

I am writing this to express my grave concern on human rights defender Hanan Badr el-Din, co-founder of the Families of the Forcibly Disappeared Association, who has started a hunger strike over a court decision on 5 August to renew her detention for 45 more days. Hanan Badr el-Din, who is a prisoner of conscience, has been in pre-trial detention since 6 May 2017.

Hanan Badr el-Din has been in pre-trial detention on fabricated charges of “membership in a banned group” and is protesting her prolonged detention without trial and being denied access to adequate health care by prison officials.

I should call on authorities to release Hanan Badr el-Din immediately and unconditionally and to drop all charges against her and also to ensure that Hanan Badr el-Din has adequate and regular access to qualified health professionals providing health care, including access to prescribed medication, in compliance with medical ethics, including the principles of confidentiality.

Your attention on this matter would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely,