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Public Prosecutor Mohamed Shawky Ayyad
Office of the Public Prosecutor
Madinat al-Rehab
Cairo
Arab Republic of Egypt

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Dear Counsellor,

**I write to you to express my grave concern over the ongoing arbitrary detention of members of the Ahmadi Religion of Peace and Light who have been detained solely for exercising their right to freedom of religion or belief.**

On 11 March 2025, police officers in plain clothes arrested Ahmed Mohammed Al-Tenawi and his brother, Hussein Mohammed Al-Tenawi, two Syrian asylum seekers registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), at their house in 6th of October City in Giza governorate, without presenting an arrest warrant, according to a family member. Ahmed Mohammed Al-Tenawi was held incommunicado at the 6th of October First Police Station for 28 days before being unlawfully deported to Syria on 9 April. On 10 March, security forces arrested Omar Mahmoud Abdel Maguid, another member of the Ahmadi community, following a violent raid on his home in Cairo. A relative said that police officers searched the house again on the same day to arrest Omar Mahmoud Abdel Maguid’s brother-in-law, Hazem Saied Abdel Moatamed, also a member of the religious minority, who had fled. However, he was arrested three days later, on 13 March, in 10th of Ramadan City in Sharqia Governorate, according to his family.

Security forces subsequently forcibly disappeared Hussein Mohammed Al-Tenawi, Omar Mahmoud Abdel Maguid and Hazem Saied Abdel Moatamed for periods ranging between 29 to 34 days before bringing them before a prosecutor. Their families submitted complaints to the prosecution on 25 March, inquiring about their whereabouts, but have not received a response. On 10 and 13 April 2025, authorities brought Omar Mahmoud Abdel Maguid, Hazem Saied Abdel Moatamed and Hussein Mohammed Al-Tenawi, for interrogation before the Supreme State Security Prosecution (SSSP) without allowing them access to a lawyer of their choosing. Prosecutors investigated them along with 10 other members of the religious minority on charges of «joining a group established in violation of law and constitution». They have all been detained pending investigations and are currently held in the 10th of Ramadan Prison.

**I urge you to immediately and unconditionally release Hussein Mohammed Al-Tenawi, Omar Mahmoud Abdel Maguid, Hazem Saied Abdel Moatamed and all other members of the Ahmadi religious minority who have been arbitrarily detained solely for exercising their right to freedom of religion or belief, to open an investigation into the three men’s enforced disappearance and to stop prosecuting Ahmadi believers solely for peacefully exercising their faith.**

Yours sincerely,

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**Copie**

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