## CHAFFETZ LINDSEY LLP

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## VIA COURIER AND SERVICE BY BAILIFF

His Excellency Mohamed Ould Ghazaouni President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania Presidential palace Rue des Ambassadeurs Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania

Subject: A question of credibility for the State of Mauritania

Your Excellency,

I have the honor of contacting on behalf of my client RIMCOM, which has obtained a judgment, which is now res judicata and holds the State of Mauritania liable to pay the sum of MRU 664,959,738.

Without wishing to waste your time, I remind you that:

- 1. **This debt of the State can no longer be disputed** and was confirmed by the country's highest courts, namely the Court of Appeal on 10 July 2018 and the Supreme Court on 4 February 2020;
- 2. The **Supreme Council of Fatwa and Pardons** has exercised its authority and demanded that the judgment be complied with swiftly; and
- 3. Your own administration has already acquiesced to this judgment since **your Chief of Staff** instructed your Minister of Finance to resolve the claim in June 2020.

Notwithstanding all of my client and their counsel's efforts on a domestic level, the debt remains unpaid.

This situation must end, especially because it sends an extremely negative signal to the State's international investors and partners. It certainly undermines the credibility of the State and is bound to hamper the financing required for your ambitious development programs.

We understand that financial institutions, including the **International Monetary Fund** and the **World Bank**, are closely monitoring this matter.

On behalf of my client, we are giving you this last opportunity to settle this issue under the State's sovereign powers, with no outside interference, and to put an end to a situation that is damaging Mauritania's reputation.

Should your office not take immediate action, I was instructed to seek the **forced execution of my client's judgment by any means available under international law**.

These actions, by their public nature, will have, to my client's great regret, a very high reputational and financial cost for the State.

It is up to you, in accordance with the desire that you expressed on numerous occasions to strengthen the rule of law in Mauritania, to take the necessary decision for the honor and credibility of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

The appointment of a person in charge of negotiating the settlement of the judgment would send a clear signal in this direction.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Yasmine Lahlou

## Cc:

- The Prime Minister,
- The Minister of Economy,
- The Minister of Finance, and
- RIMCOM