News Service 100/98

AI INDEX: MDE 29/05/98 29 MAY 1998

MEDIA ADVISORY

Amnesty International high-level visit to Morocco 31 May-8 June 1998

An Amnesty International high level delegation, led by Secretary General Pierre Sané, arrives in Morocco on 31 May for an eight-day visit. The delegates will be meeting with high-level government officials, political parties, non-governmental and human rights organizations, the business community, trade unions and members of the civil society, to highlight Amnesty International's human rights concerns and raise the profile of Amnesty International in Morocco.

Amnesty International has welcomed positive changes which have taken place in Morocco in recent years, but human rights concerns remain. During this visit, a memorandum will be submitted to the government on past and current human rights violations and recommendations on how to address them.

Pierre Sané will open the Amnesty International office in Rabat. The delegation will participate in the UDHR Labour day event in Salé, and attend the closing session for the Human Rights Film Festival in Casablanca.

During the visit the delegates will meet representatives of the government, including Prime Minister Abderrahmane el-Youssoufi, Mr Driss Al Basri, Minister of Interior, Mr Omar Azzimane, Minister of Justice and Mr Mohamed Aoujar, Minister for Human Rights. The delegates will also meet with the Parliamentary committee on legislation and justice.

Other members of the delegation include June Ray, Director of the Middle East and North Africa Program, Dr Gershab Abdel Mitaal, Middle East Development coordinator, Donatella Rovera, North Africa Researcher, and Daniel Bolomey, Media officer.

Members of the delegation will be available for interviews in Arabic, French and English. Mr Sané will be holding a press conference on: Friday 5 June 98–10.00 am at the Journalists' Syndicate Premises in Rabat.

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