**MONTHLY ACTION: MAY 2019**

 **Egypt: Teenage torture victim faces 15 years in jail**

14-year-old Aser Mohamed was arrested on 12 January 2016 when armed police and National Security Agency (NSA) officers raided his home. The agents said they were taking him away for brief questioning, but he was gone for 24 days, during which nobody knew where he was or why he had been taken.

On 15 February 2016, Aser Mohamed appeared before the Supreme State Security Prosecution in New Cairo for questioning without his lawyer. The prosecutor charged Aser Mohamed with belonging to the banned Muslim Brotherhood Group and participating in the 7 January 2016 hotel attack. When he denied the charges, he alleged that the prosecutor responded: “It seems that you want to go back to the electric shocks again”, indicating that the prosecutor knew Aser Mohamed had been subjected to electric shocks torture in detention by the NSA to “confess”. The prosecutor took no action to investigate or hold those responsible for torture or other ill-treatment into account.

Aser was put in pre-trial detention, even though this is banned for children under the age of 15 in Egypt. His trial began in August 2016 and if convicted he could face up to 15 years’ imprisonment.

His case was due to be heard in April 2019 but has been postponed again..

**TAKE ACTION**

Please write to the Egyptian authorities now calling on them to immediately release Aser Mohamed.

**Please let us know about any actions taken on this case by contacting: childrensnetwork@amnesty.org.uk. Thank you.**