



# Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain

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April 25, 2013

Mr. Thomas Burrows  
Senior Counsel for Multilateral Matters  
Office of International Affairs  
US Department of Justice  
1301 New York Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Burrows:

RE: IAP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER ALI BIN FADHEL AL-BUAINAIN

We write to express our concern regarding recent allegations of misconduct committed by Bahrain's Attorney General, Dr. Ali bin Fadhel Al-Buainain, an Executive Committee member of the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP). As a member of the IAP Executive Committee, we also ask that you support calls for an investigation to be conducted through the IAP Complaints Protocol.

According to a recent report published by Ceartas-Irish Lawyers for Human Rights (enclosed), Dr. Al-Buainain, as Attorney General of Bahrain, continues to prosecute individuals for exercising their rights to free speech, expression, and association; has overseen prosecutions in which due process has been denied to defendants; and the office of Public Prosecution, which falls under his direction, has failed to investigate allegations of torture and abuse, thereby fostering a culture of impunity. These allegations, which have also been documented by several other well-respected human rights organizations, call into question the professional conduct of the Attorney General of Bahrain and his commitment to international human rights law.

Since its establishment by the United Nations in 1995, the IAP has played an important role in promoting prosecution standards and human rights internationally. However, Dr. Al-Buainain's prominent position as member of IAP's Executive Committee undermines the association's reputation, given the serious allegations of human rights violations against him.

We therefore call upon you to endorse the complaint recently submitted by IAP member Toby Cadman through the IAP Complaints Protocol. Endorsing the complaint will allow the association to formally investigate Dr. Al-Buainain to determine whether his alleged conduct is at odds with the objectives and protocols of the IAP, as well as international human rights standards.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



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Husain Abdulla, Director  
Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain

Enclosure

cc: Mr. James Hamilton, IAP, The Hague  
Ms. Elizabeth Howe, IAP, The Hague  
Mr. Derk Kuipers, IAP, The Hague