

**PUBLIC**

**AI Index: MDE 24/025/2008**

**15 August 2008**

**Further information on UA 211/08 (MDE 24/022/2008, 31 July 2008) - Fear of torture and other ill-treatment**

**SYRIA                      Usama 'Ashour (m), aged 48, Agronomist**

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Usama 'Ashour was released on 13 August. He had been arrested on 29 July by the Syrian Military Intelligence (SMI) at his house in Aleppo city.

He is a member of the pro-democracy umbrella group Damascus Declaration for Democratic National Change (DDDNC), and of the Committees for the Revival of the Civil Society, an unauthorised pro-reform network of Syrian people engaging in discussion of human rights and political issues. His arrest was linked to his participation in a DDDNC meeting on 1 December 2007.

**No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.**