

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 28/32/98

25 September 1998

Further information on UA 240/98 (MDE 28/31/98, 10 September 98) -
"Disappearance" / Fear for safety

ALGERIA Mahieddine KESSOUAR, aged 52, leader of a branch of the opposition party, Socialist Forces Front

The whereabouts of Mahieddine Kessouar remain unknown. Following the issuing of the original urgent action, however, Amnesty International was informed by the *Observatoire National des Droits de l'Homme* (ONDH), National Human Rights Observatory, the official human rights body in Algeria, that Mahieddine Kessouar is not detained by the security forces and that all efforts are being made to find him.

The ONDH also informed the organization that the local state prosecutor has ordered an inquiry into the case.

No reply has been received from the Algerian authorities.

Mahieddine Kessouar left his home for the last time on the evening of 1 September 1998. The next day he was reportedly seen driving his car, which was subsequently found abandoned at the roadside about five kilometres from his home. Articles of clothing, his watch and some papers were in the car. The authorities were alerted to his "disappearance" on 4 September, immediately after the discovery.

Mahieddine Kessouar is the leader of a branch of opposition party, *Front des forces socialistes* (FFS), Socialist Forces Front, based in the district of Idjeur, Kabylia region, east of the capital, Algiers. He is the father of eight children aged between seven and 25 years.

Those wishing to send appeals please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in French, Arabic, English or your own language:

- welcoming the opening of an inquiry into the "disappearance" of Mahieddine Kessouar, reiterating concerns at his disappearance, and urging the authorities to ensure that all efforts are made in their investigations to establish his whereabouts and the identity of those responsible for his abduction.

APPEALS TO:

M. Mustafa BENMANSOUR
Ministre de l'Intérieur
Ministère de l'Intérieur
18 rue Docteur Saâdane
Alger
Algérie

Telegrams: Ministre Interieur, Alger, Algeria
Faxes: + 213 2 736106
Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister

M. Mohamed ADAMI
Ministre de la Justice
Ministère de la Justice
8 Place Bir Hakem
El-Biar, Alger

Algérie

Telegrams: Ministre Justice, Alger, Algeria

**Faxes: + 213 2 922560 / 925557 / 796557 / 722560 (if voice answers
please ask for fax tone)**

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

M. Kamel REZZAG-BARA

President

Observatoire National des Droits de l'Homme (ONDH)

Palais du Peuple

1 Av. Franklin Roosevelt

Alger

Algérie

Faxes: + 213 2 239005 / 239037

and to diplomatic representatives of ALGERIA accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 22 October 1998.

**"Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the
competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental
rights granted him by the constitution or by law."**

Article 8, Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Visit the Amnesty International UDHR campaign website on <http://www.amnesty.excite.com>