

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 30/16/97

26 March 1997

Further information (5) on UA 208/96 (MDE 30/23/96, 22 August 1996) and follow-ups MDE 30/24/96, 27 August, MDE 30/11/97, 7 March 1997, MDE 30/14/97, 12 March, and MDE 30/15/97, 19 March 1997) - fear of ill-treatment/probably prisoners of conscience/fear of arrest as POC/"disappearance"/prisoner of conscience and new concern: health concern

TUNISIA Abdel Moumen BELANES, student

Amnesty International is concerned for the health of Abdel Moumen Belanes, who has been on hunger strike since 17 March 1997 to protest at his detention on charges which he denies and at poor conditions of detention.

Abdel Moumen Belanes' trial, originally scheduled for yesterday, 25 March, was postponed to 1 April at the request of his defence lawyers, who have not yet been able to obtain all the documents mentioned by the prosecution in the charge sheet.

Amnesty International believes that Abdel Moumen Belanes, who was previously detained as a prisoner of conscience and tortured at the end of 1995, is again being detained as a prisoner of conscience and should be immediately and unconditionally released.

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

- continuing to call for the immediate and unconditional release of Abdel Moumen Belanes as a prisoner of conscience;
- expressing concern for the health of Abdel Moumen Belanes, who is on hunger strike, reiterating concern that he was threatened with torture during secret detention, and urging that he not be subjected to ill-treatment during his continuing detention;
- calling on the authorities to ensure that his trial on 1 April be held in full compliance with international standards for fair trial.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) Minister of Justice

M. Abdallah Kallel  
Ministre de la Justice  
Ministère de la Justice  
Boulevard Bab Benat  
Tunis, Tunisia

**Fax: +216 1 568 106**

**Telex: 13000 maet tn (via Ministère de l'Intérieur)**

**Telegrams: Ministre de la Justice, Tunis, Tunisie**

**Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Your Excellency**

2) Minister of the Interior

M. Mohamed Ben Rejeb  
Ministre de l'Intérieur  
Ministère de l'Intérieur  
Av. Habib Bourguiba  
Tunis, Tunisia

**Fax: +216 1 340888**

**Telegrams: Ministre de l'Intérieur, Tunis, Tunisie**

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**Telex: 13662 sdap tn**

**Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Your Excellency**

**COPIES TO:**

Tunisian Human Rights League  
Me Taoufik Bouderbala, Président  
Ligue Tunisienne des Droits de l'Homme, LTDH  
7 Rue Pierre Curie  
Tunis, Tunisia  
**Faxes: + 216 1 336 338**

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 7 May 1997.