



**AFRICA WATER
JUSTICE NETWORK**

Press Statement

**For Immediate Release
1st July 2025**

Statement of Solidarity with Human Rights Defenders in Kenya

The Africa Water Justice Network stands in unwavering solidarity with the protesting activists in Kenya and strongly condemns the violent state repression and unlawful detention of human rights defenders who are courageously standing up for justice, dignity, and democracy.

On the night of June 27 2025, three activists - Mark Armani, Mulingwa Nzau, and Mutunge Mwangi were unlawfully arrested while en route to Mombasa, accused without evidence of inciting violence during the 25 June protests against state brutality. These individuals are not criminals. They are protesters and human rights defenders, seeking social justice through non-violence means.

Their detention, without any formal charges is not only an attack on them but an attack on every person across this continent fighting for equity, accountability, and human rights. As they face the threat of extended incarceration under fabricated allegations, we make it clear: **We are watching. The people of Africa are watching across borders, and will not be silenced!**

We further condemn the broader crackdown on civil society in Kenya, including the increasing and alarming reports of arbitrary arrests and abductions. This repression is designed to silence dissent, fracture movements, and shrink the democratic space. It must be condemned by all.

We therefore call on:

- **The Government of Kenya** to immediately release the three known detained comrades, all other protesters in custody, and to end harassments and intimidation of human rights defenders;

- **Regional and global movements** to add their voices in solidarity;
- **All people of conscience** to remain vigilant and stand together, across borders, in defense of freedom, justice, and human dignity.

To the people of Kenya: you are not alone. **An injustice to one is an injustice to all.** Your struggle is our struggle. Your courage inspires us. The power of the people is greater than the people in power — and the power of the people will prevail.

Africa Water Justice Network

For further information, please contact us via email: info@awjn.org