

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 31/14/97

27 October 1997

Further information on EXTRA 136/97 (MDE 31/12/97, 10 October 1997) - Fear of Imminent Execution/Legal Concern

YEMEN Muhammad 'Abd al-Rahman Dadyah, 25
Tawfiq Muhammad Mas'ad al-Tam, 22
'Abd al-Jabbar Muhammad Mas'ad al-Tam, 25
'Abdullah Ahmad 'Abdullah Mansur, 18

On 22 October 1997, the Supreme Court overturned the death sentences against three of the above-named men. The court upheld the death sentence against Muhammad 'Abd al-Rahman Dadyah. If the sentence is ratified by President 'Ali 'Abdullah Saleh, he would be at risk of imminent execution.

The Supreme Court ruled that the decision by the Court of Appeal to sentence all four men to death had been unduly influenced by tribal pressure and that the original sentence should stand. The sentence of flogging against the three men may have been upheld.

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

- welcoming the decision of the Supreme Court to overturn the three death sentences;
- expressing concern that Muhammad 'Abd al-Rahman Dadyah remains under sentence of death, and calling on the President to exercise clemency in this case and commute the sentence to a more humane punishment;
- expressing concern that the sentences of 100 lashes against each of the other three prisoners may have been upheld and, if this is the case, calling for their commutation;
- drawing the President's attention to the growing international trend towards abolition of the death penalty.

APPEALS TO:

His Excellency

General 'Ali 'Abdullah Saleh
President of the Republic of Yemen
Sana'a, The Republic of Yemen

Telegrams: President 'Ali 'Abdullah Saleh, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

Faxes: +967 1 262 017

Telexes: 2422 RIASAH YE

Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Interior

Husain Muhammad 'Arab

Ministry of Interior

San'aa, The Republic of Yemen

Telegrams: Interior Minister, San'aa, Yemen

Faxes: +967 1 251 529 / 251 566

Salutation: Dear Minister

Minister of Justice

Isma'il Ahmad al-Wazir

Ministry of Justice

San'aa, The Republic of Yemen

Telegrams: Justice Minister, San'aa, Yemen

Faxes: + 967 1 252 138

Salutation: Dear Minister

Please note that the fax numbers provided are correct as far as we know but that difficulties may be experienced in transmitting faxes at certain times of the day possibly connected to working hours or technical problems. If this is the case please try later on.

COPIES TO:diplomatic representatives of Yemen accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 8 December 1997.