



BROKEN PROMISES

PROTESTERS CAUGHT BETWEEN TEAR GAS,
BULLETS, AND BATONS IN ANGOLA

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



Amnesty International is a movement of 10 million people which mobilizes the humanity in everyone and campaigns for change so we can all enjoy our human rights. Our vision is of a world where those in power keep their promises, respect international law and are held to account. We are independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion and are funded mainly by our membership and individual donations. We believe that acting in solidarity and compassion with people everywhere can change our societies for the better.

© Amnesty International 2024

Except where otherwise noted, content in this document is licensed under a Creative Commons (attribution, non-commercial, no derivatives, international 4.0) licence.

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/legalcode>

For more information please visit the permissions page on our website: www.amnesty.org

Where material is attributed to a copyright owner other than Amnesty International this material is not subject to the Creative Commons licence.

First published in 2024

by Amnesty International Ltd

Peter Benenson House, 1 Easton Street

London WC1X 0DW, UK

Index: AFR 12/8764/2024

Original language: English

amnesty.org



Cover photo: Angolan riot police take position after around a hundred people protest over wages in Luanda on August 25, 2022. © John Wessels/AFP via Getty Images

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



CONTENTS

CONTENTS	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	7
LETHAL USE OF FIREARMS	7
MISUSE OF LESS-LETHAL WEAPONS	8
NO JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS	8
1. METHODOLOGY	9
2. BACKGROUND	10
2.1 PROTESTING POVERTY, FUEL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING: LUANDA, CAFUNFO, BENGUELA AND HUAMBO	11
2.2 ELECTIONS PROTESTS: LUANDA AND BENGUELA	12
2.3 PROTESTING POLICE VIOLENCE: LUANDA	12
3. ANALYSIS OF THE USE OF FORCE	13
3.1 AN ENDURING PATTERN OF UNNECESSARY AND EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE BY POLICE	13
3.2 HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS ON POLICING OF PROTESTS	14
4. KEY FINDINGS	17
4.1 UNLAWFUL USE OF FIREARMS BY SECURITY FORCES	17
4.1.1 INOCÊNCIO SHOT AND KILLED BY POLICE AMID A PROTEST	17
4.1.2 TWO WORKERS FATALLY SHOT DURING A STRIKE FOR BETTER PAY	18
4.1.3 FOUR PEOPLE, INCLUDING A CHILD, KILLED DURING A FUEL PROTEST IN HUAMBO	18
4.1.4 USE OF FIREARMS TO DISPERSE PROTESTERS	20
TABLE 1	20
4.1.5 USE OF FIREARMS AGAINST PROTESTERS IN BENGUELA	21
4.2 UNLAWFUL USE OF LESS-LETHAL WEAPONS	22
4.2.1 TEAR GAS GRENADES	22
4.2.2. THE USE OF BATONS AGAINST PROTESTERS	25
4.3 ARBITRARY ARRESTS AND DETENTIONS	29
4.4 MISUSE OF NOTIFICATION SYSTEM AND OTHER LIMITATIONS ON THE RIGHT OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY	31
4.5 LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND A PATTERN OF IMPUNITY FOR KILLINGS AND TORTURE BY POLICE	32

4.5.1 HUAMBO AUTHORITIES ONLY OFFERED COFFINS AND FOOD IN EXCHANGE FOR LIVES	33
4.5.2 POLICE DENIED THE KILLING OF INOCÊNCIO	34
4.5.3 AUTHORITIES ONLY CONVICTED PROTESTERS, AND PERPETRATORS ARE FREE	34
4.5.4 AUTHORITIES REMAINED SILENT ABOUT THE VIOLATIONS OF THE RIGHTS OF PROTESTERS	35
4.5.5 “WE REQUESTED COMPENSATION AND THERE IS NO RESPONSE YET”	35
5. THE HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT OF POLICE USE OF UNLAWFUL FORCE	37
5.1 LOSS OF SUPPORT	37
5.2 SERIOUS INJURY LEAVING PERMANENT SCARS AND PREVENTING VICTIMS FROM SEEKING A LIVING	37
5.3 PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA SERIOUSLY IMPACTS PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH	39
6. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	40
TO ANGOLAN AUTHORITIES	40
TO THE NATIONAL POLICE OF ANGOLA	40
TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE OF ANGOLA	41
TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF ANGOLA	41
TO OMBUDSMEN’S OFFICE	41
TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, INCLUDING GOVERNMENTS ENGAGED IN BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH ANGOLA	41
ANNEXES	42
ANNEXE 1: LETTER SENT TO THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF LUANDA ON THE 11 NOVEMBER 2020 PROTEST	42
ANNEXE 2: DEATH CERTIFICATE OF CRISTIANO LUIS PAMBASANGUE TCHIUTA	43
ANNEXE 3: CASE DOCUMENT REVEALING THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH OF ANTÓNIO LUCAS SILVIANO	44
ANNEXE 4: DEATH CERTIFICATE OF SEVERINO SATUMBA ADELINO	45
ANNEXE 5: CASE DOCUMENT OF HORÁCIO CHIQUEMBA ANTÓNIO	46
ANNEXE 6: MEDICAL REPORT OF JOEL CAETANO	47
ANNEXE 7: PRESS RELEASE ABOUT THE LETTER SENT TO THE GPL ABOUT THE 17 JUNE 2023 PROTEST	48
ANNEXE 8: RESPONSE FROM THE GPL TO THE LETTER SENT BY ORGANIZERS OF THE 17 JUNE 2023 PROTEST	49
ANNEXE 9: LETTER FROM SCC TO GPL ABOUT THE 4 FEBRUARY 2021 PROTEST	50
ANNEXE 10: RESPONSE FROM SUPREME COURT TO THE REQUEST MADE BY JOEL	51

GLOSSARY

WORD	DESCRIPTION
ACHPR	African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights
AFP	Agence France-Presse is a French international news agency headquartered in Paris, France
CAT	Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
CGGC	Caculo Cabaça Dam Company
CP	Penal Code
CRA	Constitution of Angola
DW	Deutsche Welle is a German public, state-owned international broadcaster
FTU	Unified Tobacco Factory
GPL	Provincial Government of Luanda
HRC	United Nations Human Rights Committee
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
MPLA	People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola
MUDEI	Angolan Civil Society Platform for Change
PIR	Rapid Intervention Police
PN	National Police of Angola
RoR	Right of Reply
RSF	Reporters Without Borders
SCC	Contesting Civil Society
SIC	Criminal Investigation Service
UN	United Nations
UNITA	National Union for the Total Independence of Angola
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
URP	Reaction and Patrol Unit
VOA	Voice of America

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Amnesty International acknowledges the support provided by partners, including the Angolan civic movement, MUDEI, in the research process which led to this report. Our utmost gratitude goes to the many people without whose bravery and courage this report would not have been possible. Among them are survivors of police use of unlawful force who came forward and shared their experiences with Amnesty International. We are also indebted to families of victims and survivors of police violence, and to witnesses and lawyers who, in search of justice, collaborated with Amnesty International in this research.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Angola's security forces have a long and well-documented history of repressing peaceful demonstrations using excessive or unnecessary force, leading in some cases to unlawful killings, intimidation, beatings and arbitrary arrests or detention. While the justification for the use of force varied, the methods used to repress protest, such as live ammunition, grenades, tear gas, dogs and batons, were the same.

This report, which is part of Amnesty International's Protect the Protest campaign, documents and analyses security forces' use of unnecessary and excessive force in Angola in the context of protests that took place between November 2020 and June 2023. The security forces' actions during these protests led to violations of the right to life, the freedom from torture and other ill-treatment, the right to liberty and security of the person, and the right to freedom of peaceful assembly.

The report analyses 11 protests in which police used excessive force: five in Luanda (11 November 2020, 4 February 2021, 9 April 2022, 28 January 2023 and 17 June 2023), three in Benguela (3 July 2021, 27 August 2022 and 17 June 2023), one in Cafunfo (30 January 2021), one in Kwanza-Norte (26 May 2022) and one in Huambo (5 June 2023). In the course of these protests, security forces deployed tactics including the use of firearms, grenades, tear gas, and beatings with batons, which resulted in deaths – including those of children – serious injuries, and psychological trauma. Security forces also arbitrarily arrested and detained protesters, while the authorities abused laws to curtail the organization of protests.

The report further analyses the human rights impacts of such violations and documents the failure of Angolan authorities to ensure accountability of perpetrators and access to justice and remedy for victims and their families.

The cases documented in this report are emblematic of a wider pattern of violations and raise serious concerns about the authorities' use of force during protests and access to justice for those whose rights were violated during such protests.

Angola has ratified key human rights instruments from which standards for the policing of assemblies can be drawn, including the Protocol on Civil and Political Rights, and is a state party to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. The country's constitution and its law of the police guarantee the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and expression, especially in the context of protests.

Under international human rights law, states have an obligation to respect and ensure the right of peaceful assembly. While policing assemblies, law enforcement officials play a critical role in ensuring this obligation is met. Their responsibilities include an objective to facilitate assemblies and protect them from interference, to not interfere with peaceful assemblies, and to refrain from engaging in conduct that may lead to the arbitrary deprivation of life, such as using excessive force.

LETHAL USE OF FIREARMS

Firearms are not a tool to police protests. Their use is permitted only against persons posing an imminent threat of death or serious injury and only when there are no risks of harming other protesters or bystanders. Moreover, firearms should only be used when no other less-lethal means are available or likely to be effective.

The report documents evidence of the lethal use of firearms by police in circumstances that did not meet these criteria. This includes the case of 26-year-old Inocêncio de Matos, who was shot and killed by police on 11 November 2020 during a protest in Luanda, reportedly while kneeling with his hands in the air. Other victims include 32-year-old Adão José Andre Caoluna and 35-year-old Luís António Lourenço, the latter also known as Dorito, who were shot and killed during a strike over conditions at their workplace in the municipality of Cambambe, Cuanza Norte province on 26 May 2022. According to witnesses, Dorito was killed while trying to explain the reasons for the protest to the police.

Angolan police also misused firearms in Huambo on 5 June 2023, when officers from Angola's Rapid Intervention Force (PIR) fired live ammunition at a crowd who had taken to the streets to protest rising fuel

prices. At least four people – three of whom were bystanders – were killed. The victims included Cristiano Luis Pambasangue Tchiuta, a 12-year-old boy who was passing by on his way to school. Meanwhile, at least 10 people were killed in Cafunfo on 30 January 2021 after police used live rounds to disperse a protest about poverty.

MISUSE OF LESS-LETHAL WEAPONS

The report also documents the unnecessary and excessive use of less-lethal weapons such as batons, tear gas and water cannons against protesters.

During a protest in Luanda on 17 June 2023, Isabel Guedes suffered second-degree burns to her legs after being hit by a grenade and required surgery and skin grafts. The injuries have since impeded her ability to work. A second victim, Joel Caetano, who was hit by a tear gas grenade, suffered serious injuries to his left knee that have left him requiring crutches.

Batons are supposed to be used by police defensively in situations in which they are faced with individuals engaged in or threatening violent behaviour. Moreover, baton strikes should be targeted against the arms or legs, avoiding more sensitive areas of the body such as the head, neck, throat and spine. This report documents cases of indiscriminate baton use by police against protesters who were simply exercising their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly. Such use is likely to amount to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or even torture.

During a protest in Benguela on 27 August 2022, 32-year-old Avisto Chingolola Mateus Mbota was beaten on the back with batons by a group of police officers for about five minutes until he lost consciousness. At the same protest, António Feliciano Buengue Pongoti was beaten to the ground with batons by three police officers, who subsequently placed a grenade in his mouth and struck him on the buttocks with a whip.

In addition to unlawful use of force, authorities resorted to further tactics, including arbitrarily arresting and detaining protesters and abusing laws around the organization of protests.

Under Angolan law, assembly organizers are required to notify authorities at least three working days ahead of a planned protest. In turn, authorities must provide a reasonable justification for prohibiting a protest and respond within 24 hours of receiving a notification. The report documents instances in which authorities ignored these legal requirements, restricted protests without providing an adequate reason, and failed to respond to organizers in time.

NO JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS

Under both international law and the Angolan constitution, all victims of human rights violations are entitled to an effective remedy. Law enforcement officials, both those on the ground and their superiors, should be held accountable for failing to comply with these standards. None of those responsible for the violations documented in this report have been brought to justice. Amnesty International has requested an official explanation regarding the allegations of human rights violations and the steps taken to provide justice to the victims, but has not received a response at the time of writing.

The report makes recommendations that, if implemented, will improve the human rights situation in Angola and particularly safeguard the civic space for the enjoyment of the rights to freedom of assembly, association, and expression. Some of the key recommendations include:

TO THE NATIONAL POLICE OF ANGOLA

- Ensure that the policing of assemblies complies with international human rights law and standards, including the UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials and the African Commission Guidelines for the Policing of Assemblies by Law Enforcement Officials in Africa.

TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE OF ANGOLA

- Ensure that all allegations of killing, torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment by law enforcement officials in the context of protests are thoroughly and impartially investigated and those responsible – whether senior or junior officers – are brought to justice in fair trials.

1. METHODOLOGY

This report is based on a combination of qualitative interviews and open-source analysis. Amnesty International’s Crisis Response Evidence Lab reviewed more than 50 videos and photos posted on social media or shared directly with Amnesty International’s researchers. Amnesty International also reviewed official documents, social media posts, media sources, medical reports, academic papers, letters from protest organizers, and publications from other human rights organizations.

Amnesty International interviewed 21 people, including five women. Among them, 12, including all five women, were victims of police use of force – six were struck with batons, two were hit with tear gas grenades, and four were arbitrarily arrested and submitted to psychological pressure. Six were witnesses who were present when violations happened. The other interviewees were two lawyers, who are providing legal support to victims or their families, and a photographer who was present during the second autopsy of Inocêncio de Matos, who was shot during a protest in Luanda.

Most of the interviews were conducted remotely, in Portuguese, via online platforms such as Microsoft Teams and WhatsApp. Interviews were then translated into English and analysed in triangulation with other sources. All interviewees were informed of the nature and purpose of the research, as well as how the information they provided would be used. Informed consent was obtained from each interviewee, and based on its consent policy and assessment of each case, Amnesty International withholds the full names of some interviewees for security reasons. In some cases, where there was a fear of possible reprisals, pseudonyms are used.

This report builds on Amnesty International’s 2020 report “The police are not on the ground to distribute sweets”¹ which documented Angolan security forces’ use of unnecessary, excessive, and even lethal force to deal with infringements of public health measures and peaceful demonstrations.

In October 2024, Amnesty International sent right-of-reply letters to the Office of the Attorney General and to the Provincial Commands of the National Police from Luanda, Benguela, Huambo, Cafunfo and Cuanza Norte outlining the report’s findings and requesting an official response explaining the measures taken to provide access to justice for victims and their families.

¹ Amnesty International, *The police are not on the ground to distribute sweets: security forces’ violence in Angola*, (Index: AFR 12/3424/2020), 9 October 2020, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/AFR1234242020ENGLISH.pdf>

2. BACKGROUND

Despite having abundant natural resources (Angola is the third largest oil producer in Africa and has the third largest diamond reserve in the world),² Angola is among the world's poorest countries. Most of its population struggles to find employment and meet minimum living standards while the cost of fuel continues to rise.

Still, the Angolan population, especially young people, many of whom were born in democratic Angola, and the country's vibrant civil society continue to look forward to a brighter future. During his inaugural speech on 27 September 2017, João Lourenço, the third president of Angola, promised, among other things, to foster a democratic and prosperous Angola guided by the rule of law, where there would be no place for poverty.³ Contrary to these promises, the cost of living continues to rise, mainly due to the high cost of fuel and food.⁴

Although Angola has the lowest fuel price index in southern Africa,⁵ this remains high compared to the food and non-alcoholic beverage price index.⁶ In 2023, the average price of gasoline was Kw 300 (USD 0.33) per litre.⁷ Based on Article 1 (a, b) of Presidential Decree No. 283/20 of 27 October 2020, which establishes the fuel sales price regime and the mechanisms for its adjustment,⁸ the Angolan government decided to gradually withdraw gasoline subsidies in June 2023. As a result, the price skyrocketed from Kw 160 to Kw 300 (see the picture below). Simultaneously, the government committed to maintaining the price of Kw 160 for motorcycle taxi drivers and for the agriculture and fisheries sector via the distribution of supply cards. However, the targeted sectors continued to buy fuel at the increased price due to deficiencies in the allocation of the cards.⁹ Because the economy of Angola relies heavily on fuel, particularly gasoline, its price increase resulted in a significant rise in the cost of living. This is one of the issues that triggered protests in the capital, Luanda, Cafunfo, Benguela and Huambo.

² Saifaddin Galal, "Leading oil producing countries in Africa, 1 August 2024", Statista, <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1178514/main-oil-producing-countries-in-africa/>; <https://www.statista.com/statistics/267905/world-diamond-reserves-by-country/>

³ Angola Journal, "Íntegra do discurso do Presidente da República" ["João Lourenço's inaugural speech as the President of the Republic"], 27 September 2017, <https://angola24horas.com/politica/item/8425-integra-do-discurso-do-presidente-da-republica> (in Portuguese)

⁴ TheWorldBank, "Overview", Angola, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/angola/overview#:~:text=Food%20inflation%2C%20combined%20with%20a%20weakening%20labor%20market.13.5%20million%20Angolans%20living%20on%20less%20than%20%242.15%2Fday> (accessed on 19 November 2024).

⁵ Business Insider Africa, "Top 10 African countries with the cheapest fuel prices at the start of 2024", 8 January 2024, <https://africa.businessinsider.com/local/markets/top-10-african-countries-with-the-cheapest-fuel-prices-at-the-start-of-2024/1ffjij>

⁶ J. Degenhard, "Per capita spending on food and non-alcoholic drinks in Angola 2014-2019", 30 January 2024, Statista, <https://www.statista.com/forecasts/1158808/real-food-and-beverages-consumer-spending-per-capita-forecast-in-angola>

⁷ Petroleum Derivatives Regulatory Institute, *Relatório sobre petróleo 2023*, [Report about fuel 2023], March 2024, https://irdp.gov.ao/images/relatorios/Relatorio_dos_Combustiveis_2023_Anuar_final.pdf, accessed on 5 November 2024.

⁸ Republic of Angola, Decreto presidencial No. 283/20, de 27 de Outubro [Presidential decree No. 283/20, from 27 October], 2 October 2020, <https://lex.ao/docs/presidente-da-republica/2020/decreto-presidencial-n-o-283-20-de-27-de-outubro/>, accessed on 27 August 2024.

