



# AFRICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION DU BARREAU AFRICAIN

نقابة المحامين الافارقة

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## PRESS STATEMENT

The **African Bar Association** welcomes the decision of the **United Nations Human Rights Committee [UNHRC]** with regards to the Venezuelan diplomat Mr Alex Saab.

The decision of the United Nations Human Rights Committee that Mr Saab should not be extradicted to the United States and should be released is in tandem with the various calls of the African Bar Association over the past several months as the decision of Cape Verde to detain Ambassador Saab since 2020 was illegal and unjustified from the very beginning.

The Association is sad and very embarrassed that Cape Verde an African State continues to act illegally despite the various decisions and Rulings of the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice ordering the release and compensation of the diplomat.


We regard this as a serious threat to the Rule of Law and a bad example for International Law and Order in Africa.

The ability of Cape Verde to pride itself as a democracy and a responsible member of the International community rests on her ability to abide by the international norms and respect Judicial decisions especially in ones where she has participated and lost the argument.

The African Bar Association once again calls on the leadership of **ECOWAS and the AU** to prevail on Cape Verde to release Ambassador Saab unconditionally and to abide by the various decisions regarding his case as Mr Saab has not been found guilty of any crime.

Meanwhile, a delegation of the African Bar Association in its avowed determination to entrench the Rule of Law in the Continent is making efforts to visit Cape Verde, have audience with the relevant authorities and seek physical access to Ambassador Saab in line with International Laws.

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