



July 30, 2019

To: Department of State Secretary

Re: Morocco systematic crackdown, Human rights violations in Occupied Western Sahara

Dear Mr. Secretary,

We are writing to you to draw your attention to the ongoing violent and dangerous series of deadly crackdowns. By Moroccan security forces, since 19th of July 2019 in the illegally Moroccan - occupied - territories of Western Sahara.

This latest wave of brutal repression by Moroccan occupation was committed against Sahrawi civilians while trying to peacefully celebrate Algeria's victory at the African Cup of Nations. This is yet another example of the profound restriction and sheer cruelty of Morocco's occupation.

The increasing violence, crackdown, and systematic human rights violations committed by the Moroccan occupying forces against the vulnerable Sahrawi's have led to numerous cases of deaths and serious injuries. The latest victim of such atrocities is Sabah Othman Ahmida, 23 years old English teacher who was hit by a Moroccan auxiliary force vehicle leaving her dead.

The Sahrawi Association in the USA (SAUSA) is deeply concerned about the recent development in the Occupied Territory of Western Sahara and condemn the lack of accountability and progress in the U.N. peace process to put an end to Morocco occupation of Africa's last colony Western Sahara.

Attached you find SAUSA report documenting the recent crackdown by the Moroccan police¹.

¹ Link to SAUSA report : <https://www.scribd.com/document/420139445/Moroccan-Oppression-in-Western-Sahara-Violent-Crack-Down-and-Unjustified-Bloodshed>



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This situation is dire and in need of your immediate attention and action. We at SAUSA, affirm our position and urge you to engage and take part in the protection of the Sahrawi citizens by:

1. The immediate release of the detainees
2. Immediate launch of an impartial investigation into the death of Sabah
3. The need to extend the MINURSO mandate to include the monitoring and reporting of Human rights violations
4. SAUSA urge the State Department direct involvement by enforcing the rule of law and individual rights by standing for the people of Western Sahara freedoms of speech, the press, and their rights to assemble peaceably and by
5. pressuring the kingdom of Morocco to put an end to its oppression.
6. Pressure the United Nations to put an end to Moroccan occupation of Western Sahara.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We are happy to work with you to provide further information.

Respectfully

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CC: **White House,**
State Department,
Congress Human rights Commission