

URGENT ACTION

OPPOSITION LEADERS DETAINED, RISK TORTURE

Opposition leader Farouk Abu Issa and civil society activist Dr Amin Maki Medani were arrested on 6 December by agents of the Sudanese National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS). They have been held incommunicado since then, without charge.

Farouk Abu Issa, who leads the coalition of political parties National Consensus Forces (NCF) and **Dr Amin Maki Madani**, the leader of the Alliance of Sudanese Civil Society Organizations, were arrested on 6 December by agents of the National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) in the capital, Khartoum.

Three days earlier the men had signed the "Sudan Call" agreement between civil society, opposition parties and armed opposition groups, in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa. The "Sudan Call" is the first agreement between civil society and various organizations opposed to the ruling National Congress Party (NCP) led by President Bashir. As well as unifying the opposition, the agreement's stated aim is to bring an end to war, dismantle what it calls the "one-party state" and achieve democratic transformation in the country.

The NISS has not told Farouk Abu Issa or Dr Amin Maki Madani's family of any charges against the men, or said where they are held.

The authorities in Sudan have been cracking down on freedom of expression and assembly for some time, attempting to silence dissent and intimidate political opponents.

Please write immediately in Arabic, English or your own language:

- Urging the authorities to ensure that Farouk Abu Issa and Dr Amin Maki Medani are charged with a recognizably criminal offence or else released immediately;
- Calling on them to reveal where the men are, and give them immediate access to lawyers of their own choosing, their families and any medical attention they may require;
- Urging them to ensure that the men are not tortured or otherwise ill-treated.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 22 JANUARY 2015 TO:

President

HE Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir
Office of the President
People's Palace
PO Box 281
Khartoum, Sudan
Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Justice

Mohamed Bushara Dousa
Ministry of Justice
PO Box 302Al Nil Avenue
Khartoum, Sudan
Email: moj@moj.gov.sd
Salutation: Your Excellency

And copies to:

Minister of Interior
Ibrahim Mahmoud Hamed
Ministry of Interior
PO Box 873
Khartoum, Sudan
Salutation: Your Excellency

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Farouk Abu Issa and Dr Amin Maki Madani are the latest in a series of people, including human rights activists, arrested in Sudan for the exercise of their right to freedom of expression. Amnesty International has documented numerous cases of arbitrary arrest, detention and torture or other ill-treatment by the NISS.

Farouk Abu Issa is the leader of the opposition National Consensus Forces (NCF), made up of 17 opposition political parties. It was formed in July 2011 and signed a document named the “Democratic Alternative Program” that called for peaceful democratic transformation in Sudan. The ruling National Congress Party (NCP) announced a “National Dialogue” in January 2014. The NCF refused to engage in it unless the government prepared for it with an environment that included freedom of expression and assembly, and stopping the wars in Sudan.

Dr Amin Maki Madani, an academic and lawyer, has had a long career in regional and international organizations including working for the United Nations in Afghanistan, Iraq and Gaza.

Names: Farouk Abu Issa, Amin Maki Madani

Gender m/f: m

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