

MUSOLINO | DESSEL

June 19, 2023

Via Electronic and Standard Mail:

First Lady Jill Biden, Ed.D.
Office of the First Lady
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Victims of 1998 Nairobi Embassy Bombing

Dear The First Lady's Scheduling Team:

Thank you for your kind words. My clients remain grateful for the First Lady's appearance at the Peace Memorial in Nairobi on February 25, 2023, as well as her long history of support for Africa, particularly African women. The First Lady's lifetime of work in education is particularly meaningful to the families of the hundreds of educators killed or injured while working in the offices of the Teachers Services Commission adjoining the Embassy.

I do hope that the First Lady will be able to meet with my Kenyan colleagues in Washington before the August 7, 2023, commemoration, and I am very pleased to note that Kenyan Senator Agnes Kavindu looks forward to participating if the First Lady's schedule and the Senator's schedules permit.

As I mentioned in my letter of March 21, 2023, a copy of which I enclose for your convenience, and in my February 23, 2023, Press release, also enclosed, Senator Kavindu has introduced in the Kenyan Senate legislation which in turn supports our legislative efforts here in Congress to, among other things, make the Kenyan victims of the Embassy bombing eligible to participate in the Victim's Compensation Fund. Through Senator Kavindu's leadership, bipartisan support for her bill is substantial and continues to grow. For example, MP Gladys Boss, the Deputy Speaker in the Kenyan Assembly, has authorized me to identify her publicly as a supporter of our efforts.

If the First Lady's schedule permits a meeting in Washington with Senator Kavindu and the seven extraordinary women who joined me in my March 23, 2023, letter, the positive impact on the victims, their supporters, and allies of the US will be invaluable.

I look forward to hearing from you at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Philip M. Musolino



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March 21, 2023

Via Electronic and Standard Mail:

First Lady Jill Biden, Ed.D.
Office of the First Lady
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Victims of 1998 Nairobi Embassy Bombing

Dear Dr. Biden:

As you may know from our February 7, 2023, letter, I represent hundreds of Kenyan victims of the 1998 embassy bombing in Nairobi. My clients and many others in Kenya were grateful for, and inspired by, your solemn visit to the Peace Memorial in Nairobi on Saturday, February 25, 2023. Your support during this visit to Africa, as well as on your previous visits, for the African people, and in particular for African women, has been a source of joy and comfort for so many.

Of course, our request that you attend the 25th Commemoration of the bombing remains open. Our clients and many in East Africa would be delighted by your return. We appreciate, however, that your many responsibilities may make a second visit this year impracticable. My clients, therefore, request an opportunity to meet with you in Washington prior to the commemoration on August 7, 2023.

You may be unaware that the largest group of victims were members of Kenya's Teachers Service Commission. Over 300 teachers and school administrators were attending a conference on the upper floors of the building adjoining the embassy, and lost their lives or suffered serious injuries from the terrorist attack. Your obvious love of teaching and education undoubtedly gives you a unique understanding of this enormous loss to Kenya.

In addition to the educators, over one hundred Kenyans were orphaned, many Kenyan women were widowed, suffered miscarriages or other birth complications, and hundreds more Kenyans were blinded or suffered serious vision loss. The seven extraordinary women who have signed below represent these groups and join in our request.

Each of these groups is encouraged by your sincere commitment to teachers, women, and those who endure everyday burdens inflicted on them by evil and injustice. They and I look

forward to the opportunity to thank you in person in Washington and to work with you to finally address the losses sustained by our Kenyan friends.

We hope that you will be able to meet with us soon, and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Philip M. Musolino



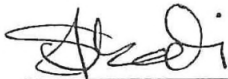
Catherine Bwire, for the Blinded Victims Group



Lilian Mutua, for the Pregnant Victims Group



Grace Nyawira Njoroge, for the Orphans Victims Group




Safula Abdi Mwilu, for the Widows Victims Group



Leonora Atieno, for the Teachers Victims Group



Lilian Ngeno, National Convenor



Caroline Muthoka Wavai, International Convenor

cc: Ramona Tascoe, MD, MHSA, MDiv

Catherine Bwire, on behalf of the Blinded Victims Group, is a mother of one, Jean Bahati. She was pregnant with her when the bomb blast occurred in 1998. She permanently lost her vision as a result of that terrorism. She has been struggling to bring up her daughter as a single mother. Life has never been the same again for her and her child. Her husband abandoned her after the bombing and left her for dead. She struggles to go to work, needing someone to guide her as she walks through the Nairobi City streets going to work. "I still cannot see my future, except I am seeing it will be difficult, but it will be possible."



