

To: Minister of Justice, Faisal Saeed Al-Ghareeb
Council of Ministers General Secretariat
Al-Safat 13014
P.O. Box 1397
Kuwait

Groningen, 2024

Your Excellency,

I am alarmed by the news that on 31 January 2024, an Appeals Court sentenced Mohammad al-Barghash, the Head of the National Bloc of Kuwaiti Bidun, to three years imprisonment on charges that include "spreading false news" after he conducted an interview with a foreign broadcasting channel discussing the situation of the stateless Bidun community in Kuwait.

Mohammad al-Bargash was detained on 3 September 2023. On 25 October, a criminal court acquitted him, and he was released after spending over seven weeks in detention. However, the prosecution appealed the decision.

I urge you to immediately and unconditionally drop the charges against Mohammad al-Barghash, as they are based solely on his expression of his opinion and quash his conviction and sentence.

Yours sincerely,