

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 30/24/98

8 September 1998

**Further information on Extra 60/98 (MDE 30/22/98, 25/08/98) - Health concern
/ Prisoners of conscience and new concern: Legal concern**

**TUNISIA Afef BEN ROUINA
Imen DEROUICHE
Hinda AAROUI**

Amnesty International has received information that Hinda Aaroui, Afef Ben Rouina and Imen Derouiche have stopped their hunger strike.

The health of Hinda Aaroui, who is disabled and suffers from a spinal disease, reportedly deteriorated following the hunger strike. She is also said to suffer from depression. Hinda Aaroui is currently detained in Grombalia prison, where detention conditions are particularly poor. She does not have access to adequate medical care.

Imen Derouiche, who has a heart condition, was refused visits by her lawyer on 24 August and 4 September 1998.

Afef Ben Rouina is currently detained in the Mannouba prison in Tunis.

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

- expressing concern about the health of Hinda Aaroui and seeking assurances that she be given immediate access to a specialist doctor;
- seeking assurances that Imen Derouiche and Afef Ben Rouina be given medical care if necessary;
- urging that Imen Derouiche be given prompt access to her lawyer;
- urging that prisoners of conscience, Afef Ben Rouina, Imen Derouiche and Hinda Aaroui, be immediately and unconditionally released, quoting Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person".

APPEALS TO:

If voice answers please say: "je voudrais envoyer un fax, s'il vous plaît"

Minister of Justice

M. Abdallah Kallel
Ministre de la Justice
Ministère de la Justice
31 Boulevard Bab Benat
1006 Tunis, Tunisie

Telegrams: Ministre Justice, Tunis, Tunisie

Faxes: + 216 1 568 106

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Your Excellency

Minister of the Interior

M. Ali Chaouch
Ministre de l'Intérieur
Ministère de l'Intérieur
Avenue Habib Bourguiba
1001 Tunis, Tunisie

Telegrams: Ministre Interieur, Tunis, Tunisie

Faxes: + 216 1 354 331

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

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 20 October 1998.

"Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person".

Article 3, The Universal Declaration of Human Rights