PUBLIC

Al Index: MDE 24/035/2001

Distrib: PG/SC

To: Health professionals

From: Medical office / Middle East Program

Date: 27 September 2001

Update on MEDICAL LETTER WRITING ACTION

Release Veysi Özgür (alias Bengin Ahmet Kamis) SYRIA

Key words release

Amnesty International has received the good news that Veysi Özgür was released on 22 September 2001. He has been allowed, exceptionally, to enter to Germany on humanitarian grounds; this is due partly to the assistance of Amnesty International Germany and long-standing documentation Amnesty International has of his case, starting in 1989 [please see EUR 44/150/89]. The fact that he has a brother with German nationality who is willing to support him further contributed to him being granted permission to enter Germany. Veysi Özgür seems to be in good spirits.

In October 2000 a medical action [MDE 24/26/00] was issued on his behalf as there were concerns about his health. Further concerns included that he had already been imprisoned for four years in Adra Prison without having been charged or tried.

Thank you very much for your appeals on Veysi Özgür's case. No further action is needed.