**From: place, date:**

 **To:**
Home Secretary
Shaikh Rashid bin ‘Abdullah Al Khalifa
P.O. Box 13, al-Manama
BAHRAIN

**Concerning the Case of Osama al-Tamimi**

Your Excellency

On 6 August 2019, following his arrest by the authorities, former Bahraini parliamentarian, Osama Jaber Muhana Al-Tamimi, suffered a stroke and was taken to Salmaniya Medical Complex. After his release, he discharged himself from hospital to seek private treatment.

On 11 August 2019, Osama al-Tamimi was released by the Criminal Investigations Directorate (CID). In the early hours of 16 August, he attempted to leave Bahrain to Oman with his family. The authorities at Bahrain International Airport prevented them from travelling, citing a travel ban imposed by the public prosecution as investigations into fraud allegations were still ongoing. The same day, while he was receiving private medical treatment, police surrounded his home and served him with summons to appear at the al-Hoora police station. On 18 August, Al-Tamimi attended the summons accompanied by his lawyer. As his health deteriorated, he was not interrogated, and he was immediately transferred by ambulance to hospital again. Since then, he has suffered kidney failure for which he is now undergoing dialysis in a private clinic. His home is permanently under surveillance by members of the State Security who have been harassing members of his family. Police detained him again on 29 August after checking out of a medical clinic, citing that he would be interrogated by a forgery expert. He was released the next day. Amnesty International has strong reasons to believe that his investigation by the CID on fraud allegation could be politically motivated.

We call on you to order a halt to the harassment of Osama al-Tamimi and his family and to guarantee that pending his trial, his due process rights are respected in line with international standards of fair trials. We also urge you to lift the travel ban imposed on him if he requires specialist medical treatment abroad.

Yours sincerely,