

Your Excellency,

I am writing this to express my grave concern on six men who could be executed if their appeal is rejected. They are Ahmed Amin Ghazali Amin, Abdul Basir Abdul Rauf, Mohamed Fawzi Abd al-Gawad Mahmoud, Reda Motamad Fahmy Abd al-Monem, Ahmed Mustafa Ahmed Mohamed, and Mahmoud al-Sharif Mahmoud. The Supreme Military Court sentenced them to death on 20 May 2016, for belonging to a banned group (the Muslim Brotherhood), being in possession of firearms and explosives, and obtaining classified military information without authorization. The court also sentenced two other men to death on the same charges in absentia.

Under the Constitution and the Code of Criminal Procedures, once the Supreme Military Court rejects an appeal the death sentence verdict becomes final and can no longer be appealed.

So I urge you to retry all those convicted in the case before an ordinary, civilian court, without recourse to the death penalty, and in proceedings that respect international fair trial standards and exclude "confessions" and other evidence obtained through torture and other ill-treatment.

I also urge you to establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty.

Your prompt attention on this matter would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,