

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 30/16/94  
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Further information on UA 190/94 (MDE 30/15/94, 17 May 1994) - Prisoner of conscience/Torture/Medical Concern

TUNISIA: Mohamed Hedi SASSI

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Mohamed Hedi Sassi, arrested on 18 April 1994, was sentenced on 19 May to four years and one month's imprisonment on charges of membership of an unauthorized organization (the *Parti communiste des ouvriers tunisiens*, PCOT), affront to public order, unauthorized distribution of leaflets and writing on walls.

Despite requests by his defence lawyers and family, to date no public investigation has been carried out into allegations that Mohamed Hedi Sassi was tortured during incommunicado detention.

Amnesty International considers Mohamed Hedi Sassi a prisoner of conscience, imprisoned solely on account of his conscientiously held beliefs.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in French/Arabic/English or in your own language:**

- expressing concern at the imprisonment of Mohamed Hedi Sassi as a prisoner of conscience and urging the authorities to release him immediately and unconditionally;
- expressing concern that no investigation appears to have been carried out into allegations that he was tortured and ill-treated during incommunicado detention, and urging the authorities to carry out a full and independent investigation into the allegations as a matter of urgency;
- expressing concern that he is reported to have suffered loss of hearing after being beaten, and seeking assurance that he will be given any medical treatment he may require.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) Minister of the Interior

M. Abdallah Kallal  
Ministre de l'intérieur  
Ministère de l'intérieur  
Av Habib Bourguiba  
Tunis, Tunisie

**Faxes: +216 1 340888 or +216 1 348 365**

**Telexes: 13662 sdap tn**

**Telegrams: Ministre de l'Intérieur Kallal, Tunis, Tunisie**

**Salutation: Votre Excellence / Your Excellency**

2) Minister of Justice

M. Sadok Chaâbane  
Ministre de la Justice  
Ministère de la Justice  
Boulevard Bab Benat  
Tunis, Tunisie

**Faxes: +216 1 568 106 or +216 1 567 070**  
**Telexes: 13000 maet tn (via Ministère de l'Intérieur)**  
**Telegrams: Ministre de la Justice Chaâbane, Tunis, Tunisie**  
**Salutation: Votre Excellence / Your Excellency**

3) Minister of Foreign Affairs

M. Habib Ben Yahia  
Ministre des affaires étrangères  
Ministère des affaires étrangères  
Place du Gouvernement  
La Kasbah  
Tunis, Tunisie

**Faxes: +216 1 791005**

**Telexes: 14470 mafta tn, 14471 mafta tn, 14472 mafta tn**

**Telegrams: Ministre des Affaires étrangères Ben Yahia, Tunis, Tunisie**

**Salutation: Votre Excellence / Your Excellency**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Ligue Tunisienne pour les Droits de l'Homme  
21 rue Imam al Bakri  
Tunis, Tunisie

M. Iadh Ouederni

Conseiller présidentiel pour les Droits de l'Homme

attaché à la Présidence de la République

Palais Présidentiel

Tunis/Carthage, Tunisie

**faxes: +216 1 742 513 or +216 1 731 009**

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 5 July 1994.