(Translated from Arabic)

Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations, Geneva

1. Please provide any additional information and any comments on the above-mentioned allegations.

In the framework of its cooperation with the international human rights mechanisms, the Government has examined the allegations in the joint letter and has provided full clarifications of these matters as set out here below.

The letter refers to an absence of information in the Government’s reply dated 28 August 2020 to communication UA SAU 10/2020, as transmitted on 1 July 2020, in relation with question No. 3, on measures to prevent the deportation or transfer of [redacted] to a place where his personal security and integrity may be at risk. The Government wishes to draw attention to the fact that the State complies with the human rights treaties to which it accedes and ensures the promotion and protection of human rights in all domains.

The Government’s reply of 28 August 2020 to communication UA SAU 10/2020 of 1 July 2020 contains an answer to question 3. It states that Saudi Arabia has paid due regard to the full range of considerations that have a bearing on this individual’s case, including the provisions of article 3 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

The joint letter indicates that the police arrested this individual because he was an undocumented migrant and that he was subsequently charged with committing criminal offences. As already explained in the Government’s previous reply, this man was arrested for committing offences that are punishable under the laws of Saudi Arabia. Hence, the fact that he entered the country illegally and was living there illegally has nothing to do with his arrest.

2. Please provide detailed information as to how comprehensive individual risk assessments are carried out by relevant Saudi authorities, both in terms of procedural safeguards and analysis of the country of return situation, so as to ensure that individuals will not be subjected to violations of their fundamental rights in transit or upon return.

As already stated, Saudi Arabia complies with the human rights treaties to which it accedes, including article 3 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. A determination was made as to the risks to which this person would be subjected in the event of his return to his country of origin and the level of such risks, and procedures and safeguards were put in place to prevent any violation of his fundamental rights.

The national Human Rights Commission visited him while he was being held in prison with a view to: ensuring that the prevailing laws and regulations relating to human rights were being applied properly in this case; uncovering any unlawful human rights violations and taking the necessary legal action to deal with them in accordance with article 5/1 of the Code; and investigating allegations raised in this case in keeping with article 5/7 of the Code. The Commission determined that the proper procedures were being followed in line with the relevant laws and regulations. At interview, this individual expressed the desire to leave for any other country except his own.

3. Please provide information on the safeguards that are in place and the measures taken to protect the life and the physical and psychological integrity of Mr. [redacted] and in particular on the measures considered to prevent his deportation or transfer to a place where his personal security and integrity may be at risk.

This man was afforded his full legal rights and all the safeguards provided for by law during his time in prison. This ensured the protection of his physical and psychological integrity. Moreover, he was continuously monitored by the national Human Rights Commission.

He left Saudi Arabia bound for [redacted] at 3.10 a.m. precisely on Wednesday A.H. 5/7/1442 (17 February 2021), departing from King Khalil International Airport. This arrangement was made in coordination with the Office of the United Nations High
Commission for Refugees, which thanked all the relevant Saudi authorities for facilitating his departure from Saudi Arabia.

It is thus clear that the State took several steps to deal with this case in accordance with the law and in keeping with its commitments under the human rights treaties to which it is a party.