⁹ DW, "Angola reage ao aumento dos combustíveis" ["Angola reacts to rising fuel price"], 1 June 2023, <https://www.dw.com/en-002/angola-reage-ao-aumento-dos-combustiveis/a-65798581>; (in Portuguese) VOA, "Angola: o fim da subvenção da gasolina anuncia dias difíceis para as famílias" ["Angola: end of gasoline subsidy 'heralds' difficult days for families"], 11 March 2024, <https://www.voaportugues.com/a/angola-o-fim-da-subvencao-da-gasolina-anuncia-dias-difiveis-para-as-familias/7522729.html> (in Portuguese).



Rising fuel prices reflected at a gasoline pump in Luanda on 11 July 2024 © Amnesty International

Allegations of electoral fraud and delays in holding municipal elections were another cause of protests in the last three years. In March 2018, João Lourenço promised 2020 as the year for the first municipal elections.¹⁰ However, the failure to put in place the necessary electoral legislation package required to regulate the elections caused delays, leading to protests in Luanda.¹¹ As of June 2024, the Bill on the Institutionalization of Local Authorities was still being discussed in the National Assembly.¹²

On 24 August 2022, Angola held its general elections. The Popular Movement for Liberation of Angola (Movimento Popular de Libertação de Angola - MPLA), the party in power for almost 50 years, won with 51.17% of the votes, against 43.95% for the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (União para Independência Total de Angola - UNITA).¹³ The result contradicted polling forecasts made during the campaign, which predicted considerable support for UNITA.¹⁴ The situation led to protests that were violently repressed by the government forces in Luanda and Benguela.

Many protesters also took to the streets to complain about security forces' violent and systemic repression of protests in Angola, including two of the protests in Luanda documented in this report.

2.1 PROTESTING POVERTY, FUEL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING: LUANDA, CAFUNFO, BENGUELA AND HUAMBO

In Cafunfo, the civil society organization Lunda Tchokwe Protectorate Movement mobilized about 300 people on 30 January 2021 to demand dialogue with the government on poverty that affected most of the population in Lunda-Norte province. People also protested for better living conditions, particularly access to

¹⁰ Voz de Angola, "João Lourenço propõe realização das primeiras eleições autárquicas em 2020" ["João Lourenço proposes holding the first local elections in 2020"], 22 March 2018, <https://www.vozdeangola.com/en/mundo/item/2473-joao-lourenco-propoe-realizacao-das-primeiras-eleicoes-autarquicas-em-2020> (in Portuguese)

¹¹ DW, "Angola: eleições municipais 'deverão ser adiadas' para 2024" ["Angola: Municipal elections "should be postponed" until 2024] 25 December 2022, <https://www.dw.com/pt-002/angola-eleicoes-municipais-deverao-ser-adiadas-para-2024-diz-eurasia/a-64210330> (in Portuguese)

¹² RFI, "Angola: criada a comissão técnica para institucionalização das autarquias" [Angola: Technical committee created to institutionalize local authorities"], 8 June 2024, <https://www.rfi.fr/pt/afrika-lusofona/20240608-angola-criada-comissao-tecnica-para-institucionalizacao-das-autarquias> (in Portuguese)

¹³ National Electoral Commission, Apuramento nacional, ["National tabulation of elections results"], <https://resultados2022eleicoesgerais.cne.ao>

¹⁴ DW, "Minuto a Minuto: Eleições em Angola" ["Minute by Minute: Elections in Angola"], 24 August 2022, <https://www.dw.com/pt-002/minuto-a-minuto-eleicoes-em-angola/a-62902346> (in Portuguese)

healthcare, in Benguela on 3 July 2021. In Huambo, it was the high fuel price that caused the suspension of activities by motor-taxi drivers and their protest on 5 June 2023.

On 17 June 2023, street traders known as “zungueiras”,¹⁵ motorcycle taxi drivers, taxi drivers and other people gathered to protest the Presidential Decree that withdrew the fuel subsidy, and the planned closure of the São Paulo Market. The closure of the market was part of measures enacted by the Provincial Government of Luanda (GPL) to eliminate street vending, which particularly affected the “zungueiras”. On 15 June, the GPL suspended the closure of the market. However, the fuel protest went ahead. Another protest about fuel prices also took place in Benguela on the same day.

2.2 ELECTIONS PROTESTS: LUANDA AND BENGUELA

The failure to hold municipal elections in 2020 led many people to protest in Luanda on 11 November 2020.

On 9 April 2022, four months ahead of the general elections, scheduled for 24 August 2022, the Coalition for Angolan Civil Society mobilized people to protest in Luanda, Benguela, Moxico and Uíge. Specifically, protesters demanded that the government remove Indra, a Spanish information company that was responsible for printing election materials, such as ballot papers. In Benguela, Moxico and Uíge, the protest went peacefully. In Luanda, the protest was repressed by the authorities.¹⁶

On 27 August 2022, activists from the civil society organization Lobito Revolutionary Movement gathered at Jango da Liberdade, a library in the city of Lobito, Benguela province, to discuss the election results and were met with a heavy-handed police response.

On 3 September 2022, ten days after the results had been announced, the General Staff of the Angolan Armed Forces decreed a “state of combat readiness”, from 4 to 20 September 2022.¹⁷ This measure, justified as being necessary to “guarantee public order and tranquillity” as well as to “provide for the maintenance of the defence and security of the national territory”, effectively limited the holding of any protest, especially those concerning election results.

2.3 PROTESTING POLICE VIOLENCE: LUANDA

On 13 January 2022, authorities arrested Gilson da Silva Moreira, also known as **Tanaice Neutro, a well-known Kuduro**¹⁸ **musician and activist**, allegedly for committing the crime of “outrage to the state, its symbols and organs”.¹⁹ Tanaice was tried in October 2022 and sentenced to 15 months’ imprisonment, which was suspended.²⁰ However, Tanaice remained in prison until June 2023. Other activists and protest organizers were also arrested.²¹ These arrests, compounded with police use of unlawful force against protesters in general, triggered the 9 April 2022 and 28 January 2023 protests in Luanda.

On 4 February 2021, the 60th anniversary of the beginning of Angola’s liberation struggle, members of Contesting Civil Society (SCC) mobilized people to protest in Luanda about the killing of protesters in Cafunfo, perpetrated by the police during a march in which the protesters demanded a dialogue with the government.

¹⁵ Zungueira is a common word in Angola, particularly its capital Luanda, to refer to street vendors, mostly women.

¹⁶ Crisis24, “Angola: activists plan protest in Luanda on 9 April”, 8 April 2022, <https://crisis24.garda.com/alerts/2022/04/angola-activists-plan-protest-in-luanda-april-9>

¹⁷ VOA, “Forças Armadas Angolanas em ‘prontidão combativa elevada’” [“Angolan Armed Forces in ‘high combat readiness’”], 4 September 2022, <https://www.voaportugues.com/a/forças-armadas-angolanas-em-prontidão-combativa-elevada-/6730631.html> (in Portuguese)

¹⁸ Kuduro is a popular Angolan music style mostly enjoyed by youths. Tanaice uses kuduro to address Angolan’s socio-economic concerns.

¹⁹ DW, “Angola: Tanaice Neutro em liberdade” [“Angola: Tanaice Neutro freed”], 25 June 2023, <https://www.dw.com/pt-002/angola-tanaice-neutro-em-liberdade/a-66027555>

²⁰ VOA, “Activista angolano ‘Tanaice Neutro’ condenado a prisão mas com a pena suspensa” [“Angolan activist ‘Tanaice Neutro’ convicted but with a suspended prison sentence”], 12 October 2022, <https://www.voaportugues.com/a/activista-tanaice-neutro-condenado-a-prisão-mas-com-pena-suspensa/6786641.html>

²¹ DW, “Angola: Polícia reprime marcha em Luanda e detém activistas” [“Angola: police repress march in Luanda and detain activists”], 28 January 2023, <https://www.dw.com/en-002/angola-pólicia-reprime-marcha-em-luanda-e-detém-activistas/a-64546146>

3. ANALYSIS OF THE USE OF FORCE

3.1 AN ENDURING PATTERN OF UNNECESSARY AND EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE BY POLICE

Several studies have addressed the modus operandi of the Angolan security forces. Many of these revealed a worrying and growing trend of unnecessary and excessive use of force in different contexts over time, especially before, during and shortly after protests. The justification for the use of force varied, but the methods used, such as live ammunition, tear gas, dogs and batons, were the same.

In 2007, Amnesty International carried out exhaustive research on police accountability for human rights violations in Angola. The research revealed serious human rights violations committed by the police between 2005 and 2007 in the form of beatings and arbitrary arrests of opposition party members. Most of the perpetrators of these violations, in addition to abusing power, were not held accountable for the violations.²²

In its concluding observations on Angola's second periodic report in 2019, the UN Human Rights Committee expressed concern about cases of excessive use of force by Angolan security forces, especially during protests, which had resulted in arbitrary arrests, serious injuries and deaths.²³

During the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, Angolan security forces committed several human rights violations while enforcing the Presidential Decree No. 81/20,²⁴ which intended to limit people's mobility and enforce the use of masks, among other measures, during the pandemic. Amnesty International documented many of these violations at the beginning of March 2020, when a state of emergency was declared. By September 2020, at least 10 people had been extrajudicially executed by police, including minors, such as 16-year-old Clinton Dongala Carlos, who was fatally shot on 4 July 2020 in the municipality of Cacuaco in Luanda province.²⁵ Amnesty International and its partners also documented the use of excessive police force during and after the August 2022 elections, a period marked by arbitrary arrests, violations of the right to life and other violations against protesters.²⁶

Other human rights organizations have also documented the use of force by police and security services in Angola. In August 2023, Human Rights Watch published research documenting 15 killings of human rights defenders and activists, as well as many arbitrary arrests, committed by the Criminal Investigation Service (SIC) and Intelligence Services from January to June 2023.²⁷

²² Amnesty International, *Above the law: police accountability in Angola* (Index number: AFR 12/005/2007), 11 September 2007, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/AFR120052007ENGLISH.pdf>

²³ UN Human Rights Committee (HRC), Concluding observations on the second periodic report of Angola, 8 May 2019, UN Doc. CCPR/C/AGO/CO2, para. 25.

²⁴ Diário da República, Decreto presidencia Número 81/20, de de 25 de Março [Presidential decree No. 81/20, from 25 March], 25 March 2020, <https://lex.ao/docs/presidente-da-republica/2020/decreto-presidencial-n-o-81-20-de-25-de-marco/>

²⁵ Amnesty International, *The police are not on the ground to distribute sweets*, (previously cited), p. 7.

²⁶ Amnesty International, *Make the vote meaningful for human rights observation: human rights manifesto for Angola ahead of the 2022 general elections* (Index number: AFR 12/5896/2022, 2022), 16 August 2022, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/afr12/5896/2022/en/>

²⁷ Human Rights Watch, "Angola: grave police abuses against activists", 7 August 2023, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/08/07/angola-grave-police-abuses-against-activists>

Reporters Without Borders (RSF) documented arbitrary arrests and police violence against journalists who were covering protests in October 2020.²⁸ RSF also documented the case of Alfredo Kuito, a journalist for Radio Eclésia, who was bitten by a dog released by the police to disperse a protest in Ondjiva, capital of Cunene province, on 5 February 2021.²⁹

Civicus documented several occasions when police used excessive force against protesters and arrested them, most notably during the August 2017 and August 2022 elections. Many protesters were beaten or arbitrarily arrested simply for exercising their right to peaceful assembly to demand free and fair elections and reform of electoral legislation.³⁰

Freedom House documented cases of excessive police force in Angola in its 2021 annual report.³¹ In February 2020, police violently dispersed and arbitrarily arrested people protesting against the appointment of the new president of the Electoral Commission. A journalist was also injured during the dispersal. Police responded similarly in August 2020, when a group marched to demand access to water, and in September 2020, in a march where participants demanded more job opportunities. Similar marches in October and November of that year were responded to in the same way, resulting in many deaths.³²

A survey of about 1,200 adult Angolans by the research organization Afrobarometer, conducted between February and March 2022, concluded that in addition to being corrupt, the National Police of Angola (PN) is prone to the use of excessive force against people. Because of this, according to the survey, few Angolans trust the police, and many of the respondents believe that the police “are not professional and do not respect human rights”.³³

The use of unnecessary and excessive force characterized the policing of all the protests that are the subject of this report. In some cases, security forces used lethal force, causing the deaths of both protesters and bystanders.

3.2 HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS ON POLICING OF PROTESTS

Under international human rights law, states have an obligation to respect and ensure the right of peaceful assembly.³⁴ Law enforcement officials play a critical role in the discharge of these duties, and there are a number of measures they can take to ensure the effective exercise of the right of peaceful assembly. In relation to the duty to respect, they have an obligation not to interfere with peaceful assemblies, even where the assemblies have not complied with domestic procedural requirements. They should instead be guided by the objective to facilitate the exercise of the right of peaceful assembly. A similar obligation would apply with respect to spontaneous assemblies. The police also have a responsibility to facilitate assemblies and protect them from interference by or violence from third parties.³⁵ The police also have a duty to refrain from engaging in conduct that may lead to the arbitrary deprivation of life,³⁶ such as using excessive force to police assemblies.

Although Angola has ratified key human rights instruments from which standards for the policing of assemblies can be drawn³⁷ and established domestic law regulating police use of force, the pattern of the

²⁸ Reporters Without Borders (RSF), “Crackdown on reporters covering Luanda demonstration”, 28 October 2020, <https://rsf.org/en/crackdown-reporters-covering-luanda-demonstration>

²⁹ Reporters Without Borders (RSF), “Angolan police unleash dog on reporter covering protest”, 7 February 2021, <https://rsf.org/en/angolan-police-unleash-dog-reporter-covering-protest>

³⁰ Civicus, “Violence used against peaceful protesters in Angola”, 2 March 2017, <https://monitor.civicus.org/explore/angola-violence-used-against-peaceful-protesters/>; Civicus, “Civic freedoms restricted ahead of 24th August general elections”, 17 August 2022, <https://monitor.civicus.org/explore/civic-freedoms-restricted-ahead-of-24-august-general-elections/>

³¹ Freedom House, *Freedom in the World 2021: Angola not free*, March 2021, <https://freedomhouse.org/country/angola/freedom-world/2021>

³² Freedom House, *Freedom in the World 2021: Angola not free*, March 2021, <https://freedomhouse.org/country/angola/freedom-world/2021>

³³ Afrobarometer, *Angolans highlight police corruption and use of excessive force*, Dispatch No. 641, 17 May 2023, <https://www.afrobarometer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/AD641-Angolans-highlight-police-corruption-and-use-of-excessive-force-Afrobarometer-16may23.pdf>

³⁴ UN Human Rights Committee (HRC), General Comment 37: Article 21 (The Right of Peaceful Assembly), 2020, CCPR/C/GC/37, para. 23.

³⁵ United Nations Human Rights Committee (HRC), General Comment 37 on article 21 (right of peaceful assembly), 17 September 2020, UN Doc. CCPR/C/GC/37, para. 24.

³⁶ HRC, General Comment 36: Article 6 (The Right to life), 30 October 2018, UN Doc. CCPR/C/GC/36, para. 7.

³⁷ Angola ratified the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on 2 March 1990 (https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/36390-sl-african_charter_on_human_and_peoples_rights_2.pdf) and the ICCPR on 10 January 1992 (https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/Treaty.aspx?Treaty=CCPR).

operation of its law enforcement officials, especially in the context of protests, has not been fully compliant with these standards.

The UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials³⁸ provide that the use of any police force shall be strictly limited to situations where it is necessary for the achievement of a legitimate law enforcement objective. In cases where the use of force is unavoidable, law enforcement officials should always exercise restraint, and the level of any force used should also be strictly proportionate to the legitimate objective to be achieved. Similarly, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights' Resolution on the Prohibition of the Excessive Use of Force by Law Enforcement Officials in African States³⁹ obliges member states to ensure that the use of force is in accordance with the principles of legality, necessity and proportionality and does not endanger human lives. The African Guidelines for the Policing of Assemblies by Law Enforcement Officials in Africa state the use of force and firearms by law enforcement officials must be regulated under national law in conformity with General Comment No. 3 on the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Right to Life (Article 4) and other relevant regional and international human rights standards.⁴⁰

Legality presupposes that the circumstances in which the police may resort to force must conform to national law which complies with international human rights law and standards.⁴¹ This means that each state must regulate the use of police force in accordance with regional and international human rights standards. For example, Article 60 of the Angolan Law of the Police No. 6/20, from 24 March 2020, establishes that the use of coercive measures must comply with principles of proportionality and necessity, and must be adequate.⁴² Article 31 (1,2) of the Angolan Constitution (CRA) provides that the moral, intellectual and physical integrity of individuals shall be inviolable, and the state shall respect and protect the human person and human dignity.⁴³ In the context of assemblies, there should be a clear legal framework that specifically restricts the use of certain weapons and tactics and clearly defines the circumstances of their use. The domestic regulations developed should also be precise enough to regulate police conduct.

The principle of necessity requires that law enforcement officials use force only when strictly necessary and to the extent required for the performance of their duties. Authorities should generally police assemblies without using force and must try non-violent means first. When using force, they must use the minimum force likely to be effective and only until the legitimate objective has been achieved. According to Principle 5 of the Basic Principles, in cases where force is necessary, the police must always take measures to minimize the risk of injury or death and must respect human rights, especially the right to life and physical integrity. The African Guidelines for the Policing of Assemblies require that law enforcement officials must, as far and for as long as possible, differentiate between peaceful assembly participants and those who engage in violent acts.⁴⁴

The principle of proportionality requires that there should be a balance between the type and level of force used and the harm that it can cause to an individual, taking into account the threat posed by the individual. The harm caused by the use of force may never outweigh the harm that needs to be prevented. In any case, the intentional use of lethal force is prohibited unless it is strictly unavoidable to protect life or prevent serious injury from an imminent threat.⁴⁵ The assessment of legality, necessity and proportionality must be based on the relevant facts based on reasonable grounds, as opposed to mere suspicion or presumption of risk or harm.⁴⁶

To comply with these principles, it is essential that law enforcement authorities take all available precautionary measures that prevent a situation from requiring the use of force and that, when they have to use force, enable them to minimize the harm caused by the use of force.⁴⁷ Such measures relate to the appropriate planning and problem-solving strategies, the availability of appropriate equipment, including

³⁸ Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Fire Arms by Law Enforcement Officials, 7 September 1990.

