

President of the Republic

Yahya Jammeh

Private Mail Bag

State House,

Banjul, The Gambia

Your Excellency,

I am writing to express my grave concern on a proposed amendment to the Criminal Code which you are currently reviewing. The bill will further discriminate against and punish Gambians merely on the basis of their real or perceived sexual orientation.

I therefore call on you to reject provisions in the proposed Criminal Code on aggravated homosexuality and absconding state officials.

I would like to call on you to repeal provisions in the Criminal Code which criminalize consensual same-sex sexual conduct.

I would also want to remind you of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights resolution on the Protection against Violence and other Human Rights Violations against Persons on the basis of their real or imputed Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity.

Lastly, I would like to urge you to promote human rights for all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, and to refrain from making threatening, intimidating, or discriminatory remarks against LGBTI persons.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,