



Mr. Philip Alston, Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights

Mr. Surya Deva, Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises

Mr. François Crépeau, Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

Ms. Urmila Bhoola, Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences

Your Excellencies,

At the outset, I would like to thank you for your letter dated on 31 July 2017 N° 4/2017 AL.SDN concerning the situation of Sudanese workers in the Saudi Company SEEMAC.

In this regard, I have the honor to inform you about the actions taken on the above-mentioned complaint which can be summarized as follows:

1. After receiving the complaint, the mission transferred it to the competent authorities in Sudan to answer it.
2. Allow me to express my government willingness and keenness to stress its interaction with the organs of the Human Rights Council and its permanent desire to cooperate with these organs to develop and promote the human rights situation in the Sudan.
3. In this context, and based on the long history of this cooperation with the Council and its mandate and with the various countries of the world and according to the data and information provided by the complaint, the Sudanese government has ratified many international and Arab agreements and has a wealth of bilateral agreements that serve and preserve the rights of Sudanese workers in the Diaspora. In this context we review a number of these agreements:
 1. Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (N°29), ratified by Sudan in 1975.
 2. Protection of Wages Convention, 1949 (N°95), ratified by Sudan in 1970.
 3. Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (N° 100), ratified by Sudan in 1970.
 4. Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (N°111), ratified by Sudan in 1970.
 5. Convention on Arab Labour Force Movement, 1967 (N°2), ratified by Sudan in 1972.
 6. Convention on Arab determination and protection of wages, 2011 (N°15), ratified by Sudan in 2011.



In the bilateral field with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, there is a memorandum of understanding in the field of labour in which the concerned authorities in the two countries are developing a cooperation agreement in the field of employment and a cooperation agreement in the field of vocational training.


In the area of controls for the use of Sudanese abroad, we provide the controls and conditions imposed by the Government of Sudan to ensure the safety and rights of workers outside Sudan and they are as follow:

1. The necessity of a valid passport.
2. A letter of authentication to the office from the entity serving abroad.
3. A copy of the visa.
4. A letter of delegation from the Office of the Commissioner.
5. For the labour professions, the contract must be presented in order to clarify the terms of the relationship between the two parties.
6. Regarding the registration of persons wishing to work outside the Sudan, the age of the applicant must not be less than 18 years. The workers shall be selected by a committee composed of the employer or the authorized agent, the representative of the employment department and the competent office according to the conditions of the job. As stipulated in the national legislations, Article 14 of the Labour Law, every Sudanese who wishes to work outside the Sudan must obtain permission from the Minister of Labour in accordance with the regulations issued under the provisions of this law, without prejudice to any other conditions or procedures which he shall comply with under any law.

These arised problems are usually monitored by the embassies of the Sudan in these countries through the assignment of a diplomat responsible for the employment file in these countries and regions. As for the complaint against UNITED SEEMAC, we have contacted our embassy in Riyadh which confirmed that it has not received any information in this regard.

Finally, we assure you of our follow-up to this matter and we will inform you of any progress. We hope that you will continue your efforts and inform us of any developments.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to your Excellencies the assurances of my highest consideration.


Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail
Permanent Representative

