

(Translated from Arabic)

Subject: Communication concerning Mr. Mohamad Ismat Mohamad Shaker Az, a Syrian national

The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office at Geneva presents its compliments to the special procedures secretariat. With reference to communication No. UAE/ARE6/2017, dated 4 October 2017, concerning Mr. Mohamad Ismat Mohamad Shaker Az, the Permanent Mission wishes to inform you that the competent State authorities have taken note of the aforementioned communication, the summarized allegations contained therein and the questions raised by the special procedures. It wishes to provide the following clarifications:

I. Response to the summary of the facts contained in the communication

1. The allegations presented by the source of the communication are not based on any reliable evidence and are entirely unfounded. The communication is based solely on statements. The legislation in force in the State guarantees the rights of all detainees without distinction and prohibits the perpetration of any assault on their physical integrity.
2. Mr. Mohamad Ismat was not arbitrarily detained, placed in solitary confinement or subjected to torture, as alleged. Moreover, he was not threatened with life imprisonment. This is borne out by the fact that he was brought to trial. The court is responsible for ruling on the matter and imposing a penalty commensurate with the offence committed. He was therefore sentenced to a term of imprisonment of 15 years in a penal institution that is monitored and supervised by the Public Prosecution Service.
3. Mr. Mohamad Ismat receives the requisite health care. His state of health is monitored in a governmental hospital and he is regularly presented to the treating physician. He was sent for a visual examination to the eye clinic because he uses prescription spectacles. He was also sent to the surgery, the ear, nose and throat clinic, the heart clinic, the gland clinic and the kidney clinic, all of which are located in Al-Mafraq Hospital (he has had 24 medical examinations in the clinics at that hospital). The necessary tests and X-rays were conducted and he was conveyed to the clinics on the specified dates. He is also entitled to visit the doctor in cases where a medical intervention is required.
4. Mr. Mohamad Ismat is in continuous contact with his relatives and receives visits from his relatives, [REDACTED] in accordance with the procedures applicable to detention facilities. He has received a total of 114 visits.

II. Investigative procedures concerning Mr. Mohamad Ismat and conduct of the legal proceedings

1. On 26 September 2013, Mr. Mohamad Ismat was arrested pursuant to the legal rules and regulations in force in the United Arab Emirates, after having been informed of the reason for his arrest and the authority responsible for his arrest and investigation. His family was also informed of his place of detention in Abu Dhabi and he was permitted to communicate with his family while in custody.
2. On 10 December 2013, he was referred to the competent authority and on 9 June 2014 the competent authority referred the casefile to the Federal Supreme Court. He was charged with the following offences: membership of a terrorist organization with full knowledge of its aims; persuading people to join a terrorist organization in order to participate in the conflict in Syria; collection and transfer of funds to a terrorist organization; supervising and managing a website (a Facebook page called Taftanaz Coordination) with a view to disseminating information on the terrorist Al-Qaida organization and circulating its ideas. He was permitted to appoint a lawyer and to meet with him to prepare his defence. He is also fully aware of the charges filed against him and the Court read them out to him in public. On 9 December 2014, the Federal Supreme Court sentenced him to a term of



imprisonment of 15 years, imposed a fine, and ruled that he should be deported from the country after serving his sentence in a penal institution.
