

URGENT ACTION

MORSI AND TEAM'S WHEREABOUTS STILL UNKNOWN

Mohamed Morsi is "well", the European Union Foreign Affairs Representative has said after meeting with him on 29 July. Catherine Ashton told reporters she had seen the facility he was being held at, but did not know where it was, as she had been flown there.

Catherine Ashton said the deposed President **Mohamed Morsi** had access to newspapers and television, but gave no other details of his conditions of detention. She said she had tried to make sure his family knew he was well. An African Union delegation met with Mohamed Morsi on 30 July, and said yesterday that Morsi was not allowed to contact the media or his supporters.

Mohamed Morsi is being held in a military facility along with at least two of his aides, a human rights defender who visited the compound told Amnesty International. Nasser Amin said that he and another human rights defender had been flown there on 27 July after asking the authorities for permission. They spoke to aide **Refa'a al-Tahtawy** in private, but Mohamed Morsi refused to meet the human rights defenders.

The president and the two men were held in the Republican Guard Club in Cairo's Nasr City until 5 July, Refa'a al-Tahtawy told Nasser Amin. After Mohamed Morsi's supporters staged protests outside the compound, they were transferred to the new military facility. Refa'a al-Tahtawy said that he and aide **Assaad al-Shikh** were both given an opportunity to leave on 5 July, but decided to remain with the deposed president.

The legal status of the two men is unclear. They have apparently not been questioned or charged, or allowed contact with their families. Nasser Amin said they had not been ill-treated. The legal status and exact location of the remaining seven members of the presidential team are also unclear.

Please write immediately in Arabic or your own language:

- Urging the Egyptian authorities to disclose immediately the whereabouts of all of Mohamed Morsi's team;
- Calling on them to immediately grant them access to their families, lawyers and doctors;
- Urging them to release Mohamed Morsi's aides unless they are charged promptly with recognizably criminal offences and tried before civilian courts, in full compliance with international fair trial guarantees;
- Calling on them to ensure anybody charged and ordered detained is held in a lawful place of detention;
- Calling on them to protect all those deprived of their liberty from torture and other ill-treatment.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 12 SEPTEMBER 2013 TO:

Interim President

Adly Mahmoud Mansour
Office of the President
Al Ittihadia Palace
Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt
Fax: +202 2 391 1441

Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Defence

General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi
Ministry of Defence
Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt
Fax: +202 2 290 6004
+202 2 291 6227
Email: mmc@afmic.gov.eg
Salutation: Dear General

Public Prosecutor

Hesham Mohamed Zaki Barakat
Office of the Public Prosecutor
Supreme Court House, 1 "26 July" Road
Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt
Fax: +202 2 577 4716
+202 2 575 7165
(switched off after office hours, GMT+2)
Salutation: Dear Counsellor

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the first update of UA 196/13. Further information:
www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE12/040/2013/en

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The men believed to be held without visits by their families or lawyers are deposed President Mohamed Morsi; Ayman Ali; Ahmed Abdelaty; Assaad al-Shikh; Khaled al-Qazzaz; Essam al-Haddad; Abdelmequid Mashali; Refa'a al-Tahtawy; Ayman al-Hodhod; and Ayman al-Serafy.

The two human rights defenders who attempted to visit Mohamed Morsi and his aides were Nasser Amin, Director of the Arab Centre for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession; and Mohamed Fayek, Board Member of the Arab Organization for Human Rights.

Thousands of Egyptians took to the streets on 30 June to call on President Mohamed Morsi to step down. It was the start of a new wave of protests against his rule. The protests had been sparked by the Tamarud ("Rebellion") movement, which had collected a petition calling on the president to resign, and were backed by a coalition of opposition leaders. Over the next few days, many of the president's supporters also took to the streets to stage counter-protests. Many of the protests saw clashes between the president's supporters and opponents.

On the night of 3 July, Minister of Defence Abdel Fattah al-Sisi announced that the Constitution was suspended and that Mohamed Morsi was no longer president. He named Adly Mansour, the Head of Egypt's Supreme Constitutional Court, as Egypt's new president and said that an interim government would rule the country ahead of new elections. Minutes after the Minister of Defence's statement, security forces raided television stations known for supporting Mohamed Morsi, arrested their staff and shut them down. In the days that followed, the security forces rounded up hundreds of Mohamed Morsi's supporters on accusations that they had incited or participated in violence. Many were members of the Muslim Brotherhood, a movement to which Mohamed Morsi has close political ties.

The security forces have arrested more than 770 men in Cairo alone. They include prominent leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood and its political party, the Freedom and Justice Party. While courts ordered that 650 men be released on bail, an unknown number are still detained because they do not have the money to post bail. Many of the men had been arrested on 8 July after the security forces broke up a protest around the Republican Guard Club, leading to violence which left at least 51 Morsi supporters dead, as well as one army officer and two members of the security forces. At least nine leading members of the Muslim Brotherhood and their allies have also been detained. They include the Muslim Brotherhood's former General Guide, Mohamed Mahdi Akef; Deputy General Guides Khairat al-Shater and Rashad Bayoumi; the Head of the Freedom and Justice Party, Saad al-Katatni; and Muslim Brotherhood lawyer Abdelmonim Abdelmaqsud. They are believed to be held in the maximum-security prison of Alaqrab ("The Scorpion"), south of Cairo, some 2km from the Tora Prison complex. Two leaders of the Al-Wasat ("The Centre") Party, known for its support of the Muslim Brotherhood, were also arrested on 29 July.

Some members or supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood might have been involved in inciting or participating in violence. However, Amnesty International is concerned that others are being pursued solely for their membership or support of the Muslim Brotherhood, and their peaceful exercise of their rights to freedom of expression and assembly. Amnesty International has called on the Egyptian authorities to release all those detained, or charge them with recognizably criminal offences and try them fairly. It has also urged the authorities to release, immediately and unconditionally, anyone detained solely for peacefully exercising their rights to freedom of expression, assembly or association.

Name: Mohamed Morsi; Ayman Ali; Ahmed Abdelaty; Assaad al-Shikh; Khaled al-Qazzaz; Essam al-Haddad; Abdelmequid Mashali; Refa'a al-Tahtawy; Ayman al-Hodhod; Ayman al-Serafy
Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 196/13 Index: MDE 12/041/2013 Issue Date: 1 August 2013