

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 15/36/96

28 May 1996

Further information (1) on EXTRA 70/96 (MDE 15/34/96, 20 May 1996) and follow-up (MDE 15/35/96) - Prisoner of Conscience

PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY Dr Iyad al-Sarraj, human rights defender

---

Dr Iyad al-Sarraj was released at 10.30pm on 26 May 1996.

Although Dr Sarraj was detained for eight days, and his detention was extended three times, he was questioned only once, by the Attorney-General Khaled al-Qidreh, on the evening of 20 May, eight hours after his arrest. He was never formally charged with any offence; however, he has only been released on bail.

The Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights (PICCR) is said to be planning to sue the Attorney-General before the Palestinian Supreme Court for the unlawful arrest of Dr Sarraj, who is the Commissioner General of the PICCR, a human rights commission established by Chairman Yasser Arafat in 1993.

**No further action is needed. Dr Sarraj expressed his warm thanks for the support of members of Amnesty International who had worked for his release.**