

(Translated from Arabic)

Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva

Reply of the Kingdom of Bahrain to urgent appeal No. UA BHR11/2017, dated 31 October 2017, concerning Ibrahim Jawad Abd Ullah Sarhan

- The said person was reportedly summoned on 24 May 2017 and appeared of his own free will without an arrest warrant to discuss information concerning his contact with a person belonging to a terrorist organization. He claimed that the allegation was unfounded. He was requested to attend another meeting on 31 May 2017 in order to follow up the discussion after the completion of additional investigations. He turned up on the date in question, and a discussion was held on the supplementary information concerning his receipt of funds from the person who belonged to a terrorist organization. He claimed that this allegation was also unfounded and departed without any arrest warrant being issued.
- On 25 August, the allegations contained in the urgent appeal became known as a result of their publication by the said person in the social media. Although he had not submitted an official complaint, the competent judicial authority initiated an investigation into the allegations. The Inspector General also took action in line with his legal mandate.
- The competent judicial authority and the Inspector General tried to contact the said person to determine the veracity of the allegations and to undertake an investigation. It emerged, however, that [REDACTED].
- The competent judicial authority and the Inspector General proceeded, in accordance with their mandates, to summon the case officer who had interrogated the said person. They questioned him regarding the conditions of interrogation and he denied the allegations. They then completed the legal procedures based on the data resulting from the investigation into the allegations and concluded that none of the alleged facts had been substantiated.
- The fact that the competent judicial authority, the Inspector General and the Public Prosecution Office did not receive any complaint from the above-mentioned person indicates that his allegations were not legally substantiated, especially since he was not detained between the date of his summons and the date on which he left the Kingdom. Nevertheless, the competent authority investigated the allegations contained in the appeal, in accordance with the highest legal standards and practices based on the Constitution, the law and relevant international treaties.
- It should be noted that the staff of security agencies and judicial bodies as well as law enforcement officers in the Kingdom of Bahrain continuously attend diverse vocational and training programmes aimed at raising their awareness and knowledge of the best legal practices to be implemented in the performance of their duties. They are also subject to a strict legal system based on the Constitution, the law and international human rights treaties. Such allegations are thus investigated by a number of different bodies, all of which perform their duties in an impartial and independent manner.
- We also wish to underscore that the Security Services Complex in Muharraq Governorate seeks to facilitate the implementation of measures and services on behalf of citizens and residents in all ministries and governmental institutions. It offers many different services, particularly traffic services, nationality and passport services, and other basic services, as speedily as possible, especially on behalf of residents of Muharraq Governorate and surrounding areas. This proves that the



allegations of torture contained in the urgent appeal are unfounded, since the Security Services Complex is constantly open to the public during working hours.
