

# ROZELINKS

werkgroep seksuele diversiteit van GROENLINKS

To the Canadian High Commission in New Delhi  
7/8 Shantipath, Chanakyapuri  
New Delhi 110 021, India  
E-mail: delhi@international.gc.ca

Utrecht, the 21 of July 2008

Re: File Number B051747780

Dear Sir, dear Madam,

This letter particularly concerns the cases of Mohammad and Ali with file number B051747780. As we have been informed by IRQO, Mohammad and Ali were recognised by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in 2006 and 2007, respectively. UNHCR forwarded their case to you for quick processing, noting that this case should be treated as high priority. Mohammad and Ali completed interviews and health check-ups in July 2007. A whole year has passed and they are still waiting for your Embassy to complete their processes.

We understand that you must be aware of the perils that in particular queer refugees face in India. The Indian penal code calls for punishment of homosexuals and the Indian society is homophobic. Because of this, refugees like Mohammad and Ali deal with escalated risks. Confronting these risks often leads to mental health problems and symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder. It is essential that such individuals resettle in a country deemed safe and appropriate for homosexuals, such as Canada, as quickly as possible.

Considering these circumstances, we strongly hope that you can expedite Mohammad and Ali's case, because they are suffering in New Delhi and Mohammad's mental health is especially deteriorating. We are concerned about their emotional states in India, and urge you to bring them relief from their unhealthy situation.

We realise you have many resettlement cases to work on. However, due to the exigent circumstances especially facing queer refugees, we urge you to assist Mohammad and Ali, and help them resettle in Canada promptly.

Your timely, informed and sensitive treatment of this case will be much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Chantal van den Berg,  
Secretary international affairs