

To: His Excellency Félix-Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo

President of the Democratic Republic of Congo

Office of the President of the Republic

Palais de la Nation

Gombe, Kinshasa

cabinet@presidentrdc.cd and delivered by hand

In copy to:

Gouverneur of the Province of Equateur (delivered by hand)

Gouverneur of the Province of Tschopo (delivered by hand)

Gouverneur of the Province of Mongala (delivered by hand)

National Minister of the Interior and Security (delivered by hand)

National Minister of Justice (delivered by hand)

Also in copy to.:

CDC Group Inc – UK (Nick O’Donohoe)

AECID – Spain

PROPARCO – France

DEGINVEST – Germany (Christiane Laibach)

FMO – The Netherlands (Peter van Mierlo -
Christiaan Buijnsters (Public Affairs)

BIOINVEST – Belgium (Luuk Zonneveld)

Feronia Inc. (Xavier DeCarniere)

Also in copy to signatories from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Subject: Letter delivered on Friday, the 26th of July 2019, now with updated list of signatories received after noon on Friday, the 26th of July 2019

Your Excellency,

30th of July 2019

We understand that around 3pm, on Sunday, July 21, 2019, Mr. Joël Imbangola Luneva was transporting several passengers and their luggage on his small boat when he was approached by a security guard working at the Boteka plantations of the palm oil company Feronia-PHC. The security guard, whose identity is known, proceeded to beat him, eventually killed him and threw his body into the Moboyo River. We understand that the security guard is still in hiding.

Mr. Joël Imbangola Luneva was member of the Congolese environmental and human rights organisation RIAO-RDC. The killing follows months of intimidation directed at members of RIAO-RDC and community members affected by the Feronia-PHC plantations who have been working with RIAO. RIAO-RDC is supporting communities who in November 2018 submitted a grievance with the Independent Complaints Mechanism (ICM) of the German, Dutch and French development banks against the company's occupation of their land. These development banks as well as the development banks of Spain, Belgium, the UK and the USA have provided financing to Feronia-PHC.

While the central issue of the grievance is the illegal occupation of community land by Feronia-PHC, the complainants note frequent escalation of conflicts between security personnel working in the plantations and community members. Complainants state that arbitrary accusations of theft of palm nuts and transport of palm oil are a frequent cause for conflict and harassment by security personnel.

The killing of the RIAO-RDC activist is believed to have been committed in the context of such an arbitrary accusation of transporting stolen palm oil. Joël Imbangola Lunea was the driver of a motorised boat used to transport people and goods between the villages around Feronia-PHC's Boteka plantations and the city of Mbandaka. He was also an activist working for his community and a member of RIAO-RDC.

Your Excellency, we urge you to ensure that the perpetrator of this brutal killing of Joël Imbangola Lunea be held to account. We ask that you:

- Immediately set up an urgent investigation into the murder of Mr. Joël Imbangola Lunea;
- Ensure those responsible for the murder of Mr. Joël Imbangola Lunea will be held to account;
- Impress on the governours of the three provinces where Feronia-PHC operates its disputed oil palm plantations and on the company that members of RIAO-RDC must be able to carry out their work safely. Their safety must be guaranteed and harassment and intimidation against members of RIAO-RDC and community members supported by RIAO must stop immediately. It is this atmosphere of intimidation and harassment that creates the breeding ground for the violent brutality through which Joël Imbangola Lunea lost was robbed of his life.

Sincerely,



Winfridus Overbeek, World Rainforest Movement
wrm@wrm.org.uy

See the following three pages for the final list of organisational signatures; pages 3-8 for the list of individual sign-ons. A list with more than 109,000 signatures received in response to the petition initiated by Rettet den Regenwald e.V. (Sauvons la forêt) can be found [here](#). These signatures have been delivered by hand with the letter to His Excellency, the President.

List of organisational signatories:

