

PUBLIC

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Further Information on UA 306/06 (MDE 14/041/2006, 16 November 2006) – Death penalty/Imminent execution

IRAQ Awraz Abdel Aziz Mahmoud Sa'eed (m)

Awraz Abdel Aziz Mahmoud Sa'eed was executed by hanging on 3 July in Baghdad.

He had been sentenced to death by the Central Criminal Court of Iraq (CCCI) on 30 March 2006, reportedly in connection with the attack on the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad of 19 August 2003 in which 22 people were killed, including the UN special envoy to Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello. However, according to an official from the Iraqi Ministry of Justice, Awraz Abdel Aziz Mahmoud Sa'eed was sentenced to death in connection with a car bomb attack that killed Ayatollah Muhammed Baqr al-Hakim, leader of the Shi'a political group Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, and 80 other people, in the city of Najaf in August 2003. According to other reports he was sentenced to death in October 2006 by the CCCI, not on 30 March 2006.

Amnesty International is checking further on these reports to confirm the exact charges that had been brought against Awraz Abdel Aziz Mahmoud Sa'eed as well as the exact dates of his trial before the CCCI and the Court of Cassation's hearing. The execution was carried out after ratification by the Presidential Council.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.