# **#FreeHRDsNow**

#### Social Media Kit | May 2020

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, human rights bodies and experts across the globe have called for urgent action to prevent the spread of the virus in places of detention. We acknowledge the actions taken by several African leaders to curb the spread of the virus in prisons on the continent, and encourage them to include HRDs among those being released – *they should have never been detained*.

## Here is how you can join our call to Free HRDs Now on social media!

## SUGGESTED MESSAGES

Defending #HumanRights is not a crime! Yet many human rights defenders (#HRDs) in #Africa are in detention for their legitimate work. Now they are at risk of #COVID19 in prison. We call on African leaders [you can replace with your country and tag relevant authorities] to #FreeHRDsNow. Join us!

*If your country has taken steps for the release of prisoners due to COVID-19:* 

We acknowledge the positive steps taken for the decongestion of prisons during #COVID19 and we encourage the Government of [ADD country & relevant tags] to extend the measures to human rights defenders (#HRDs) – they should have never been detained! #FreeHRDsNow #Africa

Do not forget to add the link to our #FreeHRDsNow page to your post, to encourage others to join us! > <u>https://africandefenders.org/freehrdsnow/</u> and defenddefenders.org/freehrdsnow

## **HANDLES & HASHTAG**

Main #: #FreeHRDsNow

Other #: #COVID19 #Africa #HumanRights

#HRDs

#### Main tags:

@AfricaDefenders @DefendDefenders

Other tags:

@mbachelet (UN High Commissioner for Human Rights)

@Hassan\_shire (AfricanDefenders' Chairperson & DefendDefenders' ED)

@MaryLawlorhrds (UN Speciall Rapporteur HRDs)

@remyngol (Africa Special RapporteurHRDs)

@achpr\_cadhp (ACHPR)

@SolomonADersso (ACHPR Chairperson)

@MemoryBandera (DefendDefenders' Director of Programmes)

@Nico\_Agostini (DefendDefenders'
representative at the UN)

@bikjo (AfricanDefenders' Coordinator)

Don't forget to tag leaders in your country!