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Germany

Mme Domine Banyankimbona  
Minister of Justice  
PO Box: 1880  
Bujumbura  
BURUNDI

Hamburg, 05 March, 2023

**Journalist Floriane Irangabiye**

Dear Minister,

Journalist Floriane Irangabiye was arbitrarily arrested and imprisoned in August 2022. On 2nd January, 2023, the High Court of Mukaza in Bujumbura sentenced her to ten years of imprisonment as well as a fine, on the ground of fabricated allegations for supposedly “Endagering the integrity of the national territory”. Her lawyers appealed the verdict on January 23, 2023.

According to my information, Floriane Irangabiye is being prosecuted solely because of the peaceful exercise of her human rights to freedom of expression and because of her work as a journalist. Please ensure that the Attorney General’s Office of the Republic of Burundi arranges for the immediate and unconditional release of Floriane Irangabiye. The journalist’s sentence must be overturned and all charges against her must be dropped.

Yours sincerely,

[Name and signature]