

To: Mme Domine Banyankimbona
Ministre de la Justice
BP 1880
Bujumbura, Burundi
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December 2024

Dear Minister,

I am alarmed by the poor state of health of **Dr Christophe Sahabo**, who has been detained since 1 April 2022. His condition is potentially life-threatening and he needs urgent medical attention.

The authorities' deliberate denial of health care, causing severe pain and suffering, amounts to torture and other ill-treatment under international law. Under Burundian law (Article 33 of the 2017 law on the penitentiary system), detainees who are unwell have the right to be transferred to a medical institution for specialized care that is not available at the prison on the recommendation of the prison doctor.

In light of the above, I urge you to ensure that **Dr Christophe Sahabo** immediately receives appropriate medical attention and has unfettered access to his family and lawyers.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I am looking forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,