Public Prosecutor Nabil Sadek

Office of the Public Prosecutor

Dar al-Qada al-Ali, Down Town

Cairo

Arab Republic of Egypt

Dear Counsellor:

I write to with great concern about detained human rights defenders and journalists in Egypt.

Ezzat Ghoniem is a human rights defender and co-founder and director of the Egyptian Coordination for Rights and Freedoms. He has been detained for almost a month over unfounded charges related to his human rights work along with journalists Mostafa al- Aassar, Hassan al-Banna, and Moataz Wadnan, and lawyer Azzoz Mahgoub. Hisham Genena, the former head of the Egyptian Central Auditing Organization, was also arrested after he publicly supported opposition presidential candidate Sami Anan in an interview with journalist Moataz Wadnan.

I respectfully request that you immediately and unconditionally release Ezzat Ghoniem, Mostafa al-Aassar, Hassan al-Banna Mubarak, Moataz Wadnan, Hisham Genena and Azzoz Mahgoub as they have been detained solely for their peaceful human rights work and the exercise of their right to freedom of expression. Furthermore, I urge you to investigate all reports of enforced disappearance, including of Ezzat Ghoniem, Mostafa al-Assar, and Hassan al-Bana, make the results public, and bring those suspected of criminal responsibility to justice. Enforced disappearance is a crime under international law.

Yours sincerely,

April 6, 2018

Ambassador Yasser Reda

Embassy of Egypt   
3521 International Ct NW

Washington, DC 20008

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Yours sincerely,

Richard D. Ankney