

From:	"Nicole Widdersheim" (b)(6)@hrw.org>
To:	(b)(6)@state.gov>
CC:	(b)(6)@hrw.org
Subject:	UAE: Arbitrarily Detained Afghans Stuck in Limbo [New HRW Report]
Date:	Wed, 15 Mar 2023 19:44:21 +0000

Hi (b)(6)

A new Human Rights Watch [report](#) finds that authorities in the United Arab Emirates have arbitrarily detained between 2,400 and 2,700 Afghans for over 15 months in the “Emirates Humanitarian City,” a humanitarian logistics hub in Abu Dhabi.

Detainees reported constraints on their freedom of movement, poor living conditions, lack of access to legal counsel, no psychosocial support, and lack of access to fair and effective refugee status determination and safe and legal pathways for onward movement.

Human Rights Watch is calling on the US government to leverage its influence with the UAE to urge them to release detained Afghan evacuees and to urgently expedite the processing of pending US asylum, humanitarian parole, or other visa applications by Afghans in the UAE. As always, we are standing by for your thoughts or questions.

Best,
Nicole

Nicole Widdersheim
Deputy Washington Director, Human Rights Watch

Sender:	"Nicole Widdersheim" (b)(6)@hrw.org>
Recipient:	(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@hrw.org

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
To: PRM-Admissions-Afghanistan <PRM-Admissions-Afghanistan@state.gov>; Youth, Marta C <(b)(6)@state.gov>; Kozak, Michael G <(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) <(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) <(b)(6)@state.gov>;
CC: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: HRW Story Live- Proposed CARE Lines
Date: Wed, 15 Mar 2023 17:13:03 +0000

(b)(5); (b)(6)

Thanks much in advance.

(b)(6)

TDY Refugee Coordinator Abu Dhabi

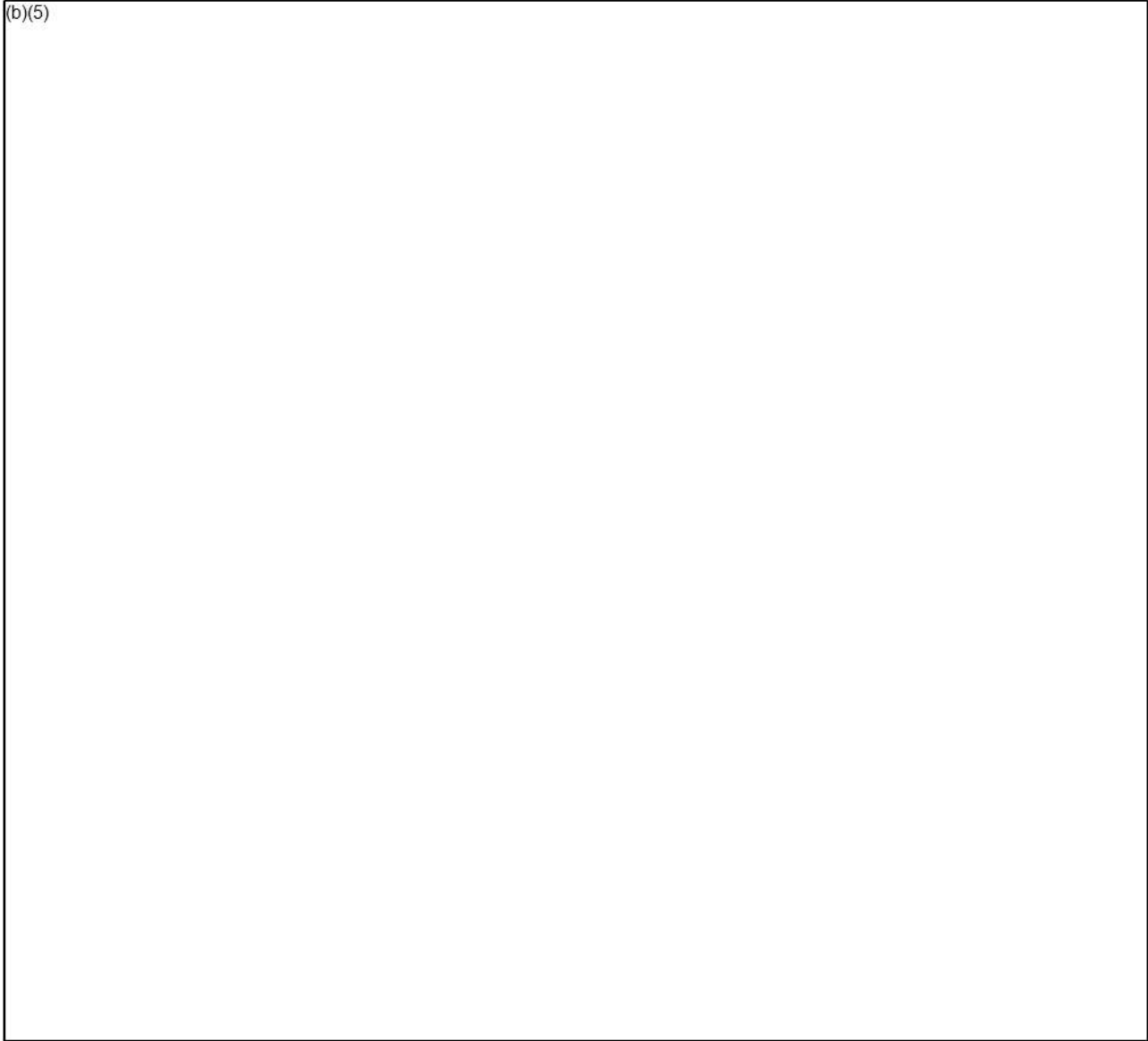
Office of Refugee Admissions, Afghanistan Team
 Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM)
 U.S. Department of State

