



Kampala, 10 July 2020

Arbitrary detention of the Vice-President of the AC-Genocide Cirimoso association Mushano Térence

Térence Mushano, Vice-President of the AC-Genocide Cirimoso association was arrested at 11:45 am on Thursday July 9, 2020 at Bujumbura Melchior Ndadaye International Airport when he was about to give an interview to the IWACU newspaper journalists.

He intended to speak to journalists on the commemoration of the 25 anniversary of the massacre of Hutu students at the University of Burundi in 1995. The commemoration takes place every June 11 of each year. This year it was postponed following the death of the President of the Republic on June 8, 2020.

When the journalists were about to start the interview, a police officer intervened. Mushano Terence and the journalists were isolated in a room before being taken to the criminal investigation police located in Jabe quarter in Bwiza Zone of Mukaza commune.

The journalists were released at 3:30 pm, having recovered their equipment confiscated when they were arrested. AC Genocide Vice - President remained in the police cell, charged of "misleading journalists by inviting them into the airport grounds without special authorization". And the police ended up with accusing him of breaching State security and finally arbitrarily deprived his freedom.

Mushano Térence, a committed human rights defender, is also a member of SOBUGEA staff union. He is repeatedly been the target of the SOBUGEA authorities and the National Intelligence Service for having denounced the embezzlement in the society funds management, but above all his commitment to the fight against the genocide.