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MEDIA ADVISORY

Amnesty International sends Open Letter to President-elect Hojjatoleslam val Moslemin Sayed Mohammad Khatami of Iran

On the occasion of Hojjatoleslam val Moslemin Sayed Mohammad Khatami's inauguration as President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pierre Sané, the Secretary General of Amnesty International sent an open letter to His Excellency on Friday 1 August 1997. In this document, Mr Sané expressed his hope to see a program of legal and administrative reform in Iran, and urged the new authorities to undertake a series of measures which would help to establish a practical framework for ensuring respect for human rights.

The letter also raises the question of extra-judicial executions, the need to promote the position of women in Iranian society, and the appalling situation of refugees in the world. It asks the new Iranian authorities to play an active role in supporting human rights at an international level.

Please find the open letter attached.