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 8:20 PM
To: PRM-Admissions-Afghanistan <PRM-Admissions-Afghanistan@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>;
Cc: PRM-PRESSOFFICERS <PRM-PRESSOFFICERS@state.gov>
Subject: Fw: HRW Story Live- Proposed CARE Lines
Importance: High

All, flagging these lines that CARE is proposing we use in response to the HRW letter. Let me know if you have concerns with this language, or want to add additional language.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 11:08 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov;
CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov>
Cc: CAPRESSREQUESTS <CAPRESSREQUESTS@state.gov>; SCA-Press <SCA-Press@state.gov>; PRM-PRESSOFFICERS <PRM-PRESSOFFICERS@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov
Subject: RE: HRW Story Live

Thanks, (b)(6) sent this to Desk colleagues. I agree with the approach to give a general response as we will respond formally to the letter in greater detail.

From: (b)(6)@state.gov

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 12:00 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov; CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov>

Cc: CAPRESSREQUESTS <CAPRESSREQUESTS@state.gov>; SCA-Press <SCA-Press@state.gov>; PRM-PRESSOFFICERS <PRM-PRESSOFFICERS@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov;

(b)(6)@state.gov;

(b)(6)

Subject: Re: HRW Story Live

(b)(6)

(b)(5); (b)(6)

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

Regards,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:43 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov; CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov>
Cc: CAPRESSREQUESTS <CAPRESSREQUESTS@state.gov>; SCA-Press <SCA-Press@state.gov>; PRM-PRESSOFFICERS <PRM-PRESSOFFICERS@state.gov>
Subject: Fw: HRW Story Live

CARE team, wanted to check in on contingency guidance now that this story is out. Thank you.

From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:40 AM
To: PRM-Admissions-Afghanistan <PRM-Admissions-Afghanistan@state.gov>; (b)(6)
 (b)(6)@state.gov
 (b)(6)@state.gov
Subject: FW: HRW Story Live

Colleagues – this is making the rounds. FYSA

From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 4:58 PM
To: (b)(6) (Abu Dhabi) (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6) (Abu Dhabi)
 (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov
Subject: Fw: HRW Story Live

See below.

