

Responses from Bahrain Airport Co. to:

Letter re Security Solutions, Amwaj, Bahrain:

<https://www.migrant-rights.org/2021/02/security-solutions-amwaj-bahrain/>

Dear Isobel,

I refer to your below emails and thank you for affording Bahrain Airport Company WLL (“BAC”) with the opportunity of responding to the allegations in relation to the deployment of security personnel at Bahrain International Airport.

I hereby acknowledge that BAC has entered into a contract with the said Security Solutions Company WLL (“Security Solutions”) in relation to the provision of security guards for certain premises under the control of BAC including Bahrain International Airport.

BAC has awarded a contract to Security Solutions following a transparent and regulated tender process and it is a condition of the contract that Security Solutions must comply, at all material times, with the laws and regulations of Bahrain including those pertaining to labour standards.

However, BAC is neither aware of the four specific allegations of ‘labour abuse’ which you list out in your below email (the “Allegations”) nor does it have any knowledge of the contents of your article which repeats the Allegations.

The Resource Centre will note that the Ministry of Labour and Social Development (MOLSD) is the competent body in the Kingdom of Bahrain for setting national labour standards and to regulate labour dispute mechanisms in relation to the employment of labour and BAC has referred the Allegations to the MOLSD for further investigation. The MOLSD has promised to revert to BAC upon completion of its investigation.

For its part Bahrain Airport Company is a responsible and ethical employer and expects its service providers to adhere to the same standards of fairness and equity in labour practices. It treats very seriously any claims of unfair labour practices or abuse of employee rights. In such capacity, BAC will await the report of the MOLSD into the Allegations before considering any action.

Best regards,

Mohamed

Mohamed Yousif AlBinfalah

Chief Executive Officer

Bahrain Airport Company

BAC acknowledges that it has entered into a contract with the said Security Solutions Company WLL (“Security Solutions”) in relation to the provision of security guards for certain premises under the control of BAC including Bahrain International Airport. BAC has awarded a contract to Security Solutions following a transparent and regulated tender process and it is a condition of the contract that Security Solutions must comply, at all material times, with the laws and regulations of Bahrain including those pertaining to labour standards. However, BAC has no knowledge of the allegations of labour abuse which are mentioned in the article.

In Bahrain the Ministry of Labour and Social Development (MOLSD) is the competent governmental body charged with setting national labour standards and regulating labour dispute mechanisms in relation to the employment of labour. Upon hearing of the allegations, BAC had immediately referred these to the MOLSD for further investigation. The MOLSD, having conducted an independent investigation, has found the allegations to be substantially unfounded. In fact there are claims from Security Solutions that the complainant had engaged in behaviour which could constitute a breach of the laws of Bahrain which led to the termination of his employment with the payment of all dues. Any allegation of discrimination on the grounds of nationality or race have been denied.

For its part Bahrain Airport Company is a responsible and ethical employer and demands that its service providers adhere to the same standards of fairness and equity in labour practices. It treats very seriously any claims of unfair labour practices or abuse of employee rights. However, in the light of the report of the MOLSD not finding the complainants allegations to be proven it is unable to take the matter forward.