

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 30/08/94
Distr: UA/SC

3 March 1994

Further information on UA 66/94 (MDE 30/05/94, 22 February 1994) - Fear of torture in illegally prolonged incommunicado detention

TUNISIA:Ali MABOUJ

Amnesty International has received reports that Ali Mabouj, who was arrested on 6 February 1994, is no longer being held in *garde à vue* police detention.

However, the organization remains concerned that he may still be at risk of ill-treatment, and may still not be granted full access to his family and lawyer.

Ali Mabouj was transferred to Harboub Prison, near Medenine, in the evening of 22 February. He had spent 17 days in *incommunicado garde à vue* police detention, which is far in excess of the maximum 10 days allowed under Tunisian law. His family and lawyer are hoping to be able to visit him without delay.

He has reportedly been charged with belonging to an unauthorized organization, and is due to be tried in the Medenine Court of First Instance on 31 March.

Amnesty International has not been able to determine when he was presented to the public prosecutor.

Amnesty International is also currently unable to establish Ali Mabouj's treatment whilst he was held *incommunicado*, or his present conditions of detention. The organization is concerned that he should be given immediate and full access to his family, lawyer, and to medical care as necessary.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters in French, Arabic, English or your own language:

- expressing concern that Ali Mabouj was held in prolonged *incommunicado* detention without access to his family and legal counsel in breach of both Tunisian law and international standards;
- urging the authorities to allow him immediate and full access to his family, lawyer, and to medical care as necessary;
- urging the authorities to ensure that he is not ill-treated;
- urging the authorities to investigate the reasons for Ali Mabouj's prolonged *incommunicado* detention.

APPEALS TO: (All salutations: Excellence/Your Excellency)

1) President

M. Zine El Abidine Ben Ali
Président de la République
Palais Présidentiel
Tunis/Carthage, Tunisie

Faxes: +216 1 744 721

Telexes: 14900 prpsa tn 12163 ppsd tn

Telegrams: Président Ben Ali, Tunis, Tunisie

2) Minister of Justice

M. Sadok Chaâbane
Ministre de la Justice
Ministère de la Justice
Boulevard Bab Benat
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Faxes: +216 1 568 106 or +216 1 567 070

Telexes: 13000 maet tn (via Ministère de l'Intérieur)
Telegrams: Ministre de la Justice Chaâbane, Tunis, Tunisie

3) Minister of the Interior

M. Abdallah Kallel
 Ministre de l'Intérieur
 Ministère de l'Intérieur
 Avenue Habib Bourguiba
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Telegrams: Ministre de l'Intérieur Kallel, Tunis, Tunisie

4) Minister of Foreign Affairs

M. Habib Ben Yahia
 Ministre des Affaires étrangères
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Telegrams: Ministre des Affaires étrangères Ben Yahia, Tunis, Tunisie

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

M. Iadh Ouederni

Conseiller présidentiel pour les Droits de l'Homme

Attaché à la Présidence de la République

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M. Mohamed Bellaji

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and to diplomatic representatives of TUNISIA accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 14 April 1994.