

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 16/05/97

1 May 1997

Further information on EXTRA 192/96 (MDE 16/12/96, 12 December 1996) - Death Penalty

JORDAN Mahmud Muhammad 'Aswan, aged 38, Egyptian national
Kabud Hamdan Raslan Sabir, aged 20, Egyptian national

Mahmud Muhammad 'Aswan and Kabud Hamdan Raslan Sabir, both Egyptian nationals, are feared to be facing imminent execution. Their death sentences for murder, handed down by the Criminal Court on 10 December 1996, are believed to have been recently ratified by the Court of Cassation. Their only hope for clemency now lies with King Hussein bin Talal.

While Amnesty International sympathizes with the families of the victims of violent crimes, it unreservedly opposes the use of the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the fundamental right to life, as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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

- urging King Hussein bin Talal to commute the death sentences against Mahmud Muhammad 'Aswan and Kabud Hamdan Raslan Sabir to a more humane form of punishment;

- urging that no more death penalties be carried out in Jordan and that the government work towards abolishing the death penalty by the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1998.

APPEALS TO:

1) His Majesty King Hussein bin Talal
King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
The Royal Palace
Amman, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Fax: +962 6 627 421
Telegrams: King Hussein, Amman, Jordan
Salutation: Your Majesty

COPIES TO:

Riyad al-'Aqasha
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
Amman, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Arab Organization for Human Rights (Jordan)
PO Box 922430
Amman, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Ms Nayla Gabr, The Human Rights Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Corniche al-Nil, Cairo, Egypt
Fax: +202 574 9677

and to diplomatic representatives of Jordan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 2 June 1997.