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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS FOLLOWING MOHAMAD AL-MAIL'S ARREST

(462501)

London, 24 March 2025 – The Upper Hand Organization reports that its Chancellor, Mohamad Al-Mail, was arrested on 21 September 2024 following a speech at a pro-Palestine demonstration. Initially detained under the Public Order Act 1986 in front of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) headquarters at Portland Place, he was later re-arrested under the Terrorism Act 2000. A search of his home, conducted under the authority of Section 18 of PACE, resulted in the seizure of a phone, a book, a banner, and a megaphone; the process took over half an hour.

Al-Mail was represented by Tasnime Akunjee during his interview with counter-terrorism officers. He spent 24 hours in custody before being released on bail, which included a prohibition on attending the weekly protest at Swiss Cottage organized by the Jewish Anti-Zionist Network (IJAN) and a requirement to report to the police station on a designated date.

Following the arrest, the Upper Hand Organization established a special committee to support its Chancellor, Mohamad Al-Mail. This initiative was undertaken with assistance from CAGE International, an organization that aims to empower communities impacted by the War on Terror. On 25 September 2024, CAGE met with Al-Mail and a caseworker from the Upper Hand Organization to address the challenges faced by Al-Mail and strategize on how to effectively advocate for his rights.

On 14 January 2025, the police officially confirmed that no further action (NFA) would be taken by the Counter-Terrorism team regarding the terrorism allegations that had been under investigation. This decision marked a significant turning point in the case, indicating that the evidence gathered did not warrant any additional legal proceedings. Subsequently, on 23 March 2025, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) also reached a conclusion, deciding to take no further action regarding the Public Order

offense associated with the same events. With both the police and the CPS opting not to pursue the matter any further, the case is now officially closed, bringing an end to a period of uncertainty and speculation surrounding the allegations.

While the CPS's decision is welcomed, the Upper Hand Organization will initiate a special investigation into the circumstances surrounding these events due to concerns regarding the integrity of the arrest and the possibility of misguided incitement. Collaboration with legal experts will occur to evaluate the available evidence and determine the appropriate course of action, given the serious concerns regarding the interpretation of speech in a society that claims to uphold 'democratic values.'

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