## MEDIA ADVISORY ADVISORY

AI INDEX: EUR 44/137/96

#### EMBARGOED FOR 24 SEPTEMBER 1996

# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION VISITS TURKEY TO MEET GOVERNMENT AND TO LAUNCH CAMPAIGN ON TURKEY

An Amnesty International delegation headed by its Secretary General, Pierre Sané, is arriving in Ankara on 25 September intending to hold talks with the Turkish Government before launching its worldwide campaign *Turkey: No Security Without Human Rights*.

The delegation expects to discuss with members of the government the deteriorating human rights situation as well as the reforms recommended by the organization in order to substantially reduce human rights violations.

Amnesty International representatives will also be holdings meetings with Turkish human rights organizations, professional organizations, victims of human rights violations and their relatives.

On 1 October 1996 Amnesty International will be launching a world-wide campaign on Turkey highlighting the worsening human rights situation in this country and calling on the Turkish Government to adopt urgent measures to deal with it.

The campaign will also call on countries with special relations with Turkey, as well as the international community as a whole, to put effective pressure on Turkey to undertake legal reforms.

The organization's Secretary General, Pierre Sané, will present the campaign and a comprehensive report on human rights violations in Turkey at a press conference in Istanbul on 1 October 1996. Also participating in the press conference will be Dr Habiba Hasan, from Pakistan, and Mr Arie Zwanenburg, a former police officer from the Netherlands.

The report documents human rights violations throughout Turkey in the past six years: torture by the security forces, including torture or ill-treatment of children and juveniles, "disappearances" and extrajudicial executions, torture or ill-treatment of children and juveniles, and repression of freedom of expression.

The report also contains information about abuses committed by armed opposition groups, including killings of prisoners and civilians.

### Press conference details:

11:00 am, Tuesday 1 October Hotel Golden Age Topçu Caddefi 22 - Taksim Istanbul Tel: 2549406 The speakers will be available for interviews after the press conference. Interviews can be conducted in Turkish, English and French. To arrange individual interviews in advance please contact Anita Tiessen or Jose Luis Herrero at the telephone number below.

A press pack will be distributed at the press conference including the report *Turkey: No Security Without Human* Rights, a campaign brief and a press release. Amnesty International reports on other countries will also be available.

### For further information, contact:

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