

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 30/28/96

17 September 1996

Further information on EXTRA 118/95 (MDE 30/20/95, 10 October 1995) and follow-ups (MDE 30/25/95, 23 October; MDE 30/04/96, 6 February 1996; MDE 30/07/96, 22 March) - Legal concern and new Health concern

**TUNISIA Mohamed MOUADDA, leader of opposition political party**

Amnesty International has received reports that Mohamed Mouadde started a hunger-strike on 13 September 1996 in solidarity with fellow prisoner of conscience, Khemais Chammari, who went on hunger-strike three days earlier (see further information on EXTRA 71/96, MDE 30/27/96, 17 September 1996). Mohamed Mouadde is also protesting at the closing of the offices of the opposition party *Mouvement des Démocrates Socialistes (MDS)*, and for the right to correspondence and to be able to speak freely to his family.

On 29 February 1996 Mohamed Mouadde, leader of the MDS, was sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment after an unfair trial before the appeal court in Tunis.

Amnesty International believes that Mohamed Mouadde 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, English or Arabic or in your own language:**

- expressing concern at the health condition of Mohamed Mouadde, who has been on hunger-strike since 13 September 1996;
- urging the authorities to provide all necessary medical care to Mohamed Mouadde;
- reiterating that Mohamed Mouadde is a prisoner of conscience and calling for his immediate and unconditional release.

**APPEALS TO:**

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 Etrangères, 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.