

I would like to express my deep concern about the enforced disappearance of two Qatari nationals. They are Yousif Abdulsamad Abdulghani al-Mullah, 30, and Hamad Ali Mohammad al-Hamadi, 33. Officials from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) detained them on 27 June on the UAE's western border with Saudi Arabia. The UAE has subjected them to enforced disappearance, since they have withheld information about the men's fate from their families. Both men are at risk of torture or other ill-treatment.

Would you please remind that the UN Commission on Human Rights has stated that "prolonged incommunicado detention may facilitate the perpetration of torture and can in itself constitute a form of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment" or even torture?

I, therefore, urge you to disclose the whereabouts of Yousif Abdulsamad Abdulghani al-Mullah and Hamad Ali Mohammad al-Hamadi to their families and explain the legal basis for detaining them.

I also urge you to publicly guarantee that both men will be protected from torture and other ill-treatment and ensure that they are given prompt access to lawyers of their choice, and any medical attention they may require.

Last but not least, I urge you to ensure that the men are promptly charged with a recognizably criminal offence or else released.

Thank you very much for your prompt attention to this.

Sincerely yours,