



MUSOLINO | DESSEL

May 4, 2023

**Via Electronic Mail:**

Senator Christopher Coons  
Office of Senator Christopher Coons  
218 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

*Re: Victims of 1998 Nairobi Embassy Bombing*

Dear Senator Coons:

As you may know, among the thousands of Kenyans killed or injured in the 1998 Embassy bombing in Nairobi, Kenya, 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.

Each of these representatives wishes to thank you for your efforts in Kenya at resolution and reconciliation over the past several weeks. Your sincere friendship for the people of Kenya is well-known and appreciated, as was the visit by First Lady Dr. Jill Biden to the Peace Memorial in Nairobi on February 25, 2023, and the visit of Vice President Harris on March 30, 2023, to the Memorial in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.

The Kenyan victims also recognize that you are uniquely able to provide crucial support for our proposed US legislation, which makes the Kenyan, Tanzanian, and US victims of the bombing eligible to participate in the US Victims of Terrorism Compensation Fund. The signatories, therefore, request an opportunity to meet with you in Washington, or on your next visit to East Africa, in advance of the 25<sup>th</sup> Commemoration on August 7, 2023, of the bombing.

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

Sincerely,

Philip M. Musolino

cc: Ramona Tascoe, MD, MHSA, MDiv

This material is distributed by Philip M. Musolino and Musolino & Dessel, PLLC on behalf of the Designated Victims of the 1998 Embassy Bombings. Additional information is available at the U.S. Department of Justice (FARA).

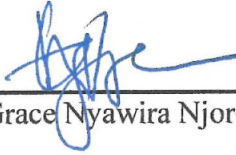
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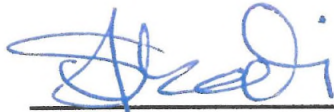
Catherine Bwire, for the Blinded Victims Group




Lilian Mutua, for the Pregnant Victims Group



Grace Nyawira Njoroge, for the Orphans Victims Group



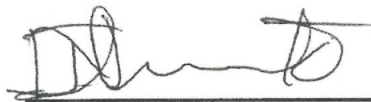
Safula Abdi Mwilu, for the Widows Victims Group



Leonora Atieno, for the Teachers Victims Group



Lilian Ngeno, National Convenor



Caroline Muthoka Wavai, International Convenor

**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."



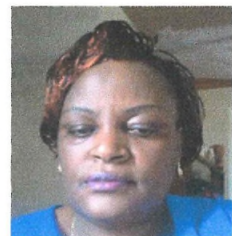
**Lilian Mutua**, on behalf of the Pregnant Victims is a survivor of the 1998 bomb blast. Lilian was 8 months pregnant and working at the Teachers Service Commission on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor when the blast occurred, causing both internal and external injuries. Since then, Lilian has undergone numerous 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

