

(Translated from Arabic)

State's reply to the joint communication concerning Obaid al-Zaabi and the children of Mohammed al Siddiq

1. Obaid Yousef al-Zaabi

He has not been detained in connection with any criminal case and he was previously acquitted of all charges. He remains in [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He has been provided with the requisite treatment and his condition has improved through the administration of mood stabilizers. He has been permitted to communicate with his relatives, who have visited him in the hospital.

2. The children of Mohammed Abdul Razzaq al-Siddiq

They were summoned to the Department of Migration in Sharjah with a view to presenting all their official documents. On arrival, they were informed of the decree concerning the revocation of citizenship. It should be noted that their father's citizenship was revoked in December 2011.

The citizenship of the aforementioned persons was withdrawn pursuant to the provisions of the Nationality and Passports Act, which provides for naturalization through affiliation. Given that the children of Mr. Al-Siddiq were granted citizenship after citizenship was granted to their father, the legal justification for the citizenship of his children lapsed when the father's citizenship was revoked in accordance with the constitutional and legislative provisions. Hence, their citizenship was revoked.

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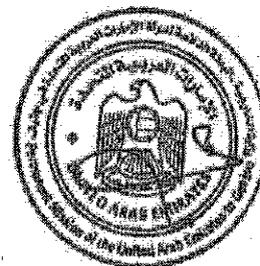




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The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the *Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression* and the *Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders*, and with reference to the latter's letter no. AL ARE 1/2016 of 20 April 2016 concerning Mr Obaid Yousef AL-ZAABI and the children of Mohammed Abdul Razzaq AL-SIDDIQ, has the honour to forward herewith the response as received from the relevant authorities in the United Arab Emirates.

The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the *Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression* and the *Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders* the assurances of its highest consideration.



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- *Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression*
 - *Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders*

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