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The Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Special Procedures Branch), and with reference to the joint communication REF: AL EGY 3/2025 dated 7 May 2025;

The Permanent Mission of Egypt has the honor to attach herewith the reply of the Government of Egypt to the above-mentioned joint communication (4 pages).

The Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Special Procedures Branch).

Geneva, 1 July 2025



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PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
& OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

*(Translated from Arabic)*

**Response of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the joint communication concerning Egyptian citizens Ali Ramdan Ali Ahmed, Ali Fathy Ali Mabrouk, Soliman Mawod Soliman Mohamed, Emad Adel Abdulaziz Maaty and Ahmad Assayed Suleiman (also known as Ahmad Gika or Gika)**

In response to the joint communication received from a group of special rapporteurs regarding allegations concerning the detention and trial of a number of Egyptian citizens, we wish to reaffirm the commitment of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the principles of the rule of law, respect for human rights, and cooperation with the relevant international mechanisms. The response of the Government of Egypt to the communication is provided below.

**I. Information concerning the individuals who are the subject of the communication**

1. Ali Fathy Ali Mabrouk, Ali Ramdan Ali Ahmed and Soliman Mawod Mohamed Soliman are being held in pretrial detention pending Supreme State Security Case No. 846/2025, on charges of joining a terrorist group while being aware of its objectives, inciting violence, arousing fear among citizens, carrying out hostile acts, through a plan that aims to disturb public security, undermine community peace and harm the public interest, and engaging in subversive actions to obstruct the law and the Constitution and to prevent State institutions from operating in order to provoke chaos. They are being held in 10th of Ramadan Correction and Rehabilitation Centre 6, one of the community correction and rehabilitation centers affiliated with the Ministry of the Interior's Community Protection Department, which is subject to judicial supervision, including supervision and inspection by the Public Prosecution Service. A review of the visitors' log for the aforementioned individuals shows that they have received regular visits from their families and relatives, as described below.
2. Ali Fathy Ali Mabrouk received his last visit on 31 May 2025, from [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. Ali Ramdan Ali Ahmed received his last visit on 1 June 2025, from [REDACTED]. Soliman Mawod Mohamed Soliman received his last visit on 26 May 2025, from [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].
3. Emad Adel Abdulaziz Maaty is being held in pretrial detention pending case No. 851/2025 before the Supreme State Security Court on charges of joining a terrorist group while aware of its objectives, inciting violence, arousing fear among citizens, harming the public interest and

provoking chaos through a plan aimed at disturbing public security and undermining community peace. He is being held at the 10th of Ramadan Correction and Rehabilitation Centre 6, which is subject to judicial supervision as explained above. He receives regular visits from his family, most recently from [REDACTED], on 3 June 2025.

4. Ahmad Hamdi Assayed Suleiman espouses the ideology of Al-Qaida and was planning to commit terrorist acts in the country. He is currently being held in custody pending case No. 165/2024 under the jurisdiction of the Supreme State Security Court. His detention began on 25 February 2024, on charges of joining a terrorist group while aware of its objectives, embracing the ideas of the aforementioned terrorist organization, and planning to carry out terrorist acts with the aim of disturbing public security, arousing fear among citizens, obstructing the law and the Constitution with a view to preventing State institutions from operating, ultimately causing chaos. It is also noted that he was previously charged in Supreme State Security Case No. 520/2015 with planning to kill an Egyptian citizen from the Christian community for allegedly attacking Islam through his Facebook account.

