

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 30/25/94  
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Further information on UA 69/94 (MDE 30/06/94, 22 February 1994) and follow-ups (MDE 30/07/94, 1 March, MDE 30/09/94, 11 March, MDE 30/10/94, 18 March, MDE 30/12/94, 8 April, MDE 30/14/94, 11 May, MDE 30/19/94, 29 June, MDE 30/23/94, 12 December) - Torture/Prisoner of Conscience/Cruel Degrading Treatment/Health and Legal Concern

**TUNISIA: Hamma HAMMAMI, member of the unauthorized *Parti communiste des ouvriers tunisiens* (PCOT), Tunisian Workers' Communist Party**

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Hamma Hammami's family and lawyer were allowed to see him on 15 December, after being denied access for nine days, in breach of Tunisian law which guarantees detainees' right to access to a lawyer at all times. It is also in contravention of international standards relating to a detainee's access to legal counsel.

Hamma Hammami's whereabouts had remained unknown from 7 December, when he went on hunger-strike, until 14 December when his family and lawyer learned that he had been transferred on 9 December from Kasserine to Mahdia Prison. In both prisons he was placed in isolation in a punishment cell.

Hamma Hammami, a prisoner of conscience, is still on hunger-strike. He suffers from heart and kidney conditions and requires special medical care. For the first two days of his detention at Mahdia Prison, he was denied water and access to a toilet. He eventually was seen by a prison doctor and was placed in a cell with improved facilities.

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

- deploring that Hamma Hammami was denied water and access to a toilet for two days;
- expressing serious concern that Hamma Hammami was unable to see his lawyer or family for nine days;
- urging the authorities to ensure that Hamma Hammami continues to have access to proper medical care;
- reiterating that Hamma Hammami is a prisoner of conscience and should be immediately and unconditionally released.

**APPEALS TO: (Salutation for all: Excellence / Your Excellency)**

1) Minister of Justice

M. Sadok Chaâbane  
Ministre de la Justice  
Ministère de la Justice  
Boulevard Bab Benat  
Tunis, Tunisie

**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**

2) Minister of the Interior

M. Abdallah Kallel  
Ministre de l'Intérieur  
Ministère de l'Intérieur  
Avenue Habib Bourguiba

Tunis, Tunisie

**Faxes: +216 1 340 888**

**Telexes: 13662 sdap tn**

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

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

M. Salem Makki

**Conseiller présidentiel chargé des droits de l'homme**

Palais Présidentiel

Carthage/Tunis

Tunisia

**Faxes: +216 1 731 009 or +216 1 742 513**

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 30 January 1995.