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Waleed Mohammed AlSama'ani
Minister of Justice
Postal Code 11472, P.O. Box 7775
Riyadh
Saudi Arabia

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Your Excellency,

**I am deeply concerned about the continued arbitrary detention of British national Ahmed al-Doush. He has been subjected to multiple violations of his fair trial rights, and has an upcoming hearing scheduled for 4 May 2025, at which he may be sentenced**. He was detained at King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh on 31 August 2024 when he was travelling back home to the UK with his wife and their three children after a visit to Saudi Arabia.

During his first hearing before a judge in the week of 27 January 2025, five months after his arrest, Ah-med al-Doush was told that charges would be issued against him for using social media to spread fake, untrue and damaging news against the Kingdom, and that he was accused of having a relationship with an individual who threatened the Kingdom's national security. Based on the questions asked during his extensive interrogations, his family believes these accusations may relate to a 2018 tweet he made concerning the situation in Sudan, with no mention of Saudi Arabia, which he then deleted, and that the second accusation is related to his alleged association with a Saudi critic in exile with whom he has no relationship beyond knowing his son. Although he appears to have since been formally charged, his family have yet to see the charges against him.

Ahmed al-Doush has had multiple trial hearings. He has only been allowed restricted communication with his family and therefore has not been able to inform them of details of his court proceedings. He told his wife in April that he had been instructed by prison authorities to only check in with her and the children during the calls, and that if he spoke about anything outside of this, that the call would be terminated and there would be punishment.

**The Saudi authorities must immediately and unconditionally release Ahmed al-Doush, if he is detained solely for peacefully exercising their human rights. Until then, they must prevent further violations of his fair trial rights and ensure he has regular access to his family and legal representation.**

Yours sincerely,

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**Copie**

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