ACADHOSHA	République Démocratique du Congo
Acción por la Biodiversidad	Argentina
Acción Ecológica	Ecuador
AEFJN antenne belge	Belgique
ALTSEAN-Burma	Malaysia
APDDH ASSISTANCE (Défense des droits de l'homme)	Cameroon
APEM	République Démocratique du Congo
ARA	Germany
Association Eveil de l'Est	Cameroon
ATTAC Gabon	Gabon
BASE Investigaciones Sociales	Paraguay
BBT - Bündnis Bayrischer Tierschutzorganisationen	Germany
Biofuelwatch	United Kingdom
Biofuelwatch	USA
BOS German e.V.	Germany
Bread for All	Switzerland
CADDE	Gabon
cadtm France	France
Cambodia Human Rights Tasks Forces	Cambodia
Centar za zivotnu sredinu (Friends of the Earth Bosnia and Herzegovina)	Bosnia and Herzegovina
CEPED	République Démocratique du Congo
Climate Change Awareness Kenya	Kenya
Collectif TANY	France
Comboni Missionaries	USa
Comité international Union paysanne	Canada
Confédération Paysanne	France
Construisons Ensemble le monde	République Démocratique du Congo
COPAGEN	Burkina Faso
Corner House	United Kingdom
Corporate Europe Observatory	Belgium
Creative Centre for Communication and Development	Zimbabwe
CTA	République Démocratique du Congo
Culture Radio	Sierra Leone
DAWN (Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era)	Fiji
DESHAIES	Guadeloupe
Dogwood Alliance	USA
Down to Earth Consult	Germany
EcoNexus	United Kingdom
Enda Pronat	Sénégal
Environmental Rights Action (Friends of the Earth Nigeria)	Nigeria
ETC Group	Canada
ETOMBO E WUMA	République Démocratique du Congo
Fair World Project	USA
FASE	Brazil
Fern	Belgium
FIAN Belgium	Belgium
FIAN International Switzerland	Switzerland

FOCODER (Forets Communautaire pour le Développement Rural)	République Démocratique du Congo
Forum Ökologie & Papier	Germany
FRENCHS FOREST	Australia
Friends of the Earth Cyprus	Cyprus
Friends of the Earth International	International
Friends of the Earth Malaysia (Sahabat Alam Malaysia)	Malaysia
Friends of the Landless Finland	Finland
GASHE ONGD	République Démocratique du Congo
Global Forest Coalition	International
Global Justice Ecology Project	USA
GRAIN	Canada
Grassroots International	USA
Green Development Advocates	Cameroon
Green Development advocates (GDA)	Cameroon
GREENPEACE	République Démocratique du Congo
Greenpeace Belgium	Belgium
Grupo Guayubira	Uruguay
ICCA Consortium	Switzerland
JINUKUN	Benin
JVE Côte d'Ivoire	Côte d'Ivoire
KARERA	France
Katajamäki ecocommunity	Finland
Kilcoole Residents	Ireland
LITM	United Kingdom
LPESM Riau	Indonesia
Lucha	République Démocratique du Congo
Maiouri Nature Guyane	France
mig, inc.	Germany
Muyissi environnement	Gabon
NACOFAG	The Gambia
Nature-D-Congo	République du Congo
New Wind Association	Finland
NGO Coalition of Liberia	Liberia
Not1More	United Kingdom
OLSSI	Samoa
ACADEHLIB ONG	Cameroon
Or de Question	France
Otros Mundos A.C.	México
PAN Asia Pacific	Malaysia
Peuples des Forêts Primaires	France
PIDP	République Démocratique du Congo
Project Allende	Argentina
Prosofor Afrique	Sweden
PremiCongo (Protection des écoregions de miombo au Congo)	République Démocratique du Congo
Pro REGENWALD	Germany
Rainforest Action Network	USA
RC2	Belgium

ReAct	France
Re:Common	Italy
RECOMA (Red Latinoamericana contra los monocultivos de Árboles)	
Red de Coordinacion en Biodiversidad	Costa Rica
RED de pueblos soberanos contra la palma aceitera	Ecuador
REFEB CI	Côte d'Ivoire
Reforest the Earth	United Kingdom
Réseau CREF	République Démocratique du Congo
Réseau des acteurs du développement durable (RADD)	Cameroun
Rettet den Regenwald	Germany
RIAO-RDC	République Démocratique du Congo
Rights and Rice Foundation	Liberia
Saka Mese Nusa AllifURU	Netherlands
Salva le Foreste	Italy
Sawit Watch	Indonesia
SEFE - Cameroon	Cameroon
Social Entrepreneurs for Sustainable Development	Liberia
SORALO	Kenya
SOS Faim	Belgium
SUHODE FOUNDATION	Tanzania
Sustainable Brant	Canada
Sustainable Development Institute (SDI)	Liberia
SYNAPARCAM	Cameroun
Synchronicity Earth	United Kingdom
TANY	France
The Grail	South Africa
UK Youth Climate Coalition	United Kingdom
VIVAT International	USA
VoedselAnders	Netherlands
Witnessradio.org	Uganda
WoMin African Alliance	South Africa
Working group Foodjustice	Netherlands
YETIHO	Côte d'Ivoire
Youth Volunteers for Environment Ghana	Ghana

