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United States Department of Homeland Security
Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services
Arlington Asylum Office
1525 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22209

Re: Dr. [REDACTED] *Request to Expedite Asylum Application,*
A-number [REDACTED]

Dear Sir or Madam:

I respectfully request that USCIS expedite the processing of Dr. [REDACTED] affirmative application for asylum. I am making this request because Dr. [REDACTED] daughter, [REDACTED] remains in [REDACTED] and urgently needs treatment that she cannot obtain in [REDACTED]. Moreover, Dr. [REDACTED] wife and all of his children remain in [REDACTED] danger because of his opposition activities and his fleeing the country.

As explained in the attached Affidavit of Dr. [REDACTED] in support of request to expedite asylum application (Attachment 1) and the Letter of Medical Necessity from Dr. [REDACTED] (Attachment 2), [REDACTED] urgently needs treatment for a severe hearing problem. She cannot receive that treatment in [REDACTED] because the doctors there do not have the necessary expertise or equipment to diagnose or treat her condition. For that reason, over three years ago, despite the expense that they could ill afford, [REDACTED]'s mother took her to [REDACTED] where the specialists advised that she needed a long-term treatment to fully restore her hearing, and that her problem might become worse or even untreatable if she did not promptly receive treatment. After that, because of financial restraints, [REDACTED] did not receive any further treatment, and now [REDACTED] has ordered that children over the age of 5 may not leave the country. See Attachment 3, Amnesty International Annual Report, [REDACTED] 2016/2017 ("The right of people to leave the country was restricted. The authorities continued to prohibit those aged between five and 50 years from traveling abroad and anyone attempting to leave through borders was subject to arbitrary detention."); see also Attachment 4, United States Department of State, Country

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Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2016, [REDACTED] at 13 ("Authorities generally did not give exit visas to children ages five and older.")

[REDACTED] hearing has indeed continued to deteriorate. As Dr. [REDACTED] explains in his affidavit in support of this request, she has fallen behind in school and suffered a loss of confidence and ability to concentrate in class.

Furthermore, Dr. [REDACTED] wife and children are in danger because of his opposition activities and his fleeing [REDACTED] to seek asylum in the United States. See Attachment 5, 2015 United Nations Report of the Detailed Findings of the Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in [REDACTED] at 450 ("The Commission finds that the practice of punishing family members for the behavior of a relative constitutes a form of guilt by association that is in violation of international standards. Retaliation of this kind can be financial or take the form of harassment (including abroad), arbitrary arrest and detention. Targets can be relatives of perceived critics of the Government . . . or individuals who had fled the country.") Dr. [REDACTED] and his family live in constant fear while his family remains in [REDACTED]

The best hope for restoring [REDACTED]'s hearing and remedying her and the rest of Dr. [REDACTED]'s family's situation is the filing of a refugee/asylee relative petition for Mr. [REDACTED]'s wife and children as soon as his application for asylum is granted, assuming of course that that occurs. Until then, however, her condition continues to deteriorate, possibly irreversibly, and they remain in fear of persecution. I therefore respectfully request that USCIS process Dr. [REDACTED]'s application for asylum as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Attorney for Dr. [REDACTED]

Attachments