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H.E. Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowment
Shaikh Khalid bin Ali bin Abdullah Al Khalifa

Strasbourg, 20 December 2019

Dear Minister,

As Members of the European Parliament, we are writing to express our deepest concern over the cases of death row inmates Mohamed Ramadhan Issa Ali Hussain and Hussain Ali Moosa Mohamed.

We have recently been informed that the verdict on their case has now been delayed to 25 December 2019. The date chosen falls on a major holiday in most Western countries. This will obviously look like an attempt by Bahraini authorities to undermine the international community's ability to monitor and react to the situation.

Last year, Bahrain's Court of Cassation sentenced prominent human rights defender Nabeel Rajab to seven years in prison on 31 December, in a similar attempt to avoid backlash from the international community.

The cases of Mohamed Ramadhan and Hussain Moosa are extremely worrying. Since their arrest, international and local human rights organisations have denounced serious violations of their right to a fair trial. Their death sentences were taken on the basis of torture-tainted confessions, in a country where allegations of torture by law enforcement officials are widespread.

Bahrain reintroduced the death penalty in 2017 after a 6-years *de facto* moratorium, and has since executed 6 inmates. This has further deteriorated the already appalling human rights record of the country.

We therefore urge you to:

- Postpone the verdict to a later date in the cases of the **Mohamed Ramadhan Issa Ali Hussain and Hussain Ali Moosa Mohamed** in view to ensure it is the outcome of a **trial that has fully complied with international fair trial standards that excluded evidence obtained under torture, and without recourse to the death penalty;**



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- Promptly carry out **credible and independent investigations into all allegations of torture**, in particular those made in the cases of Mohamed Ramadhan and Hussain Moosa, and take appropriate measures to bring the perpetrators to account;
- Immediately institute a **moratorium on the death penalty** with the aim of permanent abolition;
- **Release all illegally detained prisoners, including human rights defenders** arbitrarily arrested, detained, charged and convicted for carrying out their legitimate and peaceful human rights activities;

As Members of the European Parliament, we remain committed to the protection, promotion and fulfilment of all human rights in Bahrain, as stated in the latest European Parliament resolution on the situation in Bahrain, in particular the case of Nabeel Rajab.

Sincerely,

Martin Horwood MEP

Caroline Voaden MEP

Shaffaq Mohammed MEP

Milan Brglez MEP

Manuel Bompard MEP

Karen Melchior MEP

Sophie in 't Veld MEP

Izaskun Bilbao Barandica MEP

Jude Kirton-Darling MEP

Sheila Ritchie MEP

Jan-Christoph Oetjen MEP

Hilde Vautmans MEP

Lucy Nethsingha MEP

Isabel Santos MEP

Nikolaj Villumsen MEP



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Cornelia Ernst MEP

Dietmar Köster MEP

Hannes Heide MEP

Milan Zver MEP

Dimitrios Papadimoulis MEP

CC:

H.E. the Head of the European Union Delegation to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the
Kingdom of Bahrain and the Sultanate of Oman
Ambassador Michele Cervone d'Urso

H.E. Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the EU
Dr. Bahia Jawad Al Jishi