

PUBLIC

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Further Information on UA 17/06 (MDE 28/001/2006, 23 January 2006) - Fear of torture

ALGERIA

Nouamane Meziche (m), aged 35, joint Algerian and French national

Nouamane Meziche was presented to the judicial authorities in the capital, Algiers, in the morning of 19 February 2006, 45 days after he was arrested. He has been charged with "belonging to a terrorist group operating abroad" and remanded in custody. He is no longer thought to be at risk of torture.

Nouamane Meziche was arrested by border police at Houari Boumediene airport on 5 January, having arrived on a flight from Germany. Between 7 January and 19 February, his family did not have any news of him. He is believed to have been held at a detention centre in Hydra, Algiers, which is operated by the intelligence agency Department for Information and Security, Département du renseignement et de la sécurité.

No further action is required from the UA network. Many thanks to all those who sent appeals.