**Abs: Ort, Datum:**

**An:**Mr. Abdul Haq Wasiq

Director of Intelligence

General Directorate of Intelligence

Chaharahi Zanbaq

Kabul

AFGHANISTAN

Dear Mr. Abdul Haq Wasiq,

I am writing to express my concern about the arbitrary arrest of education activist Matiullah Wesa. Founder and head of PenPath, a civil society movement of 3000 volunteers who have been promoting the right to education in Afghanistan, Wesa has been exercising his rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.

As you may be aware, Wesa was arrested by members of the Taliban’s General Directorate of Intelligence (GDI) on 27 March 2023, while returning home from prayers in Kabul. I have been further alarmed to learn that the GDI raided Wesa’s house the next day. In addition to confiscating his laptop and mobile, they detained his brothers for several hours for exposing Wesa’s arrest to the media and reaching out to the international community.

I call on you to:

* Immediately and unconditionally release Matiullah Wesa.
* Respect the Convention against Discrimination in Education by immediately allowing girls of all ages to attend school and receive education on an equal basis with boys.
* Immediately stop abductions, arbitrary detentions, and torture of those who peacefully campaign for the right to education.

Yours sincerely,