President HE Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir

Office of the President

People’s Palace

PO Box 281

Khartoum, Sudan

Your Excellency:

I write to with great concern about Noura Hussein Hamad Daoud, a nineteen-year-old girl who was sentenced to death on 10 May for killing her husband in self-defense after he tried to rape her for a second time. Ms. Daoud’s marriage took place against her will when she was only sixteen years of age, a violation of the UN Declaration of Human Rights Article 16. At the hands of her husband and his relatives, she has been raped and beaten. Clearly, her actions that led to this conviction were in self-defense and were the result of this terrible violence against her.

I respectfully request that you immediately quash the conviction and death sentence against Noura Hussein Hamad Daoud. I urge you to consider 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. Finally, I urge you 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.

Yours sincerely,