



SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT MISSION GENEVA

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Ref: 194/2025

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honour to refer to the joint communication from Special Procedures AL ZAF 1/2025.

The Permanent Mission of South Africa requests to kindly transmit the enclosed letters from Mr Ronald O. Lamola, Minister for International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; the Special Rapporteur on the human right to clean, healthy and sustainable environment and the Special Rapporteur on promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 04 June 2025



The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Special Procedures Branch
Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva 10
Email; ohchr-registry@un.org



**MINISTER
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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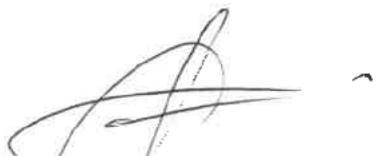
Your Excellency

**Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders;
the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom
of opinion and expression; and the Special Rapporteur on the human right to a
clean, healthy and sustainable environment**

I acknowledge your joint communication dated 16 May 2025 requesting my Government to protect the human rights of the [REDACTED] human right defender, [REDACTED]

I wish to advise that your request has been referred to the Minister of Police for urgent action and immediate response to the concerns you have raised. As soon as the response is received from the Minister of Police, it will be shared with you through diplomatic channels.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.


**Mr Ronald O. Lamola, MP
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation**

Date:

01/06/2025

Ms Irene Khan
Special Rapporteur on promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and
expression
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
Palais Wilson – 52, rue des Paquis
GENEVA



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Your Excellency

Reply to your joint communication regarding your respective mandates about human rights defenders, human rights to clean, healthy and sustainable environment and promotion and protection of the right to freedom of expression

I kindly refer to your joint communication dated 16 May 2025, requesting my Government to protect the human rights of the [REDACTED] human rights defender, [REDACTED]

I'm pleased to inform you that your request has been referred to the Minister of Police for urgent action and immediate response to the concerns you raised. As soon as the response is received from the Minister of Police, it will be shared with you through diplomatic channels.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

**Mr Ronald O. Lamola, MP
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation**

Date: 01/06/2025

Ms Mary Lawlor
Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
Palais Wilson – 52, rue des Paquis
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Your Excellency

**Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders;
the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom
of opinion and expression; and the Special Rapporteur on the human right to a
clean, healthy and sustainable environment**

I acknowledge your joint communication dated 16 May 2025, requesting my Government to protect the human rights of the [REDACTED] human right defender, [REDACTED]

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Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.


**Mr Ronald O. Lamola, MP
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation**

Date: 01/06/2025

Ms Astrid Puentes Riano
Special Rapporteur on the human right to clean, healthy and sustainable environment
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
Palais Wilson – 52, rue des Paquis
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