## Date: 11 March 2011

## **URGENT ACTION**

## FOUR PROTESTERS RELEASED IN IRAQ

Four protesters detained in Baghdad on 7 March were released on 10 March. Amnesty International has not been able to talk to any of the four protesters and therefore has no information about their treatment in detention.

Ala' Sayhoud, Ma'an Thamer, 'Ali Abdel Zahra' and Muhammad Kadhim Finjan were released from prison on 10 March following their detention 3 days earlier. The four men were among at least 10 people reported to have been detained by Iraqi security forces at about 1pm on 7 March in the al-Batawin area of Baghdad just after leaving a demonstration. The families of the four men were not able to contact them during their detention.

Amnesty International raised its concerns about the high risk of torture in detention following testimonies of other protesters who were arrested and tortured in recent weeks. The organisation has not been able to speak to the four men and therefore there is no information available on their treatment in detention.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals. Amnesty International will keep on monitoring the cases and take further action as necessary.

This is the first update of UA 65/11, Index: MDE 14/008/2011. Further information: http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE14/008/2011/en

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