



Urgent statement

Human rights organizations signatories to this statement gravely condemns the arbitrary arrest of the Secretary General of the Islamic National Consensus Movement and Secretary of the Council of Islamic-Christian Relations, Mr. Zuhair Abdul Hadi Al Mahmeed, on August 15th, 2015, without taking into account the priorities of the human rights principles, starting from the violation of the sanctity of his home and storming it in a violent manner without the permission of the public prosecutor, and then subjecting him to threats during the investigation to extract confessions by force, and brutally torturing him after his denial of the alleged charges made against him in the case 55/2015, in addition to preventing the lawyers from attending the investigations of the public prosecutor and visiting him (except for one time) despite the fact that they had the required legal authorization, as well as preventing his family from visiting him and be reassured for his wellbeing.

Mr. Zuhair Abdul Hadi Al Mahmeed was transferred to prison without taking into account his health and age circumstances, and he was placed in a solitary cell in the prison without even light, although he suffers several diseases, including cardiovascular sclerosis and high cholesterol, enlarged aorta, dilation of blood vessels, and inflammation of cervical and lumbar bones and cartilages.

The Secretary General of the Islamic National Consensus Movement suffered torture and degrading treatment at a time when many people

attest to how the Islamic National Consensus Movement contributes to the building and the renaissance of Kuwait through its public conferences and valuable researches published in service of the nation's issues.

The thirteenth Annual Consensus Conference was scheduled to be held on 28-29/12/2015, in the State of Kuwait, under the title of "Your brother either in religion or in creation."

We as Arab human rights associations, appeal the Kuwaiti authorities to release the Secretary General of the Islamic National Consensus Movement and his 26 co-defendants arrested in this case the, and stop the torture, coercion, and ill-treatment out of respect for justice and its basic principle of "innocent until proven guilty", and intensify investigations in the Malicious charges that were attached to them..

We also call on the Kuwaiti judiciary to use integrity and justice to reveal the facts and the release of detainees with respect after verifying their innocence to avoid filing a complaint against the state of Kuwait to the Commission of Arbitrary Detention and the Committee of Torture in the United Nations.

We call upon the State of Kuwait to enable the lawyers to visit the defendants freely, and allow the defendants families the same privilege, as well as the doctors, to examine the defendants and follow their health conditions.

Tunisia, September, 6th, 2015.

The undersigned organizations:

1. The Arab Commission for Human Rights / Paris
2. Amman Center for Human Rights Studies/Amman
3. Civil Alliance of Peace and the Protection of Rights and Freedoms
/ Yemen
4. Safety Net for the Rehabilitation and Defense of Human Rights /
Lebanon
5. The Legal Center of Rights and Development / Yemen
6. Environment and Social Development Center / Syria
7. The Arab Coalition Against the Death Penalty
8. Legal House Foundation / Yemen
9. Oman Forum for Human Rights Society
10. Justice for Human Rights Association / Yemen.
11. Lawyers without Borders Organization / Yemen
12. Balance Association for the Development of Human Rights / Iraq
13. April 27 Organization for Rights and Freedoms / Yemen
14. Jordan Network Against the Death Penalty
15. Islamic Team for Peace / Iraq
16. Aid Association for Human Rights / Yemen
17. Yemen Organization for Defending Rights and Democratic
Freedoms

- 18.The Arabic Network for Human Rights Trainers
- 19.Damascus Center for Theoretical Studies and Civil Rights
- 20.Mauritanian Association for the promotion of rights
- 21.Tunisian Association for the Rehabilitation of prisoners

C.A. DROITS HUMAINS

5 Rue Gambetta - 92240 Malakoff – France

E. mail: **achr@noos.fr** / web: **www.achr.eu**