

URGENT ACTION

SIX DOCTORS RELEASED WITHOUT CHARGE

Doctors **Ahmed Alabwabi, Alhadi Bakhit, Abdelaziz Ali Jamee, Ahmed Abdallah Khalafallah, Ashraf Hammad and Mahmoud Khairallah Mohammed** were released on 24 June. The six doctors were arrested between 1 June and 8 June by the National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) in relation to a strike that was being organised to ask for better conditions for doctors in Sudan. The six doctors are members of the Doctors Strike Committee that was organising the strike.

Two of the doctors were tortured during their initial detention by the NISS. The Sudanese authorities have so far not initiated any investigations into the allegations of torture. The doctors were held at an unknown location and none of them were charged.

Doctors across Sudan went on strike on 2 June to protest the arrest of their colleagues by the NISS. The strike action failed to secure better conditions for doctors in Sudan. The authorities are reported to have promised that they would release the detained doctors should the striking doctors resume their duties. The striking doctors returned to work on 24 June. NISS agents reportedly roamed the hospitals in the Sudanese capital, Khartoum, ensuring that the doctors had returned to work and later that night the six doctors were released.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all those who sent appeals.

This is the first update of UA 127/10 (AFR 54/020/2010). Further information:
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR54/020/2010/en>

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