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Excellency,

As the permanent UN Representative of CIVICUS-The world Alliance of Citizen Participation, I write to bring to your attention the following case for your urgent intervention. I am deeply concerned about the arbitrary arrest of Mr. **Adilur Rahman Khan**, Secretary of Odhikar, an organization in Consultative Status with ECOSOC (Special) and a member of CIVICUS, in General Consultative Status.

According to the information I received, Adilur Rahman Khan was picked up 10.20 pm on August 10, 2013 and taken to DB custody in Minto Road, Dhaka. He was picked up in front of his house at Gulshan, upon returning from a relative's house with his wife and children. The Odhikar office and his home are situated in the same building.

The men who picked him up were in plain clothes and said they were from the Detective Branch office. They had no warrant to arrest him. The detectives, who brought a white microbus apparently belonging to the United Commercial Bank and a blue and silver coloured mitsubishi pajero, asked Mr. Adilur Rahman Khan to follow them.

Reportedly, Mr. Rahman Khan was brought to the headquarters of the police DB in Dhaka. The Dhaka Metropolitan Police subsequently confirmed the arrest to the media, adding that Mr. Adilur Rahman Khan has been arrested under the Information and Communication Technology Act. The arrest was allegedly made on the basis of a general diary filed by the police with Gulshan Police Station, in relation to the report prepared by Odhikar about the killing of 61 people during an operation carried out on May 5, 2013.

Odhikar defenders went to the Gulshan Police Station at 2:00 am on 11 August, where the police present denied having any case against him and claimed that they learnt of his arrest from the media. The Government claims that he has been 'arrested'. However, there was no prior warning or warrant for his arrest. We are very concerned that Adilur Rahman Khan may be taken into remand, where he may face torture or other forms of cruel and degrading treatment.

Excellency,

Unfortunately, this very moment we heard that the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) Court has Given Adilur Rahman Khan 5 days remand. We reiterate our plea for your urgent intervention on behalf of Adilur Rahman Khan who only fights for human rights and the justice of the people.

With highest esteem and consideration,

Sincerely,



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