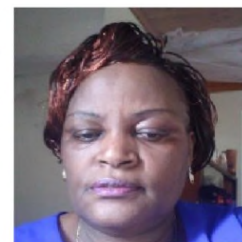
Lilian Mutua, on behalf of the Pregnant Victims is a survivor of the 1998 bomb blast. Lilian was 8 months pregnant and working at the Teachers Service Commission on the 12th floor when the blast occurred, causing both internal and external injuries. Since then, Lilian has undergone numerous surgeries and faced many challenges, including the premature birth of her children and the loss of her job.



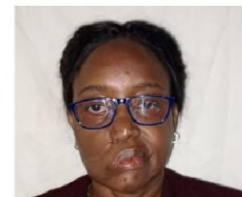
Grace Nyawira Njoroge, on behalf of the Orphans Victims Group, is a survivor of the 1998 terrorist bomb attack. The loss of her father in the attack, who was the sole breadwinner of the family, and the subsequent death of her stepmother from illness and COVID-19, drastically altered her family's life trajectory and forced her to put aside her education to work and support her family.



Safula Abdi Mwilu, on behalf of the Widows Victims Group, is a retired professional Community Worker and a widow of the 1998 Nairobi bombing, where she lost her husband and was left to care for their three children. Despite her own struggles, she remains committed to giving back to her community by volunteering in various community works and distributing food and clothing to those in need.



Leonore Atieno, on behalf of the Teachers Victims Group, is a survivor of the 1998 bomb blast, where she sustained multiple injuries to her face, shoulder, right hand, and legs. She lives with chronic pain and requires expensive medication.



Lilian Ngeno, National Convenor and Tana and Arthi Rivers Development Authority Survivor's Coordinator, was working on the 19th floor of the adjoining building when the US Embassy was attacked. This traumatic event not only affected her physically, but also emotionally, psychologically, and financially, leaving lasting scars on her life and relationships. She has learned to focus on the present and to strive for a positive future. Her hope is that her "story can inspire others to persevere in the face of adversity and to appreciate the precious gift of life."



Caroline Muthoka Wavai, International Convenor, is a world-renowned and award-winning gospel singer, activist, and survivor of the 1998 embassy bombing. Caroline's song, [Poleni](#), was written in memoriam of the August 7, 1998, attack. Caroline's organization Barak Care International works to provide services and training for disaster emergency preparedness and address the suffering of the silent victims of such calamities.





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Leopold Harris
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ON EVE OF FIRST LADY JILL BIDEN’S VISIT, SENATOR KAVINDU ASKS PARLIAMENT TO SUPPORT BOMBING VICTIMS AND U.S. LEGISLATION

Washington, DC. (February 23, 2023) – Senator Agnes Kavindu Muthama introduced today an oral motion urging the Kenyan government to support U.S. legislation designed to make Kenyan victims of the 1998 bombing of the United States embassy in Nairobi eligible to participate in a U.S. victims compensation fund.

