



**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUDGES  
UNION INTERNATIONALE DES MAGISTRATS  
UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE MAGISTRADOS  
INTERNATIONALE VEREINIGUNG DER RICHTER  
UNIONE INTERNAZIONALE DEI MAGISTRATI**

**PALAZZO DI GIUSTIZIA - PIAZZA CAVOUR - 00193 ROMA - ITALY**

## **STATEMENT OF THE ASIAN, AUSTRALIAN, NORTH AMERICAN**

### **AND OCEANIA REGION (ANAO)**

#### **OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUDGES (IAJ)**

#### **EXPRESSING ITS CONCERN FOR THE WELL-BEING OF MEMBERS OF THE YEMENI JUDICIARY**

It has come to the attention of the International Association of Judges and the ANAO Region which would include Yemen that a member of the Yemeni Judges Club has recently been removed from his home to whereabouts unknown and may be in jeopardy. It appears that Judge Abdul Wahab Qatran was taken into custody and is being held at an unknown location. The members of his family do not know where he is, and fear for his safety.

The International Association of Judges is a non-partisan, international organization founded in Salzburg in 1953, and is dedicated to the promotion of the independence of the judiciary and the preservation of the rule of law. The IAJ speaks to the core principle that judges must be able to exercise the powers of their office free from fear of interference or reprisal.

It is our profound hope that the government of Yemen will take steps to guarantee and protect the fundamental principles of judicial independence and the rule of law. We call upon the members of the International Community within Yemen and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on independence of judges and lawyers to also direct their efforts to addressing this situation.

**DUORO SESSA, PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JUDGES**

**ALLYSON DUNCAN, PRESIDENT, ASIAN, AUSTRALIAN, NORTH AMERICAN AND OCEANIA REGION**

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