AI INDEX: EUR 44/28 /96 19 FEBRUARY 1996

<u>TURKEY: CORRECTION TO PUBLIC MISREPRESENTATION OF AMNESTY</u> <u>INTERNATIONAL'S POSITION ON LEYLA ZANA, IMPRISONED KURDISH FORMER</u> <u>PARLIAMENTARY DEPUTY</u>

A misunderstanding seems to have given rise to a misrepresentation of Amnesty International's position on the imprisonment of Leyla Zana, Kurdish former parliamentary deputy, in an article by Ahmet Sever which appeared in the Turkish daily *Milliyet* (Nationhood) on 16 February 1996.

Amnesty International has never stated that Leyla Zana "is not a prisoner of conscience". The human rights organization has not published or otherwise announced any such conclusion.

The article refers to replies given by Amnesty International representatives to the British member of parliament Richard Balfe, and to the Danish newspaper *Information*. In both replies it was made clear that Amnesty International has not yet completed its investigation of the proceedings brought against her and her fellow imprisoned deputies.

ENDS