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GERMANY

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Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir

Office of the President

People’s Palace, PO Box 281

Khartoum

**SUDAN**

*47 students including Salih Yagoub Omer (killed)*

Your Excellency,

It has come to my attention that at the end of December last year in the states of Sannar und al-Chartum 47 students from Darfur were arrested and one of them, Salih Yagoub Omer, was killed during the arrest. I consider that the arrests were arbitrary, as there are good reasons to believe that the “confessions” made by the students later in press conferences transmitted by national television programmes were obtained by torture and other forms of mistreatment. As I’m sure you know this is a serious infringement of the Sudanese law of 1991 concerning criminal proceedings and also international standards of human rights.

In the light of this distressing situation, your Excellency, I call upon you respectfully

* to ensure that
* the 47 students are released immediately and unconditionally as it is apparent they are being held because they had exercise their human rights,
* pending the release, they are neither tortured nor mistreated in other ways and also have access to legal counsel of their choice and also to members of their family;
* to launch an independent, purposeful and transparent investigation of their arbitrary imprisonment and the probably coerced “confessions” and also into the circumstances of the death of Salih Yagoub Omer during a raid on 27 December 2018

Yours faithfully,