

Honourable Minister of Interior Jaime Basilio Monteiro

Av. Olof Palme 46/48

Maputo,

Mozambique

Dear Minister Jaime Basílio Monteiro,

On 5 January, police in the Macomia district of Cabo Delgado (northern Mozambique) arrested journalist Amade Abubacar and detained him. He has not been charged with any offence. Amade Abubacar is a journalist at Nacedje community radio.

Amade Abubacar was covering the attacks on civilians carried by armed groups in the Cabo Delgado province, and was therefore interviewing and photographing a group of people who fled their homes due to the intensification of violent attacks; when police officers arrested him without warrant. They handcuffed Amade Abubacar, confiscated his cell phone and took him into custody.

On 6 January 2019, Amade Abubacar was taken to the military detention in Mueda district, northern Cabo Delgado. Amade Abubacar has been held in incommunicado detention, has not been charged with any crime and has not been granted access to his lawyer.

I urge you to immediately and unconditionally release Amade Abubacar from arbitrary detention by military forces. I call on you to ensure that, pending his release, Amade Abubacar is not subjected to torture and other ill-treatment, and that he is allowed access to his family and lawyers of his choosing. I urge you to ensure that journalists are able to carry out their work without fear of attacks, intimidation, harassment and censorship.

Yours sincerely,