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H.E. Mohammed Ameur Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to Belgium and Luxembourg

H.E. Jean Paul Cavaliéri Representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Morocco

Melilla, 30 October 2018

We, Members of the European Parliament, are currently in a mission of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) of the European Parliament to the enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla to assess the security at the border and respect for human rights in the reception of migrants and asylum seekers.

We are writing to you regarding a case we came across this morning at the Asylum Office at Beni-Enzar border.

We have met Ms Samiha Hader, a Syrian national from Homs, who crossed the border last Friday, with a 3 years old son. However, her husband, Mr Yasser Abdelazziz Naqro, was forced to stay in Morocco territory with three other sons of the couple, Hardra Naqro, 18 years old, Khalid Naqro, 17 years old, and Raaf Naqro, 13 years old. They are staying at the Hotel Markasi, near the border.

Mr Naqro and his three sons may now being urged to pay bribes to Moroccan border officials to be allowed to reunite with Ms Hader and the other son in Spanish territory.

We ask your endeavours to ensure that these six Syrian nationals, who obviously qualify to be given refugee status, are urgently allowed to reach the Spanish border and reunite the whole family in Spain without having to pay any bribe.

We would appreciate to be informed of any developments regarding this family.

Ana Gomes (S&D, Portugal, Head of the EP delegation to Ceuta and Melilla)

Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz (ALDE, Spain)

Marina Albiol Guzmán (GUE/NGL, Spain)

Florent Marcellesi (Greens/EFA, Spain)

Juan Fernando López Aguilar (S&D, Spain)

cc: Claudia Wiedey, Head of the EU Delegation to Morocco Vicent Piket, Head of Division Maghreb, European External Action Service (EEAS) Simon Mordue, Deputy Director-General at the Directorate-General of Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) of the European Commission