



Ref: 413/ 1827

Date: 2 March 2023

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants; the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children; the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, and would like to refer to the latter's joint communication ref: AL SAU 9L2022 dated 3 October 2022. The Permanent Mission has the honor to attach herewith the reply of the Saudi Government on the aforementioned communication.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, , the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants; the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children; the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls the assurance of its highest consecration.



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The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia takes the allegations set forth in your letter of 3 October 2022 seriously.

Saudi Arabia and the Coalition States remain deeply committed to the protection of civilians, and civilian objects, and to strictly observing the special rules that apply to women and children. Rules of Engagement are in place to ensure that all Coalition military operations comply with international humanitarian law. The Rules of Engagement expressly forbid the targeting of civilians and civilian objects. As always, Saudi Arabia stands ready, without reservation, to work with the United Nations to find additional ways to enhance the protection of civilians and civilian objects in the conflict in Yemen.

Saudi Arabia's border security regulations ensure humane treatment in accordance with international standards. Individuals who enter the Kingdom illegally are provided food and a medical exam. Anyone who requires medical attention promptly receives it. No form of mistreatment or torture is tolerated.

Saudi Arabia categorically refutes the suggestion, as is stated in the 3 October letter, that there is "a systematic pattern of large-scale, indiscriminate cross-border killings ... by Saudi security forces against migrants, including refugees and asylum seekers, and victims of trafficking." Your letter does not include the times, dates, locations, or details of specific incidents; nor does it contain information or evidence that substantiates the allegations and demonstrates Saudi Arabia's alleged responsibility. It is claimed that the allegations occurred over a four-month period within a geographically large area. Based on the limited information provided, authorities within the Kingdom have discovered no information or evidence to confirm or substantiate the allegations. My Government is committed to ensuring comprehensive and timely investigations of the allegations upon receiving additional information and evidence that would make such investigations possible. We hope to receive your cooperation in this regard.

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