To the National Prosecutor of the Democratic Republic of Congo
Mr. Flory KABANGE NUMBI
Kinshasa / Gombe

Re: Families of Victims of Operation Likofi and the January 2015 Demonstrations Call for Justice and an Exhumation of the Mass Grave in Maluku

Mr. National Prosecutor,

We, the families of victims of Operation Likofi, from November 2013 to February 2014, and of the brutal repression of demonstrations to protest changes to the electoral law in January 2015, have the honor of addressing you to call for justice for the executions and
enforced disappearances of our children, brothers, and husbands. We are also calling for the exhumation of the mass grave in Maluku, 80 km from central Kinshasa, where the Congolese government confirms it buried 421 people in the middle of the night of March 18 to 19, 2015, including some who they say were indigent or unidentified.

Since we learned of the mass burial near Fula-Fula cemetery in Maluku, we have become more and more anxious with every day that passes, knowing that our children were either killed or taken away by the Congolese security forces.

As you know, on November 15, 2013, Congolese authorities, acting through the Ministry of Interior, launched an operation to eradicate urban crime in Kinshasa, called “Operation Likofi,” or “Iron Fist.” During this operation, our unfortunate, innocent children were shot dead in cold blood or abducted at night by officers of the Congolese National Police, with masks covering their faces and driving in unmarked official police vehicles, and taken to destinations still unknown to this day. The bodies of those of our children who were killed were taken away by the police, who prohibited us from taking them out of the morgues, organizing funeral ceremonies, or burying them, under threat of being killed or arrested ourselves.

We, the families of the victims of Operation Likofi, deplore the government’s failure to publish the results of its investigations into the summary executions and enforced disappearances perpetrated by police officers during Operation Lokifi, as it has promised to do, as well as the fact that none of those most responsible for this operation, neither police nor government officials, have faced justice, as some of us requested in our complaint of November 13, 2014.

During demonstrations the week of January 19, 2015, against an amendment to the revised electoral law that would have extended the term of President Joseph Kabila beyond 2016, security forces—including police and members of the Republican Guard—fired point blank into the crowds of demonstrators. Other demonstrators were abducted and taken to destinations still unknown to this day. Our children, brothers, sisters, nephews, and nieces were among these additional victims. We, the families victimized by this brutal repression at the hands of the Congolese security forces, now join our voices with those of the victims of Operation Likofi to demand that justice be done. It is impossible, for those of us who have not been able to recover the bodies of our children, to resume our day-to-day routines and conclude the traditional period of mourning. Those who have never found their abducted children go through each passing day burdened with worry, not knowing where they are.

We were then overwhelmed by the news of a nighttime mass burial in Maluku, and by the authorities’ confirmation that they do this on a regular basis. In the knowledge that some of
us have had no sign of our loved ones for over a year, others for months; unable to organize funerals because we do not know what has happened to our children, who are still missing; unable to end mourning periods for those whose bodies have never been found after they were taken away by security forces, **we, the members of families of victims in these two situations, demand an independent, credible investigation of the mass grave in Maluku, without political interference, and with the participation of Congolese and international investigators who will exhume the bodies and perform DNA tests.**

This, Mr. National Prosecutor, will help us gain peace of mind in the knowledge that our loved ones are not among those buried in the mass grave in Maluku and to keep hope that we will see them again someday, or, at the least, to hold funerals worthy of those who died.

*We also call for the perpetrators of the summary executions and enforced disappearances, both during Operation Likofi and the demonstrations of January 2015, as well as those responsible for this burial of 421 people that was in violation of the right to a dignified and humane burial as enshrined in Congolese law and African culture, be brought to justice.*

We are ready to cooperate with the justice system, with the assistance of our lawyers.

This request constitutes an official complaint.

Please accept, **Mr. National Prosecutor,** the expression of our sincere respect.

For more information, please contact the Lawyers Collective for the families of victims, represented by:

- Mr. Georges Kapiamba, Attorney, Tel.: 0814043641, email: kapiambag@gmail.com
- Mr. Sylvain Lumu, Attorney, Tel.: 0815079823, email: sylvalumu@yahoo.fr
Signée par les membres des familles des victimes suivantes :

NOM DE LA VICTIME – MORT OU ENLEVÉ – SIGNATURE DU MEMBRE DE FAMILLE

I. VICTIMES DE L’OPÉRATION LIKOFI

1. ENGILI HANOUNOU COORIC (ENLEVÉ)
2. BINDA JIRECE (ENLEVÉ) K 77
3. TRESOR KITUBA (ENLEVÉ) COM
4. KAKUMI NGANGA GRACIA (ENLEVÉ)
5. LOKUA LASIO GLAUDI (ENLEVÉ)
6. MUBIALA ARUSA ISSA (ENLEVÉ)
7. KWAWA DJO (ENLEVÉ)
8. MULENGE BOVIC (ENLEVÉ)
9. MARIKANI MATATA (ENLEVÉ)
10. BOLALUEMBE TRESOR (TUE)
11. CLODIU MARITA LIGOLIYE (ENLEVÉ)
12. KIBANDA TSHITATU DAN (ENLEVÉ)
13. MUSO BROKIS (ENLEVÉ)
14. EFOLEKO BAOSO J’OULL (ENLEVÉ)
15. LAM DU HAMWISI CHRISTIAN (ENLEVÉ)
16. BOKAKO MULENGE PATHY (ENLEVÉ)
17. MBALE KASANDA PAPY (ENLEVÉ)
18. HEMI GULAIN (ENLEVÉ)
19. KAWASA N'TALA LEMBA RACHAI (ENLEVE)
20. ENDELE MINGA ANDRIOD (ENLEVE)
21. JOSE OKITO (TUE)
22. BAZUNGULA WILKA (TUE)
23. MUNDELE JACQUES
24. JADY SUCAPEL PADUC (ENLEVE)
25. KABONGO KANJE REAGEN (ENLEVE)
26. JULES KIN'UDI (ENLEVE)
II. VICTIMES DES MANIFESTATIONS DE JANVIER 2015

1. IBRAHIM - KAMBAYA - MATAKALALA (TUE)
2. CRISPIN SARRASUR (ENLEVÉ)
3. WUUMBA - MBANGA (TUE)
4. EBELE JEAN (TUE)
5. MUSELE MBAYA NACE (TUE)
6. MAYEMBA MANGASA PATRICK (ENLEVÉ)
7. KINTALA MAYALA (ENLEVÉ)
8. NSIKU MAYALA (ENLEVÉ)