Minister of the Interior
Mahmoud Tawfiq
Ministry of Interior
25, El Sheikh Rihan Street
Bab al-Louk, Cairo
**ÄGYPTEN**

Dear Minister

I am greatly concerned that since September 2023, the Egyptian authorities have carried out mass arrests of Sudanese refugees for entering or remaining in the country irregularly.

It appears that migrants have been arrested and detained for periods ranging from a few days up to six weeks in cruel and inhumane conditions, before being forcibly deported to Sudan without an individualized risk assessment or the opportunity to claim asylum or challenge deportation decisions. Meanwhile the rising racist and xenophobic speeches and statements by high-ranking government officials about Egypt’s economic burden of hosting refugees are widespread in the media and the social media.

I kindly urge you to immediately halt all collective expulsions to Sudan and respect the principle of non-refoulement by not deporting back to a country where they are at risk of serious human rights violations. Please end the unchecked arrest and detention of Sudanese nationals and ensure that they are held in conditions in line with the international standards regarding the treatment of prisoners and grant them access to their families, lawyers, and any medical care they may require.

Yours sincerely