EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on EXTRA 05/95 (MDE 12/03/95, 11 January 1995) - <u>Death</u> Penalty

## EGYPT Mohammad Nagui Mohammad Mustapha Mohammad Khadir Abu al-Farag al-Mahlawi

According to a *Reuters* report of 20 February 1995, the President of the Republic has now ratified the death sentences passed on the two people named above. Although Mohammad Nagui Mohammad Mustapha and Mohammad Khadir Abu al-Farag al-Mahlawi may submit a petition to the Military Appeals Bureau, they have no right of appeal as provided by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Their execution may be imminent.

The two men were sentenced to death on 10 January 1995 by the Supreme Military Court in Cairo which pronounced judgement in the case of the attempted assassination of the prominent novelist Naguib Mahfouz on 14 October 1994. Other charges against them include membership of a banned Islamist group known as *al-Gama'a al-Islamiya* (Islamic Group) and possession of weapons and ammunition.

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

- expressing concern that the death sentences passed on Mohammad Nagui Mohammad Mustapha and Mohammad Khadir Abu al-Farag al-Mahlawi have been ratified, and urging that the President use his constitutional right to grant clemency and commute these and all other pending death sentences;

- expressing concern at the upsurge in the use of the death penalty in Egypt (62 death sentences have been passed by military courts since December 1992 and 42 executions have now taken place), reiterating Amnesty International's opposition to the death penalty as a violation of the right to life and the most extreme form of cruel and inhuman punishment;

- drawing attention to world trends to abolish or reduce the use of the death penalty, in accordance with Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Egypt is a state party.

## APPEALS TO:

His Excellency Mohammad Hosni Mubarak President of the Arab Republic of Egypt 'Abedine Palace Cairo, Egypt Telegrams: President Mubarak, Cairo, Egypt Telexes: 93794 WAZRA UN Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The Human Rights Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs Corniche al-Nil Cairo, Egypt Dr Fathi Sorour Speaker The People's Assembly Magles al-Shaab Street Cairo, Egypt

and to diplomatic representatives of Egypt accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 25 March 1995.