PUBLIC AI Index: MDE 24/07/00

21 March 2000

Further information on UA 48/00 (MDE 24/04/00, 24 February 2000) - "Disappearance"/Fear of Torture/Incommunicado Detention

SYRIARanda Ayyubi (f), 40, housewife Mamduh Tatari, 46, agricultural engineer Muhammad Adib Tatari, 15, schoolboy

The Syrian authorities released Randa Ayyubi's husband, Mamduh Tatari, and their son, Muhammad Adib Tatari, about two weeks after this Urgent Action was issued.

However, Randa Ayyubi herself is believed to remain in incommunicado detention, where she is at risk of torture or other ill-treatment.

The three were arrested on 17 October 1999, apparently after Randa Ayyubi made an anti-government remark in the street.

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

-noting the release of Mamduh Tatari and Muhammad Adib Tatari;

-asking why Randa Ayyubi was arrested, where she is detained and the law under which she is held;

-urging the Syrian government to release her immediately and unconditionally, unless she is charged with a recognizable criminal offence;

-asking the Syrian Government to ensure that she has immediate and regular access to the outside world, her family, lawyers and doctors, and that she is treated humanely.

APPEALS TO:

His Excellency President Hafez al-Assad Presidential Palace Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic

Telegrams:President, Damascus, Syria Telexes:419160 prespl sy

Telexes:419160 prespl sy Salutation:Your Excellency

His Excellency Lt. General Mustafa Talas
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence
Ministry of Defence
Ommayyad Square
Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic

Telegrams: General Talas, Damascus, Syria

Salutation: Your Excellency

Salutation: Your Excellency

His Excellency Dr Muhammad Harba Minister of Interior Ministry of Interior Merjeh Circle

Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic

Telegrams: Interior Minister, Damascus, Syria Faxes: + 963 11 222 3428

His Excellency Nabil al-Khatib Minister of Justice Ministry of Justice Al Nasr Street, Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic Telegrams: Justice Minister, Damascus, Syria

His Excellency Nasser Qaddur Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Minister of Foreign Affairs Al-Rashid Street, Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic

Telegrams: Nasser Qaddur, Damascus, Syria

Faxes:+963 11 332 7620 Salutation:Your Excellency

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Syria accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 2 May 2000.