

# URGENT ACTION

## HEALTH FEARS FOR DETAINED OPPOSITION LEADERS

**Without proper medical treatment, the health of opposition leaders Farouk Abu Issa and Dr Amin Maki Madani has been deteriorating. They are prisoners of conscience.**

Almost 10 weeks into their detention, the health of **Farouk Abu Issa**, 82 and **Dr Amin Maki Madani**, 76 has significantly, and rapidly, deteriorated. Farouk Abu Issa suffers from poor health generally, including high blood pressure. On 3 February, he was transferred to the police hospital *Sahiroun* in Khartoum for a second time. The first time he was admitted in hospital, on 23 December 2014, he only received medical attention for one day despite needing intensive and sustained medical care. His lawyer filed an application with Sudanese authorities at the end of January to allow him to remain in the hospital, and to receive the medical care he requires. The lawyer also, in the same application, requested that Dr Amin Maki Madani be transferred to hospital and receive urgent medical care.

Both Farouk Abu Issa and Dr Amin Maki Madani have been in detention since their arrest on 6 December 2014 after signing the "Sudan Call" document on 3 December 2014 with armed groups and other opposition parties in Addis Ababa. National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) transferred Farouk Abu Issa and Dr Amin Medani to Kober Prison on 21 December and filed criminal charges against them on 10 January. They have been charged with capital offences under the 1991 Penal Code including "complicity to execute a criminal agreement", "undermining the constitutional system" and calling for "opposition of the public authority by violence or criminal force". These charges were formally confirmed by NISS on 12 February. President Omar Al-Bashir had indicated that both men should be released, following his meeting with the National Dialogue committee (7+7) in January. However, on 1 February, Sudan's justice Minister rejected a public appeal by their lawyers to dismiss the charges against them. A day later, a court in Khartoum extended the detention of Farouk Abu Issa and Dr Amin Maki Madani's detention for another two weeks to allow the NISS to conduct further investigations.

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

- Calling on the authorities to immediately and unconditionally release Farouk Abu Issa and Dr Amin Maki Madani;
- Urging them to ensure that pending their unconditional release, Farouk Abu Issa and Amin Maki Madani are not tortured or otherwise ill-treated, or put at risk of the death penalty;
- Urging them to ensure that pending their unconditional release, Farouk Abu Issa and Amin Maki Madani are given prompt access to adequate medical care.

### **PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 27 MARCH 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 302  
Al Nil Avenue  
Khartoum, Sudan

Email: [moj@moj.gov.sd](mailto:moj@moj.gov.sd)

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

#### **And copies to:**

#### Minister of Interior

Ibrahim Mahmoud Hamed  
Ministry of Interior  
PO Box 873  
Khartoum, Sudan

**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. This is the first update of UA 310/14. Further information:

[www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR54/024/2014/en](http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR54/024/2014/en)

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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) arrested Farouk Abu Issa, the leader of the opposition alliance National Consensus Forces (NCF) and Dr Amin Maki Madani, the head of the alliance of the Sudanese Civil Society organizations on 6 December 2014. Farouk Abu Issa and Dr Amin Maki Madani signed the “Sudan Call” document, on behalf of their organizations, in Addis Ababa on 3 December 2014. The document, which unites Sudanese opposition groups including armed groups, calls for the end of war, dismantlement of the one-party state rule, and for comprehensive peace and democratic transformation in Sudan. Signing the Sudan Call is an exercise of freedom of expression protected under the bill of rights of the interim Constitution of Sudan, the African Charter of Human and Peoples’ Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, all of which legally bind the Republic of Sudan.

Name: Farouk Abu Issa, Dr Amin Maki Madani  
Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 310/14 Index: AFR 54/002/2015 Issue Date: 13 February 2015