

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 30/22/96

18 July 1996

Further information (3) on EXTRA 71/96 (MDE 30/14/96, 20 May 1996) and follow-up (MDE 30/16/96, 29 May and MDE 30/20/96, 3 July 1996) - Legal Concern / Prisoner of Conscience

TUNISIA Khemais CHAMMARI, human rights activist, parliamentarian

Khemais Chammari was tried and sentenced to five years' imprisonment on 17 July 1996. An Amnesty International observer attended the trial, in which Khemais Chammari was accused of "*disclosing a national secret to a foreign power*", a charge which he denies. The information he is accused of having disclosed relates to the judicial inquiry in the case of Mohamed Mouadda, President of the *Mouvement des Démocrates Socialistes* (MDS), Social Democratic Movement, which Khemais Chammari represents in the Tunisian Parliament. Earlier this year Mohamed Mouadda was sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment on charges of secret relations with a foreign power (see follow-ups to EXTRA 118/95).

Amnesty International considers Khemais Chammari a prisoner of conscience and calls for his immediate and unconditional release.

At the end of June, the Secretary General of Amnesty International, Pierre Sané, visited Tunisia and asked to visit Khemais Chammari and other prisoners of conscience, but his request was refused by the Tunisian Government.

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

- condemning the five-year prison sentence passed by the court against Khemais Chammari and reiterating calls for his immediate and unconditional release.

APPEALS TO:

1) President

Président M. Zine El Abidine Ben ALi
Président de la République
Palais Présidentiel
Tunis/Carthage, Tunisia
Fax: +216 1 -744 721
Telex: 14900 prpsa tn / 12163 ppsd tn
Telegrams: President Tunis, Tunisia
Salutation: Excellence / Your Excellency

2) Minister of Justice

M. Sadok Chaâbane
Ministre de la Justice
Ministère de la Justice
Boulevard Bab Benat
Tunis, Tunisia
Fax: +216 1 -568 106 / -567 070
Telex: 13000 maet tn (via Ministère de l'Intérieur)
Telegrams: Ministre de la Justice Chaâbane, Tunis, Tunisia
Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Your Excellency

3) Minister of Foreign Affairs

M. Habib Ben Yahia

Ministre des Affaires Etrangères
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
Place du Gouvernement
La Kasbah
Tunis, Tunisia
Fax : +216 1 -567 386 / -568 050 / -567 050
Telex: 14470 mafta tn / 14471 mafta tu / 14472 mafta 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)
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1000 Tunis, Tunisia
Fax: +216 1 -336 338

Mouvement des Démocrates Socialistes
26, Rue d'Angleterre
B.P. 1000
Tunis, Tunisia
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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 15 August 1996.