## AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASE

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## Maldives MP stabbed to death

Dr Afrasheem Ali was stabbed to death outside his home in the capital, Malé, early in the morning of Tuesday 1 October. Circumstances around the killing are still unclear, and local authorities have yet to identify a suspect.

The death of Dr Afrasheem Ali, a member of Parliament for the government-aligned Progressive Party of the Maldives (PPM), comes at a time of political turmoil on the island nation, with former President Mohamad Nasheed set to face trial for his alleged role in the arrest of a judge.

"Amnesty International condemns this shocking act of violence against Dr Afrasheem Ali," said Abbas Faiz, Amnesty International's Researcher on the Maldives.

"We call on the Maldives authorities to ensure that the investigation into the killing meets international human rights standards, and that no suspect is ill-treated or tortured."

"Given the current tense climate in the Maldives, all political actors must show restraint and ensure that this killing does not lead to more violence."

On 5 September 2012, Amnesty International published <u>*The other side of paradise: A human rights crisis</u></u> <u><i>in the Maldives*</u>, a report documenting human rights violations by security forces against protesters during 2012.</u>