

Response of KBZ Bank

25 February 2016

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited KBZ Bank to respond to:

- 'This is hell': British man held in Myanmar for 14 months without charge pleads for help", Oliver Holmes, The Guardian, 9 Feb 2016
<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/feb/09/this-is-hell-british-man-held-in-myanmar-for-14-months-without-charge-pleads-for-help>

KBZ Bank responded with the following statement:

We were disappointed to hear that the case appears to be stalled and hope that the effective implementation of the judiciary process will be carried out imminently.

We will aim to make enquiries to see if there is any way to accelerate the process, but as a responsible business, you will well understand that it is not our place to actively try to influence the judiciary process. We are unaware as to why the judiciary process is stalled but are glad to hear that the individual is receiving Consular support.

KBZ Bank as a Visa/MasterCard card acquirer is obliged to report all suspected cases of fraud to our local authorities. To the best of our knowledge, CCTV coverage and other information that we provided to the police is fairly damning in this case, although that is not our place to judge.

We must respect the judicial process and cannot overtly interfere.