



December 5, 2008

His Excellency  
Islam Abduganievich Karimov  
President  
Republic of Uzbekistan  
O'zbekiston 43, Oksaroy  
Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan 100163

Dear President Karimov,

We, the undersigned international non-government organizations Human Rights First and Freedom House, strongly urge you to honor the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by making it the occasion to unconditionally release from incarceration Uzbekistani human rights defenders, including the following:

Mr. Norboy Kholjigitov  
Mr. Sattor Izrayev  
Mr. Khabibula Akpulatov  
Mr. Nasim Isakov  
Mr. Azam Farmonov  
Mr. Alisher Karamatov  
Mr. Jamshid Karimov  
Mr. Salijon Abdurahmanov  
Mr. Yuldash Rasulev

Mr. Abdurasul Abdunazarov  
Mr. Agzam Turgunov  
Mr. Yusuf Juma  
Mr. Mashrab Juma  
Mr. Abdulahat Madmarov  
Mr. Abdullah Madmarov  
Mr. Habidulla Madmarov  
Mr. Abdusamad Madmarov  
Mr. Zafar Rakhimov

We welcome the fact that the government of Uzbekistan has released several prominent human rights defenders during this past year, including Mutabar Tajibaeva. However, we remain profoundly concerned about the fate of those who remain in custody, including the human rights defenders above, prisoner of conscience Sanjar Umarov, and others who may be unjustly imprisoned. You have instructed that the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights be widely celebrated in Uzbekistan. We hope that your government will demonstrate its commitment to the Declaration and to the values it enshrines by unconditionally releasing the above-mentioned human rights activists.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Windsor  
Freedom House

Sincerely,



Elisa Massimino  
Human Rights First

cc: Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan  
1746 Massachusetts Ave. NW Washington DC 20036