PUBLIC

AI Index: EUR 61/12/98

19 November 1998

Further information on Extra 68/98 (EUR 61/10/98, 29 September 1998) - Fear of imminent execution

TURKMENISTANShaliko Maisuradze (m), _____ (in cyrillic) aged 25 (previously incorrectly listed as Irina Maisuradze, [f]), Georgian national Gulshirin Shykhyeva (f), _____ (in Russian) Tylla Garadzhayeva (f), _____ (in Russian) New names: Zaza Gelashvili (m), (in cyrillic) aged 24,

New names: Zaza Gelashvili (m), _____ (in cyrillic) aged 24, Georgian national David Khitarishvili (m), _____ (in cyrillic) aged 24, Georgian national

Shaliko Maisuradze, Gulshirin Shykhyeva and Tylla Garadzhayeva, sentenced to death in September 1998 on drug-related charges are still believed to be on death row. Unofficial sources report that appeals sent on their behalf may have saved them from the death penalty.

Zaza Gelashvili and David Khitarishvili, both Georgian nationals, are now known to have been tried and sentenced to death on 9 September 1998 (previously reported as 3 September), with Shaliko Maisuradze.

The National Security Council of Georgia's Deputy Secretary on human rights issues has appealed for clemency to the President of Turkmenistan on behalf of the three Georgian citizens. Georgia abolished the death penalty in November 1997.

Gulshirin Shykhyeva and Tylla Garadzhayeva are reportedly sisters from the Garrygalirsky district of the Balkans province in Turkmenistan. They were sentenced to death by a court in Turkmenistan for drug-trafficking on 18 September 1998.

Executions in Turkmenistan are often carried out promptly following the courts' decision, with only the most perfunctory appeal and clemency process. Information concerning those on death row is difficult to obtain and the current status of those named above is therefore not known. Their last hope could lie with a petition for clemency to the President of the country.

FURTHER APPEALS MAY BE SENT BY: telegram/fax/express/airmail letter in Russian, English or in your own language:

- urging the President to use his constitutional authority to commute the death sentences passed on Shaliko Maisuradze, Gulshirin Shykhyeva, Tylla Garadzhayeva, Zaza Gelashvili and David Khitarishvili;

- stating that the death penalty is a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, quoting Article 3: "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

APPEALS TO: (please note, fax tones can be difficult to obtain)

President of Turkmenistan, Saparmurad Atayevich Niyazov 744000 g. Ashgabat Apparat Prezidenta

Prezidentu Turkmenistana NIYAZOVU S.A. TURKMENISTAN Telegrams: Prezidentu Niyazovu, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan + 993 12 35 51 12 / 993 12 35 55 71 (Presidential press office) Faxes: Salutation: Dear President Niyazov Procurator General of Turkmenistan, Gurbanbibi Atajanova (Ms) g. Ashgabat ul. Seidi, 4 Prokuratura Turkmenistana Generalnomu prokuroru ATAJANOVOY G B. TURKMENISTAN Telegrams: Gen. prokuroru, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan Faxes: + 993 12 35 44 82 Salutation: Dear Procurator General Chairman of the Clemency Commission of the Turkmenistan Majlis (parliament), (name not known) g. Ashgabat Komissiya po voprosam pomilovaniya Majlisa Turkmenistana Predsedatelyu TURKMENISTAN Telegrams: Kommissii pomilovaniya, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan Salutation: Dear Chairman COPIES TO: Chairman of the Supreme Court, Ysa Rakhmonov 744000 g. Ashqabat prospekt Saparmurad Turkmenbashi, 18 Verkhovny Sud Turkmenistana Predsedatelyu RAKHMANOVU Y. TURKMENISTAN Director of the Turkmen National Institute of Democracy and Human Rights Vladimir Kadyrov 744000 g. Ashgabat ul. Karla Liebnechta, 47 Turkmensky natsionalny institut democratii i prav cheloveka Direktoru KADYROVU V. TURKMENISTAN + 993 12 35 06 76 Faxes: Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, Boris Shikhmyradov 744000 g. Ashgabat pr. Magtymguly, 83 Ministerstvo inostrannykh del Turkmenistana Ministru SHIKHMYRADOVU B. TURKMENISTAN + 993 12 51 14 30 / 993 12 25 37 27 Faxes: and to diplomatic representatives of Turkmenistan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,

or your section office, if sending appeals after 17 December 1998.

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

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Article 3, Universal Declaration of Human Rights