



THURSDAY, 11th JULY 2019

RE: A REQUEST FOR AN URGENT CONFERENCE TO REVEAL THE NEW ERA OF KUWAITI AUTHORITY IN VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

To Whom it May Concern,

On the 30th November 2018, the UHO has led a campaign against restrictive laws through posters, leaflets, electronic communications and publications. The UHO published a study on the political asylum of Kuwaitis (*Document No. UHFCS02*).

On the 12th February 2019, the UHO handed a petition to the current speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly, Mr Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanim, to speak about laws restricting freedoms and ending the phenomenon of Kuwaiti asylum seekers in foreign countries.

On the 15th March 2019, I, the Chancellor of the UHO, met with British MP, Mr Gareth Thomas. I reviewed the file of 'liberties in Kuwait' with him, and its decline in the country as well as the number of Kuwaitis seeking political asylum being prominent and unprecedented as a result of unclear laws which are contrary to the Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

On the 5th May 2019, the UHO issued a report entitled "*Exporting Refugees: Documenting Key Developments Related to the Phenomenon of Kuwaiti Asylum Seekers*" (*Document No. UHO28041901*).

The report reviewed the most prominent charges against activists for their convictions, based on loose laws, which are five, according to the report.

The report stressed the continued narrowing of the authorities on the right to freedom of expression and that Kuwait has adopted a policy of an iron fist against the popular oppositional voices in the country since 2011.

Despite the legislative imbalance in the laws of freedom, the report highlights the continuous discrimination of Kuwaiti judiciary in dealing with cases.

With regard to political refugees, the report pointed out that most of the defendants in their natural rights, such as the right to freedom of opinion and expression, seek to exercise another right,

namely, the right to asylum and to escape from the grip of power; they have no political punishment; and others voluntarily emigrate after losing hope of reform.

On the 9th July 2019, the UHO established a petition on its website to urge activists around the world to sign it to push international actors to withdraw the title of ‘Humanitarian Action Leader’ and ‘the Humanitarian Action Center for Kuwait’ and its Emir, after the suicide of a young stateless (Bidoon) on 8th July 2019, due to a lack of decent living conditions.

On the basis of all this, and with the Kuwaiti authorities continuing to violate the rights of religious activists, politicians, journalists, expatriate workers, women, and the stateless, we believe that an emergency conference should be held and will be the first of its kind to expose flagrant violations of the government of Kuwait, and focus more specifically on the phenomenon of Kuwaiti political asylum seekers and the voluntary emigration of others to other countries.

Sincerely,



Mohammad Al-Mail
Chancellor of the Upper Hand Organization