

PUBLIC

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Further Information on UA 132/03 (MDE 22/003/2003, 16 May 2003) Fear of torture and ill-treatment

QATAR/RUSSIAN FEDERATION Zelimkhan Yandarbiev (m), aged 51, Chechen

Zelimkhan Yandarbiev, a former President of the Chechen Republic, was killed on Friday 13 February when a bomb blew up his car in the Qatari capital, Doha.

He had reportedly just visited a local mosque for Friday prayers with his 13-year-old son Daud, and his two bodyguards, when his car blew up. He was reportedly taken to Hamad General Hospital in Doha but died shortly afterwards. His son is reported to be in a serious condition in hospital.

According to the Qatari Ministry of Interior, there will be an investigation into this incident.

The Russian Federation does not have an extradition agreement with Qatar, but had reportedly sent two requests to the Qatari authorities, in November 2002 and February 2003, for his return. The Russian Federation Procuracy General announced on 12 May 2003 that they would lodge a third request if the Qatari authorities did not respond officially. It is not known whether they made a third request.

Zelimkhan Yandarbiev had reportedly been living in Qatar with his family since January 2000. He had reportedly been charged in Russia with "involvement in preparations of an armed revolt", "complicity in setting up of illegal paramilitary formations" and "attempts on the lives of law enforcement officials". The charges are connected to an armed Chechen incursion into the neighbouring republic of Dagestan in August 1999.

Thank you to all those who sent appeals on his behalf. No further action is requested from the Urgent Action network.