EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on EXTRA 39/92 (ASA 33/01/92, 31 March 1992) - Fear of Imminent Execution

PAKISTAN: Mohammad Riaz Ahmed

Mohammad Riaz Ahmed was hanged on 12 April 1992 at dawn in Karachi Central Jail. He had been sentenced to death by a Special Court for Speedy Trial for having murdered three people in 1988.

Every year a large number of people are sentenced to death in Pakistan. In 1991, Amnesty International monitored over 200 death sentences, but no executions were reported.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/express and airmail letters

- expressing strong concern over the execution of Mohammad Riaz Ahmed on 12 April 1992;
- expressing further concern that he had been sentenced to death after a trial by a Special Court for Speedy Trial which may not have conformed to international standards for fair trial;
- expressing concern that this execution appears to signal a resumption of the use of the death penalty, this being the first execution reported to have been carried out since 1988;
- urging that no further executions be carried out and that the President of Pakistan commute the death sentences of all those at present awaiting execution under powers granted to him under Article 45 of the Constitution of Pakistan;
- expressing opposition to the death penalty in all cases as the ultimate form of torture and as a violation of the right to life.

APPEALS TO:

1. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan The Presidency Murree Brewery Road Rawalpindi Pakistan

Telegrams: President, Rawalpindi President's House

Pakistan

Telexes: 54058 PSPUB PK [Salutation: Dear President]

2. Minister of the Interior Chaudhary Shujaat Hussain Ministry of the Interior Pak Secretariat, Block R Islamabad

Pakistan

Telegrams: Interior Minister Hussain, Islamabad

Pakistan

[Salutation: Dear Minister]

3. Minister of Law and Justice

Chaudhary Abdul Ghafoor Ministry of Law and Justice Pak Secretariat, Blocks R and S Islamabad Pakistan

Telegrams: Law & Justice Minister, Islamabad, Pakistan

[Salutation: Dear Minister]

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

- diplomatic representatives of Pakistan in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.