To

The Office of the Presidency, Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development Mr Ronald Lamula Minister of International Cooperation, Ms Naledi Ponder, Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Mr Sihle Zikalala By e-mail

Copy to:

Embassy of South Africa in Switzerland

14th March 2022, Basel (Switzerland)

Re Killing of activist Ayanda Ngila of the shack-dwellers' movement Abahlali baseMjondolo on 8th of March 2022

The Swiss Apartheid Debt and Reparations Campaign (ADR/KEESA) and Swiss solidarity organisation SOLIFONDS are shocked to hear about the killing of land activist Ayanda Ngila of the shack-dwellers' movement Abahlali baseMjondolo in eKhenana. The ADR and SOLIFONDS have been in regular contact with Abahlali for many years, and the ADR invited members of Abahlali baseMjondolo to attend a series of events in Switzerland in 2015 and 2019. We appreciate Abahlali and its members as a movement committed to social justice and access to dignified housing in South Africa. We follow with concern the developments in the violence-ridden eKhenana commune and the failure of the authorities to protect community members.

We condemn to the fullest the murder of Ayanda Ngila in what seems to have been a planned attack in broad daylight.

Your Excellency, Hon. Minister Roland Lamula, Hon. Minister Naledi Ponder, and Mr Sihle Zikala, Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, we urge you to ensure the complete investigation of the murder to bring justice to the community and to the family of the deceased.

We urge you to put an end to the often deadly violence against members of Abahlali base-Mjondolo and against people engaged in the movement for dignified housing.

We thank you for your commitment.

Yours sincerely,

Daniela Lilja Member of ADR-board

Aurora García
Coordinator SOLIFONDS

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