³⁹ African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), Resolution on the Prohibition of Use of Force by Law Enforcement Officers in African States, 10 March 2021, AU Doc. No. ACHPR/Res. 474 (EXT.OSXXXI) 2021.

⁴⁰ ACHPR, Guidelines for the Policing of Assemblies by Law Enforcement Officials in Africa, 4 March 2017, para 21.1.1.

⁴¹ Amnesty International, *Use of force: guidelines for implementation of the UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials*, (SBN 978-90-6463-368-3), August 2015, p.17, <https://www.amnesty.nl/actueel/use-of-force-guidelines-for-implementation-of-the-un-basic-principles-on-the-use-of-force-and-firearms-by-law-enforcement-officials>, HRC, Report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial killing, summary or arbitrary executions, Christof Heyns, UN Doc. A/HRC/26/36, para. 56-58,

⁴² Diário da República, Law of the Police No. 6/20, from 24 March 2020, I Série, No. 34, <https://lex.aodocs/assembleia-nacional/2020/lei-n-o-6-20-de-24-de-marco/>

⁴³ Republic of Angola, Constituição da República de Angola, ["Constitution of the Republic of Angola"], in Portuguese.

⁴⁴ ACHPR, African guidelines for policing of assemblies by law enforcement officials in Africa, (previously cited), para. 21.1.2.

⁴⁵ OHCHR, UN Basic principles on the use of force and firearms by law enforcement officials, (previously cited); HRC, General comment No. 36 (2018) on article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, on the right to life, (previously cited), para. 12.

⁴⁶ ACHPR, Guidelines for the Policing Assemblies by Law Enforcement Officials in Africa, (previously cited), para. 21.1.4.

⁴⁷ Human Rights Council, Report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, A/HRC/26/36, para 63.

protective equipment and appropriate weaponry allowing for a graduated response, and the deployment of duly trained law enforcement officials.

In addition to respecting and protecting the right to life, police action may not result in torture or other forms of ill-treatment. Torture and other ill-treatment are absolutely prohibited under international law and the Constitution of Angola.⁴⁸

As a rule, force must not be directed against peaceful protesters and the use of force for the purpose of punishment is prohibited at all times.⁴⁹ The use of force against people behaving peacefully will only in very limited circumstances be justified and meet the principles of necessity and proportionality. This may be the case when there is an important legitimate objective at stake that cannot be achieved otherwise, for instance, when an assembly causes serious and prolonged disruption.⁵⁰

Police should first use non-violent means and attempt to de-escalate a situation.⁵¹ If the use of force is unavoidable, they must warn people about their intention to resort to the use of force.⁵²

In relation to the dispersal of protests, authorities may only resort to the dispersal of an assembly as a last resort. The dispersal of an assembly may only be carried out when there is a pressing need and when all other means have failed to achieve a legitimate objective. As a rule, authorities should not disperse a peaceful assembly. Further, firearms must never be used to disperse protesters.⁵³ They may only be used against individual protesters posing an imminent threat of death or serious injury to other persons and only when less lethal alternatives are unlikely to be effective.⁵⁴

⁴⁸ Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), 10 December 1984; African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights; Constitution of Angola, Article 60.

⁴⁹ Report of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment on extra-custodial use of force and the prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, A/72/178, para. 46.

⁵⁰ Human Rights Committee (HRC), General comment No. 37 (2020) on the right of peaceful assembly (Article 21), CCPR/C/GC/37, para. 85.

⁵¹ ACHPR, Guidelines for the Policing of Assemblies by Law Enforcement Officials in Africa, 2017, para. 20.2.

⁵² HRC, General Comment No. 37, (previously cited), para. 78.

⁵³ ACHPR, African guidelines for the policing of assemblies by law enforcement officials in Africa, (previously cited), para. 22.6.

⁵⁴ OHCHR, UN Basic principles on the use force and firearms arms by law enforcement officials, (previously cited), principle 14 combined with 9; ACHPR, African guidelines for the policing of assemblies by law enforcement officials in Africa, (previously cited), para. 21.2.3.

4. KEY FINDINGS

In its research, Amnesty International found that PN used firearms and tear gas to repress peaceful protests. Authorities also struck protesters with batons and arbitrarily arrested them simply for exercising their right to freedom of peaceful assembly. In some cases, the use of such unnecessary and excessive force resulted in deaths, serious injuries or psychological trauma to its victims.

4.1 UNLAWFUL USE OF FIREARMS BY SECURITY FORCES

A firearm is a weapon that, by nature of its ammunition, is designed to kill.⁵⁵ Firearms should not be used during an assembly unless in response to a clearly identified individualized imminent threat of death or serious injury while ensuring not to endanger uninvolved bystanders or others who do not pose such threat, and only when no other, less lethal means are available or are likely to be effective.⁵⁶ Even when assemblies turn violent, firearms may only be used to protect against an imminent threat of death or serious injury.⁵⁷ Amnesty International found evidence of the use of lethal force by police in circumstances that did not involve an imminent threat of death or serious injury, resulting in arbitrary deprivations of life.

4.1.1 INOCÊNCIO SHOT AND KILLED BY POLICE AMID A PROTEST

“We were on Avenida Deolinda Rodrigues, on our way to Largo 1º de Maio. As the police were preventing us from moving forward, we entered the neighbourhoods and arrived at secondary street, Avenida Brasil. During attempts to break through the police barrier, they fired what sounded like gunshots, and we stopped, and some dispersed in fear. Then, we continued. This happened three or four times until we arrived in front of the Americo Boa Vida Hospital. Here, we saw several policemen. Afraid, we stopped, knelt, and raised our hands, a sign of non-resistance. Then, we heard gunshots. We stepped back. That’s when we noticed that one of us was on the ground. It was Inocêncio. Then, we came back to rescue him. One of the protesters carried him on his back. That is when we noticed that he was dead. He did not move, and there was a lot of blood on the ground.”

Inocêncio de Matos, a 26-year-old young student at the time,⁵⁸ was fatally shot by police on 11 November 2020 before arriving at the Largo 1º de Maio, said Kennedy Manuel, a witness who was among the protesters.⁵⁹

⁵⁵ Amnesty International, *A-Z terms: operational policy on terminology*, May 2024, <https://brandhub.amnesty.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/House-style-operational-policy-for-Brand-Hub.pdf>; Amnesty International, *Use of Force: Guidelines for implementation of the UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials*, August 2015, section 2.2., p. 54; <https://www.amnestyusa.org/reports/use-of-force-guidelines-for-implementation-of-the-un-basic-principles-on-the-use-of-force-and-firearms-by-law-enforcement-officials/>.

⁵⁶ ACHPR, African guidelines for the policing of assemblies by law enforcement officials in Africa, (previously cited), para. 21.2.3 and 21.2.4.

⁵⁷ OHCHR, UN Basic principles on the use of force and firearms by law enforcement officials, (previously cited), Principle No. 9 and 14.

⁵⁸ DW, Inocêncio de Matos, a “symbol of resistance” in Angola, (previously cited).

⁵⁹ At the witness’ request, Amnesty concealed Kennedy’s real name. Kennedy is a pseudonym.

According to the family's lawyer, Inocêncio's first autopsy, conducted by a doctor from the Hospital Américo Boa Vida, revealed that he was shot by a blunt object and died in the hospital. Suspicious of this autopsy, the family's lawyer requested a second autopsy, which revealed two orifices, one near Inocêncio's throat and the other on top of Inocêncio's head. Contrary to the first autopsy, the two holes in Inocêncio's body showed that he was hit by a firearm bullet, which caused his immediate death on site. "The hole created by the bullet would not allow Inocêncio to reach the hospital alive," the lawyer said.

Amnesty International's Evidence Lab verified three pictures and two videos published on 11 November 2020 showing the protest in which Inocêncio was killed. One of the videos⁶⁰ showed a man matching Inocêncio's features lying on the ground with blood around his head. A crowd surrounded the man while chanting "murderers" to police officers who were standing approximately 15 metres away. One of the participants told Amnesty International that hours before the protest, armed police had already erected a barrier to prevent protesters from accessing the protest site, Santa Ana Cemetery.

4.1.2 TWO WORKERS FATALLY SHOT DURING A STRIKE FOR BETTER PAY

On 26 May 2022, police shot and killed at least two workers from the company Hidroelétrica de Caculo Cabaça (CGGC) during a strike organized by the Federation of Construction Unions, in the municipality of Cambambe, Cuanza Norte province. The workers were demanding wage increases, job security, better food and sleeping conditions, and better hygiene in bathrooms.⁶¹ The two victims were Adão José Andre Caoluna, a 32-year-old bricklayer and father of seven – the youngest of whom is three years old – and 35-year-old Luís António Lourenço, also known as Dorito. According to José Carlos de Andrade,⁶² a friend and colleague of Dorito who was also at the protest, Dorito was shot while trying to explain something to the police.

José told Amnesty International that police intervened and began threatening to fire if the workers continued with the strike. He said Dorito was shot as he was talking to the police, explaining the reasons for the strike. He said:

"[Dorito was saying] We did not come to do vandalism or confusion; we just want to help our brothers who are working there so that the company can increase our salary. Then the police started shooting, and Dorito was hit by two bullets, one in the back and one in the head, and died on the spot."⁶³

4.1.3 FOUR PEOPLE, INCLUDING A CHILD, KILLED DURING A FUEL PROTEST IN HUAMBO

On 5 June 2023, police officers from the PIR fired live ammunition against protesters in Huambo and killed at least four people, including bystanders. The victims were Cristiano Luis Pambasangue Tchiuta, a 12-year-old boy, Antonio Lucas Silvano, 22, Severino Satumba Adelino, 19, and Horácio Chiquemba Antonio, 22. Cristiano, António and Severino did not participate in the protest but were shot when passing by.

According to a Huambo Provincial Command spokesperson, quoted by DW,⁶⁴ the police called the PIR at around 7am to disperse protesters who had placed barricades on the roads, burned tyres and thrown stones, causing disruption on roads including National Roads 120 in the Huambo-Caála direction, and 260 in the Caála-Huambo direction. Amnesty International's Evidence Lab verified four videos and three

⁶⁰ Video published on the platform X (formerly Twitter) on 11 November 2020 at 14:15 GMT, on file with Amnesty International. <https://x.com/ssozinha/status/1326529108029939712>

⁶¹ The Novo Jornal, "Kwanza-Norte: polícia dispara mortalmente contra três funcionários da Barragem de Caculo Cabaça mortes ocorreram quando funcionários exigiam melhores condições de trabalho" ["Kwanza-Norte: police shoot dead three employees of the Caculo-Cabaça Dam- deaths occurred when employees demanded better working conditions"], 27 May 2022, <https://www.novojornal.co.ao/sociedade/interior/kwanza-norte-policia-dispara-mortalmente-contra-tres-funcionarios-da-barragem-de-caculo-cabaca---mortes-ocorreram-quando-os-funcionarios-exigiam-melhores-condicoes-de-trabalho-108310.html> (in Portuguese); VOA, "Trabalhadores angolanos de uma empresa chinesa assassinados a tiro por polícias em Kwanza-Norte" ["Angolan workers at a Chinese company shot dead by police in Kwanza-Norte"], 26 May 2022, <https://www.voaportugues.com/a/trabalhadores-angolanos-de-um-empresa-chinesa-assassinados-a-tiro-por-policias-em-kwanza-norte/6590657.html> (in Portuguese)

⁶² Interview by video call with José Carlos de Andrade, a witness of the shooting from the police, 12 January 2024.

⁶³ Interview by video call with José Carlos de Andrade, previously cited.

⁶⁴ DW, "Combustíveis: polícia angolana dispersa protesto de taxistas no Huambo" ["Fuels: Angolan police represses taxi drivers' protest"], 5 June 2023, <https://www.dw.com/pt-002/combustiveis-policia-angolana-dispersa-protesto-de-taxistas-no-huambo/a-65829150>

pictures⁶⁵ showing a protest in front of Huambo’s inter-regional bus station on National Road 120, where protesters lit a fire. Protesters threw rocks at the police vehicle that arrived at the scene, and officers responded with tear gas. A witness told Amnesty International that “at least the police used tear gas against protesters”.



Picture showing a section of protesters in Huambo, 5 June 2023,⁶⁶

Cristiano Luis Pambasangue Tchiuta and his uncle left home around 11am, on their way to Cristiano’s school. After walking about 100 metres, they came across the protest. As they crossed the main street near the Adventist Church, Cristiano fell. His uncle noticed that Cristiano had been hit in the back of the head by projectiles from a firearm. His uncle and other people who were close by took Cristiano to Huambo General Hospital, where he arrived unconscious. After undergoing surgery, Cristiano died at around 2pm. His death certificate (annexe 2) confirms his death was caused by head trauma from a projectile fired from a firearm.

Antonio Lucas Silviano, a 22-year-old tax collector, arrived at his workplace to find that his office was closed due to a protest. On his way back home, he came across the protest and was hit by a projectile in the left side of his abdomen. Antonio’s brother received a call to go to Huambo General Hospital because his brother was injured. Upon arriving at the hospital, he was approached by police officers who explained to him that António had fractured his leg in an accident and had died. However, upon transferring Antonio’s body to the morgue, his brother noticed that António had been shot. The case document (annexe 3) prepared by the lawyer reveals António died from traumatic shock, a thoracic trauma resulting from the firing of a firearm projectile.

Severino Satumba Adelino was passing the protest on his way home from the 7th Day Adventist Church when police shot him in the left shoulder. He was also taken to the Huambo General Hospital, where he died from the gunshot wound at around 7pm, after undergoing surgery, according to his death certificate (annexe 4).

Horácio Chiquemba António was hit by a bullet in the head, near the left eye, at around 8am, during the demonstrations and died at the scene. According to the case document (annexe 5), Horácio died of head trauma caused by the firing of a firearm projectile.

Amnesty International’s Evidence Lab verified two videos⁶⁷ showing a crowd that surrounded a man who was lying on the ground and had blood around his body, while sounds, likely of gunshots, were heard in the background. “The police killed! The police killed! These bullets are not made of rubber,” a voice was heard saying in one of the videos.

⁶⁵ Images published on the platform X (formerly Twitter) on 5 June 2023, on file with Amnesty International.

<https://x.com/salumc/status/1665811367385767936> <https://x.com/cesarchiyaya/status/1665685665432862722>

⁶⁶ First published by VOA, Há mortos e feridos em confrontos no Huambo, dizem várias fontes locais, 5 June 2023,

<https://www.voaportugues.com/a/há-mortos-e-feridos-em-confrontos-no-huambo-dizem-várias-fontes-locais/7123768.html>

⁶⁷ Videos published on the platform X (formerly Twitter) on 5 June 2023, on file with Amnesty International.

https://x.com/mulher_disse/status/1665651386422530049 https://x.com/Jonas_77/status/1665725313811116038

Another video,⁶⁸ filmed approximately 400 metres away on the same road, showed police officers blocking the traffic and firing tear gas grenades at motorcyclists, which goes against international human rights law and standards: police can only lawfully use tear gas to disperse a protest when there is generalized violence against other persons, and there are no less harmful means available to stop the violence.⁶⁹ There is no sign of such generalized violence in this video, and if there was, the police should have addressed any individualized acts of violent behaviour with the concerned violent individuals alone without resorting to a weapon that is likely to affect peaceful protesters and bystanders alike. More importantly, however, the video evidences the high level of explosive material contained in these grenades, which is highly dangerous, likely to cause unwarranted, excessive harm and therefore should not be used in law enforcement.⁷⁰

4.1.4 USE OF FIREARMS TO DISPERSE PROTESTERS

Amnesty International documented at least 10 deaths, which were apparently caused by firearms used by police officers on 30 January 2021 in Cafunfo. The Cafunfo police said that they fired live ammunition because “a crowd of about 300 people attempted to attack the police station. They were armed with firearms, melee weapons, sticks, and irons and caused injuries to two officers.”⁷¹ Zecamutchima, the leader of the civil society organization Protectorate Movement from Lunda Norte, which led the protest, refuted this version of events, contending that police indiscriminately fired live ammunition against unarmed protesters.⁷²

Different sources suggest that many people were killed during this protest. However, the exact number is unknown.⁷³ A report by Rafael Marques de Morais,⁷⁴ president of the Ufolo Study Center for Good Governance, and founder of the investigation portal Maka, presents a list of 13 people killed by the use of firearms by the police.

TABLE 1⁷⁵: LIST OF THE DEAD IN CAFUNFO, ACCORDING TO AN INDEPENDENT REPORT

#	NAME	AGE	PLACE OF BIRTH
1	ADILSON Francisco Dala	26	Caungula
2	Borges Carlos Mauanda	32	Lubalo
3	Alfredo Kavunga	40	Lubalo
4	David Matondo	47	Cuango
5	Dinis Simba		
6	Emanuel Zango José Zeca	19	
7	Juca Avelino Muacumbi	48	Cuango
8	Julinho Lázaro		
9	Júlio Elias		
10	Mingo Muatxite	52	Lubalo
11	Mukwenda Tomás Luwampishi		
12	Mutunda Catxambi	36	Caungula
13	Suwere		

⁶⁸ Video published on the platform TikTok on 5 June 2023, on file with Amnesty International. <https://www.tiktok.com/@zedeflwo/video/7241121705404484869>

⁶⁹ OHCHR, Resource Book on the Use of Force and Firearms in Law Enforcement, 2017, p. 88; Amnesty International The Netherlands, *Chemical Irritants in Law Enforcement - An Amnesty International Position paper*, 2021, p. 9 (section 4.1).

⁷⁰ Amnesty International, *Position paper: chemical irritants in law enforcement*, June 2021, p.19.

⁷¹ VOA, 18 February 2021, previously cited; DW, Angola vários mortos e feridos em incidentes na Lunda Norte [‘Angola: several killed and injured in incidents in Lunda Norte’], 30 January 2021, <https://www.dw.com/en-002/angola-vários-mortos-e-feridos-em-incidentes-na-lunda-norte/a-56393568>

⁷² DW, “Oposição angolana condena ‘massacre’ na Lunda Norte” [“Angolan opposition condemns massacre in Lunda Norte”], 31 January 2021, <https://www.dw.com/pt-002/oposição-angolana-condena-massacre-na-lunda-norte/a-56399129>

⁷³ The names of the victims, their age and place of birth were obtained from the publication by Rafael Marques de Morais, previously cited.

⁷⁴ The names of the victims, their age and place of birth were obtained from the publication by Rafael Marques de Morais, previously cited.

