H.E. Abdel Fattah al-Sisi

President of the Arab Republic of Egypt

Office of the President

Al Ittihadia Palace

Cairo

Arab Republic of Egypt

Luxembourg,

Dear Mr President,

Alerted by ACAT-Luxembourg (Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture and the Death Penalty), I am writing to you regarding the situation of

**Mr Ahmed Amasha**,

a human and environmental rights defender who has been arrested for his peaceful activities in Egypt. According to the information I have received, several police officers raided Mr Amasha’s house in Hilwan on 17 June 2020 and took him to an unknown location. The family had no information about his condition or whereabouts until he was seen in the State Security Prosecutor’s office in Al-Tagammo district on 12 July. Mr Amasha was then taken again to an unknown place.

Mr Amasha has been threatened with arrest on several occasions. His house was raided in May 2020 by members of the police force who repeatedly asked the family about Mr Amasha’s location. Ahmed Amasha has long been targeted by the Egyptian authorities. In March 2017, he disappeared following his arrest at a police checkpoint in Cairo and was tortured by agents of the State Security Investigation Service during the interrogation. It was only in October 2019 that he was released on probation.

It is strongly suspected that Mr Amasha has been arrested and is being harassed solely on account of legitimate and peaceful human rights activities. I therefore urge you to ensure that the relevant authorities:

* immediately and unconditionally release Mr Ahmed Amasha;
* take all the necessary measures to guarantee his physical and psychological integrity and security;
* pending release, grant Mr Amasha access to his family, his lawyer and a doctor;
* conduct an immediate, thorough and impartial investigation into the disappearance of Mr Amasha and bring those responsible for any wrongdoings to justice;
* put an end to any acts of harassment against Mr Amasha and thus ensure that he can freely continue to exercise his peaceful human rights activities, without fear of reprisal and free from all restrictions.

These are obligations enshrined inter alia in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the UN Convention against Torture (CAT). The Arab Republic of Egypt is a party to these instruments and is bound to respect and apply them.

I thank you for the attention you will give to this concern.

Yours respectfully,

Name :

Address:

Signature

*Copy: Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Brussels*