



Téléfax: (41-22) 917 90 18
Télégrammes: UNATIONS, GENEVE
Téléc: 41 29 62
Téléphone: (41-22) 928 89 477
Internet www.ohchr.org
E-mail: nahmed@ohchr.org



Address:
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 GENEVE 10

22 December 2010

Dear Dr. Ebadi,

I am writing on behalf of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Navanethem Pillay, currently away from Geneva, to thank you for your letter of 20 December 2010 regarding the situation of Ms. Nasrin Sotoudeh.

As you would be aware, on 23 November 2010, the High Commissioner issued a public statement highlighting concerns with the situation of human rights defenders and lawyers in Iran, with specific reference to the case of Ms. Sotoudeh. We are also continuing our direct dialogue with the authorities in this regard.

The recent judicial colloquium conducted by OHCHR in Tehran on 1 and 2 December was a further opportunity for our Office to have direct engagement with the judiciary of Iran on issues of concern including lack of fair trial procedures, particularly in political cases, as well as on the ongoing restriction and harassment of lawyers, journalists and human rights defenders. My colleagues raised the case of Ms. Sotoudeh in their discussions with their Iranian counterparts.

Relevant Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council have also intervened with the Iranian authorities in the case of Ms. Sotoudeh. Please be assured that the Office will continue to follow her case, and will take appropriate steps to reiterate our concerns to the attention of the Iranian authorities.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Kang'.

Kyung-wha Kang
Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights

Dr. Shirin Ebadi
Human Rights Advocate and
2003 Nobel Laureate