

URGENT ACTION

PROMINENT POLITICAL LEADERS FREED

Farouk Abu Issa and Dr Amin Maki Madani were released unconditionally on 9 April after being in detention for 124 days. Sudan's Minister of Justice, under article 58 of Sudan's Criminal Procedure Act, 1991, dismissed the court case against Farouk Abu Issa and Dr Amin Maki Madani.

Sudan's National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) arrested **Farouk Abu Issa**, the leader of the opposition alliance National Consensus Forces (NCF) and **Dr Amin Maki Madani**, the head of the alliance of the Sudanese Civil Society organizations on 6 December 2014. The arrest followed their signing of the "**Sudan Call**" document three days earlier, in Addis Ababa. The document was also signed by armed groups and other opposition parties. It called for democratic transformation, the dismantlement of the *de facto* one-party state, and an end to conflict in Sudan.

Both men were charged with capital offences under the 1991 Penal Code including 'complicity to execute a criminal agreement', 'undermining the constitutional system' and calling for 'opposition of the public authority by violence or criminal force'. Their trial began in February 2015.

Their health significantly deteriorated during their detention. Amnesty International issued two urgent actions in December 2014 and February 2015 urging Sudanese authorities to release them.

No further action is requested of the UA network. Many thanks to those who sent appeals.

This is the second update of UA 310/14. Further information: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR54/0002/2015/en/>

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