

Remarks by the Arab Republic of Egypt
on the 47th Activity Report of
the African Commission on Human and People's Rights

1. Paragraph 22: It is factually incorrect to list Egypt as having one overdue periodic report to be submitted under article 62 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. Egypt submitted a combined periodic report on May 2018, and it was considered by the Commission at its 64th Ordinary Session in 14 May 2019, during which the discussion covered all human rights related aspects in Egypt until the date of discussion. The periodicity should be calculated from the date of discussion, in order to minimize the States Parties' reporting burden.

2. Paragraph 35, sub-paragraph 8: The reply to the urgent letter of appeal by the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information, concerning the arrest of Mahmoud Hussein, was transmitted by the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Dakar to the Secretariat of the Commission by Note Verbale No. 30/ACHPR/19 on 6 November 2019, within the period covered by the report, and should have been reflected in the report.

3. Paragraph 46, sub-paragraph 17: No communications from the commission to verify the allegations regarding the shutdown of Al-Tahrir newspaper website were transmitted by the Commission to the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt. The reference to the issue should therefore be omitted from the report. The commission should base itself on verified information, and commit to impartiality.

4. Paragraph 27: The Government should have been officially informed by the Commission of the latter's decision to consider communication 670/19 once it was taken inadmissible, according to practice and the Rules of Procedure of the Commission.