List of individual sign-ons:

Tala	Ali Hassan		Simon	Bonvin	Switzerland
Philippe	Casterman	Canada	Alexander	Arbachakov	Russia
Frederic	Girard	Belgium	Monique	Almeras	France
Sinead	Magner	France	Marie Noel	Etonde Mbella	Cameroon
Jacquy	Lenoir	United Kingdom	Najha	Johnson	USA
Neville	Durow	Belgium	Myriam	Bédard	Canada
Julie	Walker	South Africa	Bernard	David	France
		France	Regis	Dondain	France

Jacinthe	Bussieres	Canada	Annette	Wiesner	Germany
Abraham E.	van Wyk	South Africa	Manuela	Pinza	Switzerland
Victor	Kamendrowsky	USA	Ana Maria	Labarthe	Peru
Professor			Klaus	Hamper	Germany
Kathleen	McAfee	USA	Helmut	Singer	Austria
Louise	Pielat	France	Kristin	Burmann	Germany
Thomas	Dr. Engel	Germany	Gordana	Amidzic	Germany
Noelle	Garcin	South Africa	Monica	Krissel	Germany
Dominique	De Laet	Belgium	Elfi	Boeckler	Germany
Margherita	Maffii	Italy	Claudia	Brand	Germany
Daniela	Weltgen	Germany	Jessie	Davidson	Canada
Mark	Sayers	United Kingdom	Gertrude	Klaffenböck	Austria
Etienne	Samin	France	Jan	Seven	Germany
Manuela	Capurro	Uruguay	Helen	La Trobe	Ghana
Reiner	Tegtmeyer	United Kingdom	Ulrike	Kriesten	Germany
Manuel	Bärenz	Germany	Ann-Britt	Sternfeldt	Sweden
Elke	Kloos	Germany	Ursula	Krüger	Germany
Thomas	Mayer	Germany	Adriana	Sri Adhiati	Germany
Michael	Grosse		Helene	Beck	Denmark
	Holtforth	Germany	Carl	Beardmore	Germany
Jessica	Kelly	USA	Marion	Rauw	Belgium
Fatoumata	Diallo	Germany	Lukas	Kliewe	Germany
Veronika	Draijer	Germany	Verena	wohlschlegel	Germany
Michael	Gumnor	Germany	Nathalie	Flander	Luxembourg
Jacqueline	Klopp	Canada	Daniel	Bravo	Mexico
S.	Mai	Germany	Julian	Bakker	Antigua and Barbuda
Sandra	Vyskocil	Switzerland	Katherine	Gee	Canada
Ann	Malone	USA	Kenya	Keiselbach	USA
Heidrun	Sandner-Schindler	Germany	Brigitte	Lindvers	Germany
Liane	Andersen	Germany	Marion	Meier	Germany
Nils	Neubauer	Germany	Meike	Hartmann	Germany
Rosmarie	Schultheiss	Switzerland	Markus	App	Germany
Anne	Rochlitz	Germany	Stefan	Ditteich	Germany
Eveline	Wilk	Switzerland	Denitza	Toteva	Germany
Lucia	Scheidler	Germany	Linda	Sansico	France
Linda	Burrows	United Kingdom	Fabrizio	Fabbri	Belgium
Sybille	Braun	Germany	Monika	Walden	Germany
Claudis	Piel	Germany	Susanne	Karlsson	Sweden
Cassandra	Smithies	USA	Karin	Jacobs	Germany
Nathalie	Schott	Germany	Emilia	Karlsson	Sweden
Frances	Sinclair	United Kingdom	Iris	Michelmann	Germany
René	Zilles	Germany	Sebastian	Wagner	Germany
Inge	Sonnenberg	Germany	Silke	Epple	Germany
Margit	Neuhäuser-Schmitz	Germany	Michelle	Báez	Ecuador
Christina	Schulte	Germany	Bernadette	Dezasse	Germany
			Jesus Antonio	Espinosa	Colombia

