

Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt
Z.E. Mr. Hatem Elsayed Mohamed Kamaleldin
Badhuisweg 92
2587 CL Den Haag

Groningen, 2021

Dear Counsellor,

I am writing to raise concerns about the arbitrary detention of journalist Mohamed Salah since 26 November 2019, and about alarming reports that he has been subjected to torture and other ill-treatment.

Salah was not allowed visits from 23 July until 28 December 2020, when relatives saw him briefly after having submitted complaints to the Cabinet of Egypt. Relatives of his cellmates followed suit in submitting complaints. On 8 January 2021, in an apparent retaliation for these complaints, security forces stripped the fourteen detainees held in Cell 6 of Dar Essalam police station naked, and beat them using batons and water pipes. Security forces also confiscated their blankets, flooded the cell with cold water and denied them health care. On 10 January 2021, Mohamed Salah was transferred to the Tora Investigations Prison and barred from visits until the end of March 2021.

I urge you to immediately and unconditionally release Mohamed Salah as he is held solely for the peaceful exercise of his human rights and to open prompt, independent, and effective investigations into the allegations of torture and other ill-treatment.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,