



2025/0123844/5

الوفد الدائم لدولة قطر / جنيف



Subject: Joint Communication from Special Procedures (AL QAT 1/2025) – transmitting a Follow-up Letter addressed by the Competent Authorities in the State of Qatar

The Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Special Procedures Branch - Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva, and has the honor to follow-up on its Verbal note 99425/5 dated September 18th 2025 to transmit the official response received from the competent authorities in the State of Qatar, addressed to the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights; the Special Rapporteur on minority issues and the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief.

The Permanent Mission is pleased to attach herewith the Letter (+ attachments – Annexes (1) & (2)), as received from the competent authorities in the State of Qatar, addressed to the above-mentioned respective mandate holders.

An unofficial translation of the attached letter into English is attached.

The Permanent Mission would be grateful if the Special Procedures Branch of the OHCHR could kindly confirm receipt of the attached document and send the confirmation to the following email address: geneva@mofa.gov.qa

The Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations Office at Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Special Procedures Branch - Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva, the assurances of its highest consideration.



Enclosures:

- The letter addressed to the respective mandate holders + attachments (Annexes (1) & (2)).
- Unofficial Translation of the letter into English

Officer-in-charge - Special Procedures Branch
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva

Email: ohchr-registry@un.org

Cc: hrc-wg-ad@un.org ; hrc-sr-culturalrights@un.org; hrc-sr-minorityissues@un.org; hrc-sr-freedomofreligion@un.org ;
hrc-sr-freedex@un.org hrc-sr-freeassembly@un.org

الوفد الدائم لدولة قطر لدى مكتب الأمم المتحدة في جنيف
Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations in Geneva



2025/0099423/5

الوفد الدائم لدولة قطر / حنيف



دولة قطر
State of Qatar



Subject: Joint Communication from Special Procedures (AL QAT 1/2025) – Response of the State of Qatar

The Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Special Procedures Branch - Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva, and has the honor to refer to the latter's note AL QAT 1/2025 dated June 23rd 2025, concerning the joint communication sent by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights; the Special Rapporteur on minority issues and the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief.

The Permanent Mission also refers to its Verbal Note No. 87651/5, dated 21 August 2025, by which a request was submitted to extend, by one additional month, the deadline for response to the aforementioned joint communication, in order to allow the relevant authorities in the State of Qatar sufficient time to review and respond comprehensively to the information and inquiries contained therein. (*copy attached for ease reference*).

In response to the above-mentioned joint communication, the Permanent Mission is pleased to attach herewith the official response received from the competent authorities in the State of Qatar, which is addressed to the respective mandate holders.

An unofficial translation of the attached letter into English is attached.

The Permanent Mission would be grateful if the Special Procedures Branch of the OHCHR could kindly confirm receipt of the attached document and send the confirmation to the following email address: geneva@mofa.gov.qa

The Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations Office at Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Enclosures:

- The letter addressed to the respective mandate holders + attachments.
- Unofficial Translation of the letter into English

Geneva, September 18th 2025



Officer-in-charge - Special Procedures Branch

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva

Email: ohchr-registry@un.org

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Working Group on Arbitrary Detention,
Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights,
Special Rapporteur on minority issues,
Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief,

Excellencies,

Following up on our previous correspondence and referring to your joint communication regarding Mr. Remy Rowhani (Ref. AL/QAT/1/2025), we hereby inform you that Mr. Rowhani has appealed the verdict delivered against him under Criminal Appeal [REDACTED] exercising his right as stipulated by the Criminal Procedure Code to submit additional defense before the competent appellate court.

Consequently, the Court of Appeal held a public hearing at its seat on 30/09/2025 and ruled, in adversarial proceedings, declaring the appeal admissible in form and on the merits, annulling the appealed judgment and ruling anew to acquit the appellant Remy Masihullah Mohammed Rowhani of the charges brought against him. (Attachment 1)

The Public Prosecution filed an appeal in cassation against the appellate ruling, submitting, firstly, that the appeal in cassation be declared admissible in form and, secondly, on the merits, that the appellate ruling be quashed insofar as it acquitted the accused, and the case be retried. On 14/10/2025, the Court of Cassation ruled to dismiss the appeal filed by the Public Prosecution. (Attachment 2)

We reaffirm the content of our previous letter, namely that the judicial system of the State of Qatar attaches paramount importance to the principle of judicial independence and impartiality and ensures that the laws are applied fairly and impartially to all individuals, without discrimination, irrespective of their nationality, religion, or social backgrounds. We also reaffirm that all legal guarantees due to all parties in criminal cases are respected, whether before the courts or during investigations by the Public Prosecution.

The State of Qatar emphasizes that all detention procedures have been conducted in accordance with the relevant national laws and international conventions, within clear and transparent judicial procedures that guarantee the right to legal counsel and the right to challenge the legality of detention before the judiciary.

In this context, we reiterate our firm commitment to the obligations incumbent upon the State of Qatar under international human rights law, and our determination to effectively implement relevant domestic laws and international treaties. Furthermore, we highlight the esteem held for human rights and freedom of belief, and stress Qatar's ongoing commitment to their promotion and protection.

The State of Qatar again expresses its appreciation for the efforts of the Working Group and special rapporteurs in supporting and enhancing the principles of human rights, and reiterates the importance of positive and constructive engagement with the inquiries and observations raised in this regard, reflecting its approach based on transparency, international cooperation, and its firm commitment to its international human rights obligations.