Military Judge Advocate

General Brigadier General Sharon Afek

Hakirya, Tel Aviv,Israel

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Dear Judge Advocate General:

I am writing to express my grave concern about the case of **Mohammad Faisal Abu Sakha**. He has been held by the Israeli authorities without charge or trial for nearly a year. His current period of administrative detention will end on 12 December.

The High Court of Israel accepted to review his case but, in a 5 December hearing, his lawyer decided to withdraw the petition after the judges indicated that they believed there was enough “evidence” in a secret file to justify his detention.

Mohammad Faisal Abu Sakha and his lawyer are unable to review this evidence, and are therefore unable to prepare a defence. **This violates a central tenet of fair trials.** The judges indicated to Mohammad Faisal Abu Sakha’s lawyer that they considered that the material contained within the file was enough to justify the ISA’s contention that Mohammad Faisal Abu Sakha posed a “threat to the security of the state of Israel”, despite there being no new material in the file since December 2015.

Amnesty International fears that the Israeli authorities – as they have done in many other such cases – are using administrative detention as a method of punishing Mohammad Faisal Abu Sakha without prosecuting him, which would amount to **arbitrary detention**.

In light of the above, I call on you to:

* release Mohammad Faisal Abu Sakha and all other administrative detainees or charge them with a recognizable criminal offence and try them fairly and promptly;
* end the practice of administrative detention.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Yours sincerely,