⁷⁵ The names of the victims, their age and place of birth were obtained from the publication by Rafael Marques de Morais, previously cited.

This high number of casualties indicates a high probability of an excessive police response to whatever the situation was. Video evidence verified by Amnesty International's Evidence Lab from the scene where people were shot at corroborates the overall enemy attitude by police.

A video,⁷⁶ likely filmed at around 6am on that day, showed two men wearing police uniforms (one of them carried a handgun) and others were dressed in plain clothes dragging two bodies on a dirt road. Some of them carried AK-pattern rifles (one of them fitted with a GP-25 underbarrel grenade launcher). The dragged bodies were left next to others. Amnesty International counted eight victims lying on the ground, some apparently dead and others injured. The person behind the camera appears to taunt the victims: "Now have you won?" he asks while filming them bleeding on the ground. Another man appears to order an officer to take one victim's cell phone.

A second video,⁷⁷ filmed at the same location, showed men in camouflage uniforms in addition to those wearing police uniforms and in plain clothes. One officer appeared to ask the person behind the camera to film him. He proceeded to kick a ninth victim who was sitting on the ground and then stepped on his head. A pickup truck with the Cafunfo police emblem (2a Esquadra do Cafunfo) arrived carrying apparent arrestees. The man who just had his head stepped on was taken to the truck.

Besides the unacceptable, inhumane and degrading treatment of both the injured and the dead persons, the police clearly failed to secure any evidence relating to the events; moreover, the moving of the dead bodies destroyed evidence that could have helped in an effective investigation into what happened, including who was shot from where and by whom. This was in clear violation of the professional standards for the investigation of unnatural deaths in the context of law enforcement as established in the Minnesota protocol.⁷⁸ They also omitted to provide immediate medical care for the injured in violation of international human rights standards set out, for instance, in Basic Principle No. 5c. "Whenever the lawful use of force and firearms is unavoidable, law enforcement officials shall ensure that assistance and medical aid are rendered to any injured or affected persons at the earliest possible moment."⁷⁹

Amnesty International also interviewed a person closely linked to Emanuel Zango José Zeca, the victim number 6 in the table above. The person, who requested anonymity for fear of reprisals, said his 29-year-old godfather was fatally shot by the police: "Even after they killed him, the police did not want to hand over the body to the family for burial. A bishop had to ask for the body to be buried. This is the only way we were able to bury my godfather," The person told Amnesty International.⁸⁰

Overall, the behaviour of police in the aftermath of the incidents corroborates a highly unprofessional and unlawful approach to law enforcement – strengthening the suspicion of excessive use of lethal force that demands a thorough, independent and impartial investigation.

4.1.5 USE OF FIREARMS AGAINST PROTESTERS IN BENGUELA

Amnesty International's Evidence Lab verified five videos posted on X (formerly Twitter) about a fuel protest in Benguela on 17 June 2023. One video,⁸¹ showed protesters holding signs and chanting on Avenia Dr. Antonio Agostinho Neto, near Sé Cathedral, while being watched by armed police officers. Some protesters walked, and others rode motorcycles. Shadow analysis indicates that the video was filmed between 2pm and 3pm.

⁷⁶ Video published on the platform Facebook on 30 January 2021 at 13:59 GMT, on file with Amnesty International. <https://www.facebook.com/serafim.simeao.1/posts/2868709050034305/>

⁷⁷ Video published on the platform Facebook on 30 January 2021 at 13:25 GMT, on file with Amnesty International. <https://www.facebook.com/serafim.simeao.1/posts/2868685290036681/>

⁷⁸ OHCHR, The Minnesota protocol on the investigation of potentially unlawful death: the revised United Nations manual on the effective prevention and investigation of extra-legal, arbitrary and summary execution, 2017.

⁷⁹ HRC, UN Basic principles on the use of force and firearms by law enforcement officials, (previously cited), principle 5.

⁸⁰ Angola: shooting spree by security forces kills at least 10 protesters, 2 February, 2021, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/02/angola-shooting-sprees-by-security-forces-kills-at-least-10-protesters-2/>; VOA, Procurador Geral de Angola diz que não lhe cabe abrir inquérito aos confrontos de Cafunfo [Attorney General of Angola says that it is not up to him to open an investigation into the Cafunfo clashes], 18 February 2021, <https://www.voaportugues.com/a/procurador-geral-de-angola-diz-que-not-you-cabe-abrir-inquerito-aos-confrontos-de-cafunfo/5783706.html>; VOA, Oposição parlamentar dismente versao das autoridades sobre Cafunfo e avança com 23 mortes [Angolan Parliamentary opposition to the authorities version of Cafunfo and mentions 23 deaths], 10 February 2021, <https://www.voaportugues.com/a/oposicao-parlamentar-desmente-versao-das-authoridades-sobre-cafunfo-e-avanca-com-23-mortes/5772504.html>

⁸¹ Video published on X (formerly Twitter) on 17 June 2023, on file with Amnesty International. <https://x.com/kamusumbe/status/1670082559139618820/video/4>

Another video,⁸² filmed on the same street and likely soon after the first one, showed the group of protesters from a different angle. The apparent sound of gunshots can be heard as protesters appear to run. A third video,⁸³ filmed about 600 metres from the first two, showed the protesters running and police officers chasing them. Tear gas can be seen coming out of canisters lying on the ground, and the sound of likely gunshots fired in bursts can be heard. At least one police officer is handling an AK-pattern rifle, which has no legitimate use in crowd control settings.

The fourth video,⁸⁴ filmed at a nearby street, showed four police officers running, and one of them firing a single-shot 37/38mm launcher towards an off-screen target. The police officer does not stop running nor shoulder his rifle before shooting, which neither allows enough precision to target specific individuals or body parts nor to prevent harming other people - a rather reckless way of acting in violation of international human rights standards that require law enforcement officials to minimize harm and injury (UN Basic Principle No. 5b).⁸⁵ One police truck drove in the direction of where the officer had shot, while two police officers on motorcycles rode in the opposite direction.

The fifth video⁸⁶ showed two police officers on motorcycles, two on foot and one person in plain clothes carrying an AK-pattern rifle (which has no legitimate use in crowd control settings) chasing an unarmed person. Sounds of likely gunshots were heard.

4.2 UNLAWFUL USE OF LESS-LETHAL WEAPONS

Amnesty International found that police unnecessarily and excessively used less-lethal weapons like batons, tear gas and water cannons during the protests. The use of tear gas and water cannons to disperse protesters was particularly common.

“Before dispersing a protest, law enforcement agencies should seek to identify any violent individuals and isolate them from the other participants. This may enable the main assembly to continue. If these targeted interventions are ineffective, law enforcement officials may employ weapons that target groups rather than individuals, such as water cannons or tear gas, after having issued an appropriate warning, unless giving the warning would cause a delay that would either risk causing serious injury or, in the circumstances, be futile.”⁸⁷

4.2.1 TEAR GAS GRENADES

The aim of using chemical irritants dispersed at a distance, such as tear gas, should be to disperse violent groups and force them to refrain from violence and only in cases of widespread violence that cannot be addressed through dealing with violent individuals alone. In such circumstances, they should be fired at a high angle. Repeated or prolonged exposure to tear gas should be avoided.⁸⁸

Amnesty International’s Evidence Lab verified one video,⁸⁹ filmed on Avenida Deolinda Rodrigues during a protest in Luanda on 17 June 2023, that showed protesters running as police fired tear gas canisters. Local

⁸² Video published on X (formerly Twitter) on 17 June 2023, on file with Amnesty International. <https://x.com/kamusumbe/status/1670082559139618820>

⁸³ Video published on X (formerly Twitter) on 17 June 2023, on file with Amnesty International. <https://x.com/MovCivicoMudei/status/1670089175440273411>

⁸⁴ Video published on X (formerly Twitter) on 17 June 2023, on file with Amnesty International. <https://x.com/kamusumbe/status/1670082559139618820>

⁸⁵ OHCHR, UN guidance on less-lethal weapons in law enforcement, (previously cited), para. 7.5.2; Amnesty International The Netherlands, *Kinetic Impact Projectiles in Law Enforcement - An Amnesty International Position Paper - Police and Human Rights Resources*, p. 17, section 5.

⁸⁶ Video published on X (formerly Twitter) on 17 June 2023, on file with Amnesty International. <https://x.com/kamusumbe/status/1670082559139618820>

⁸⁷ HRC, Joint report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions on the proper management of assemblies, UN Doc. A/HRC/31/66, para. 52; HRC, Human Rights Council resolution 25/38, para. 9.

⁸⁸ OHCHR, Resource Book on the Use of Force and Firearms in Law Enforcement, (previously cited), p. 88; Amnesty International The Netherlands, *Chemical Irritants in Law Enforcement - An Amnesty International Position Paper - Police and Human Rights Resources*, (previously cited), section 4.1. and 5.

⁸⁹ Video published on the platform X (formerly Twitter) on 18 June 2023 at 4:40GMT, on file with Amnesty International. <https://x.com/RWDiogo/status/1670290433589534720>

media⁹⁰ reported that the police deployed tear gas for almost 30 minutes against protesters who stood on an overpass and those who sought refuge in nearby areas.

On this day, hundreds of people took to Deolinda Rodrigues Street to protest fuel prices. The protest began at the Santa Ana Cemetery in Luanda at around 1pm. The intention of the protesters was to reach Largo da Mutamba,⁹¹ near the Ministry of Finance. After the protesters walked for about a mile, just before the Congolese Viaduct, the heavily armed PIR, including dogs and horses, prevented them from continuing. A group of about 20 protesters tried to get around the police barrier, crossing to the other side of Deolinda Rodrigues Avenue. Here, they found another police barrier and were now prevented both from continuing or retreating. One of the witnesses told Amnesty International that in addition to the canine police, there were also two armoured police cars blocking the avenue.

Two victims said they were directly hit by tear gas grenades and had part of their bodies injured and burned. Isabel Guedes, one of the victims, said that “she just felt that something exploded in her foot, and the foot became very hot and injured”. The pants burned and joined with the skin, leaving a hole that can be seen in the picture below. According to Isabel, the grenade caused a second-degree burn that required surgery and grafting.



Picture of Isabel Guedes, moments after being hit by a grenade, near the Congolese viaduct.⁹²

It is unclear what caused this type of injury. Tear gas grenades should only cause temporary sensory irritation, not burns. There is a high risk that this was a grenade combined with an excessive amount of explosive material, in a similar way as could be seen being fired against motorcyclists in Huambo⁹³ and that should not be used in law enforcement due to its high risk of causing unwarranted, excessive harm.⁹⁴

After the injury, Isabel was rushed to a police hospital near the scene of the incident. She received first aid, as can be seen in the picture below, and then decided to go home, although the doctor who treated her suggested that she be hospitalized due to the depth of the injuries.

⁹⁰ Sic Noticias, Angola: carga policial em manifestação contra subida dos combustíveis [‘Angola: Police charge at protest against rising fuel prices’], 17 June 2023, <https://sicnoticias.pt/mundo/2023-06-17-Angola-carga-policial-em-manifestacao-contra-subida-dos-combustiveis-da1b8b3d>

⁹¹ Largo da Mutamba is a square located in the city of Luanda, close to the Ministry of Finance. It is also a busy area from where most of public and private transportation takes people to many destinations around Luanda.

⁹² Picture provided by Isabel Guedes to Amnesty International staff.

⁹³ Video published on the platform TikTok on 5 June 2023, on file with Amnesty International. <https://www.tiktok.com/@zedeflwo/video/7241121705404484869>

⁹⁴ Amnesty International, An Amnesty International position paper: chemical irritants in law enforcement, (previously cited), p. 19, section 6.2.



Picture of Isabel Guedes in the hospital being treated for her injuries.⁹⁵

Isabel told Amnesty International that she decided to go home because she didn't feel safe in the police hospital where she received first aid. However, as her leg was very inflamed and eventually became infected, she decided to go to a public hospital in the Zango neighbourhood of Luanda. She was well cared for, and after 15 days, she started physical therapy to regain leg movements and to heal the wounds. However, she was forced to stop after only two sessions of physiotherapy due to the high cost of the ointment that was required. According to Isabel, a 200mg ointment cost about Kz 27,500, equivalent to USD 32.⁹⁶

Joel Caetano was also a victim of a grenade thrown by the police on 17 June 2023. He told Amnesty International: "The demonstration began peacefully. Police violence began at the Congolese viaduct, on Deolinda Rodrigues Avenue, where police blocked protesters and began firing tear gas and grenades." According to Joel, one of the grenades hit him and damaged tendons and ligaments in his left kneecap, as also shown in the medical report (annexe 6). The way in which tear gas was fired goes against international human rights standards: tear gas canisters should not be fired directly at people to avoid causing impact-related injuries.⁹⁷ The picture below shows how the knee looked after the surgery.

⁹⁵ Picture provided by Isabel Guedes to Amnesty International staff.

⁹⁶ <https://ecc.oanda.com/show/en>

⁹⁷ OHCHR, Resource Book on the Use of Force and Firearms in Law Enforcement, (previously cited), p. 13, section 5.2.



Picture of the leg of Joel Caetano after surgery.⁹⁸

4.2.2. THE USE OF BATONS AGAINST PROTESTERS

Batons are typically used as a less-lethal weapon to enable law enforcement officials to defend themselves against violent assailants or to effect the lawful arrest of a suspect who is resisting violently.⁹⁹ Baton strikes should be targeted against the assailant's arms or legs. Officials should avoid baton strikes to sensitive areas of the body, such as the head, neck and throat, spine, kidneys and abdomen.¹⁰⁰ Batons shall not be used against a person who is neither engaged in nor threatening violent behaviour; such use is likely to amount to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or even torture. In this research, Amnesty International also documented cases of the use of batons against protesters simply for exercising their right to freedom of peaceful assembly and who were neither engaged in nor threatening violent behaviour.

⁹⁸ Picture provided by Joel to Amnesty International staff.

⁹⁹ OHCHR, Guidance on less-lethal weapons in law enforcement, (previously cited); Amnesty International The Netherlands, An Amnesty International position paper: [Batons and Other Handheld Kinetic Impact Weapons](#), March 2022, section 2.

¹⁰⁰ OHCHR, Guidance on less-lethal weapons in law enforcement, (previously cited); Amnesty International The Netherlands, An Amnesty International position paper: [Batons and Other Handheld Kinetic Impact Weapons](#), (previously cited), section 5.2.

USE OF BATONS AGAINST PROTESTERS IN LUANDA

The police used batons against at least four protesters in Luanda, on 4 February 2021, when about 500 people protested the killing of members of the Lunda Norte Protectorate Movement in Cafunfo on 30 January 2021.¹⁰¹



A protester holds a placard in Luanda on 4 February 2021 during a protest against police brutality days after police killed protesters in Cafunfo.¹⁰²

At around 12:30pm, claiming they were acting on “higher orders”, police officers began assaulting protesters with batons and then arrested at least 20 protesters.¹⁰³ Members of the SCC had notified the GPL about the intended protest three weeks earlier (annexe 9).

Geraldo Dala, a member of SCC and one of the victims, told Amnesty International that he was hit several times in the head by PIR officers at Santa Ana Cemetery, together with his companions, before the protest had begun.



Picture of the injuries to Geraldo Dala's head.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰¹ Angola Radio, Em Luanda: disparo de balas reais da polícia nacional contra manifestantes resulta em feridos graves [“In Luanda: Real bullets fired by the National Police against protesters result in serious injuries”], 5 February 2021, <https://radioangola.org/em-luanda-disparos-de-balas-reais-da-policia-nacional-contra-manifestantes-resultam-em-feridos-graves/>

¹⁰² Photo by Osvaldo Silva / AFP via Getty Images.

¹⁰³ DW, 4 February 2021, previously cited.

¹⁰⁴ Picture provided by Geraldo Dala to Amnesty International staff.

“In addition to torturing me, the police wounded two protesters with live ammunition. Of the two, one was rushed to the Beiral Medical Center and the other to Américo Boavida hospital.” One of them, whose name he preferred not to be revealed, still lives with a projectile in his leg.

The police also handcuffed and arrested two other activists and members of the civil society organization Cazenga Platform in Action. They also chased protesters, with horses, who dispersed after police repressed the protest, as shown in the picture below.

“We were dispersed from the concentration site by police throwing tear gas. We entered the neighbourhoods, and the police with horses began to fire at us with live ammunition,” said Geraldo Dala.



Protesters run away from mounted police in Luanda on 4 February 2021 during a protest against police brutality days after police killed protesters in Cafunfu.¹⁰⁵

AVISTO WAS BEATEN WITH BATONS UNTIL UNCONSCIOUS FOR THE MEETING TO DISCUSS ELECTION RESULTS

During protests that took place on 27 August 2022 in Benguela, police similarly used batons against several protesters. Avisto Chingolola Mateus Mbota, 32, was one of the victims. Avisto informed Amnesty International that a policeman confronted him and accused him of being the creator of the “chaos”. The policeman shoved Avisto, and his head hit the ground. Other officers then joined in and started hitting his back with batons for about five minutes until he lost consciousness.

“We gathered at the Jango da Liberdade, in Lobito, Benguela, to discuss the results of the elections. Suddenly, we saw about 40 officers from the Reaction and Patrol Unit (URP) and the Criminal Illicit Department arriving around 1pm. They were transported in five patrol cars and armed with various firearms, batons, shields, whips and tear gas. Some were in uniform, and others were not. Soon after arriving, the police fired several shots into the air. Then, they started beating us. In addition to the weapons they brought, the policemen also used library furniture, chairs, to beat us,” said Avisto. These violations potentially amounted to torture and other ill-treatment.

In addition to Avisto, activists António Feliciano Buengue Pongoti, Mário Hukunda Raúl, Maria do Carmo Armando Correia, Albino Lavoco Capingala and Rodrigo Martinho Pedro de Carvalho were subjected to torture. Three policemen beat António with a baton until he fell to the ground. After falling, one of the policemen climbed on António’s head, and another put a grenade in his mouth while others punched him in the chest and insulted him. Mário was forced to lie on his stomach and was beaten for three to five minutes continuously on the buttocks with a whip.

In addition to hitting them, the police threatened the activists by pointing guns at their heads. The officers taunted them, calling them bandits, delinquents, and rebels. They also made contemptible comments about the marital status of Maria do Carmo. They said in unison, “if it were in the times of José Eduardo dos Santos

¹⁰⁵ Photo by Osvaldo Silva / AFP via Getty Images.

