

Minister Francisco Manuel Monteiro de Queiroz
Honourable Minister of Justice and Human Rights
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Honourable Minister Francisco Manuel Monteiro de Queiroz,

I am concerned that members of the non-governmental organisation **MBAKITA** are being targeted with increasing acts of intimidation, death threats and attacks. Unidentified armed men broke into the house of **Pascoal Baptistiny**, executive director of MBAKITA, on 17 and 23 April, and 11, 12 and 13 May. These are only the most recent incidents in a series of attacks. I believe that these acts are being carried out with the aim of preventing members of MBAKITA from doing their work for the defence and promotion of the rights of people from ethnic minorities and denouncing corruption in the region.

In light of the above, I urge you to take all appropriate measures to ensure that **Pascoal Baptistiny** and other MBAKITA activists are provided with adequate protection, in accordance to their wishes and in consultation with them, so that they can continue their work freely without fear of reprisals.

In addition, I urge you to carry out a prompt, thorough, independent and impartial investigation into the attacks, death threats and intimidation.

Thank you for your attention. I am kindly awaiting your reply.

Yours sincerely,