

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 12/27/97

3 June 1997

Further information (1) on UA 133/95 (MDE 12/10/95, 9 June 1995) - Death Penalty

EGYPT Mohammad Fawzi Mohammad Ibrahim
Ahmad 'Abd al-Qadir Bakri
'Izzet al-Shahhat Mohammad (in absentia)

Amnesty International is concerned that the death sentences handed down by the Supreme State Security Court on 6 June 1995 on the three individuals mentioned above (one *in absentia*) were ratified by Prime Minister Kamal al-Ganzoury on 2 June 1997. Their only hope of clemency now lies with the President of the Republic who may commute death sentences within 15 days of their ratification or grant pardons. Amnesty International therefore fears that Mohammad Fawzi Mohammad Ibrahim and Ahmad 'Abd al-Qadir Bakri are at imminent risk of execution.

The three men were sentenced to death in June 1995 in a case involving 18 alleged members of the armed Islamist group *al-Gama'a al-Islamiya* (Islamic group). The defendants were charged with, among other things, killing a policeman and injuring two others in October 1994 and possession of printed materials which reportedly called for the overthrow of the Egyptian Government.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in Arabic, English, French or in your own language:

- expressing concern that the death sentences handed down on the three individuals mentioned above have now been ratified, and that Mohammad Fawzi Mohammad Ibrahim and Ahmad 'Abd al-Qadir Bakri may therefore be at imminent risk of execution;
- acknowledging the seriousness of the crimes for which the three men were convicted, but explaining your opposition to the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life, pointing out that it has never been shown to have a unique deterrent effect and is brutalizing to all involved in its application;
- urging the President to use his constitutional powers to grant clemency and commute these and all other pending death sentences;
- drawing attention to world trends to abolish or reduce the use of the death penalty, in accordance with Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Egypt is a state party.

APPEALS TO:

His Excellency Mohammad Hosni Mubarak
President of the Arab Republic of Egypt
'Abedine Palace, Cairo, Egypt
Telegrams: President Mubarak, Cairo, Egypt
Telexes: 93794 WAZRA UN
Faxes: +202 390 1998
Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO:

Ms Nayla Gabr
The Human Rights Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Corniche al-Nil, Cairo, Egypt

Faxes: (20 2) 574 9667

Dr Fathi Sorour
Speaker
The People's Assembly
Magles al-Sha'ab Street, Cairo, Egypt

and to diplomatic representatives of Egypt accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 July 1997.