

Your Excellency,

I am writing to express my grave concern on nineteen year old, Noura Hussein Hamad Daoud, who was sentenced to death on 10 May for killing her husband in self-defence after he tried to rape her for a second time. The Central Criminal Court of Omdurman in Sudan, on 29 April, found her guilty of the murder of her husband Abdulrahman Mohamed Hammad. Noura's case highlights the failure of the Sudan government to tackle the tragedy of early and forced marriage as well as marital rape.

I am calling on the Sudanese authorities to immediately quash the conviction and death sentence against Noura Hussein Hamad Daoud.

They should be urged to take into consideration the mitigating circumstances in this case in a retrial in proceedings that fully comply with international standards for a fair trial and without recourse to the death penalty.

I am also urging them to implement the recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and amend the Sudan Personal Status Law to raise the legal age of marriage from 10 to 18 years old.

Your prompt attention to this would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,