Shaikh Hamad bin ‘Issa Al Khalifa

Office of His Majesty the King

P.O. Box 555

Rifa’a Palace, al-Manama

Bahrain

Your Majesty:

I write to you with grave concern for Ali Mohamed al-Showaikh, a Bahraini citizen arrested at Bahrain International Airport after deportation from the Netherlands.

For more than ten weeks following his arrest, Mr. al-Showaikh was held without access to an attorney. There are strong reasons to fear he has been subjected to ill-treatment. Furthermore, there is no clear justification for his arrest and detainment.

I respectfully request that you release Ali Mohamed al-Showaikh unless he is promptly charged before a court with a recognizable criminal offense in accordance with international law and standards. I ask you to grant him immediate and unimpeded access to his lawyer, provide him with adequate facilities to prepare a defense, and ensure that he is protected from torture and other ill-treatment pending his release.

Yours sincerely,