

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information (1) on EXTRA 65/95 (MDE 12/09/95, 2 June 1995) - Death Penalty/Legal Concern

EGYPT Hussam Hassan Suleiman
 Ahmad Mahmoud 'Abd al-Rahman

On 24 June 1995, President Hosni Mubarak reportedly ratified the death sentences of Hussam Hassan Suleiman and Ahmad Mahmoud 'Abd al-Rahman. Although the two men are entitled to submit a petition to the Military Appeals Bureau, they have no right of judicial appeal as provided for by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Amnesty International fears that the executions may be imminent.

The two men were sentenced to death on 31 May 1995 by the Supreme Military Court in Cairo as part of a trial involving 42 alleged members of *Talai' al-Fatah*, Vanguard of the Conquest, a splinter group of *Gihad*, a banned Islamist organization. Charges against them included murder, sabotage and assault.

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

- expressing concern that the death sentences passed on Hussam Hassan Suleiman and Ahmad Mahmoud 'Abd al-Rahman have been ratified, and urging that the President use his constitutional powers to grant clemency and commute these and all other pending death sentences;
- expressing concern at the upsurge in the use of the death penalty in Egypt (64 death sentences have been passed by military courts since December 1992 and 46 executions have now taken place), and reiterating Amnesty International's opposition to the death penalty as a violation of the right to life and the most extreme form of cruel and inhuman punishment;
- drawing attention to world trends to abolish or reduce the use of the death penalty, in accordance with Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Egypt is a state party.

APPEALS TO:

President of the Arab Republic of Egypt

His Excellency, Mohammad Hosni Mubarak

'Abedine Palace, Cairo, Egypt

Telegrams: President Mubarak, Cairo, Egypt

Telexes: 93794 WAZRA UN

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The Human Rights Department

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Corniche al-Nil, Cairo, Egypt

Faxes: (20 2) 723 173

Speaker of The People's Assembly
Dr Fathi Sorour
Magles al-Shaab Street, Cairo, Egypt

and 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 **24 June 1995.**