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DJEP-DCU CAAT JR (MULTIUSER)

From: Bell Edward (ITEC) <Edward.Bell@bis.gsi.gov.uk>
Sent: 29 July 2016 14:43
To: Cheeseman Clare (LEGAL:B)
Subject: FW: [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE] URGENT - Further advice on Saudi Arabia
Attachments: Submission - further advice on export licensing for Saudi Arabia 10 Feb.doc; 160208 Arms exports to Saudi Arabia.pdf; CAAT Initial Advice Fina Draft 1050 AS SENT TO GLD.PDF; CAAT Revised draft to PAP letter - clean version 9.docx

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Clare

This is the email I was referring to.

Jward

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The Export Control Joint Unit brings together operational and policy expertise from the Export Control Organisation, FCO and MOD to promote global security through strategic export controls and facilitate responsible exports

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From: Bell Edward (ITEC)
Sent: 11 February 2016 08:36
To: Perm Sec (BIS); Beckett Samantha (MPST DG)
Cc: Barton Chris (ITEC)
Subject: FW: [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE] URGENT - Further advice on Saudi Arabia

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Martin/Sam

The SoS decided not to take a decision about this last night and the matter has now been raised with No. 10.

We briefed the Secretary of State at his Commons' office last night. He clearly recognises the graveness of the issues. It was a positive and frank discussion with the SoS and Nick King asking all the right questions; [REDACTED]

To be honest – and I was very direct and honest with the SoS – my gut tells me we should suspend. This would be prudent and cautious given the acknowledged gaps in knowledge about Saudi operations. I put this directly to the SoS in these terms. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] And the FCO is the competent authority to make these assessments. [REDACTED]

There is a lot at stake here politically but if you accept that the threshold for “clear risk” of a serious violation of International Humanitarian Law has not been breached then it is permissible to take wider factors – such as

diplomatic and economic relations – into account. If you do not accept this then it's not permissible to do so.

There is a cross-gov't meeting at Cabinet Office to discuss the case at 9.30 this morning but it's unlikely that No. 10 will have come back to us by then. I'll keep you posted.

Edward

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From: Chew Christopher (ITEC)

Sent: 10 February 2016 17:10

To: Javid MPST

Cc: SpAd Javid MPST; Soubry MPST; SpAd Soubry MPST; Perm Sec (BIS); Beckett Samantha (MPST DG); Barton Chris (ITEC); Bell Edward (ITEC); Hickman Richard (ITEC); Cheeseman Clare (LEGAL B); Behzadi-Jenkinson (Jobshare); Langrish-Palmer Jobshare (Legal A); Kilgarriff Patrick (LEGAL B); Welch Kirsty (Communications)

Subject: URGENT - Further advice on Saudi Arabia

Sarah

Please see attached.

Chris.

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