

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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*This action was sent out on 6 November 1990 as a telex/fax/e-mail action only for reasons of speed. The reference number was TLX 44/90. As the execution has been postponed it is now being issued as a full Urgent Action.*

UA 451/90

Fear of Execution

8 November 1990

REPUBLIC OF YEMEN : Hassan Yussif 'Abdullah al-Bishri

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Amnesty International remains deeply concerned about reports that a Yemeni citizen is still facing execution in the Republic of Yemen. Hassan Yussif 'Abdullah al-Bishri was sentenced to death four years ago by the Hudaida Court of First Instance, following his conviction of murder. Amnesty International does not know the legal procedures followed in his case. However, in order to be imposed, death sentences in the former Yemen Arab Republic needed to be upheld by an Appeals Court and the High Court of Cassation, then ratified by the Supreme Judicial Council and by the President of the Republic. Mr al-Bishri's family had been notified that he was to be executed on Thursday 8 November. On 6 November Amnesty International urged General 'Ali Abdullah Saleh, Chairman of the Presidential Council, to commute the death sentence. The organization has just learned that the execution has been postponed, but does not know whether a new date has been fixed.

Hassan Yussif 'Abdullah al-Bishri was born in al-Mansuriyya, Hudaida Province in 1955. He is married and has three children. At the time of his arrest, he was a soldier in the army's anti-smuggling unit. His family have stated that the killing occurred during the course of his duty and was not premeditated murder. He is currently held in Hudaida Central Prison.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:**

- welcoming the postponement of the execution of Hassan Yussif 'Abdullah al-Bishri and urging the commutation of the death sentence imposed on him;
- seeking details of trial and appeals procedures followed in his case.

**APPEALS TO:**

His Excellency General 'Ali 'Abdullah Saleh  
Chairman of the Presidential Council  
Sana'a  
The Republic of Yemen

Faxes: 967-2-262 017

Telegrams: President 'Ali 'Abdullah Saleh, Sana'a,  
Republic of Yemen

Telexes: 2422 RIASAH YE

**COPIES TO:** Diplomatic representatives of the Republic of Yemen in your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 20 December 1990.