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Dear Minister,

Human rights advocate Gao Zhisheng has represented human rights defenders in court and taken on politically sensitive cases. On 13 August 2017, Gao Zhisheng was reported missing after his wife Geng He, was unable to reach him for two days. His commitment to human rights has made him well-known in China. As the authorities refuse to disclose his whereabouts, he has since been considered a victim of enforced disappearance at risk of torture or ill-treatment. His family still knows nothing about his health or the reasons for his detention. Gao Zhisheng has been a victim of enforced disappearance and was detained as a nonviolent political prisoner before.

Please disclose the whereabouts of Gao Zhisheng and ensure that he is released immediately and unconditionally. Ensure that the human rights defender is not tortured or ill-treated in detention. He must also be granted regular unrestricted contact with his family, legal counsel of his choice, and appropriate medical care until his release.

Yours sincerely,

Copy:

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