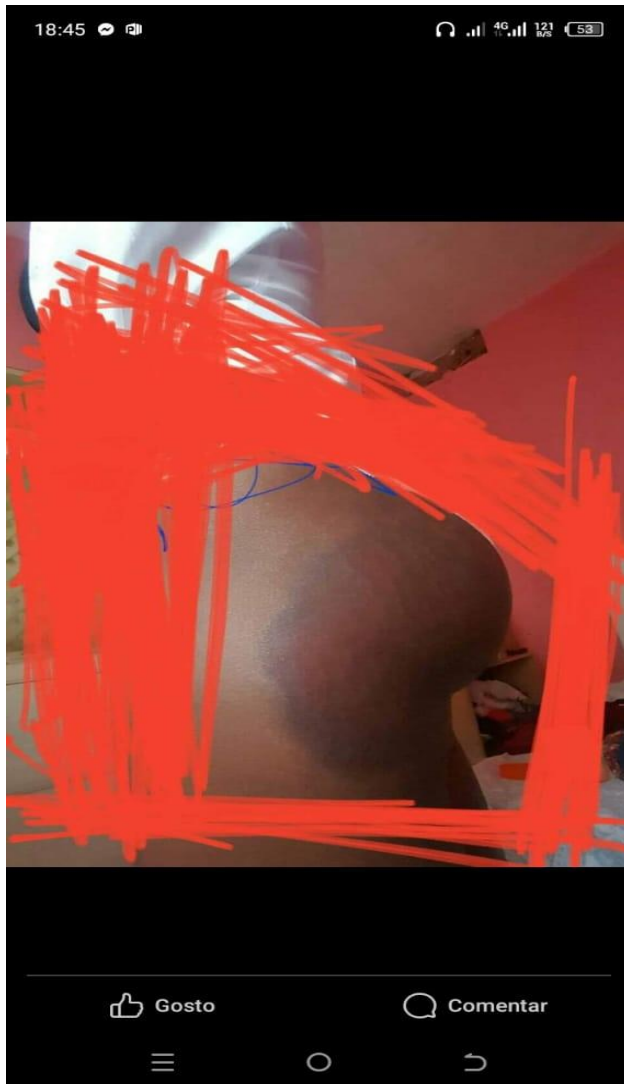
[the president of Angola before João Lourenço], we would have already murdered you, bandits, we will kill you”.

After the assault, the police handcuffed all the activists and put them in the back of their cars, under the chairs. Those who couldn't walk because of the serious injuries police inflicted on them were dragged into the cars, which were about 30-50 metres away from the library. While some policemen dragged the activists, others fired shots in the air as they headed for the cars. Mário was slapped by a police officer as they walked to the cars. While the activists sat in the back seats, the policemen continued to assault them with batons and whips and kicked them.

Maria do Carmo and another female activist were taken to the 3rd Lobito Police Station. The male activists were taken to the Lobito Municipal Command. At both sites, the assault continued, Avisto said. Albino informed the police that he had chest problems. The police responded by beating him repeatedly in the chest. These beatings served no legitimate law enforcement purpose and amounted to a violation of the victims' right to freedom from torture and other ill-treatment, as well as their right to security of the person.

After the torture, the activists, including the women, were detained at the Lobito Command for three days, from 27 to 29 August 2022. The conditions in the cells were deplorable. They were full of mosquitoes, and there were no beds or mattresses to sleep on. There were no facilities for bathing, it smelled bad, and the activists did not receive food from the police officers during the three days they were detained.

The torture that Maria do Carmo was subjected to caused bruises on her buttocks, picture below. Because of them, she struggled to sit for six days. She also has scars and continues to have pain in her left shoulder.



Picture of sequelae on Maria do Carmo's buttocks.¹⁰⁶

¹⁰⁶ Picture provided by Maria do Carmo to Amnesty International staff.

Mário Raúl, António Pongoti, Albino Capingala and Rodrigo Martinho Pedro de Carvalho also had bruises and pain in their shoulders due to torture.

4.3 ARBITRARY ARRESTS AND DETENTIONS

Amnesty International found that in addition to unlawful use of force, law enforcement officials also resorted to arbitrary arrests and detention of protesters. On 3 July 2021, about 23 protesters, including 16-year-old Florence Afonso,¹⁰⁷ were arrested by police officers in Benguela. The police accused them of the crime of “disobedience to the order of dispersal of gathering”, contrary to Article 300 of the Penal Code (CP). On 6 July 2021, they were acquitted by the Benguela Provincial District Court. According to DW,¹⁰⁸ one of the defence lawyers said: “the protesters were accused of the crime of disobedience to the authorities, term of Article 300 of the CP, and in the trial we realized that the justice officials wanted to refer to other crimes, such as moral offences and disrespect, which does not correspond to the facts that were produced in the trial phase.”

Thirty-two-year-old Avisto Tchongolola Mbotla, one of those arrested, said that all of them were tortured during their detention.

“Police from the Reaction and Patrol Unit (URP) and from the Illicit Crimes Department used batons to torture us before putting us in cells. We remained in police custody for three days and slept on the floor without blankets or sheets to cover ourselves. It was winter and there were many mosquitoes in the cells,” said Avisto.

On 9 April 2022, after hearing that the PN was arresting protesters at the Largo 1º de Maio¹⁰⁹ Laurinda, a 32-year-old human rights defender and 34-year-old student Rosa Condes, who was then pregnant, along with other colleagues who had just attended a civil society meeting,¹¹⁰ decided to go to witness the arrests. Knowing that they were at risk of arrest themselves, they decided to use the Largo Zé Pirãoher, thus avoiding Avenida Deolinda Rodrigues, where the protesters passed. After walking for a while with her seven-month-old son on her back, Laurinda stopped to rest. As her son began to cry, she decided to breastfeed him. Without any legal basis, the police took Laurinda, Rosa and 20 other protesters to the Boa Vista police station. No special arrangements were made to care for Laurinda’s son.

Decisions on allowing children to stay with mothers in custody must be based on the best interests of the children, who should not be treated as prisoners, and special provision should be made for them. Before women are detained or imprisoned, they should be allowed to decide for dependent children, taking into account the best interests of the children.¹¹¹

According to witnesses, there were at least three police commanders coordinating operations that day. The commanders are said to have been drawn from the Criminal Investigation Service (SIC) and the Operational Brigade (B.O.) police station.

“Already at the police station, a police officer appeared and began to insult me and throw other pejorative names at me. Then, he ordered us to be taken to the Ruiz neighbourhood. Around 11pm, the police officers came to take us to the Luanda Police Command. We were about 20 people in all. I asked them to help me because I was with my baby and needed protection, especially for the baby. The police did not do anything, and we had to sleep that night in the cell. We were nine women, me and my baby, we slept without any protection against mosquitoes. Because of this, my son contracted malaria. The next day, a companion who knew we

¹⁰⁷ DW, Benguela: 23 activistas detidos em manifestação foram absolvidos [“Benguela: 23 activists detained for protesting acquitted”], 7 July 2021, <https://www.dw.com/pt-002/benguela-23-activistas-detidos-em-manifestação-foram-absolvidas/a-58181906>

¹⁰⁸ DW, Benguela: 23 activistas detidos em manifestação foram absolvidos [“Benguela: 23 activists detained for protesting acquitted”], previously cited.

¹⁰⁹ 1º de Maio, where there is the statue of Agostinho Neto, the first president of Angola, is one of the places of concentration for demonstrations in Luanda, as mentioned in the text.

¹¹⁰ Friends of Angola is a civil society organization that, like other organizations, defends the well-being of the Angolan people.

¹¹¹ European Committee for Prevention of Torture (CPT), 10th General Report on the CPT’s activities covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 1999, 18 August 2000.

were detained brought clothes to change my son. Before that, my baby spent two days (April 9-11) with only one diaper and feeding only on breast milk,” Laurinda told Amnesty International.

“Everyone has the right to physical and mental integrity; no one may be subjected to torture or to other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The right to freedom from torture and other ill-treatment or punishment is absolute. It is a norm of customary international law that applies to all people in all circumstances, and it may never be restricted, including during times of war or states of emergency.”¹¹²

One of the victims, who requested anonymity, and one of the organizers of the protest, told Amnesty International that when they arrived in front of the Unified Tobacco Factory (FTU), they saw police firing tear gas at the protesters and decided to stop and observe. “Around 11am, when we were on our way home, police officers told us to stop and asked us to see my bag. When I refused, one of the policemen gave me two blows on the back with a baton. After having opened my bag and having seen a shirt written ‘MPLA Fora’, expressing opposition to the current political party in power, he decided to arrest me.”

“Before they put me in the police car, one of the male police officers touched my private parts, claiming he was searching me. The police put his hand on my bra and my panties. I angrily took off all my clothes there in the middle of the street and asked him to stop touching me. They then put me in the police car. Another police officer kicked one of the protesters who was with us,” said the victim.

Body searches of detainees or prisoners must be necessary, reasonable and proportionate, and must be regulated by national law. They should only be carried out in a manner consistent with the dignity of the person being searched by trained staff of the same gender.¹¹³

On 28 January 2023, armed police officers detained at least 12 peaceful protesters, including Laurinda Gouveia, Adolfo Campos and Geraldo Dala, in Largo das Heroínas in Luanda, when they gathered to demand the release of imprisoned activists, as in the picture below.

¹¹² Report of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, UN Doc. A/HRC/31/57, 5 January 2016, para. 70.

¹¹³ Committee Against Torture (CAT), Concluding Observations: France, UN Doc. CAT/C/FRA/CO/4-6 (2010).



Picture of Adolfo Campos being handcuffed by two armed police officers while lying on the floor.

4.4 MISUSE OF NOTIFICATION SYSTEM AND OTHER LIMITATIONS ON THE RIGHT OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY

“Having to apply for permission from the authorities undercuts the idea that peaceful assembly is a basic right. Notification systems requiring that those who intend to organize a peaceful assembly must inform the authorities in advance and provide certain salient details are permissible to the extent necessary to assist the authorities in facilitating the smooth conduct of peaceful assemblies and protecting the rights of others. At the same time, this requirement must not be misused to stifle peaceful assemblies and, as in the case of other interferences with the right, must be justifiable on the grounds listed in Article 21 of the ICCPR.”¹¹⁴

The research found that Angolan authorities restricted the exercise of the right of peaceful assembly by prohibiting the conduct of assemblies of which they had been notified. Article 6(1) of the Law on the Right to Assembly and Demonstrations requires assembly organizers to notify authorities at least three working days ahead of a planned protest.¹¹⁵ For example, authorities were notified about the 11 November 2020 protest in Luanda. Annex 1 shows the notification letter from the organizers sent to the Provincial Government of Luanda (GPL) and it contains what looks like a stamp from the GPL confirming receipt of the letter. Yet, the GPL responded to protest notifications by prohibiting the protests. The then spokesperson of the Luanda Provincial Command of the National Police, said that the police impeded the protest on the basis that “it did not meet the conditions to take place.” The spokesperson did not specify which conditions.¹¹⁶ According to protest organizers, who preferred anonymity, the GPL responded to the notification one day before the date of the protest, prohibiting it without providing reasons. Even without notification, protesters would still have

¹¹⁴ HRC, General Comment No. 37: on the right of peaceful assembly (Article 21), (previously cited), para 70.

¹¹⁵ Diário da República, Lei sobre o Direito de Reunião e das Manifestações [“Law on the Right to Assembly and Demonstrations”], 11 May 1991.

¹¹⁶ VOA, Polícia angolana refuta acusações de assassinato de manifestante em Angola [“Angolan police denies the killing of a protester in Luanda”], 13 November 2020, <https://www.voaportugues.com/a/policia-angolana-refuta-acusações-de-assassinato-de-manifestante-em-luanda/5659627.html>

the right to protest under paragraph 71 (b) of the Guidelines on Freedom of Association and Assembly in Africa.¹¹⁷

Even though there is no need to obtain permission for public assemblies in Angola, authorities invoked the lack of authorization for a protest duly notified for 9 April 2022. The 17 June 2023 protest also seems to be a case of unjustified prohibition following a notification. One of the protesters involved in the 9 April 2022 protest, who preferred to remain anonymous, told Amnesty International that the Coalition for Angolan Civil Society had notified the GPL two days before. However, the spokesperson of the Provincial Command of Luanda called and informed them that “the protest was not authorized.”¹¹⁸ Protesters went ahead, and they were arrested by police on the grounds that they had “disrespected the assumptions of the Law on the Right to Assembly and Demonstrations.”¹¹⁹ In the case of the 17 June 2023 protest, Amnesty International found that the authorities not only prohibited the protest, but also used unnecessary force against those who protested. Organizers of the protest in Luanda also notified the authorities. According to the press release (annexe 7), the organizers sent a notification letter to the GPL on 12 June 2023. The GPL responded (annexe 8) by requesting that the organizers provide more information, according to Law 16/91, such as proof of profession and address of the promoters. When protesters decided to go ahead, police used tear gas against them, injuring at least two people.

Under Angolan law, in cases where authorities decide to prohibit an assembly or demonstration, they must provide reasonable justification and notify the organizers no more than 24 hours after receipt of a notification. Notification must be sent to the address provided by the organizers (Article 7.1 of the Law on the Right to Assembly).¹²⁰ According to Article 7.2 of the same law, failing to notify the organizers about a restriction or prohibition of an assembly or demonstration means no objection.¹²¹ The authorities did not meet these conditions, for example, for the 11 November 2020 protest. The organizers learned of the prohibition, without reasonable justification, through an independent Facebook page, Xé Agora Aguenta,¹²² and therefore decided to go ahead.

4.5 LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND A PATTERN OF IMPUNITY FOR KILLINGS AND TORTURE BY POLICE

“Governments shall ensure that arbitrary or abusive use of force and firearms by law enforcement officials is punished as a criminal offence under their law.”¹²³

Article 2 (3.a) of the ICCPR provides the right to an effective remedy to any person whose rights or freedoms provided in the Covenant are violated. To this end, according to Article 2 (3.b), states must ensure that “any person claiming such remedy shall have his rights thereto determined by competent judicial, administrative or legislative authorities or any other authority provided by the state legal system.”¹²⁴ Recognizing a “general obligation to investigate allegations of human rights violations promptly, thoroughly and effectively, through independent and impartial bodies” under Article 13 of the CAT, states parties have a legal obligation to ensure that “any individual who alleges he has been subjected to torture in any territory under its jurisdiction has the right to complain to, and to have his case promptly and impartially examined by, its competent authorities.”¹²⁵ Law enforcement officials should be held accountable for failing to comply with international human rights law and standards applicable to them. This applies not only to law enforcement officers acting in a specific situation but also to those who have responsibilities in the chain of command.

¹¹⁷ ACHPR, Guidelines on Freedom of Association and Assembly in Africa, 22 May 2017, <https://achpr.au.int/en/special-mechanisms-reports/guidelines-freedom-association-and-assembly-africa/>

¹¹⁸ DW, Activistas angolanos julgados em Luanda por manifestação não autorizada [“Activists tried in Luanda for unauthorized demonstration”], 11 April 2022, <https://www.dw.com/pt-002/ativistas-angolanosjulgados-em-luanda-por-manifestação-nãoautorizado/a-61438954>

¹¹⁹ Diário da República, Lei sobre o Direito de Reunião e das Manifestações, [“Law on the right to assembly and demonstrations”], 11 May 1991, previously cited.

¹²⁰ Diário da República, Lei sobre o Direito de Reunião e das Manifestações, [“Law on the right to assembly and demonstrations”], 11 May 1991, previously cited.

¹²¹ Diário da República, Lei sobre o Direito de Reunião e das Manifestações, [“Law on the right to assembly and demonstrations”], 11 May 1991, previously cited.

¹²² This is the largest Facebook page that discloses information of public interest about Angola, available at: <https://www.facebook.com/XeAgoraAguenta/>

¹²³ OHCHR, UN Basic principles on the use of force and firearms by law enforcement officials, (previously cited), Principle No. 7.

¹²⁴ HRC, ICCPR (previously cited).

¹²⁵ HRC, CAT (previously cited).

According to the Angolan constitution, all victims of human rights violations are entitled to an effective remedy.¹²⁶ The right to remedy stems from the general principle of international human rights law, according to which any violation gives rise to a corresponding obligation to provide effective redress. Article 29 (1.5) establishes that i) all Angolans are assured access to the law and courts to defend their legally protected rights and interests, and justice cannot be denied due to insufficient economic means, and ii) to defend fundamental rights, freedoms and guarantees, the law guarantees to Angolans judicial procedures characterized by speed and priority, in order to obtain effective and timely protection against threats or violations of their rights.¹²⁷ Article 148 of the Penal Code (CP) provides for a prison sentence of 20 to 25 years for a public official who commits a murder homicide in the abuse of authority.

In this report, Amnesty International has documented the police's use of unlawful force, which resulted in deaths, injuries and or psychological trauma. None of the officers or superiors have been brought to justice as perpetrators of human rights violations. In one case, authorities only provided an affected family with logistical support and funeral expenses. There were cases where the police command denied the allegations of human rights violations. In the few cases where the police promised to investigate, the results are unknown so far. In another case, authorities only convicted protesters, and no action was taken to investigate alleged violations by security forces. In some cases, authorities remained silent, even when protesters filed a complaint for remedy. Amnesty International has requested an official explanation regarding the allegations of human rights violations and steps taken to provide justice to the victims. **No response had been received at the time of writing.**

4.5.1 HUAMBO AUTHORITIES ONLY OFFERED COFFINS AND FOOD IN EXCHANGE FOR LIVES

After the killings in Huambo by police, its Provincial Command issued a press release on the same day, confirming the deaths of five people and the wounding of eight, in addition to damage to several public buildings. In the statement, the head of the department also confirmed the arrest of 34 people, who would later be held criminally responsible for acts of public disorder. In the statement, the police said they mourned the deaths and that they are committed to strengthening the security of the communities to prevent further acts of violence and public disorder. However, the statement did not commit to investigating the deaths and holding the perpetrators accountable.¹²⁸ As a way of reparation, *the Huambo police only provided coffins and food to the families of Cristiano, Severino and Horacio to cover the expenses of their funerals. The families of António and Adriano, who were also killed, received nothing.*

“The right to effective judicial protection is not exhausted by free access to a remedy and its implementation but requires that a court hands down a reasoned conclusion on the merits of the claim made by the victims. Among other rights, this implies the right of the victim to obtain a reasoned judgment or decision.”¹²⁹

Justice, to be effective, must be prompt, accessible and available before a competent, independent and impartial authority, which will lead to a cessation of a human rights violation and to reparation.¹³⁰ To this end, a competent authority must conduct impartial, prompt and independent investigations to determine the human rights violation and the appropriate remedy. Victims also have the right to know the truth about the circumstances in which the violations took place.¹³¹ This means that the results of the investigation must be publicly revealed in a timely manner, particularly to the victims concerned.