From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 7:43 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)
 (b)(6)@state.gov; CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov>; (b)(6)
 (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov
Subject: HRW Story Live

FYI:

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/03/15/uae-arbitrarily-detained-afghans-stuck-limbo>



UAE: Arbitrarily Detained Afghans Stuck in Limbo

Authorities in the United Arab Emirates have arbitrarily detained between 2,400 and 2,700 Afghans for over 15 months in the "Emirates Humanitarian City," a humanitarian logistics hub in Abu Dhabi.

www.hrw.org

(b)(6)

Special Assistant

Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts (SCA/CARE)

U.S. Department of State

Sender:	(b)(6)@state.gov>
Recipient:	PRM-Admissions-Afghanistan <PRM-Admissions-Afghanistan@state.gov>; Youth, Marta C (b)(6)@state.gov>; Kozak, Michael C (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

From:	(b)(6)	state.gov>
To:		state.gov>
CC:	(b)(6)	@state.gov>; NEA-ARP-UAE Desk-DL <NEA-ARP-UAEDesk-DL@state.gov>
Subject:	RE: HRW Story Live on Afghans at EHC in UAE -- press lines	
Date:	Wed, 15 Mar 2023 17:36:08 +0000	

Hi (b)(6)

Made a few minor edits. OK for Desk. Should be OK for DAS Benaim, but please feel free to run it by him, since it is such a short piece. Maybe send him a clean version.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

**UAE Desk Officer | Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs | Arabian Peninsula Affairs |
U.S. Department of State**
Washington, DC | O: (b)(6) @state.gov

From: (b)(6) @state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 12:44 PM
To: (b)(6) @state.gov>; NEA-ARP-UAE Desk-DL <NEA-ARP-UAEDesk-DL@state.gov>
Subject: Re: HRW Story Live on Afghans at EHC in UAE -- press lines

Desk colleagues,

Please let me know if you clear on the lines edited below/whether DAS Benaim will need to clear.

Thanks.

Best,

(b)(6)

Communications Advisor, Bahrain, KSA, Oman, & the UAE
Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
U.S. Department of State
Muscofee International

(b)(6) @state.gov

From: (b)(6) @state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 12:42 PM

STATE01145

To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov;
CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov>

Cc: CAPRESSREQUESTS <CAPRESSREQUESTS@state.gov>; SCA-Press <SCA-Press@state.gov>; PRM-PRESSOFFICERS <PRM-PRESSOFFICERS@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov

Subject: Re: HRW Story Live on Afghans at EHC in UAE -- press lines

Not yet (b)(6) although we discussed press lines in a general sense. Looping (b)(6) on the desk.

Regards,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@state.gov

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 12:02 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov;

CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov>

Cc: CAPRESSREQUESTS <CAPRESSREQUESTS@state.gov>; SCA-Press <SCA-Press@state.gov>; PRM-PRESSOFFICERS <PRM-PRESSOFFICERS@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov

(b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov

Subject: Re: HRW Story Live

Hi all,

Did the desk and DAS Benaim clear on this language?

(b)(6)

Communications Advisor, Bahrain, KSA, Oman, & the UAE
Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
U.S. Department of State
Muscofee International

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 12:00 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov; CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov>

Cc: CAPRESSREQUESTS <CAPRESSREQUESTS@state.gov>; SCA-Press <SCA-Press@state.gov>; PRM-PRESSOFFICERS <PRM-PRESSOFFICERS@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov

(b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov

Subject: Re: HRW Story Live

(b)(6)

(b)(5); (b)(6)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Regards,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:43 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov; CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov>
Cc: CAPRESSREQUESTS <CAPRESSREQUESTS@state.gov>; SCA-Press <SCA-Press@state.gov>; PRM-PRESSOFFICERS <PRM-PRESSOFFICERS@state.gov>
Subject: Fw: HRW Story Live

CARE team, wanted to check in on contingency guidance now that this story is out. Thank you.

From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 9:40 AM
To: PRM-Admissions-Afghanistan <PRM-Admissions-Afghanistan@state.gov> (b)(6)
 (b)(6)@state.gov
 (b)(6)@state.gov
Subject: FW: HRW Story Live

Colleagues – this is making the rounds. FYSA

From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 4:58 PM
To: (b)(6) Abu Dhabi (b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6) (Abu Dhabi)
 (b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6)@state.gov
Subject: Fw: HRW Story Live

See below.

