

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 30/27/96

17 September 1996

Further information on EXTRA 71/96 (MDE 30/14/96, 20 May 1996) and follow-ups (MDE 30/14/96, 20 May; MDE 30/16/96, 29 May; MDE 30/20/96, 3 July; MDE 30/22/96, 18 July; MDE 30/25/96, 27 August; MDE 30/26/96, 30 August) - Legal Concern / Prisoner of Conscience and new Health Concern

TUNISIA Khemais CHAMMARI

Amnesty International has received reports that prisoner of conscience Khemais Chammari began a hunger-strike on 10 September 1996, to protest at the conditions of his detention. Amnesty International fears that Khemais Chammari's health, which is already fragile, may further deteriorate as a result of his hunger-strike.

In July, Khemais Chammari was sentenced to five years' imprisonment on charges of "disclosing a national secret to a foreign power". Amnesty International believes that Khemais Chammari is a prisoner of conscience held solely on account of his peaceful political activities, and urges that he be immediately and unconditionally released.

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

- expressing concern at the health condition of Khemais Chammari, who has been on hunger-strike since 10 September 1996;
- urging the authorities to provide all necessary medical care to Khemais Chammari and to provide access to his family and lawyers;
- reiterating that Khemais Chammari is a prisoner of conscience and calling for his immediate and unconditional release.

APPEALS TO:

Président M. Zine El Abidine Ben ALi
Président de la République
Palais Présidentiel
Tunis/Carthage
Tunisie

Faxes: +216 1 744721

Telexes: 14900 prpsa tn / 12163 ppsd tn

Telegrams: President, Tunis, Tunisia

Salutation: Excellence / Your Excellency

M. Sadok Chaâbane
Ministre de la Justice
Ministère de la Justice
Boulevard Bab Benat
Tunis
Tunisie

Faxes: +216 1 568106 or 567070

Telexes: 13000 maet tn (via Interior Ministry)

Telegrams: Ministre de la Justice, Tunis, Tunisia

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister

M. Habib Ben Yahia
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères

Place du Gouvernement
La Kasbah
Tunis, Tunisie

Telegrams: Ministre des Affaires Etrangeres, Tunis, Tunisia

Faxes : +216 1 567 386 or 216 1 567 050 or 216 1 568 050

Telexes: 14470 mafta tn / 14471 mafta tu / 14472 mafta tn

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

Tunisian Human Rights League

Me Taoufik Bouderbala, Président

Ligue Tunisienne des Droits de l'Homme, LTDH

7, rue Pierre Curie

3ème étage, appt.10

1000 TUNIS, Tunisia

Fax: +216 1 336 338

Mouvement des Démocrates Socialistes

26, Rue d'Angleterre

B.P. 1000

TUNIS, Tunisia

and to diplomatic representatives of Tunisia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 20 October 1996.