According to VOA, the police opened an inquiry into the Huambo killings more than 20 days later,¹³² but the results of the investigation remain unknown.

¹²⁶ Constitution of Angola, (previously cited).

¹²⁷ Constitution of Angola, (previously cited).

¹²⁸ DW, Angola: Polícia de Huambo confirma cinco mortes em protesto de taxistas [“Angola: Huambo police confirm five deaths in protest”], 6 June 2023, <https://www.dw.com/pt-002/huambo-policia-confirma-cinco-mortes-em-protesto-de-taxistas/a-65837634>

¹²⁹ International Commission of Jurists, Access to justice for unlawful deaths and enforced disappearances: a guide for human rights defenders, December 2021.

¹³⁰ HRC, ICCPR, (previously cited), article 2.3.

¹³¹ International Commission of Jurists, Access to justice for unlawful deaths and enforced disappearances: a guide for human rights defenders, (previously cited).

¹³² VOA, Angolan Police opens investigation into the death of eight people in protests on June 5, <https://www.voaportugues.com/a/policia-angolana-abre-inquerito-a-morte-de-oito-pessoas-em-protestos-no-dia-5-de-junho/7158361.html>

Because of the slowness of the authorities, the lawyer representing the victims' families, filed two civil claims in September 2023, three months after the killings.¹³³ After more than a year, the case has not proceeded to a hearing.¹³⁴

4.5.2 POLICE DENIED THE KILLING OF INOCÊNCIO

Shortly after the killing of Inocêncio, the spokesperson of the Provincial Command of the National Police in Luanda denied that the police were responsible for his death. The denial was based on a statement provided by the doctor who assisted Inocêncio upon his arrival at the Américo Boa Vida Hospital. The doctor said: "Inocêncio died following a cardio-respiratory arrest after undergoing a surgical intervention."¹³⁵ Relying on this statement, the spokesperson concluded:

"It was not the police who killed Inocêncio. Therefore, there was no reason to open an investigation into the police officers who might have been involved in the killing of Inocêncio."¹³⁶

However, the SIC initiated an investigation into Inocêncio's death. More than four years later, the outcome remains unknown. So far, 10 witnesses have been heard, according to the family's lawyer. Four years to disclose the results of an investigation of allegations of violation of the right to life is unreasonable, considering that Article 29.5 of the Angolan Constitution stipulates prompt investigation in cases of violation of fundamental rights,¹³⁷ such as the right to life.

The results of an inquiry by the Cuanza Norte Police Command into the killings of Dorito and Adão, opened in 2022, also remain unknown.¹³⁸

4.5.3 AUTHORITIES ONLY CONVICTED PROTESTERS, AND PERPETRATORS ARE FREE

Following the Cafunfo killings, the police issued a statement acknowledging the killing of four people during "an act of rebellion" but did not seek accountability from perpetrators.¹³⁹ According to VOA,¹⁴⁰ the Attorney General of Angola said that it is not the responsibility of his office to investigate perpetrators, but only to inquire in cases where there has been a death.¹⁴¹

This is in clear contradiction to international human rights standards as established in the Minnesota Protocol. This protocol applies to the investigation of any "potentially unlawful death" and includes situations where the death may have been caused by acts or omissions of the State, its organs or agents, or may otherwise be attributable to the State, in violation of its duty to respect the right to life.¹⁴² This includes, for example, all deaths possibly caused by law enforcement personnel or other agents of the state. The Protocol clearly states that a State's duty to investigate is triggered where it knows or should have known of any potentially unlawful death, including where reasonable allegations of a potentially unlawful death are made and that the duty to investigate does not apply only where the State is in receipt of a formal complaint. Hence, the duty to investigate any potentially unlawful death includes all cases where the State has caused a death or where it is alleged or suspected that the State caused a death (for example, where law enforcement

¹³³ One case No. 57268/023 is about Cristiano, a minor under 12 years old, and the other, No. 57000268/2023, is about the other three who were also killed by the police on 5 June 2023.

¹³⁴ Constitution of Angola, (previously cited).

¹³⁵ VOA, Polícia angolana refuta acusações de assassinato de manifestante em Luanda, (previously cited).

¹³⁶ VOA, Polícia angolana refuta acusações de assassinato de manifestante em Luanda, (previously cited).

¹³⁷ See article 29.5 of the Angolan Constitution, (previously cited), p. 24.

¹³⁸ DW, Angola: Kwanza Norte: dois trabalhadores mortos durante protesto contra empreiteiros ["Angola: two killed during protest against contractor in Kwanza-Norte"], 27 May 2022, <https://www.dw.com/pt-002/kwanza-norte-dois-trabalhadores-mortos-durante-protesto-contra-empreiteiro/a-61959190>

¹³⁹ DW, Angola: vários mortos e feridos em incidentes na Lunda Norte ["Angola: several dead and injured in incidents in Lunda Norte"], 30 January 2021, <https://www.dw.com/pt-002/angola-vários-mortos-e-feridos-em-incidentes-na-lunda-norte/a-56393568>

¹⁴⁰ Helder mentioned it on 18 February 2021, during a two-day meeting of his office, in Lubando, Huila province, Angola (VOA, Attorney General of Angola says that it is not up to him to open an inquiry into the clashes in Cafunfo, 18 February 2021, <https://www.voaportugues.com/a/procurador-general-de-angola-diz-que-not-you-cabe-abrir-inquerito-aos-confrontos-de-cafunfo/5783706.html>)

¹⁴¹ VOA, Movimento das Lundas planeia nova manifestação para exigir a libertação do seu líder ["Lunda Tchokwe Protectorate Movement plans demonstration to demand the release of its leader"], 18 February 2021, <https://www.voaportugues.com/a/movimento-das-lundas-planeia-nova-manifestação-now-to-demand-the-liberation-of-your-leader/5783717.html>

¹⁴² OHCHR, The Minnesota protocol on the investigation of potentially unlawful death (2016), (previously cited).

officers used force that may have contributed to the death). International law requires that investigations be: (i) prompt; (ii) effective and thorough; (iii) independent and impartial; and (iv) transparent.

According to the victims' lawyer, only two criminal proceedings were opened.¹⁴³ At the end of the trial, the District Court of Chitato sentenced José Mateus Domingos, also known as Zecamutchima, the leader of the movement that organized the protest, to imprisonment. Afterwards, the lawyer submitted an appeal against the decision and on 3 February 2023, the Court decided to grant amnesty pursuant to Law No. 35/22. Zecamutchima was subsequently released on 3 March 2023, almost a month after being granted amnesty.

“Where human rights violations also constitute criminal offences, for example violations of the right to life and the freedom from torture, victims should have access to a criminal judicial remedy.”¹⁴⁴ This means that the state has the obligation to conduct prompt, impartial and independent investigations to determine the violation and effective remedy. Perpetrators of such violations must be brought to account in a fair trial, following a prompt, independent, thorough and impartial investigation. Investigation should not be conditioned or dependent on the procedural actions of the victim. This means that in procedural regimes in which victims or their relatives may have the right to intervene in criminal proceedings, the exercising of their rights is not obligatory but optional, and in no way acts as a substitute for State activity. “For violations of the right to life or the freedom from torture or other ill-treatment, the duty of the state to investigate is triggered as soon as they knew or ought to have known about the existence of such violations. The failure by a victim to file an official report does not negate this duty.”¹⁴⁵

4.5.4 AUTHORITIES REMAINED SILENT ABOUT THE VIOLATIONS OF THE RIGHTS OF PROTESTERS

Geraldo Dala told Amnesty International that “nothing was done by the authorities after the torture on 4 February 2021. No inquiry, no support, no accountability, absolute silence. I had to pay for the injuries caused by the police myself. On the victims' side, no one filed a complaint because even on other occasions where we filed a complaint, nothing was done. Hence, it was considered a waste of time to complain this time.”

The Benguela police responded the same way to the arrest and torture of Avisto Mbota and 20 other protesters, on 3 July 2021. The Benguela District Court acquitted all of them on 6 July 2021.¹⁴⁶

Laurinda, her son, Rosa and another victim who requested anonymity were acquitted by the Luanda District Court on 11 April 2022, after spending three days detained in inhuman conditions. Rosa lost her pregnancy, and no remedy was provided.

In cases of torture or other ill-treatment, authorities must ensure that “the victim obtains redress and has an enforceable right to fair and adequate compensation, including the means for as full rehabilitation as possible”, as provided in Article 14.1 of CAT.¹⁴⁷

4.5.5 “WE REQUESTED COMPENSATION AND THERE IS NO RESPONSE YET”

“Both in the case of criminal proceedings, as well as in the civil case, the defendants have not yet been notified by the Public Prosecutor's Office to be heard,” said the lawyer of the victims.

¹⁴³ Cases No. 210-A/2021, and No. 110-A/2021, judged in the District Court of Chitato, Dundo, Lunda Norte. In case 210-A/2021, 22 defendants were accused of the crime of Armed Rebellion, article 329, Outrage to the State its Symbols and Bodies, article 333, and Criminal Association, article 296, all from the Penal Code. The trial ended on 25 February 2022. In the other case 110-A/2021, Muamufia João and Miji Fidel Muleleno, participants in the demonstration, were accused of the crime of preparatory acts and criminal association, Article 296. The trial ran from 18 to 22 February 2022.

¹⁴⁴ International Commission of Jurists, Access to justice for unlawful deaths and enforced disappearances: a guide for human rights defenders, (previously cited).

¹⁴⁵ International Commission of Jurists, Access to justice for unlawful deaths and enforced disappearances: a guide for human rights defenders, (previously cited).

¹⁴⁶ DW, Benguela: absolvidos 23 ativistas detidos em manifestação, (previously cited).

¹⁴⁷ HRC, CAT, 10 December 1984.

The lawyer in the Benguela case opened two civil claims¹⁴⁸ on behalf of the victims, who claimed compensation from the authorities of Kz 50,000,000, equivalent to USD 56,500. The defendants are the Provincial Delegate of Benguela, the Ministry of the Interior, the Municipal Command of the National Police of Lobito and the Municipal Commander of the National Police of Lobito. According to the victims' lawyer, after more than two years, the Court of Lobito in Benguela has yet to schedule a preparatory hearing to discuss the victims' request. The Angolan Supreme Court is yet to reply to a request made by Joel and Isabel, who were severely injured by grenades fired by police officers on 17 June 2023. The lawyer filed two civil cases in the Supreme Court.¹⁴⁹ *At the time the report was published, the only response the Court gave was the exemption from Joel's court costs, as per case No. 02/23, in Amnesty International's possession (annexe 10).* A decision about the request for reparation has not yet been taken.

“Every victim of a human rights violation has the right to reparation, which includes restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition. State has an obligation to ensure this right.”¹⁵⁰

¹⁴⁸ Case No. 4329/2022 PGR/SIC/LB, and another for compensation of victims, No. 05/2023. The victims are Albino Elavoco Capingala, António Feliciano Buengue Pongoti, Avisto Chongolola Mateus Mbota, Mário Hulunda Raúl, Maria do Carmo Armando Correia and Rodrigo Martinho Pedro de Carvalho.

¹⁴⁹ Cases No. 02/2023, for Joel, and No. 04/2023, for Isabel. The defendants are the President of the Republic, the holder of executive power, the General Commander of the Police and the Governor of the Province of Luanda. Joel demanded compensation of 50,000,000 Kwanza, equivalent to USD 56,984, for the rights violated, and 1,196,000 Kwanzas, equivalent to USD 1,351.48, for compensation of medical expenses, and exemption from court costs. The Supreme Court required Joel to pay AOA 528,000, equivalent to USD 600.09, for the filing of the complaint (the first procedural motion to hold the State accountable), within five (5) days. If he did not comply, he would pay double the amount, and not pay, the petition would be dismissed. Isabel demanded 1,000,000 Kwanzas, equivalent to USD 1,140, of compensation, and 50,000,000 Kwanzas, equivalent to USD 56,984, of compensation for violated human rights and psycho-moral damages and exemption from the court costs.

¹⁵⁰ International Commission of Jurists, Access to justice for unlawful deaths and enforced disappearances: a guide for human rights defenders (previously cited).

5. THE HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT OF POLICE USE OF UNLAWFUL FORCE

Because of the interdependent and indivisible nature of human rights, the use of excessive and unnecessary police force to suppress peaceful protests has impacts not only on civil and political rights but also on economic and social rights. Police bullets took the lives of people who provided for families and dependents, leaving them without the means to purchase food, pay for healthcare, education, housing, water and sanitation. Other victims have suffered injuries that make it difficult for them to get a job. Some are traumatized and need psychological treatment.

5.1 LOSS OF SUPPORT

Emanuel Zango, fatally shot by police on 30 January 2021 during the Cafunfo protest, left a one-year-old son. Today, the child lives with his mother. Dorito, shot and killed in Cuanza Norte province on 26 May 2022, also left children. António and Horácio, shot by the police on 5 June 2023 in Huambo, were fathers. António was the father of two children, two and three years old, and his wife was pregnant at the time he died. Horacio was the father of a two-year-old and was a husband. For her and the child's survival, Horácio's wife was forced to move to the province of Bié, about 100km from Huambo, in search of better living conditions.

5.2 SERIOUS INJURY LEAVING PERMANENT SCARS AND PREVENTING VICTIMS FROM SEEKING A LIVING

Police violence left scars that Isabel and Joel will bear forever. Isabel Guedes, who was injured by a tear gas grenade thrown by police on 17 June 2023 in Luanda, will never see her legs as they were before.



Picture of Isabel's leg today, even after the treatment¹⁵¹

Joel Caetano, another victim of a police grenade, today has to move with the help of crutches, as shown in the photo below.



Picture of Joel Caetano, injured in the left leg, after medical assistance.¹⁵²

"For me, it was devastating. Now, I'm limited in terms of locomotion. I can only move using crutches. Because of that, I no longer work. I was once a financial director at an institution. When the police hit me

¹⁵¹ Picture provided by Isabel to Amnesty International staff.

¹⁵² Picture provided by Joel to Amnesty International staff.

with a grenade, I was waiting for another job. Since then, I've had about five job offers, but I can't accept them because I'm crippled. I have a two-year-old son who needs things that have been hard to get. I am my parents' first child and my siblings' support. My mother is diabetic and needs to go abroad to consult doctors, buy medicines and eat well. I still have a groove inside my body that holds the kneecap, so it doesn't go up (medical report annexe 6). At some point, I'll have to remove it. This harness does not allow 100% mobility. I am very dynamic, but at this moment, I am obliged not to do much," said Joel.

5.3 PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA SERIOUSLY IMPACTS PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

In addition to deaths and serious and minor injuries, police violence has created psychological trauma in its victims. Geraldo, who was beaten by PIR on 4 February 2021 during a demonstration in Luanda, now lives with trauma and has had to see a psychiatrist at the Luanda Provincial Hospital. Rosa Condes, who was pregnant when she was detained by the police on 9 April 2022 in Luanda, lost her pregnancy before trial on 11 April 2022. She attributed the loss to the psychological torment she allegedly suffered at the hands of the police while in custody. In addition to the scars and injuries on the body, Maria do Carmo, Albino Capingala and António Pongoti were traumatized by the torture undergone at the hands of the police on 27 August 2022.

International standards underscore the duty of states to address the gender-specific needs of women deprived of their liberty. They require states to provide for women's particular hygiene and healthcare needs, including pre-natal and post-natal care. Whenever possible, arrangements should be made for children to be born in an outside hospital.¹⁵³

¹⁵³ HRC, UN Special Rapporteur on torture, 2008, UN Doc. A/HRC/7/3, para. 41.

6. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Amnesty International verified and corroborated evidence of unlawful use of lethal and less-lethal force by Angolan law enforcement officials. Police frequently used force unnecessarily, including reckless firing of firearms, grenades and tear gas, against protesters who were not engaged or threatening to engage in violent behaviour. Police also used excessive physical force to detain or arrest peaceful protesters who were not resisting police orders.

The use of such force amounted to violations of the right to life, to security of person, and constituted torture or other ill-treatment. Ultimately, it stifled protests, compromising the right to freedom of peaceful assembly.

Amnesty International also found a pattern of impunity with police not being held accountable for the alleged violations, which contributes to perpetuating human rights violations and eroding civic space in Angola.

Considering the findings in this report, Amnesty International makes the following recommendations to Angolan authorities, all law enforcement agencies, and other relevant parties:

TO ANGOLAN AUTHORITIES

- Fulfil recommendation 146.132 from Slovakia, during the 3rd cycle, 34th Session of Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Angola, to stop infringing on the rights to peaceful assembly.

TO THE NATIONAL POLICE OF ANGOLA

- The Provincial Command of the Police from Huambo, Luanda and Cuanza Norte must immediately reveal the results of the investigations of the killing of protesters on 5 June 2023, on 26 May 2022 and on 11 November 2021.
- Ensure that the policing of assemblies respects the obligations of Angola under the ICCPR and the ACHPR and complies with the related international human rights standards as established in the UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials and the African Commission Guidelines for the Policing of Assemblies by Law Enforcement Officials in Africa.
- Refrain from arbitrarily detaining or arresting peaceful protesters unless they engage in violent behaviour that risks the security of others.
- Refrain from and prohibit the use of firearms to disperse assemblies and ensure that they are used only in response to an imminent threat of death or serious injury and exclusively against the person posing this risk and not indiscriminately fired at a crowd.
- Refrain from using wide area chemical irritants (“Tear gas”) to disperse protests unless there is widespread violence that cannot be addressed by handling violent individuals alone.
- Stop using highly dangerous tear grenades with an excessive amount of explosive material that causes unwarranted, excessive harm (such as presumably the second-degree burns of Isabel Guedes).

- Refrain from subjecting protesters to acts of torture and other ill-treatment both while in custody and in extra-custodial settings.
- Refrain from misusing the notification regime, under Article 6.1 of the Law on the Rights of Assembly and Demonstrations, as an authorization regime, contributing to stifling the right to freedom of peaceful assembly.
- Refrain from prohibiting assemblies unless duly justified and as a last resort for legitimate reasons as established in Article 21 ICCPR and Article 11 of the African Charter.
- Fully cooperate with the office of the General Attorney, undertaking investigations into human rights violations committed against protesters by law enforcement officials.
- Ensure that the specific legislation that regulates the use of coercive measures by law enforcement officials, mentioned in Article 60.5 of the Law of the Police No. 6/20, from 24 March 2020, is widely disseminated and open for public scrutiny.

TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE OF ANGOLA

- Ensure that all allegations of killing, torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment by law enforcement officials in the context of protests are thoroughly and impartially investigated and those responsible – whether senior or junior officers – are brought to justice in fair trials.
- Immediately initiate investigations into the killing of Inocêncio, in Luanda, on 11 November 2020; the killing of Dorito and Adão, in Cuanza Norte, on 26 May 2020; the killing of several people, including a child and protesters, in Huambo, on 5 June 2023; and the killing of protesters, in Cafunfo, on 30 January 2021.

TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF ANGOLA

- Ensure that Article 4.3 of the Law on the Right to Assembly and Demonstrations, from 11 May 1991, which defines terms in which authorities may limit the right to assembly and demonstrations in certain perimeters, be specifically justified and narrowly circumscribed.

TO OMBUDSMEN'S OFFICE

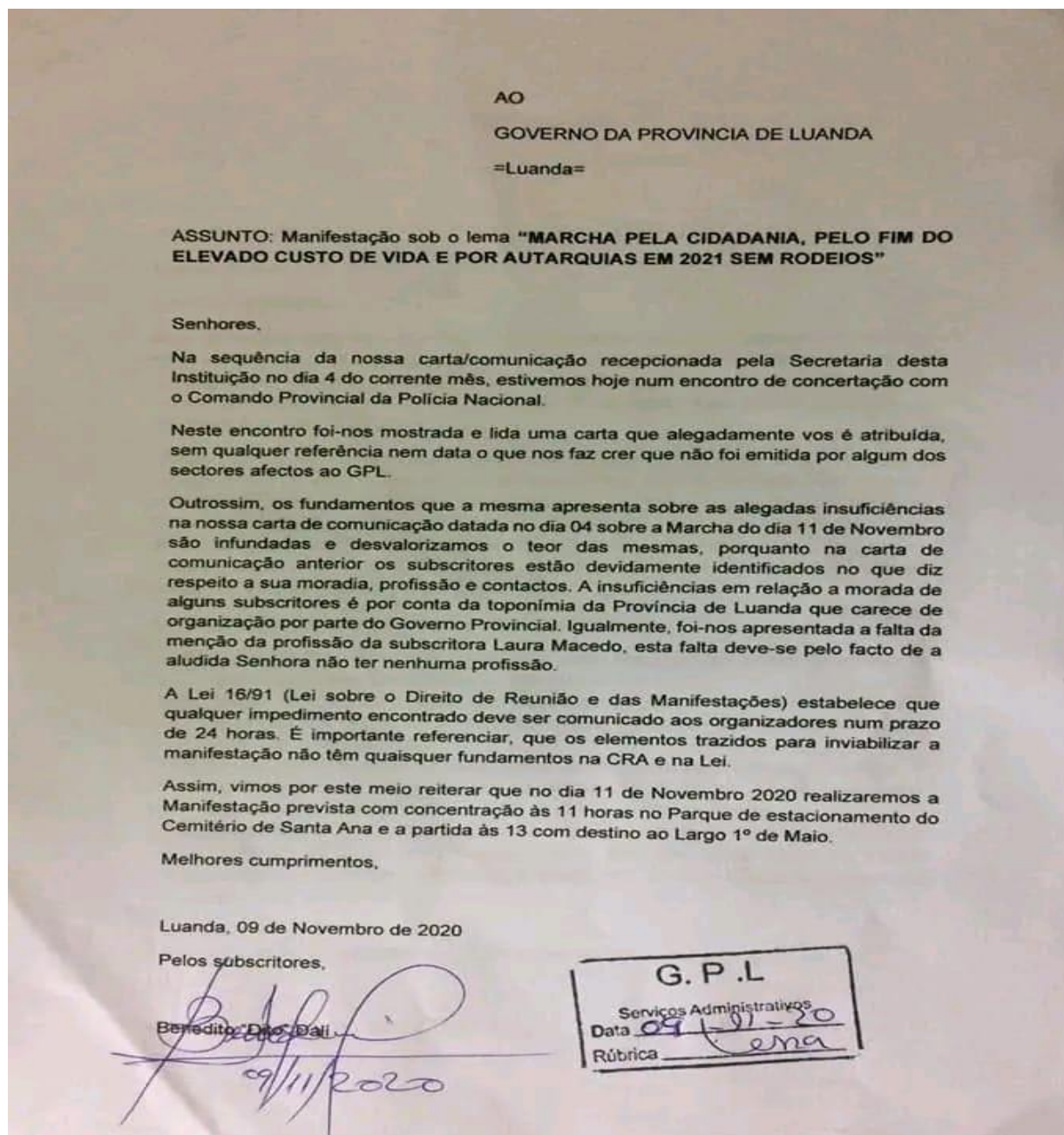
- Ensure that prompt, independent, impartial, and effective investigations are carried out into the numerous allegations of unlawful use of force, including those involving the misuse of firearms, grenades and batons, by law enforcement officials against protesters between November 2020 and June 2023, and submit their findings, including evidence of criminal responsibility to Angolan authorities, for appropriate action in line with international human rights law and standards.

TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, INCLUDING GOVERNMENTS ENGAGED IN BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH ANGOLA


- Use all bilateral, multilateral, and regional platforms at their disposal to urge the Angolan authorities to protect and facilitate the right to freedom of peaceful assembly.
- Ensure that any bilateral law enforcement cooperation mechanisms or sales of less-lethal weaponry do not directly or indirectly contribute to human rights violations against protesters.
- Urgently review cooperation with the Angolan government, including the provision of training, law enforcement equipment and other security assistance to Angolan law enforcement officials, until officers responsible for unlawful use of force are thoroughly investigated and, where appropriate, brought to justice, robust accountability mechanisms are in place, and victims are entitled to obtain prompt reparation from the state including restitution, fair and adequate financial compensation and appropriate medical care and rehabilitation.

ANNEXES

ANNEXE 1: LETTER SENT TO THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF LUANDA ON THE 11 NOVEMBER 2020 PROTEST



ANNEXE 2: DEATH CERTIFICATE OF CRISTIANO LUIS PAMBASANGUE TCHIUTA


 REPÚBLICA DE ANGOLA
CERTIFICADO DE ÓBITO

Quadro de I.H.-E.P.

A preencher no Conservatório do Registo Civil.
 1. Conservatório do Registo Civil nº _____
 Município de _____
 Registo de óbito (ou morte fetal) nº _____
 Emitido em _____ de 20__

Instruções gerais de preenchimento: No caso em que se mantiverem inalteradas as suas condições pessoais, inclui sempre o habilitado em preenchimento. Quando for discriminado no formulário a natureza e natureza a declarar, preencher sempre de acordo com o declarado no óbito.

1 - IDENTIFICAÇÃO DO FALECIDO

Nome (1) Cristiano Luis Pambasangue Tchuita
 Filho de Fernando António Pambasangue Tchuita e Antónia Teresa Pambasangue Tchuita
 Sexo (2) M Data de nascimento (3) 05 de Junho de 1983 Estado civil Solteiro
 Profissão (4) Estudante
 Nacionalidade Angolês Município de nascimento Luanda Província de nascimento Benguela
 Residência habitual (5) Luanda Período de residência 2 anos

(1) De acordo com o óbito de uma pessoa falecida deve ser indicada a sua verdadeira identidade, nome e sobrenome completos. No caso de óbito fetal, indicar o nome da mãe, o nome do pai e o nome da mãe, sempre de acordo com o declarado no óbito.
 (2) Indicar o sexo do falecido, conforme o declarado no óbito.
 (3) Indicar a data de nascimento do falecido, conforme o declarado no óbito.
 (4) Indicar a profissão do falecido, conforme o declarado no óbito.
 (5) Indicar a residência habitual do falecido, conforme o declarado no óbito.

2 - CAUSA DA MORTE

Descreva o episódio que provocou a morte, incluindo as circunstâncias para a morte.

Intervalo temporal entre a morte (1)	Classificação de acordo com a morte (2)
<u>Choque traumático</u>	<u>AE 100</u>
<u>Encefalopatia crónica</u>	<u>AE 101</u>
<u>Infarto do miocárdio</u>	<u>AE 102</u>
<u>Doença de Alzheimer</u>	<u>AE 103</u>
<u>Doença de Parkinson</u>	<u>AE 104</u>
<u>Doença de Huntington</u>	<u>AE 105</u>
<u>Doença de Taylors</u>	<u>AE 106</u>
<u>Doença de Wilson</u>	<u>AE 107</u>
<u>Doença de Niemann-Pick</u>	<u>AE 108</u>
<u>Doença de Gaucher</u>	<u>AE 109</u>
<u>Doença de Fabry</u>	<u>AE 110</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 111</u>
<u>Doença de Hurler</u>	<u>AE 112</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 113</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 114</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 115</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 116</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 117</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 118</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 119</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 120</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 121</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 122</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 123</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 124</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 125</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 126</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 127</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 128</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 129</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 130</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 131</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 132</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 133</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 134</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 135</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 136</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 137</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 138</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 139</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 140</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 141</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 142</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 143</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 144</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 145</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 146</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 147</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 148</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 149</u>
<u>Doença de Hunter</u>	<u>AE 150</u>

(1) Indicar o intervalo temporal entre a morte e a classificação de acordo com a morte.
 (2) Indicar a classificação de acordo com a morte, conforme o declarado no óbito.

3 - CIRCUNSTÂNCIAS DA MORTE

Hora 14:00 Data 05 de Junho de 2023 Hospital Hospital Central Huambo
 Local Doente - Residência Doente - No público - Outras locais Doente
 (1) Indicar o local onde ocorreu a morte, conforme o declarado no óbito.
 (2) Indicar a hora e a data em que ocorreu a morte, conforme o declarado no óbito.
 (3) Indicar o nome do hospital onde ocorreu a morte, conforme o declarado no óbito.

Observações: Doente faleceu devido a uma doença crónica, conforme o declarado no óbito.

Assinatura do médico: [Assinatura]
 Assinatura do médico: [Assinatura]
 Assinatura do médico: [Assinatura]

ANNEXE 3: CASE DOCUMENT REVEALING THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH OF ANTÓNIO LUCAS SILVANO




1. SR. **ANTÓNIO MANUEL KATUTA**, COMANDANTE MUNICIPAL DO HUAMBO DA POLÍCIA NACIONAL.
2. SR. **ANTÓNIO FERREIRA**, COMANDANTE DA 1ª ESQUADRA DO HUAMBO DA POLÍCIA NACIONAL.
3. E **AGENTES DA POLÍCIA NACIONAL DESCONHECIDOS** (CUJO PRIMEIRO E O SEGUNDO DENUNCIADOS DEVERÃO INDICAR).

Pelos fundamentos que se seguem:

- a) **Homicídio de António Lucas Silvano**, portador do BI 020442711BA052.
 - I. No dia 5 de junho de 2023, **António Lucas Silvano** foi baleado pelos agentes da Polícia Nacional quando regressava do seu local de serviço. Pois, exercia actividade liberal (cobrador de táxi), no referido dia não labutou por conta de um alvoroço entre os agentes da Polícia Nacional e os populares. Porquanto, o de cujus nada tinha haver com a confusão, tendo sido levado ao Hospital Geral do Huambo.
 - II. O Certificado de Óbito datado do dia 5 de junho de 2023, testificou como causa da morte **CHOQUE TRAUMÁTICO, TRAUMATISMO TORÁCICO POR DISPARO PROJÉCTIL DE ARMA DE FOGO** que perfurou a costela do lado esquerdo do falecido.
 - III. O falecido deixa um órfão e uma viúva.

ANNEXE 4: DEATH CERTIFICATE OF SEVERINO SATUMBA ADELINO


REPÚBLICA DE ANGOLA
GOVERNO DA PROVÍNCIA DO HUAMBO
GABINETE PROVINCIAL DA SAÚDE
HOSPITAL GERAL DO HUAMBO
HOSPITAL ESCOLA

CERTIDÃO DE ÓBITO

N.º DE PROCESSO

1 - IDENTIFICAÇÃO DO (A) FALECIDA (A)

Nome (1): Severino Satumba Adelino
 Filho de: Maria Adelino
 de: Severino Adelino
 Sexo (2): (M) (F), data de nascimento(3): 04 de 03 de 2004.
 Estado Civil: Solteiro Profissão (4): _____
 Naturalidade: Comuna _____ Município: Chicala Província: Huambo
 Residência habitual (5): _____ Município: Huambo Província: Huambo
 Comuna: _____

(1) Se se tratar do óbito de uma criança nascida viva mas ainda sem nome (não registada), escrever: recém nascido. Se se tratar de morte fetal (feto morto, embrião ou extrado do corpo materno) escrever: Morte Fetal.
 (2) Se o sexo for ignorado indicar: Inável, riscar M e F.
 (3) Se a data do nascimento não for conhecida, indicar a idade (em anos completos).
 (4) Especificar a profissão, citando termos vagos, tais como: emprego, trabalhar etc., e dando preferência a profissão in bilhete de identidade ou outro documento comprovativo.
 (5) Indica em que o falecido residiu a maior parte do tempo no período de um ano antes da data do óbito, indicando a d localidade (cidade, vila, povoação, aldeia ou lugar).

2 - CAUSA DA MORTE

I. Doença ou condição que provocou directamente a morte:
 a) Não se trata do acidente, traumático (por ex: síncope, hernia optica etc)
 Mas a doença que determinou directamente a morte.
 No caso de morte fetal escrever: "Morte fetal".
 Antecedentes:
 b) Afecções morbidas, anteriores, se as houver, que conduziram a doença ou a morte fetal, indicadas na linha: a) Quando existir mais do que uma, traçar na linha c) a mais antiga; ou afecção inicial.
 No caso de acidente, envenenamento ou outra violência, indicar aqui. Além da afecção que ele directamente (na linha b), em geral também a sua causa externa, como por ex: acidente, homicídio, acidente de viação, acidente de trabalho, etc. (em geral na linha c).
 No caso de morte fetal, indicar a causa ou causas prováveis da morte do feto.
 II. Outros estados morbidos ou causas:
 Se os tiver havido a, tenham ou não relação para a morte, mas sem relação com a doença ou estado morbido que a provocou.

a) Insuficiência cardíaca congestiva
Aguda
 b) Sobrecarga hipertensiva
 c) Trombose Coronária Aguda
por infarto agudo de miocárdio
agudo

A causa da morte foi indicada com base em:
 Elementos de ordem clínica - Exame anatómico - Autopsia - Auto lavrado pelo sobra - outro documentos

observações:

3 - CIRCUNSTÂNCIAS DA MORTE

Hora: 19:00 Data: 07 de 06 de 2023.
 Local: Domicílio - Estabelecimento de saúde - Via Pública - Outros locais (Indica-los)
Hospital Geral de Huambo
 Assistência médica: a) Foi médico assistente do falecido, isto é, procedeu ou dirigiu o tratamento da doença até a morte, ou foi consultado pelo enfermo dentro do período de sete dias que precedeu a morte. Sim - Não
 b) Caso o não tenha sido, sabe se o falecido teve: Assistência de outro clínico - Assistência em estabelecimento de saúde - outra qualquer assistência - Não teve qualquer assistência clínica - ignora - se teve assistência médica
 Enterramento: após o prazo legal - Antes do prazo legal (neste caso, indique o motivo)

Observações:
 Nome do Médico (Parafuso): João Vítor De Deus Telefone: _____
 Morada: 05 Huambo de 06 de 2023

Assinatura do Médico

W. M. S.

ANNEXE 5: CASE DOCUMENT OF HORÁCIO CHIQUEMBA ANTÓNIO



CHIPILICA EDUARDO & ASSOCIADOS
SOCIEDADE DE ADVOGADOS E CONSULTORIA, RL.
"ACREDITE SEM DUVIDAR"



☎ 927 929 202 / 935 328 468
923 521 201 / 918 408 518

✉ chipilicaeduardo.advogado@gmail.com
Nif: 5000834475

seu irmão mais novo, posto nas mediações da Igreja Adventista do 7º Dia do Bairro Benfica foi baleado por arma de fogo na região do ombro esquerdo.

- V. Cujá certidão de óbito datada de 5 de Junho de 2023, apresenta a causa da morte **TRAUMA CRANIANO POR PROJECTIL DE ARMA DE FOGO, INSUFICIÊNCIA RESPIRATÓRIA AGUDA E SCLAGQUE HIPOVALENICO.**

c) Horácio Chiquemba António, titular do BI 021009279HO058

- VI. No dia 5 de Junho de 2023, **Horácio Chiquemba António** enquanto cidadão nacional participava de uma manifestação contra a subida do preço da gasolina, nas mediações do Bairro São Pedro próximo a paragem de táxi do município da Caala.
- VII. Foi atingido com um tiro na região da cabeça causando a morte imediata no local e segundo a Certidão de Óbito **TRAUMA CRANIANO POR PROJECTIL DE ARMA DE FOGO.**
- VIII. O de cujus deixou uma viúva e uma órfão de dois anos.

ANNEXE 6: MEDICAL REPORT OF JOEL CAETANO


MUNICÍPIO DE TALATONA - LUANDA
CLÍNICA CASTELO
RUA 21 DE JANEIRO CASA 17-B MORRO BENTO II
TEL: 926374863/923434913/222729916
EMAIL: clinicacastelo@yahoo.com.br
NIF: 5401184492

RELATÓRIO MÉDICO

NOME: Joel António Dala Caetano	SEXO: Masculino	IDADE: 37 Anos
FILIAÇÃO: Amorim António Caetano e de Elsa Madalena Dala		RESIDÊNCIA: Ingombotas

DIAGNÓSTICO AO INTERNAMENTO:

- Ruptura do tendão rotuliano com lesão do mecanismo extensor do joelho esquerdo.

INFORMAÇÃO CLÍNICA: Paciente recebeu um traumatismo de alta energia no joelho esquerdo produto da explosão de uma granada antimotim, que resultou em grande aumento de volume no joelho esquerdo, muitas dores, impossibilidade para fazer a extensão do joelho esquerdo e deslocamento proximal da rótula e do quadriceps femoral. Atendido de urgência na clínica Castelo no dia 23-07-2023, medicado e internado para tratamento cirúrgico.

