PUBLIC AI Index: MDE 12/007/2003

26 February 2003

Further Information on UA 51/03 (MDE 12/005/2003, 21 February 2003) Fear for safety/health concerns/incommunicado detention

EGYPT

Kamal Khalil (m), aged 53 - engineer

On 24 February Kamal Khalil was visited by his wife and brother at Mazra'at Tora Prison near Cairo, where he is being held. This was the first visit he has been granted since his detention on 19 February.

More information has emerged about the circumstances of Kamal Khalil's detention. On the morning of 19 February Kamal Khalil's taxi was stopped by plainclothes men in two unmarked cars, whom he suspected were members of the State Security Investigations (SSI) Department. The men reportedly took him to the headquarters of the SSI in Lazoghly Square, Cairo, where he was held for several hours. He was then taken to Mazra'at Tora Prison and held incommunicado.

On 23 February he was moved into a cell with two other anti-war activists, who were detained earlier this month. Kamal Khalil continues to be held in Mazra'at Tora Prison without being charged and without access to a lawyer.

Kamal Khalil's wife thanked Amnesty International and other human rights organizations and civil society activists for the campaign on behalf of her husband.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in Arabic, English or your own language:

- urging the authorities to give Kamal Khalil immediate access to his lawyer and any medical attention he may require:
- calling on the authorities to ensure that Kamal Khalil will not be ill-treated in detention;
- calling for Kamal Khalil to be immediately released if he is not to be charged with a recognizable criminal offence.

APPEALS TO:

His Excellency Mohammad Hosni Mubarak President of the Arab Republic of Egypt 'Abedine Palace, Cairo, Egypt

Telegram: President Mubarak, Cairo, Egypt E-mail: webmaster@presidency.gov.eg

Fax: + 202 390 1998
Telex: 93794 WAZRA UN
Salutation: Your Excellency

His Excellency General Habib al-Adeli Minister of the Interior Ministry of the Interior Al-Sheikh Rihan Street Bab al-Louk, Cairo, Egypt

Telegram: Minister of Interior, Cairo, Egypt

E-mail: moi@idsc.gov.eg

Fax: + 202 579 2031 (It may be difficult to get through; please keep trying)

Salutation: Dear Minister

His Excellency Mr Faruq Sayf al-Nasr Minister of Justice Ministry of Justice Midan Lazoghly, Cairo, Egypt

Telegrams: Minister of Justice, Cairo, Egypt

E-mail: mojeb@idsc.gov.eg Fax: + 202 795 8103 Salutation: Dear Minister

Counsellor Maher 'Abd al-Wahid Public Prosecutor Dar al-Qadha al-'Ali Ramses Street, Cairo, Egypt

Telegrams: Public Prosecutor, Cairo, Egypt

Fax: + 202 577 4716

COPIES 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 9 April 2003.