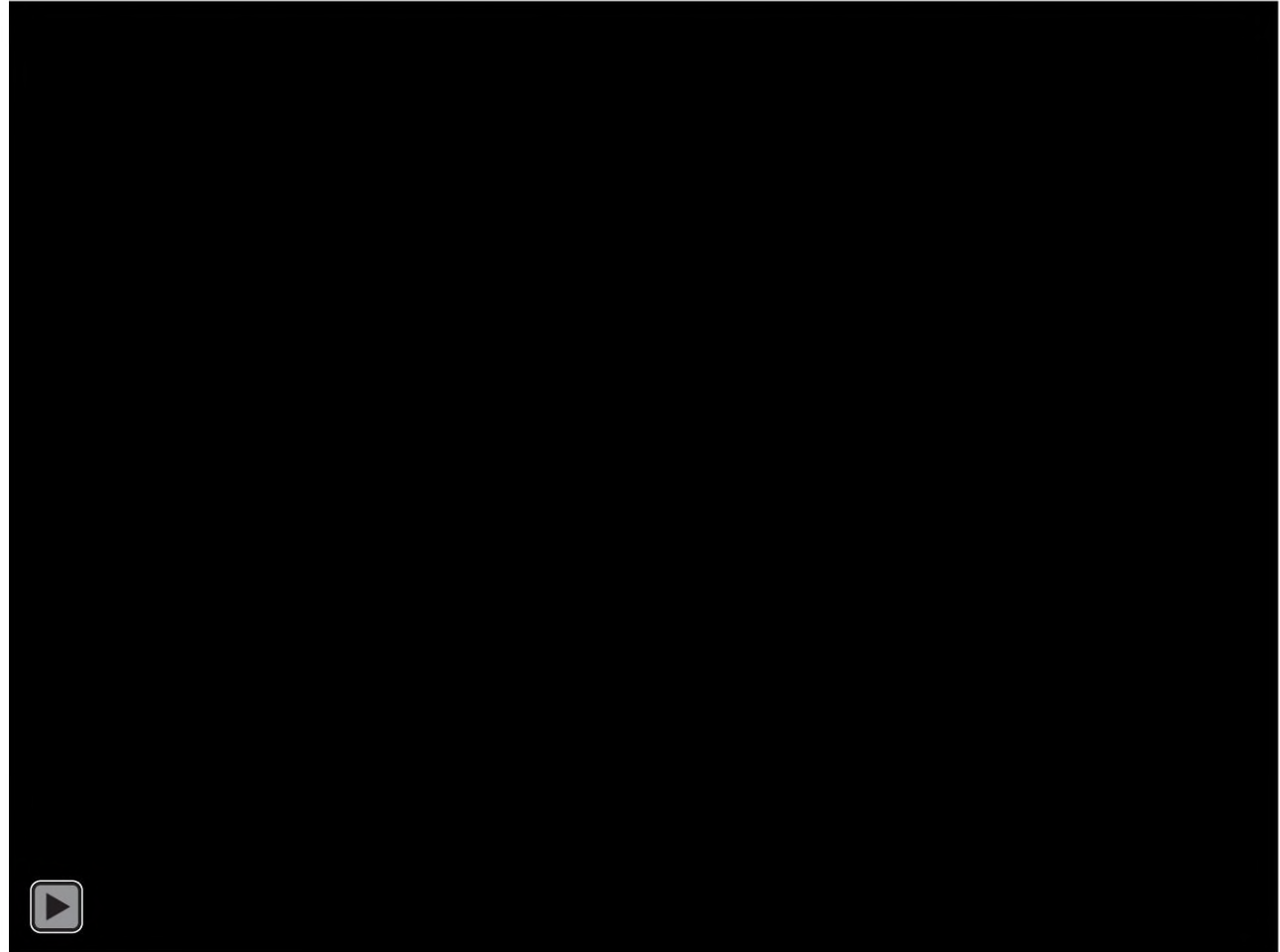
Philip Musolino, counsel for hundreds of Kenyan victims who have secured \$60 billion in judgments in the United States, said “all Kenyan victims are gratified to have a fighter like Senator Kavindu championing the effort to bring long-overdue justice to all of the victims of this horrendous attack. Her support for our legislation in the U.S. underscores the desire of the Kenyan people to bring this unfinished business to a conclusion which affirms the friendship and trust between our two countries.”

This motion was filed as First Lady Jill Biden prepares to visit Nairobi. “The purpose of her trip is to reaffirm the US government’s investments in Africa, not just in their governments, but in their people...” a senior U.S. administration official said.

Dr. Ramona Tascoe, noted African-American physician, ordained minister, and humanitarian who has been working on behalf of the victims since 1998 praised Senator Kavindu’s leadership, and remarked: “Dr. Biden’s long-history of concern for the African people and her timely visit only six-months before the 25th Commemoration of the bombing give us hope that the U.S. government will join with Senator Kavindu to provide the fair and equal treatment that our Kenyan friends deserve.”

This is First Lady Biden's third trip to Kenya and sixth trip to Africa.

The proposed legislation captioned Victims of Terrorist Attacks on U.S. Rights Act, is a budget-neutral and provides for eligibility in the Victims Compensation Fund for Kenyan, Tanzanian, and American victims of the twin bombings of American embassies by Al Qaeda on August 7, 1998.



If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Leopold Harris at (202) 466-3883 or email at lharris@musolinoanddessel.com.

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