

STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE BRUTAL KILLING OF A CHILD WITH ALBINISM IN MAMPIKONY, MADAGASCAR

The Africa Albinism Network (AAN) expresses its profound shock, outrage, and solidarity with communities in Mampikony following the brutal killing of a young boy with albinism, Marcelin, whose lifeless body was discovered on **11 February 2026**. AAN is gravely concerned by reports that:

1. On 11 February 2026, Marcelin was found lying dead on the ground, covered in blood, and decapitated, and his head was not found at the scene.
2. It is alleged that three individuals are believed to be involved, and one suspect is reportedly already in police custody.

This heinous act constitutes a gross violation of the right to life, dignity, security, and equality. It reflects the persistent and deeply troubling pattern of violence targeting persons with albinism in parts of Madagascar and across Africa, often driven by harmful myths, stigma, and ritual-related beliefs.

No child should be attacked or killed because of a genetic condition.

AAN calls on the government of Madagascar to ensure a swift, impartial, and transparent investigation; Prosecute all perpetrators and accomplices before the law; Provide protection and psychosocial support to the victim's family; Strengthen preventive and protective measures for children and persons with albinism; and to Intensify public awareness efforts to dismantle harmful myths and discrimination.

In line with continental commitments, AAN additionally calls on the Government of Madagascar to **develop and adopt a National Action Plan to End Attacks and Other Human Rights Violations Against Persons with Albinism**, consistent with the **African Union Plan of Action on Albinism (2021–2031)**. Such a plan is critical to ensuring coordinated, long-term responses that address protection, justice, health, and inclusion for persons with albinism across the

country.

AAN calls on African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) for urgent investigation of gross Human rights violation of child with Albinism in Madagascar.

STATE OBLIGATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

States have a have a responsibility to prevent, investigate, prosecute, and punish violence against persons with albinism. Impunity fuels continued violence. Delayed justice deepens trauma and fear within already vulnerable communities.

AAN'S COMMITMENT

The Africa Albinism Network commits to monitoring developments in this case, engaging relevant regional and international human rights mechanisms where necessary, and standing firmly in solidarity with Marcelin's family and all persons with albinism in Madagascar. AAN reaffirms international standards calling on Member States of the African Union and United Nation to end impunity, conduct effective investigations, ensure accountability, and provide remedies and support to victims and their families.

Justice must be served.

Protection must be strengthened.

Violence against persons with albinism must end.

Issued by:
Africa Albinism Network (AAN)