H. E. President
Bola Ahmed Tinubu
State House
Aso Villa
Yakubu Gowon Crescent
Asokoro District 900231
Abuja FCT

NIGERIA

Datum

**Girls and young women who survived Boko Haram captivity**

Dear President Tinubu,

I am writing to you regarding the future of the girls and young women who suffered horrific abuses in Boko Haram captivity in north-east Nigeria. After they left Boko Haram, many endured further suffering in unlawful military detention. Survivors are now left without adequate access to services.

Boko Haram used these girls as “wives”, forcibly marrying them and subjecting them to years of domestic servitude and sexual violence including forced pregnancy. After being freed from captivity, survivors have been denied access to education, livelihood opportunities including vocational training, and adequate health services including mental health services and sexual and reproductive health care. The Nigerian government must urgently take effective measures to ensure justice for survivors, and uphold their international human rights obligations to reintegrate these girls and young women.

I therefore urge you and your government to ensure survivors have a voluntary medical assessment immediately after leaving Boko Haram and can access comprehensive and confidential health care services after reintegration. Please make sure that they can access government education by making schools across the states and in internally displaced persons camps open and safe, and eliminating all fees associated with primary education. Furthermore, it is crucially important to ensure that vocational and skills training programmes are effective to help the girls and young women become financially self-sufficient. Lastly, I urge you to develop programmes aimed at eradicating stigma and discrimination against the survivors.

Sincerely,