Burgos	Marianne	Germany	Dirk	Hart	Netherlands
Ramona	Schmitt	Germany	Miges	Baumann	Switzerland
Karolin	Meixenberger	Germany	Daniel	Tillmanns	Switzerland
Christel	Link	Germany	Tjerk	Dalhuisen	Netherlands
Birgit	Werner	Germany	Jelena	Predragovic	Netherlands
Beatrice	Brack	Germany	Corrie	van Rijthoven	Netherlands
Reinhild	Löbrich-Mannhart	Germany	Janne	Lopponen	Finland
Victoria	Püschel	Germany	Molly	Cyr	France
Sigrid	Sönnicken	Germany	Katharina	Boerlin	Switzerland
Kerstin	Steinhaus	Germany	Mirjam	Moser	Switzerland
Léo	Jeusset	Sweden	Guy	Wallbanks	United Kingdom
Bruno	Albufera	Germany	Rebecka	Bergh	United Kingdom
Mi	Gi	France	Marcello	Contini	Italy
Jutta	Kourouma	Germany	Judy and Dave	Kelly	Australia
Isabella	Luczak	Germany	Paul	Flomo	Liberia
Hansi	Jochmann	Germany	Flavio	Pazos	Uruguay
Marcus	Biniek	Germany	Solange	Bandiaky	Senegal
Isolde	Foerster	Germany	James	Gray	Liberia
Gina	Burchardt	Germany	nicholas	nicola	Australia
Bettina	Kindt	Germany	Jonathan	Legum	USA
Axel	Borsch	Germany	Paul	McLean	USA
Wiebke	Blume	Germany	Lynn	Thompson	United Kingdom
Renate	Schlehuber	Germany	Valerie	Tomlinson	England
Catrin	Finger	Germany	Danai	Papadopoulou	Belgium
Margot	Stoffel	Luxemburg	Henry	Sak	Canada
Dan	Fisch	Luxemburg	Maren	Torheim	Uruguay
Martina	Rufer	Germany	Deborah	Loe	United Kingdom
Monika	Wiechol	Germany	Lucia	Landinelli	Uruguay
Claudia	Tschauner	Germany	Ruggero	Baccanelli	Italy
Lynda	Goin	USA	Enver	Domingo	Canada
Gabriele	Weitlauff	Germany	Peter	Clausing	Germany
Susanne	Danke	Germany	Luisa	Memore	Italy
Birgit	Mund	Germany	Philipp	Schober	Deutschland
Marvin	Freches	Belgium	Vincenzo	Lauriola	Italy
Claudia	Honsberg	Germany	Odile	Girard	France
Martina	Schoppe	Germany	Kenneth	Ruby	USA
Sabine	Krause	Germany	Catherine	Ducrot	France
Yücel	Çağlar	Turkey	Robert	Boulais	France
Jane	Sawcer	United Kingdom	Céline	Dagbert	France
J.	Scollen	United Kingdom	Jean Michel	Very	France
Merel	Mark	Netherlands	Pierre	Pleynet	France
Marion	Girard Cisneros	Netherlands	Aniela	Sidor	France
Robert	Leven	Luxembourg	Vincent	Berton	France
Linh	Do	Vietnam	Jean Paul	Curtay	France
Marijke	Nauwelaerts	Belgium	Françoise	Pavageau	France

Nicole	Vendrix	Belgium	Jorma	Tontti	Finland
Hélène	Giraud	France	Massa	Kone	Mali
Patrick	Leclancher	France			
Charvet	Estelle	France			
Anne	Bach	France			
Bénédicte	Radal	France			
Nadine	Gousserey	France			
Joseph	Botuma	République Démocratique du Congo			
Sonia	Flambeau	France			
Mylene	Marchand	France			
Claire	Liengme	Switzerland			
François	Bokumu Lokombo	République Démocratique du Congo			
Thomas	Bacha	France			
Jean-Baptiste	Belloc	France			
Dirk	Goegebeur	Belgium			
Florence	Landemaine	France			
Alba Saray	Perez Teran	Belgium			
Carole	Radureau	France			
brigitte	labourot	France			
Feriel	Bissekri	France			
Amel	Benkahla	France			
Olivier	Schumacher	Belgium			
Leon Anicet	Biyoa	Cameroon			
Thierry	Guerin	Belgium			
Romain	Linet	France			
Laurent	Roqué	France			
Christine	Guezet	France			
Christine	Badertscher	Switzerland			
Jean-Michel	Amillard	France			
Charles-Henri	Gey	Gabon			
Yodie	Rama	France			
Armand	Noux	Cameroon			
Eric	LeGrand	France			
Vincent	Porcher	France			
Pierre	Darmangeat	France			
Cécile	Raymond	France			
Camille	Besombes	France			
Valérie	Couché	France			
Joël	Jambong	Cameroon			
Naomi	Beingessner	Canada			
Gayanée	Brechts	France			
Jean Philippe	Mabilon	France			
Mats	Grandin	Sweden			
Ondrej	Kameniar	Slovakia			

