Dr. Yassin Taher al-Yassiri

Minister of Interior

Al-Kailan neighbourhood behind Al-Shaab Stadium

Baghdad

Iraq

E-mail: infor@moi.gov.iq

February 2020

Your Excellency,

On 8 October 2019, lawyer **Ali Jaseb Hattab al-Heliji** received a call from a woman, a prospective client, asking to meet for work in a central area of Ammarah in al-Mayssan governorate. Shortly after they met, armed men suspected of belonging to the Popular Mobilization Units (PMU) dragged him away from his car and drove him away. Two days before this ambush, armed men from the PMU threatened to kill **Ali al Heliji** if he did not stop speaking out about protesters' killings on Facebook. Members of the PMU also threatened his relatives when they attempted to report the incident.

I call on you to urgently use all resources at your disposal to find **Ali Jaseb Hattab al-Heliji** and secure his safe release, immediately investigate his abduction as an enforced disappearance, in accordance with Iraq's obligations under international human rights law, and to keep his family informed of developments on a regular basis.

I am kindly awaiting your reply.

Yours sincerely,