From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 7:43 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6)
 (b)(6)@state.gov; CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov>; (b)(6)
 (b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6)@state.gov
 (b)(6)@state.gov
Subject: HRW Story Live

FYI:

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/03/15/uae-arbitrarily-detained-afghans-stuck-limbo>



UAE: Arbitrarily Detained Afghans Stuck in Limbo

Authorities in the United Arab Emirates have arbitrarily detained between 2,400 and 2,700 Afghans for over 15 months in

the "Emirates Humanitarian City," a humanitarian logistics hub in Abu Dhabi.
www.hrw.org

(b)(6)

Special Assistant

Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts (SCA/CARE)

U.S. Department of State

Sender: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; NEA-ARP-UAE Desk-DL <NEA-ARP-UAEDesk-DL@state.gov>

From:	(b)(6)@state.gov>
To:	(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject:	RE: HRW Story Live -- proposed press points
Date:	Wed, 15 Mar 2023 16:40:52 +0000

I like the concise take on it. Thanks.

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 12:01 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Fw: HRW Story Live -- proposed press points

FYI.

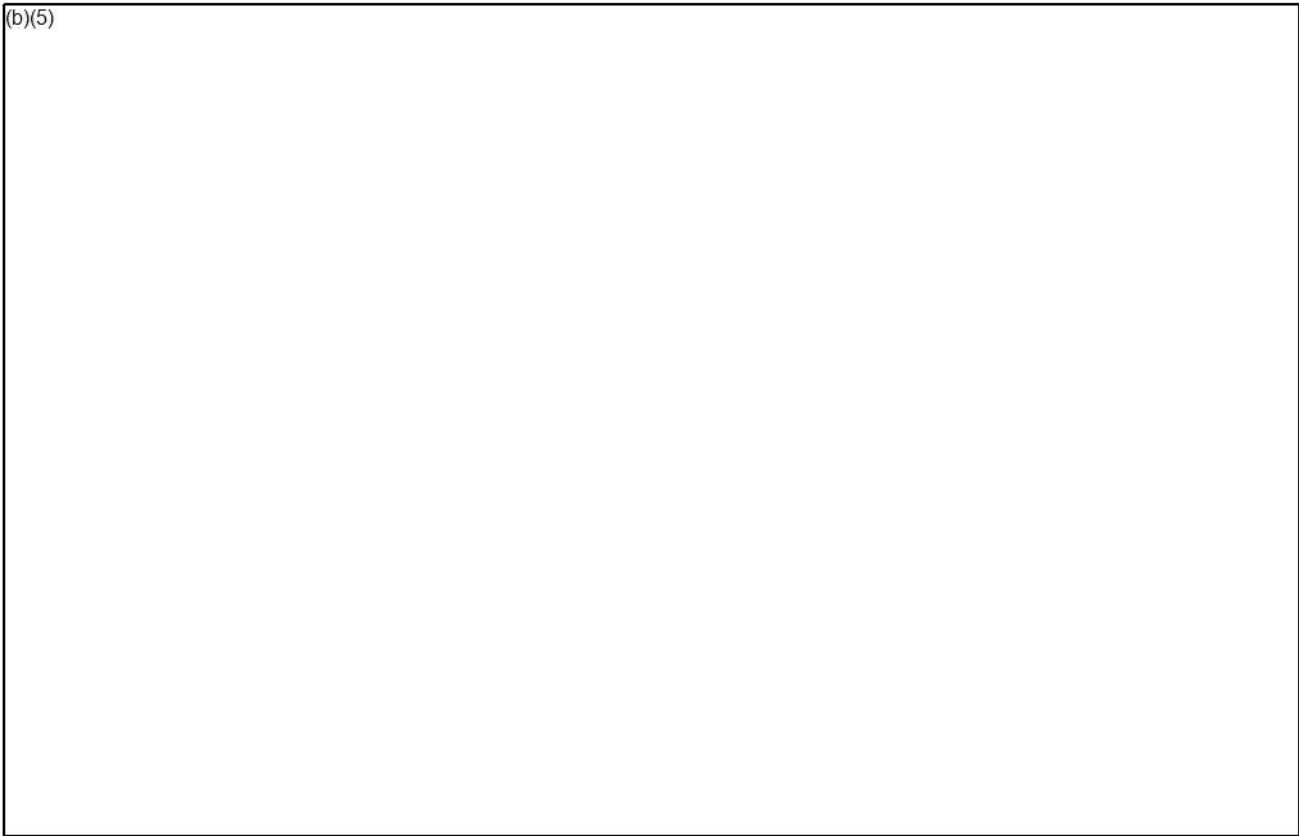
From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 12:00 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov>
Cc: CAPRESSREQUESTS <CAPRESSREQUESTS@state.gov>; SCA-Press <SCA-Press@state.gov>; PRM-PRESSOFFICERS <PRM-PRESSOFFICERS@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: HRW Story Live

