



**African Parliamentary Union**

## **COMMUNIQUE on the release of Soumaïla Cissé**

The African Parliamentary Union (APU) welcomes the release of Soumaïla Cissé on October 8, 2020, after being held hostage for more than six months in northern Mali.

In recent months, the African Parliamentary Union has not failed, together with the Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie and the Pan-African Parliament, to call on good will for the immediate release of Soumaïla Cissé.

This release is undoubtedly the result of the joined efforts undertaken in the continent and in the world and constitutes a victory in the relentless struggle of African peoples for the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Africa.

The African Parliamentary Union takes this good opportunity to extend its warm thanks and deep gratitude to all those involved in helping Soumaïla Cisse to find freedom today and be with his family.

It congratulates Soumaïla Cissé for his resilience in the face of the suffering he endured during his captivity and expresses the hope that this release can contribute to the appeasement of the political situation in Mali and the return to democratic life in this African country.

Done in Abidjan, October 11, 2020

**For African Parliamentary Union  
Mohamed Ali HOUMED  
Chairperson of the APU Executive Committee  
Speaker of the Djibouti National Assembly**

