Date

President Barack Obama
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20500

USA

Dear President Obama,

I urge you to take immediate steps to stop the forced exodus of Muslim communities and to ensure the protection of civilians under attack in the Central African Republic (CAR), as recommended in the report UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon submitted on March 3.

The situation is dire. Hundreds of thousands of civilians in the country desperately need protection. Refugees and internally displaced persons need urgent humanitarian assistance. The international community must act now.

In your capacity of permanent member of the UN Security Council, I call on you to exert your maximum influence to:

* Ensure that, in accordance with the report of the UN Secretary-General, a UN peacekeeping force is authorised and deployed as quickly as possible in all parts of the CAR. The force should have a robust mandate to protect civilians, and should include human rights monitoring and reporting components, as well as rule of law components, which have sufficient resources and civilian expertise.
* Ensure the current peacekeeping forces present in CAR (MISCA and Sangaris) are deployed in sufficient numbers and have all the necessary resources, and are utilised in the most effective and robust manner, in particular, positioned in areas where civilians are most in need of protection.
* Ensure the swift deployment of international police units, to support and build the capacity of remaining CAR police forces.
* Ensure that humanitarian assistance urgently reaches refugees and internally displaced persons in need.
* Ensure that the arms embargo from the UN Security Council is enforced to prevent the proliferation of arms and weapons in the country.

I look forward to hearing from you on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,