AI Index: MDE 28/05/94

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PLEASE DRAW TO THE ATTENTION OF THE REFUGEE COORDINATOR IN YOUR SECTION

Further information on EXTRA 10/94 (MDE 28/03/94, 16 February 1994) and follow-up (MDE 28/04/94, 2 March) - Fear of Refoulement

ALGERIA: Zine El Abidine ATTIA

Idriss NOUIOUI
Kaddour NAGHMOUCHI
Mahjoubi SOLTAN
Nassereddine KHELISI
Barhoumi BOUMENJEL
Bechir Aboud ABDELJAOUAD

Jebari BOUJEMAA (all Tunisian nationals)

Amnesty International remains concerned about the whereabouts and legal status of Jebari Boujemaa who was arrested in Tebessa on 25 February 1994 and faces imminent forcible return (refoulement) to Tunisia.

The organization has received reports that the other seven people named above have been forcibly returned to Tunisia, possibly as early as 10 February.

All eight are recognized as refugees in need of protection by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Once handed over to the Tunisian authorities, Amnesty International fears that the individuals concerned face torture, ill-treatment and imprisonment after unfair trial. The UNHCR has still not been able to confirm the whereabouts of any of the above people, including Jebari Boujemaa, despite repeated requests to the Algerian authorities.

## FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters in French, Arabic or English or in your own language:

- asking the Algerian authorities to inform you urgently of the whereabouts and legal status of Jebari Boujemaa and urging that he should on no account be forcibly returned to Tunisia;
- urging the Algerian authorities to confirm when Zine El Abidine Attia, Idriss Nouioui, Kaddour Naghmouchi, Mahjoubi Soltan, Nassereddine Khelisi Barhoumi Boumenjel and Bechir Aboud Abdeljaouad were forcibly returned to Tunisia and asking for details of their current whereabouts;
- pointing out that such forcible return (refoulement) is in violation of international standards, including the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), to which Algeria is a state party;
- urging that the UNHCR be immediately informed of the whereabouts of all of the individuals concerned and that Jebari Boujemaa be given direct access to his lawyer and family.

## APPEALS TO:

## Salutation for all: Excellence/Your Excellency

1) State President

M. Lamine ZEROUAL

Président de l'Etat

Présidence de la République El Mouradia, Alger, Algérie

Faxes: +213 2 60 96 18 Telexes: 66044/66088

Telegrams: Président de l'Etat Zeroual, Alger, Algérie

2) Minister of the Interior

M. Salim SAADI

Ministre de l'Intérieur Ministère de l'Intérieur

Alger, Algérie

Faxes: +213 2 61 88 02 or +213 2 64 57 93

Telexes: 66341

Telegrams: Ministre Saadi, Ministre de l'Intérieur, Alger, Algérie

3) Minister for Foreign Affairs

M. Mohamed Salah DEMBRI

Ministre des Affaires étrangères Ministère des Affaires étrangères

6 rue 16n-Batran

El-Mouradia, Alger, Algérie

Faxes: +213 2 60 51 61 Telexes: 66241/66178/66243

Telegrams: Ministre Dembri, Ministre des Affaires étrangères, Alger, Algérie

4) Minister of Justice

M. Mohamed TEGUIA

Ministre de la Justice

Ministère de la Justice

8 rue de Khartoum

El-Biar, Alger, Algérie

Faxes: +213 2 79 65 57

Telexes: 61498

Telegrams: Ministre Téguia, Ministre de la Justice, Alger, Algérie

## COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO the following Tunisian Ministers:

(It may provide some form of protection for those handed over to the Tunisian authorities if the latter are aware that there is public knowledge and concern about them).

1) Minister of the Interior

M. Abdallah Kallel

Ministre de l'Intérieur

Ministère de l'Intérieur

Avenue Habib Bourguiba

Tunis, Tunisie

Faxes: +216 1 340 888

2) Minister of Foreign Affairs

M. Habib Ben Yahia

Ministre des Affaires étrangères

Ministère des Affaires étrangères

Place du Gouvernement

La Kasbah, Tunis, Tunisie Faxes: +216 1 791005

and to diplomatic representatives of ALGERIA accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat or your section office if sending appeals after 18 April 1994.