

Cairo, 30 April 2017

To : Mrs. Ana Zbona

Subject: Invitation to Respond (Azza Soliman – Lawyers for Justice & Peace Law firm)

Dear Mrs. Zbona,
Greetings,

We refer to your e-mail dated 24 April 2017, regarding the blocking by Ahli United Bank (Egypt) SAE (AUBE) of the accounts of Mrs. Azza Soliman, to which we have been requested to respond. We respond as follows:

- 1- Mrs. Soliman's accounts were opened at AUBE, a subsidiary of the Ahli United Bank Group.
- 2- AUBE is a Joint Stock Company operating in Egypt under the Investment Law no. 8 of 1997 and under the supervision of the Central Bank of Egypt, under Egyptian Law no.88 of 2003.
- 3- On 20 November 2016, the Investigation Judge issued a judicial order addressed to AUBE prohibiting Mrs. Soliman from disposing of her Real Estate and Monetary assets in Egypt, based on the investigations held by the Public Prosecution in the lawsuit no. 173 of 2011. The issued order compels AUBE to block the bank accounts of Mrs. Soliman .
- 4- According to the Egyptian Criminal Procedures Law, the judicial order should be presented to the competent Criminal Court in order to support or refuse such order. Consequently, and after presenting the issued order, the Criminal Court issued its verdict on 14th December 2016 supporting the prohibition order based on the justifications mentioned in the recitals of verdict
- 5- On 4th December 2016, one of Mrs. Soliman's lawyers filed a case against AUBE in the presence of Mrs. Soliman for non-disbursement of cheques drawn on Mrs. Soliman's account and issued in favor of him. And, the mentioned case was refused and filed pursuant to the order issued from the Public Prosecution dated 8th December 2016.

Based on the above kindly note the following:

- 1- AUBE's blocking of the accounts of Mrs. Soliman was lawful and based on the judicial order issued from the Investigation Judge dated 20 November 2016 and supported by the verdict dated 14th December 2016 issued from the competent Criminal Court, as outlined above.

- 2- AUBE is obliged to act in accordance with the governing laws and accordingly, AUBE will only be able to allow Mrs. Soliman to access her accounts after the cancelation of the issued order.
- 3- AUBE operates within full understanding, care and respect of human rights within the framework of the laws and regulations governing AUBE in Egypt.
- 4- Supporting documents related to the above mentioned accounts are available to be reviewed by Mrs. Soliman, or her duly authorized representative, during AUBE's normal business hours at the Legal Department, AUBE Head office located at 81, 90th St, Fifth Settlement, City Center, New Cairo, Cairo, Egypt – Contact Person Mr. Mostafa Tamer (Legal Counsel), noting that the mentioned documents and data are available in the file of court papers at the court

Regards,

Mostafa Tamer

Legal Counsel

Lawyer against Supreme and Constitutional Courts

Member of Arbitrators Jury & Arab Lawyers Union