

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 29/01/98

29 January 1998

Further information on UA 403/97 (MDE 29/11/97, 22 December 1997) -
"Disappearance" / Fear of torture / Possible prisoners of conscience

MOROCCO/WESTERN SAHARA Abderrahman Brahim Atman (released)
Mohamed El Yaddassia (released)

Amnesty International has learned that Abderrahman Brahim Atman and Mohamed El Yaddassia were released from secret detention at the beginning of January 1998.

The two men had "disappeared" after being arrested on 10 December 1997, in the south of Western Sahara, by members of the Moroccan security forces. They were reportedly arrested for their support of the *Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el Hamra y Río de Oro* (Polisario Front), a movement seeking the independence of Western Sahara.

The organization is trying to ascertain the reason for their arrest and detention and their treatment whilst in detention.

No further action by the UA network is requested. Thanks to all who sent appeals.