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## **Rt Hon David Cameron MP**

Prime Minister 10 Downing Street London SW1A 2AA

**Chair of Council** 

19 May 2014

## Dr Meriam Yehya Ibrahim

I am writing on behalf of the British Medical Association to express our grave concerns about the plight of Dr Meriam Yehya Ibrahim.

Dr Ibrahim has been sentenced to death in the Sudan. Her alleged 'crime' is 'apostasy' following her conversion to Christianity. By every humane standard, Dr Ibrahim is innocent of any recognisable offence. She is also eight months pregnant. We understand that prior to her execution she is to be given 100 lashes.

We have written to the Sudanese authorities and are taking up the matter through our global contacts with the World Medical Association. We are also writing to you to request that you use all avenues at your disposal to put pressure on the Sudanese authorities to overturn this grotesque sentence. It goes without saying that the Sudanese judgment is in violation of international human rights and moral norms. According to progressive Muslim scholars it is also an inhumane and archaic reading of Islamic law. Amnesty International has rightly stated that Dr Ibrahim is a prisoner of conscience. We have joined with them in calling for her immediate and unconditional release.

It is inconceivable that such a barbaric sentence should be allowed to stand and we urge you to take up this issue as a matter of the greatest urgency.

## Dr Mark Porter Chair of Council, BMA

Copy to Rt Hon William Hague MP, Secretary of State to the Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs