

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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UA 339/92 Health concern/fear of ill-treatment/incommunicado detention

ALGERIA: Nadir HAMMOUDI

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Amnesty International is concerned about the health and treatment of Nadir Hammoudi, a 27-year-old architect arrested on 9 October 1992, who has been held incommunicado in garde à vue detention beyond the maximum 12-day-period allowed by Algerian law under the state of emergency regulations. Amnesty International fears that he may be at risk of ill-treatment in incommunicado detention. In addition, Nadir Hammoudi is asthmatic and was reportedly not allowed to take his medicines for asthma with him at the time of his arrest.

Nadir Hammoudi was reportedly arrested without a warrant at his home in the centre of Algiers at 2am by several armed members of the security forces. His family and lawyer have since contacted several police stations and other authorities, but have been unable to obtain any information on his whereabouts or reason for detention.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since the state of emergency was declared in Algeria in February 1992 several thousand suspected supporters of Islamic opposition groups have been detained without charge or trial in internment camps. During the last month over 500 people have been arrested in government sweeps against suspected members of armed groups who were said to be responsible for the killing of over 150 members of the security forces since March this year. In October 1992 a new anti-terrorist law increased the maximum period of garde à vue detention (when a defendant is held incommunicado without access to his family or a lawyer) from 48 hours to 12 days. Amnesty International has received reports of ill-treatment of detainees and is concerned that incommunicado detention without access to family, lawyers or independent doctors creates conditions conducive to ill-treatment or torture.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in French, if possible, or in your own language:**

- urgently seeking information on the whereabouts and legal status of Nadir Hammoudi;

- urging the Algerian authorities to ensure that Nadir Hammoudi is allowed immediate access to his family and lawyer and to medical care;

- seeking assurances that he is not being ill-treated while he is being held incommunicado in garde à vue detention;

- urging the Algerian authorities to ensure that all those recently arrested are allowed prompt access to their families and lawyers and to medical care if necessary, in compliance with both Algerian and international laws.

**APPEALS TO:**

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1) Minister of the Interior

M. Mohamed HARDI

Ministre de l'Intérieur

Ministère de l'Intérieur et des collectivités locales

Alger

Algérie

**Telegrams: Ministre de l'Intérieur Hardi, Alger, Algérie**

**Telexes: 66341**

**Faxes: 213 2 618802 or 213 2 645793**

**Salutation: Excellence / Your Excellency**

2) High Council of State Member

M. Ali HAROUN

Membre du Haut Comité d'Etat

Palais du Gouvernement

Alger

Algérie

**Telegrams: M. Ali HAROUN, Haut Comité d'Etat, Alger, Algérie**

**Telexes: 66217/66221/66044/66088**

**Salutation: Excellence / Your Excellency**

3) Minister of Justice

M. Abdelhamid MAHI-BAHI

Ministre de la Justice

Ministère de la Justice

8 Rue de Khartoum

El-Biar, Alger

Algérie

**Telegrams: Ministre de la Justice, MAHI-BAHI, Alger, Algérie**

**Telexes: 61498**

**Faxes: 213 2 796557**

**Salutation: Excellence / Your Excellency**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:** diplomatic representatives of ALGERIA accredited to your country.

**PLEASE ALSO SEND COPIES OF SOME OF YOUR APPEALS, FOR INFORMATION, TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING HUMAN RIGHTS BODIES:**

Observatoire nationale des droits de l'homme

Palais du Peuple

Ave F. Roosevelt

Alger

Algérie

**Faxes: 213 2 60 10 42**

Ligue algérienne des droits de l'homme  
40-42 Rue Larbi ben M'Hidi  
Alger  
Algérie

Ligue algérienne pour la défense des droits de l'homme  
19 rue Abane Ramdane  
Alger  
Algérie

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 December 1992.