To: Mr Stephen Cockburn

Head of Economic and Social Justice

Amnesty International

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## Re: Abuse of migrant workers on the Al Bayt Stadium Project

With reference to your letter dated 22nd May 2020 Ref: TG MDE 22.2020.007, addressed to His Excellency Mr Yousef bin Mohamed Al-Othman Fakhro - Minister of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs, please find below the response received by the embassy from the Ministry to the questions raised in your letter:

- 1 When did the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs become aware of the situation affecting Qatar Meta Coats workers, and what actions were taken to investigate the treatment of workers, provide assistance and remedy?
- A report of the violation was issued against the company after the first delay in paying the salaries in October 2019.
- 2 What actions have been or will be taken to ensure affected workers are able to receive their unpaid wages and remedy (including compensation) for the abuses committed against them? And what is the timeframe for such compensation?
- The company pledged to pay the full wages in the first week of June 2020.
- 3 Could you provide any information about whether Qatar's Wage Protection System identified the repeated failure of Qatar Meta Coasts to pay its workers in full and on time, and whether this triggered further action and if so, what?

- A Report of the violation was issued in October 2019 followed by several other reports the last of which was in June 2020.
- The company was banned in October 2019 immediately after the delay in the payments of salaries was discovered.
- **4** Are the Labour Disputes Resolution Committee still operating during the pandemic and when do you expect the workers' cases to be reviewed and their judgement issued?
- The work of the Labour Disputes Resolution Committee is being done remotely at the present time, this in addition to the work of the competent department receiving workers' complaints.
- 5 Could you provide any details on actions taken against Qatar Meta Coats after the company failed to pay its workers?
- As mentioned in response to question No 3, a report of the violation was issued in October 2019 followed by several other reports the last of which was in June 2020 and the company was banned in October 2019 immediately after the delay in the payments of salaries was discovered.
- 6 Could you provide details of any action that was taken in relation to the main contractor on this project, the Galfar Al Misnad Engineering and Contracting W.L.L Salini Impreglio S.p.A Cimolai S.p.A Joint Venture (GSIC-JV)?
- No action was taken against the main contractor as he was not responsible for the workers of the offending company.
- 7 What actions have been implemented to date to prevent repetition of such labour abuses and what explanation can you provide as to why, despite all measures introduced to date, migrant workers continue to face the same abuses?

• The Ministry is keen to prevent any violations against workers. All legal measures are being taken against the violating companies. If there are some violations, they are very few and are in accordance to the rates found in most countries of the world and are being dealt with and addressed as quickly as possible.