

URGENT ACTION

OPPOSITION MOBILIZER MUST BE PROTECTED

On April 13, 2025, Joel Amaral, also known as MC Trufafá, a 34-year-old Mozambican artist and national mobilizer for opposition politician Venâncio Mondlane, was shot by unidentified men while returning home from church in Coalane neighborhood, in the city of Quelimane, Zambézia Province. He was struck by two bullets, one of them to the head. He was rushed to Quelimane Central Hospital in critical condition. Medical staff have confirmed that he is now stable and no longer in immediate danger. While he continues to recover in the hospital, Mozambican authorities must promptly investigate the incident and ensure his safety.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter to the government official(s) listed. Use the sample letter below as a guide or use your own words.
- [Click here](#) to report your action(s) on **Third UA 59.22**. We share this number with the officials we are trying to persuade.

President of Mozambique

Mr. Daniel Chapo

Avenue Julius Nyerere

Maputo

Mozambique

E-mails: gabinetedeimprensa.pr@gmail.com

info@danielchapo.org.mz

Send a copy of your letter to the address below

CC: Embassy of Mozambique in the United States

Ambassador Alfredo Fabião Nuvunga

1525 New Hampshire Avenue, NW,

Washington DC 20036

Fax: +1 202835 0245

Emails: alfredo.nuvunga@minec.gov.mz

washington.dc@embamoc.gov.mz

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing to you to express my concern about the attempted murder of **Joel Amaral**, aka **MC Trufafá**, an artist and national mobilizer for opposition politician, Venâncio Mondlane, who is now in the hospital under medical observation.

On April 13, 2025, at around 3pm, Joel was shot by unidentified men while returning home from church in Coalane neighborhood, in the city of Quelimane, Zambézia Province. He was struck by two bullets, one of them to the head. Joel was rushed to Quelimane Central Hospital in critical condition.

On the morning of April 14, Quelimane Central Hospital confirmed in a press conference that Joel had been admitted to intensive care. According to the doctors, the left side of his head was affected, but after medical procedures, he is now stable and no longer in immediate danger.

Since the beginning of post-electoral protests in October 2024, there has been a growing pattern of targeted abductions and attacks against opposition supporters. The attempted murder of Joel fits this alarming trend.

I call on you to ensure that while Joel continues to recover in the hospital, his attempted murder is promptly and effectively investigated and to ensure his safety within and outside the hospital.

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Joel Amaral, also known as MC Trufafá, began his political journey in 2023 when he publicly supported opposition RENAMO party during the municipal elections. He quickly gained national attention by mobilizing thousands of people through his unique ability to turn protest marches into festive gatherings. With his talent for creating viral political songs, Joel became known in the streets as MC Trufafá.

In 2024, he joined the mobilization team of former presidential candidate and opposition leader, Venâncio Mondlane. Once again, Joel played a key role in mobilizing large crowds across the country during campaigns and post-election protests.

Beyond politics, Joel is a public servant in the municipality of Quelimane, where he previously served as the Councilor for Culture. He is also a father of two, an artist, and the drummer of the band Tudulos.

Since the last general elections held on October 9, 2024, Mozambique has plunged into political turmoil that has resulted in nearly 400 people killed, more than 3,500 injured, and over 4,000 detained, according to local civil society organizations monitoring the crisis.

The political tension escalated on October 19, when two opposition members, Lawyer Elvino Dias and senior member of the PODEMOS party Paulo Guambe were shot dead in the city of Maputo, with more than 20 bullets having been fired, as widely reported by media. Both were part of the team of opposition leader and former presidential candidate, Venâncio Mondlane.

In January, the PODEMOS party publicly denounced that more than 100 people connected to the party had been kidnapped or killed since October. On January 7, 2025, Arlindo Chissale, journalist, politician, and supporter of Venâncio Mondlane has been forcibly disappeared in Cabo Delgado province. Witnesses who spoke to the family said he was last seen being forcibly removed from a public minibus by alleged defense and security forces agents. The authorities have yet to provide any information regarding his whereabouts.

On February 23, Dinis Tivane, advisor to Venâncio Mondlane, made a public complaint while showing more than 24 bullet holes that had been fired at the gate of his house in Maputo.

On March 8, Daniel Guambe and Rafito Siteo, two active supporters of Venâncio Mondlane, were shot dead inside a vehicle in the Massinga district, Inhambane province in the same style as lawyer Elvino Dias and Paulo Guambe were shot dead on October 19, 2024.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: Portuguese or your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: September 15, 2025

NAME AND PRONOUN: Joel Amaral (He/Him)