

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 186/93 (MDE 30/05/93, 11 June 1993) - Health Concern/Wrongful Detention

TUNISIA:Naoufel ZIADI

Naoufel Ziadi, the General Secretary of the Tunisian Students' Union, UGET, arrested on 18 June, was released on bail on 28 June 1993 after the appeal hearing was postponed to 11 October 1993. He had been sentenced *in absentia* to 2 years' imprisonment on drugs charges on the basis of accusations made by a detainee during his interrogation. The conviction and sentence were upheld on 5 June despite the fact that the detainee who had made the accusation stated in court that he did not know Naoufel Ziadi and despite major factual inaccuracies in the detainee's previous description of Naoufel Ziadi. Naoufel Ziadi is a known critic of the Tunisian Government within the students' union, and Amnesty International considered him a prisoner of conscience detained for his non-violent conscientiously-held beliefs.

Naoufel Ziadi was in poor medical condition and was denied adequate medical care during his detention.

This Urgent Action, which was distributed in the streets of Vienna during the recent World Conference on Human Rights, was widely publicised in Tunisia and was an important part of the campaign for the release of Naoufel Ziadi, both in Tunisia and outside.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION:

No further action is required from the Urgent Action Network. Thank you to all those who sent appeals.