

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 28/03/96

11 July 1996

Further information on UA 167/96 (MDE 28/02/96, 4 July 1996) - Prisoner of conscience

ALGERIAChawki LAAMARI, journalist

Chawki Laamari, the journalist arrested on 4 July 1996 for a cartoon of the Algerian flag published in the daily *La Tribune*, remains detained in Serkadji Prison in Algiers. On 10 July a court in Algiers rejected the request for bail made by his defence lawyers. He is now due to be tried on 14 July. Amnesty International considers him to be a prisoner of conscience and calls for his immediate and unconditional release.

The director and editor of the newspaper remain subjected to judicial control and they have to report to the court twice a week. On 10 July the court also rejected an appeal to lift the suspension order on the newspaper, which remains suspended indefinitely.

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

- expressing concern at the continued detention of Chawki Laamari, noting that a date for his trial has been set, and repeating that he is a prisoner of conscience who should be immediately and unconditionally released;
- reiterating the call for the release of any other journalists imprisoned for the peaceful expression of their views in their writing or drawings.

APPEALS TO:

M. Liamine ZEROUAL
Président de la République
Présidence de la République
El Mouradia
Alger
Algérie
Faxes: +213 2 60 96 18
Telegrams: President Zeroual, Alger, Algeria
Salutation: Excellence / Your Excellency

M. Mustafa BENMANSOUR
Ministre de l'Intérieur
Ministère de l'Intérieur
18 rue Docteur Saâdane
Alger
Algérie
Faxes: +213 2 736106
Telegrams: Ministre de l'Interieur, Alger, Algeria
Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Your Excellency

M. Mohamed ADAMI
Ministre de la Justice
Ministère de la Justice
8 Place Bir Hakem
El-Biar, Alger
Algérie
Faxes: +213 2 922560, 925557, 796557

Telegrams: Ministre de la Justice, Alger, Algerie
Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Your Excellency

COPIES TO:

M. Kamel REZZAG-BARA
President
Observatoire National des Droits de l'Homme (ONDH)
Palais du Peuple
1 Av. Franklin Roosevelt
Alger
Algerie
Fax.: +213 2 601042

and to diplomatic representatives of ALGERIA accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 August 1996.