



BAR HUMAN RIGHTS  
COMMITTEE OF  
ENGLAND AND WALES

London, 15 December 2014

## STATEMENT

### **Arrest of Dr. Amin Mekki Medani in Sudan**

The BHRC expresses its urgent concern about the arbitrary arrest and continued detention of the distinguished human rights lawyer Dr Amin Mekki Medani.

It is understood (based on credible reports) that Dr Medani was arrested at his home in Khartoum on 6th December 2014, that no warrant was produced for his arrest, and that no reasons were provided. Dr Medani had just returned from Addis Ababa where he had signed the “Sudan Call” (described as a political declaration seeking to move Sudan towards the establishment of “a state of citizenship and democracy”).

Dr Medani is 76 years old and known to suffer from both high blood pressure and diabetes. Reports suggest that Dr Medani’s access to prescription medication has been either limited by Sudanese Intelligence Services, or completely denied.

Human rights have formed the focus of Dr Medani’s career for many decades. He is the President of the Confederation of Sudanese Civil Society, and former President of the Sudan Human Rights Monitor. He has acted as Chief of Mission for the High Commission of Human Rights in the West Bank and Gaza, and Regional Representative in Beirut. His family have been refused information about his condition and where he is detained.

The BHRC calls on the Sudanese government:

- To take immediate steps to bring about Dr Medani’s unconditional release
- To disclose Dr Medani’s whereabouts
- To ensure Dr Medani’s well-being
- To treat Dr Medani in accordance with the rule of law

**END.**

## **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

1. The Bar Human Rights Committee of England and Wales (“BHRC”) is the international human rights arm of the Bar of England and Wales. It is independent of the Bar Council and works to protect the rights of advocates, judges and human rights defenders around the world. The Committee is concerned with defending the rule of law and internationally recognised legal standards relating to human rights and the right to a fair trial. The remit of BHRC extends to all countries of the world, apart from its own jurisdiction of England & Wales. This reflects the Committee's need to maintain its role as an independent but legally qualified observer, critic and advisor, with internationally accepted rule of law principles at the heart of its agenda.

### **BHRC website**

<http://www.barhumanrights.org.uk/>