## **II. Legal basis for the measures taken against the individuals concerned**

5. All of the persons mentioned in the communication are being held in pretrial detention because they meet the criteria for pretrial detention set forth in article 134 of Act No. 150 of 1950 promulgating the Code of Criminal Procedure. The grounds for pretrial detention – of which there is an exhaustive list in the Code – include the risk that the accused person may abscond or collude with co-perpetrators to alter, or conceal aspects of, the truth, and the need to prevent serious breaches of security and public order resulting from the gravity of the crimes they are accused of committing, namely terrorism and joining terrorist groups with full knowledge of their objectives.
6. All of the persons concerned were arrested pursuant to judicial orders issued by the Public Prosecution Service, as the independent judicial authority competent to issue warrants for arrests and summons, based on strong evidence that they were involved in terrorist acts that are punishable under Egyptian criminal law. They were charged under the Anti-Terrorism Act (No. 94) of 2015, specifically article 2, which criminalizes the establishment or leadership of a terrorist group, article 6, which criminalizes the financing of and provision of material or moral support to any terrorist group, article 12, which criminalizes incitement to commit terrorist

crimes, and article 13, which concerns the use of means of communication to spread extremist ideas or threaten public security. They were also charged under the Criminal Code, particularly articles 86 et seq. on combating terrorist crimes, article 80 (d), which criminalizes endangering the country's interests through the use of media or publications, and article 188, which criminalizes the spreading of false news that could disturb public peace, as well as article 27 of the Cybercrime Act (No. 175) of 2018, which criminalizes the publication of content that incites the commission of terrorist crimes or disrupts public security.

### **III. Legal safeguards in correction and rehabilitation centres**

7. The individuals concerned are being held in community correction and rehabilitation centres affiliated with the Community Protection Department, one of the important departments of the Ministry of the Interior, which are subject to judicial oversight pursuant to article 56 of the Constitution, including oversight by the Public Prosecution Service, which conducts periodic and unannounced inspections of all correction and rehabilitation centres. They enjoy multiple rights, especially the right to communicate with the outside world, including the rights to contact their private lawyers at any time and to receive regular visits from their families, and the right to continuous healthcare. According to official medical reports, the individuals concerned are in a stable condition and their vital signs are normal. They receive daily exercise and social care, on an equal footing with other inmates. This is in line with international standards, particularly those contained in:

- The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), especially rules 24–35 on healthcare
- Article 10 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which states that all persons deprived of their liberty shall be treated with respect for their inherent dignity.

### **IV. Legal framework for freedom of opinion and expression**

8. The Egyptian State recognizes that the rights to freedom of opinion and of expression are guaranteed under article 65 of the Constitution, which guarantees freedom of thought and opinion, and article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. However, as stipulated in article 19 (3) of the Covenant, this freedom is subject to legitimate conditions to protect national security, public order or the rights of others.

9. Resolution 35/34, adopted by the Human Rights Council in 2017, states that the fight against terrorism is not incompatible with the protection of human rights as long as measures are taken within the framework of the law.
10. In this context, Egypt emphasizes that the charges against the individuals concerned do not relate merely to the expression of opinions, but to acts that are punishable by law, such as joining a terrorist group with knowledge of its objectives. Their actions included incitement and calls for riots, which are criminalized under both domestic and international law.

**V. International support for counter-terrorism**

11. Egypt emphasizes that its counter-terrorism measures are in accordance with resolutions of international legitimacy, including:
  - Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), which requires States to take measures to prevent the financing of terrorism and restrict the movement of persons involved in terrorism;
  - Security Council resolution 1624 (2005), which calls on States to prohibit incitement of terrorism and the dissemination of ideas advocating violence;
  - The recommendations of the Human Rights Committee, which has on more than one occasion (for example, in its concluding observations on the reports of countries such as France, Australia and Kenya) recognized the right of States to restrict certain rights when they pose a genuine threat to national security.

**Conclusion**

12. The State of Egypt emphasizes that any allegations of ill-treatment or torture are investigated when formally submitted, as stipulated in article 55 of the Constitution and article 52 on the absolute prohibition of torture. However, no evidence or formal complaints have been filed in the cases in question. The Public Prosecution Service investigates each incident in accordance with the law and without interference from any executive or political body.
13. Lastly, Egypt wishes to reaffirm that it exercises its legal authority in accordance with the Constitution and its international obligations and clearly distinguishes between legitimate freedom of expression and incitement and the promotion of acts that threaten public peace. It calls for continued constructive dialogue based on facts rather than impressions, and on respect for the rule of law and the principles of the United Nations.