drought-stricken Androy due to drought-induced famines. In Boeny, the government resettled them at a site where farming is unviable and access to food, water and sanitation is regularly and severely hindered by fast-moving, crocodile-infested waters.

People displaced by famine and now living in Boeny, including Damisoa and his fellow residents, urgently need humanitarian assistance. But aid is currently almost exclusively concentrated in drought-stricken southern Madagascar.

I am calling on you to take urgent steps to guarantee the human rights of people displaced and now living in Boeny and across Madagascar and urge you to actively seek the support of humanitarian agencies and other relevant actors to do this.

Yours sincerely,

CC: Embassy of the Republic of Madagascar
3 Raymond Street
Ottawa ON K1R 1A3

Myanmar - Sai Zaw Thaike

The Myanmar Military junta
c/o Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
336 Island Park Drive
Ottawa ON K1Y 0A7

To the Myanmar military junta:

I am writing to demand that you immediately release photojournalist Sai Zaw Thaike.

Sai Zaw has been persecuted for his work reporting on the devastation caused by Cyclone Mocha. In 2023, he was arrested and sentenced by a military tribunal to 20 years in prison. He has endured beatings by prison staff and periods of solitary confinement. Sai Zaw must be freed now.

Yours sincerely,

Norway - Ellinor Guttorm Utsi, Sámi reindeer herders

Prime Minister of Norway
Office of the Prime Minister
PO box 8001 Dep
0030 Oslo
Norway

Dear Prime Minister:

Ellinor Guttorm Utsi is a Sámi Indigenous leader working tirelessly to protect her community's ancient reindeer-herding way of life in northern Norway. In 2023, several hundred wind turbines were suddenly proposed directly on their summer grazing lands in Čorgaš, threatening to damage grazing land, break migration routes and destroy their culture. Despite fierce opposition, the authorities are rushing approvals.

I urge you to protect the rights of the Sámi reindeer-herding communities by ensuring that industrial wind-power projects that threaten their lands and way of life do not proceed without the free, prior and informed consent of the affected Sámi people.

Yours sincerely,

CC: Embassy of the Kingdom of Norway
150 Metcalfe Street, Suite 1300
Ottawa ON K2P 1P1

South Africa - Unecebo Mboteni

Minister of Basic Education
Ministry of Basic Education
Private bag X9034
Cape Town 8000
South Africa

Dear Minister:

I am writing to you to demand justice for Unecebo Mboteni. In April 2024, three-year-old Unecebo died after falling into a pit toilet at his pre-school in the Eastern Cape.

More than one year on and the family has had no word from the Little Champions Day Care Centre or the department about whether the pit toilet that Unecebo fell into has been removed. They were also told it could be years before the investigation is completed.

I urge you to ensure the investigation into Unecebo's death is expedited, the outcome made public, and that those responsible are held accountable.

Yours sincerely,

CC: High Commission for the Republic of South Africa
15 Sussex Drive
Ottawa ON K1M 1M8

Tunisia - Sonia Dahmani

President of Tunisia
Carthage Presidential Palace
La Goulette Road
Carthage Archaeological Site
Tunis
Tunisia

Your Excellency:

Sonia Dahmani is a lawyer and media commentator who has dedicated her life to defending human rights. On 11 May 2024, security forces arrested Sonia. She has been convicted and sentenced on unfounded charges of “spreading false news”, with additional politically motivated investigations still pending. She is being held in inhumane conditions and denied medical care, including essential medication.

I call on you to immediately and unconditionally release Sonia Dahmani, quash the sentences and drop all charges against her as she is detained solely for exercising her right to freedom of expression.

Yours sincerely,

CC: Embassy of the Republic of Tunisia
515 O'Connor Street
Ottawa ON K1S 3P8