(b)(6)

(b)(5); (b)(6)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



Regards,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:43 AM
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Cc: CAPRESSREQUESTS <CAPRESSREQUESTS@state.gov>; SCA-Press <SCA-Press@state.gov>; PRM-PRESSOFFICERS <PRM-PRESSOFFICERS@state.gov>
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To: (b)(6) (Abu Dhabi) (b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6) (Abu Dhabi)

(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Fw: HRW Story Live

See below.

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 7:43 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>; CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov> (b)(6)
(b)(6)@state.gov> (b)(6)@state.gov
(b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: HRW Story Live

FYI:

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/03/15/uae-arbitrarily-detained-afghans-stuck-limbo>



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www.hrw.org

(b)(6)

Special Assistant

Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts (SCA/CARE)

U.S. Department of State

Sender:	(b)(6)	@state.gov>
Recipient:		ate.gov>; e.gov>

From: (b)(6) <(b)(6)@state.gov>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov;
 (b)(6)@state.gov;
 (b)(6)@state.gov
Subject: Re: FOR CLEARANCE: press points on HRW report today on Afghans at EHC (UAE)
Date: Wed, 15 Mar 2023 18:50:00 +0000

This is good for our Afghan team, though haven't heard back from the FO yet.

PRM/A (b)(6) (ok)
From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 1:47 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)
 (b)(6)@state.gov
Subject: Re: FOR CLEARANCE: press points on HRW report today on Afghans at EHC (UAE)

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

Communications Advisor, Bahrain, KSA, Oman, & the UAE
 Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
 U.S. Department of State
 Muscogee International

(b)(6)@state.gov
From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 2:47 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov;
 (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov
Subject: FOR CLEARANCE: press points on HRW report today on Afghans at EHC (UAE)

(b)(5)

Regards,

(b)(6)
From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 2:40 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov
Subject: Re: BENAIM CLEAR: UAE, CARE

Flagging clear for NEA/Press.

(b)(6)
 Communications Advisor, Bahrain, KSA, Oman, & the UAE

Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
U.S. Department of State
Muscofee International

(b)(6) state.gov

From: Benaim, Daniel P (b)(6) state.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 2:38 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; NEA-ARP-UAE Desk-DL <NEA-ARP-UAEDesk-DL@state.gov>

Subject: RE: BENAIM CLEAR: UAE, CARE

ok

From: (b)(6) state.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 1:42 PM

To: Benaim, Daniel P (b)(6) state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; NEA-ARP-UAE Desk-DL <NEA-ARP-UAEDesk-DL@state.gov>

Subject: BENAIM CLEAR: UAE, CARE

Hi DAS Benaim,

Do you clear on CARE's PG below? The desk cleared.

Thank you.

Best,

(b)(6)

Human Right Watch Report About Afghans at Emirates Humanitarian City (UAE)

(b)(5)

From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:43 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov; CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov>
Cc: CAPRESSREQUESTS <CAPRESSREQUESTS@state.gov>; SCA-Press <SCA-Press@state.gov>; PRM-PRESSOFFICERS <PRM-PRESSOFFICERS@state.gov>
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 (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6) Abu Dhabi (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6) (Abu Dhabi)
 (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov
Subject: Fw: HRW Story Live

See below.

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Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 7:43 AM
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 (b)(6)@state.gov; CAREComms <CAREComms@state.gov> (b)(6)
 (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)
Subject: HRW Story Live

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www.hrw.org

(b)(6)

Special Assistant
Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts (SCA/CARE)
U.S. Department of State

Sender:	(b)(6)	(b)(6)@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)	@state.gov>; e.gov>; ate.gov>