

PUBLIC

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**Further information on UA 245/01 (MDE 12/025/2001, 25 September 2001) - Possible prisoner of conscience/health concern**

**EGYPTFarid Zahran (m), aged 44, NGO activist**

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Farid Zahran was released on bail yesterday afternoon.

On 2 October the State Security Prosecution had ordered his conditional release whilst investigations into his activities continue. Farid Zahran was released from Mazra'at Tora Prison two days later, after paying 5000 Egyptian Pounds (about US\$1180) bail.

A few hours after his release, Farid Zahran spoke to Amnesty International and thanked them for campaigning on his behalf. He said that the prison authorities had refused to let him see a medical expert about his heart condition, although he had asked many times. He also said that he had been beaten during his arrest and kept blindfolded for four hours afterwards. He had been held in solitary confinement for most of the two weeks he was in custody.

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