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Leiter der Provinzpolizei in der
Provinz Ben Tre
Vo Hung Minh
404D Đồng Văn Cống, Phường 7
TP. Bến Tre, Bến Tre
VIETNAM

7. November 2019

Nguyen Ngoc Anh

Dear Mr. Vo Hung Minh,
I am writing to express my grave concern about the continuing imprisonment and treatment of prisoner of conscience Nguyen Ngoc Anh, who was arrested on 30 August 2018 after he used Facebook to criticise a draft law aimed at establishing special economic zones in the country.
Currently held at Ben Tre detention centre, Nguyen Ngoc Anh has reported being routinely subjected to mental abuse by other prisoners, including daily death threats. During her latest monthly visit, Nguyen Ngoc Anh told his wife that his cellmate had physically assaulted him, leaving him bloody and unconscious. Disturbingly, prison authorities have failed to discipline the aggressor and have yet to acknowledge the formal complaint lodged by Nguyen Ngoc Anh's about the incident. Instead, Nguyen Ngoc Anh was then sent to a separated cell and denied all access to medical treatment.
Convicted and sentenced to six years in prison in June 2019 after being convicted of "conducting propaganda against the state", Nguyen Ngoc Anh has been imprisoned solely for peacefully expressing his opinions.
I therefore urge you Mr. Vo Hung Minh to:

Ensure that Nguyen Ngoc Anh is released immediately and unconditionally;
Pending release, grant Nguyen Ngoc Anh prompt, regular and unrestricted access to adequate medical care on request or as necessary;
Ensure that pending release, Nguyen Ngoc Anh is treated in full accordance with the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), and specifically does not subject him to torture or other ill-treatment, including poor conditions of detention and prolonged solitary confinement.