EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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23 March 1993

Further information on UA 33/93 (AFR 54/07/93, 10 February 1993) - Fear of torture/legal concern

SUDAN: Mohamed Abdulsid, journalist

Mohamed Abdulsid, Khartoum correspondent of the international Arabic language daily newspaper $\underline{Asharq\ al-Awsat}$, was released on 22 March 1993. He was arrested on 28 January 1993 and held in the security headquarters in Khartoum and, latterly, at a secret detention centre (or "ghost house" as they are known in Sudan).

It is not yet known if his release is unconditional. On 15 February 1993 the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported that a criminal case had been filed against him but no further details of any charges have been made public.

Thank you to all those who sent appeals. No further action is required from the Urgent Action Network on his behalf.

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FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR UA Coordinators: Please would you arrange for one appeal per section, in English, Arabic or your own language:

- welcoming the release of Mohamed Abdulsid, who Amnesty International considered to be a prisoner of conscience imprisoned solely because of exercising his internationally recognised right to freedom of information;
- seeking information on whether his release is unconditional.

APPEALS TO:

Mr 'Abd al-Aziz Shiddu Minister of Justice and Attorney-General Ministry of Justice Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: Minister of Justice 'Abd al-Aziz Shiddu

Telexes: 22459 KHRJA SD or

22461 KHRJA SD (via Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Salutation: Your Excellency