EXAMES COMPLEMENTARES DE APOIO AO DIAGNÓSTICO:

- Rx do joelho esquerdo 2 Planos,
- Hemograma completo, Coagulograma completo, Glicemia, Creatinina, GS, RH, HIV, PP,

CONDUTA:

- Cirurgia (24-06-2023) tenorrafia do tendão rotuliano e o mecanismo extensor do joelho esquerdo com sutura de Krackow. Ainda foi colocado gesso inguino maleolar.
- Internado por 4 dias
- Medicado com Antibiótico e Anti-inflamatório.

EVOLUÇÃO:

- Satisfatória

DESTINO E RECOMENDAÇÃO:

- Alta melhorada 27-06-2023
- Destino domiciliar.
- Seguimento mensal em ambulatório de ortopedia.

Feito na Clínica Castelo em Luanda aos 13 de Setembro de 2023

 O Médico Assistente Dr. Alejandro Corria Ortopedista Cédula n.º 1322A	 O Administrativo Dr. João Ernesto MSc	 O Director Clínico Dr. Kimfumu Antonio Cirurgião Geral Cédula n.º 34
--	--	---

ANNEXE 7: PRESS RELEASE ABOUT THE LETTER SENT TO THE GPL ABOUT THE 17 JUNE 2023 PROTEST

Início Sobre Contacte-nos Campanhas Documentos Projectos Vídeos

COMUNICADO

Manifestação de 17 de junho

me > Omunga > COMUNICADO Manifestação de 17 de Junho

Redes Sociais

Subscrição de notícias

This entry was posted by Omunga

COMUNICADO Manifestação de 17 de Junho

face ao número de ilegalidades – e crimes que chegaram a causar perdas humanas – cometidas em torno das manifestações de desinformação que tem sido feitas, os organizadores de cada manifestação (associações e individualidades), vêm, colectivamente recordar alguns princípios basilares de qualquer democracia e partilhar alguns factos:

1. As manifestações são uma consequência do descontentamento da população, face à subida brusca do preço da gasolina (de 100%), a pressão sobre os vendedores informais e pequenos operadores económicos e as tentativas de limitar a auto-política com uma completa falta de sensibilidade para os impactos sociais, económicos e políticos sobre os mais pobres;
2. Vários cidadãos envolveram-se na mobilização, preparação e nas próprias manifestações – direito que lhes é reconhecido para as apoiar;
3. É obrigação da Polícia Nacional proteger os manifestantes e identificar e agir contra quem comete crimes. Saber distinguir ilegalidades tem de ser feita no quadro da lei. Identificar de que partido são os organizadores ou participantes não é claramente, uma função da polícia, nem serve qualquer propósito de segurança pública ou defesa da ordem;
4. É obrigação dos Órgãos de Comunicação Social, em especial dos públicos, darem aos manifestantes o espaço para que se comunicam à opinião pública as suas razões e a sua versão dos factos relacionados com o decorrer das manifestações.

À luz destes factos e princípios, queremos realçar o seguinte:

1. A repressão quase generalizada – excepção honrosa para os polícias da Huila, Kwanza Norte, Kwanza Sul, Malanje, Moçimbeiro e do direito dos cidadãos a exprimir opiniões críticas;
2. Cerca de 100 pessoas foram detidas, em 7 províncias, de que também actualmente conhecemos. Temos conhecido agredido ninguém. Foram detidas sem terem cometido quaisquer crimes. Não foram arrestando ninguém e não estando apenas em espaços contíguos;
3. Há detenções feitas antes das manifestações, nomeadamente no Huambo e Lunda-Norte – mostrando a intenção de reprimir qualquer acção de repressão indiscriminada em bairros onde não estavam a decorrer manifestação alguma, com pelo menos uma agressão verbal e física a um cidadão que se encontrava na sua própria residência, por este questionar os métodos empregados pelas forças policiais. Há também inúmeros testemunhos de meios apreendidos e não devolvidos a seus proprietários;
4. Aquecidos pelas acusações, mas ficou por demais demonstrada a cultura de intimidação de quem queira exercer o seu direito de cidadão autónomo para criticar e usar a rua para se exprimir;
5. Os desvios repetidos da lei por quem tem a função de a defender, não pode continuar a ficar impune, pelo que apelamos conciliados – a ajudarem-nos a reunir os factos, comunicar a verdade, e a agirmos legalmente contra abusos e crimes;
6. A persistente acção da TPA, JA e RENA, de ocultar factos, curvir apenas uma linha de opinião e, frequentemente, difundir mentiras sem qualquer preocupação pelo contraditório e pela verdade, tem de ser denunciada e corrigida;
7. Apelamos a todos os cidadãos, independentemente do partido do que se sintam mais próximos ou de fazer onde trabalharem para nos libertarmos deste ambiente de repressão e mentira, participando, divulgando e confrontando a ilegalidade e a instrumentalização das instituições;

Contribuamos todos para não deixarmos este estado de coisas continuar e para melhorar o ambiente político e civil no nosso país. Apelamos particularmente aos detentores do poder político para que se recordem que, tal como a Independência foi o resultado da luta do povo, também a luta pela Liberdade e a melhoria das Condições de Vida para Todos deve ser respeitada e acarinhada que tenhamos orgulho no país que somos.

Angola, 19 de junho de 2023

Subscrevem

Handoko
Micaelango Tu Yenu Kapulo
Associação Cívica Laudano
Associação Yetu Ita Yetu Angola
Movimento Hip Hop Tercos Divulgo
Tchatokeza
Jovens Unidos Por Causas Justas
IcheTu
Rede de Activas
Movimento Novo
Bloco de Resistência Leste

www.omunga.org/index.php/2023/06/19/comunicado-manifestacao-de-17-de-junho/

Página 1 de 3

contribuam para nos libertarmos deste ambiente de repressão e mentira, participando, divulgando e confrontando a ilegalidade e a instrumentalização das instituições;

8. Apelamos para que se investigue, por mecanismos independentes, em que circunstâncias ocorreram pessoas, quem colocou na via pública e quem usou, individualmente de meios violentos, de forma indiscriminada, nas ruas por onde passam os manifestantes e outras que foram tratadas como zonas onde residem ilegais.

Contribuamos todos para não deixarmos este estado de coisas continuar e para melhorar o ambiente político e civil no nosso país. Apelamos particularmente aos detentores do poder político para que se recordem que, tal como a Independência foi o resultado da luta do povo, também a luta pela Liberdade e a melhoria das Condições de Vida para Todos deve ser respeitada e acarinhada que tenhamos orgulho no país que somos.

Angola, 19 de junho de 2023

Subscrevem

Handoko
Micaelango Tu Yenu Kapulo
Associação Cívica Laudano
Associação Yetu Ita Yetu Angola
Movimento Hip Hop Tercos Divulgo
Tchatokeza
Jovens Unidos Por Causas Justas
IcheTu
Rede de Activas
Movimento Novo
Bloco de Resistência Leste

PAGE 13 OF 18

ANNEXE 8: RESPONSE FROM THE GPL TO THE LETTER SENT BY ORGANIZERS OF THE 17 JUNE 2023 PROTEST



REPÚBLICA DE ANGOLA
Governo Provincial de Luanda
Gabinete do Governador

AO
GABINETE DO EXMO.
- COMANDANTE DA REGIÃO MILITAR DE LUANDA
- COMANDANTE PROVINCIAL DE LUANDA DA POLÍCIA NACIONAL
- DELEGADO DO SINSE
- C/C: ADMINISTRAÇÕES MUNICIPAIS

LUANDA
Ref.ª 4288 /GAB.GPL/2023

ASSUNTO: INFORMAÇÃO

Exmos. Senhores;

Para conhecimento e devidos efeitos, vimos informar que o Governo Provincial de Luanda, recepcionou no dia 12 de Junho de 2023, uma carta subscrita por um grupo de jovens identificando-se apenas como jovens inseridos em várias organizações e membros da sociedade civil angolana, a informar da realização no dia 17 de Junho de 2023, de uma manifestação pacífica, que mereceu a nossa melhor atenção e análise jurídica.

Feita a sua análise, notamos o incumprimento de alguns requisitos constantes na Lei nº 16/91 de 11 de Maio, no n.º 3 do artigo 6.º - ausência de documentos comprovativos da profissão e morada dos promotores; do n.º 2 do artigo 5.º - as manifestações não poderão ter lugar antes das 19:00 horas nos dias úteis e antes das 13:00 aos sábados, salvo em situações devidamente fundamentadas e autorizadas.

Embora a mesma se revista das mais nobres intenções, apresenta erros que devem ser suprimidos, pelo que se recomenda a supressão das insuficiências que inviabilizam a sua realização.

Contactados os promotores via telefónica (932053089/924818555/924322685), como mandam as regras da administração, para procederem ao levantamento da resposta da carta, os mesmos responderam que:

- Não vamos levantar a carta;
- Apenas remetemos para informar sobre a manifestação;
- Não sei como o meu número consta desta carta;

Continuamos a aguardar pela comparência dos promotores a todo instante, para procederem a recolha desses despachos.

Sem outro assunto de momento, reiteramos os nossos melhores cumprimentos.

GABINETE DO GOVERNADOR PROVINCIAL DE LUANDA, 16 de Junho de 2023.

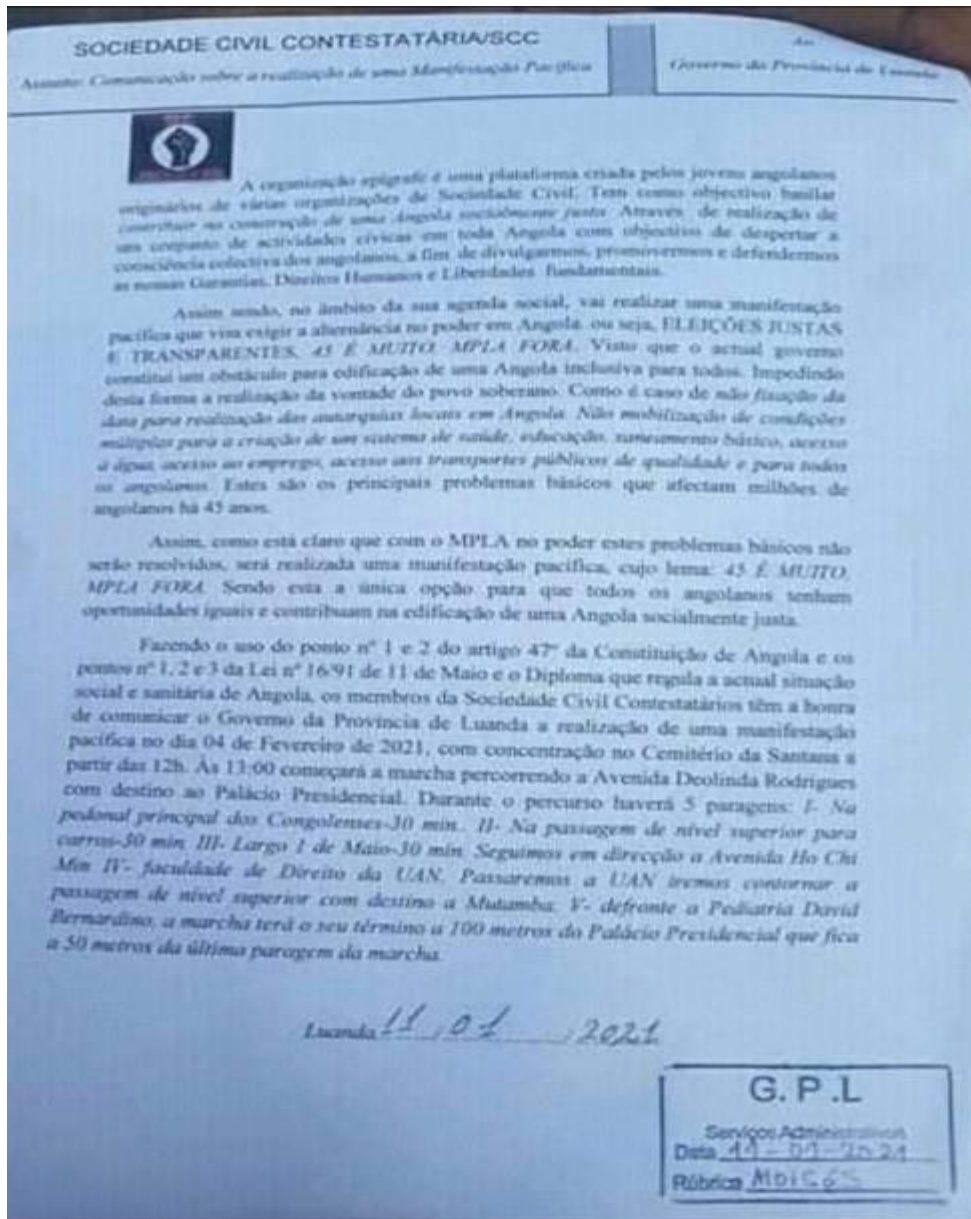
A DIRECTORA DE GABINETE

TATHANA MARIA MARQUES DOS SANTOS

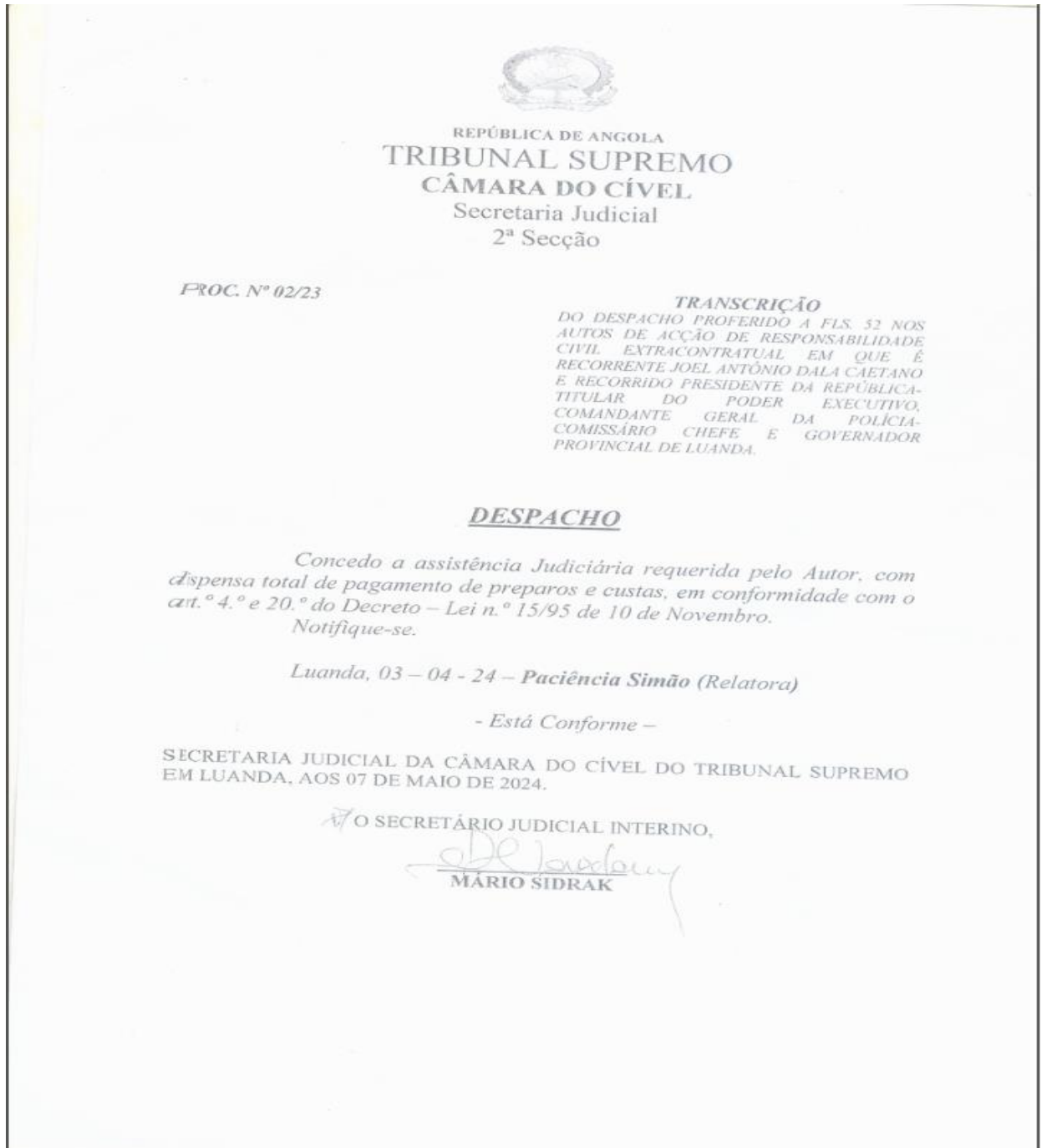
Largo Irene Cohen,
N.º 1
Município de Luanda
Província de Luanda
www.luanda.gov.ao

GOVERNO DE ANGOLA luanda.gov.ao
ANGOLA Governo Provincial de Luanda

ANNEXE 9: LETTER FROM SCC TO GPL ABOUT THE 4 FEBRUARY 2021 PROTEST



ANNEXE 10: RESPONSE FROM SUPREME COURT TO THE REQUEST MADE BY JOEL



**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
IS A GLOBAL MOVEMENT
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.
WHEN INJUSTICE HAPPENS
TO ONE PERSON, IT
MATTERS TO US ALL.**

CONTACT US



contactus@amnesty.org



+44 (0)20 7413 5500

JOIN THE CONVERSATION



www.facebook.com/amnesty



@Amnesty

BROKEN PROMISES

PROTESTERS CAUGHT BETWEEN TEAR GAS, BULLETS, AND BATONS IN ANGOLA

This report analyses security forces' use of unnecessary and excessive force in Angola in the context of protests that took place between November 2020 and June 2023.

The report further analyses the human rights impacts of such force and documents the failure of Angolan authorities to ensure accountability of perpetrators and access to justice and remedy for victims and their families. The report documents 11 protests in which police used excessive force: five in Luanda (11 November 2020, 4 February 2021, 9 April 2022, 28 January 2023 and 17 June 2023), three in Benguela (3 July 2021, 27 August 2022 and 17 June 2023), one in Cafunfo (30 January 2021), one in Kwanza-Norte (26 May 2022) and one in Huambo (5 June 2023). During these protests, security forces deployed tactics including the use of firearms, tear gas grenades, and beatings of protesters with batons, which resulted in deaths – including those of children – serious injuries, and psychological trauma. Security forces also arbitrarily arrested and detained protesters, while the authorities abused laws to curtail the organization of protests.

The report provides recommendations to the National Police of Angola, the Attorney General's Office of Angola, and other relevant authorities to ensure accountability for the human rights violations it documents and to prevent future abuses.