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Waleed Mohammed Al Samani
Minister of Justice
Postal Code 11472
P.O. Box 7775
Riyadh
Saudi Arabia

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Your Excellency,

**I am gravely concerned about the continued arbitrary detention of Dutch-Yemeni citizen Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan, who has been detained in Dhahban Central Prison and held without any charge against him for over ten months.**

On 20 November 2023, two days after arriving to Saudi Arabia from the Netherlands, Fahd Ezzi Mo-hammed Ramadhan received a phone call from the Criminal Investigation Department in Jeddah, asking him to report to the police without informing him of the reason. Upon arrival at the police station that same day, security forces arbitrarily detained him without giving him a reason or allowing him to contact a lawyer. He was permitted a brief call to his wife but was not allowed to inform her where he was being detained.

According to his family, Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan was held in incommunicado detention until 1 January 2024, when he was allowed to call his sister in Saudi Arabia. He told her that his interrogation had ended, but that he was not aware of any formal charges filed against him. He has had no access to legal representation throughout his detention and interrogation. In January 2024, Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan’s family appointed a lawyer who tried to visit him in prison but was not allowed to see him. According to the family, the lawyer was told by prison authorities that he should not interfere in the case.

Officials from the Dutch embassy in Riyadh were allowed to visit him in prison on 21 March 2024. He told them that a few years ago, he had expressed sympathy online with a critic of the Saudi royal family and believed that was the reason for his detention. According to his family, in May 2024, prison officials asked Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan to sign a document which included four of his tweets.

Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan suffers from diabetes, and has had stomach surgery, which requires him to follow a special diet. He has informed his family that he is sick and that he is not receiving adequate medical care.

**Saudi authorities must immediately and unconditionally release Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan, if he is detained solely for peacefully exercising his human rights. They must otherwise produce sufficient evidence pointing to his involvement in an internationally recognized criminal offence. Pending his release, we urge you to ensure that Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan receives adequate medical care and access to the lawyer appointed by his family.**

Yours sincerely,

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**Copie**

Botschaft des Königreichs Saudi-Arabien, Kirchenfeldstrasse 64, 3005 Bern

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