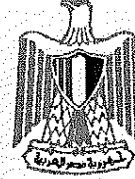


*Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt
to the United Nations Office
& International Organizations
in Geneva*



البعثة الدائمة لجمهورية مصر العربية
لدى الأمم المتحدة
والمنظمات الدولية
في جنيف

SE.2020.023

Geneva, April 8th 2020

Dear Ms. Ní Aoláin,

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 25 March 2020, and wish to convey appreciation for the valuable exchange during our meeting on 3 March 2020, and for your expressed keenness on entering into a positive and constructive dialogue with the Government of Egypt regarding the Anti-Terrorism Law and the Terrorist Entities Law.

I would also like to seize the opportunity to inform that the joint communication by your good self along with other mandate-holders, dated 28 February 2020, regarding the amendments to the Anti-Terrorism Law is under due consideration by the competent Egyptian authorities. As the joint communication did not specify a certain date for responding, and was received 18 days after the said amendments were already adopted by the House of Representatives, a thorough reply is currently being prepared, in light of the wide spectrum of issues addressed therein that merit clarification, and will be relayed as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, I would like to draw attention to the fact that these amendments were introduced to further enable Egypt to meet its international obligations under relevant Security Council resolutions, and to implement the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), which is the global money laundering and terrorist financial watchdog setting international standards that aim to prevent these illegal activities and the harm they cause to society. Hence, the Government of Egypt is puzzled by the concerns raised in the joint communication regarding the amendments. Given your stated motivation to clarify the facts and engage in a meaningful dialogue, the Government is even more confounded to learn that you are preparing a joint press statement to "express dismay and concerns publicly" before receiving the reply.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that the Government of Egypt is eager to maintain a positive and constructive dialogue with you and other mandate-holders on this and other issues, for the advancement of human rights and the betterment of the people of Egypt and around the world.

Please accept, Mme Special Rapporteur, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ambassador Alaa Youssef

Permanent Representative of Egypt to the UN
in Geneva

Ms. Fionnuala Ní Aoláin

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

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