

**Mandate of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention.**

REFERENCE: UA G/SO 218/2  
EGY 3/2014

24 February 2014

Excellency,

I have the honour to address you in my capacity as Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 24/7.

In this connection, I would like to draw the attention of your Excellency's Government to information I have received regarding **the arrest and detention of Mrs. Manal Mohamed al-Morsi al-Shamy** (منال محمد المرسي الشامي).

According to the information received:

Mrs. Manal Mohamed al-Morsi al-Shamy (منال محمد المرسي الشامي) is an Egyptian citizen born on 31 December 1964 in al-Sharqiya. She holds an identity card number [REDACTED], issued in New Cairo in 2006. Mrs. al-Shamy is a single mother of four children and usually lives with her family at [REDACTED], New Cairo, Cairo, Egypt.

On 1 January 2014 at 3:00 a.m., security officers dressed in uniform allegedly raided the house of Mrs. al-Shamy and arrested her and three of her children without showing an arrest warrant. They were all taken to New Cairo II Police Station where they were interrogated. The three children were released the next day on 2 January 2014 in the afternoon, while Mrs. al-Shamy remained in detention at the police station.

On 3 January 2014, she was reportedly interrogated by prosecutors at the police station and charged with affiliating to the Muslim Brotherhood, inciting riots and protests, and writing on the walls of public buildings and school. Mrs. al-Shamy denies all the charges against her and her involvement in any of these activities. The prosecution ordered her detention for further 15 days in order to continue investigation of the charges. They confiscated her mobile phone and her daughter's laptop. On 17 January 2014, the prosecution extended her detention for further 15 days. Although Mrs. al-Shamy's lawyer appealed against the decision of the prosecution, the appeal was reportedly rejected.

Mrs. al-Shamy was detained in the New Cairo II Police Station since her arrest on 1 January 2014 until 23 January 2014. She was then transferred to al-Qanater Prison, where she remains in detention to date.

Mrs. al-Shamy's children were able to visit her four times so far and each visit lasted only for about five minutes. They visited Mrs. al-Shamy last on 6 February 2014 and noted that their mother's health has seriously deteriorated since she was arrested, as she suffers from diabetes and other diseases.

On 9 February 2014, the prosecution extended her detention for further 15 days and the investigation is reportedly continuing.

Without expressing at this stage an opinion on the facts of the case and on whether the detention of this person is arbitrary, we are appealing to your Excellency's Government to take all necessary measures to guarantee her rights not to be deprived arbitrarily of her liberty and to fair proceedings before an independent and impartial tribunal, in accordance with articles 9 and 10 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and articles 9 and 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ratified by Egypt in 1982

In view of the urgency of the matter, we would appreciate a response on the initial steps taken by your Excellency's Government to safeguard the rights of Mrs. al-Shamy in compliance with the above international instruments. We would also welcome assurances that Mrs. al-Shamy is afforded the medical attention and treatment that she may need while in detention.

Moreover, as it is our responsibility under the mandates provided to us by the Human Rights Council, to seek to clarify all cases brought to our attention, we would be grateful for your observations on the following matters, when relevant to the case under consideration:

1. Are the facts alleged in the summary of the case accurate?
2. Please provide information concerning the legal grounds for the arrest and detention of Mrs. al-Shamy and explain how such measures are compatible with Egypt's international legal obligations under the international instruments that it has ratified.
3. Please provide the details, and where available the results, of any investigation, medical examinations, and judicial or other inquiries carried out in relation to this case. If no inquiries have taken place, or if they have been inconclusive, please explain why.
4. Please provide information as to whether Mrs.al-Shamy has been provided with adequate medical care.

I will ensure that your Excellency's Government's response to this appeal will be available in the report that I will submit to the Human Rights Council for its consideration.

While waiting for your response, I urge your Excellency's Government to take all necessary measures to guarantee that the rights and freedoms of Mrs. Manal Mohamed al-Morsi al-Shamy are respected and, in the event that your investigations support or suggest the above allegations to be correct, the accountability of any person responsible of the alleged violations should be ensured. I also request that your Excellency's Government adopt effective measures to prevent the recurrence of these acts.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Mads Andenas  
Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention