EXTERNAL AI Index: MDE 23/09/96

## SAUDI ARABIAEmad Abd el-Raouf Mohamed Said, aged 33, Egyptian national

Emad Abd el-Raouf Mohamed Said, currently in Alma Prison in Abha, will reportedly face 40 lashes on or around 5 August 1996. He was convicted of theft in May 1996, and sentenced to 120 lashes in addition to five months' imprisonment. According to reports, 80 of the lashes have already been carried out.

Emad Abd el-Raouf Mohamed Said is reported to have been tortured in pre-trial detention, in an attempt to extract a confession from him. An appeal against his sentence was refused. His conviction reportedly followed a series of irregularities in the proceedings against him, including the prevention of the defendant and of witnesses from making statements to the court.

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

- appealing for Emad Abd el-Raouf Mohamed Said's remaining sentence of 40 lashes to be commuted;
- expressing concern about the penalty of lashes as a judicial punishment, which Amnesty International considers to be a form of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, contrary to Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- urging investigation into the allegation of torture, and calling for anyone found responsible to be brought to justice.

## APPEALS TO:

The Custodian of the Two Holy Shrines
His Majesty King Fahd bin 'Abdul-'Aziz
Office of H.M. The King
Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Telegrams: King Fahd, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Salutation: Your Majesty

Minister of Interior
His Royal Highness
Prince Naif bin 'Abdul-'Aziz
Ministry of the Interior
PO Box 2833
Airport Road, Riyadh 11134
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Telegrams: Minister of the Interior, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Telexes: 404416

Salutation: Your Royal Highness

Minister of Foreign Affairs
His Royal Highness
Prince Saud al-Faisal bin 'Abdul 'Aziz
Nasseriya Street, Riyadh 11124
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Telegrams: Minister of Foreign Affairs, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Telexes: 405000

Salutation: Your Royal Highness

Minister of Justice

His Excellency

Dr. Abdullah bin Muhammad bin Ibrahim Al-Sheikh

Ministry of Justice

Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Telegrams: Minister of Justice, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Telexes: 405 980 MINJUS SJ Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Saudi Arabia accredited to your

country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 8 August 1996.