

**PUBLIC**

**AI Index: EUR 57/002/2005**

**12 July 2005**

**Further Information on UA 181/05 (EUR 57/001/2005, 05 July 2005) - Fear of forcible return**

**KAZAKSTAN                      Lutfullo Shamsuddinov (m), human rights defender**

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Human rights defender Lutfullo Shamsuddinov was released on 4 July, and handed over to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The UNHCR have flown him and his family temporarily to a European country, where they will stay until they are permanently resettled.

Lutfullo Shamsuddinov had fled Uzbekistan in May, and was arrested by Kazakstani police on 4 July, at the request of the Uzbekistani authorities. He was in serious danger of being forcibly returned to Uzbekistan, where he would have been at risk of torture and possibly the death penalty.

The Kazakstani authorities were under enormous pressure to forcibly return Lutfullo Shamsuddinov, from the authorities in countries including Russia and China as well as Uzbekistan, so their decision to hand him over to the UNHCR is very significant.

**Many thanks to all who took action on this case. The massive response from the Urgent Action network made a significant contribution to securing his release.**

**If possible, please send a final round of appeals, in English, Russian, Kazak or your own language:**

- welcoming the decision by the Kazakstani authorities to uphold their obligation under international human rights and refugee law not to forcibly return Lutfullo Shamsuddinov to Uzbekistan, where he would have been at risk of serious human rights violations.

**APPEALS TO:**

President of the Republic of Kazakstan, Nursultan NAZARBAEV

Respublika Kazakhstan, 473000 Astana, ul. Beybitshilik 11, Prezidentu NAZARBAEVU N.

**Fax:                      + 7 3172 32 40 89**

**Salutation:      Dear President Nazarbaev**

Procurator General of the Republic of Kazakstan, Rashid TUSUPBEKOV

Respublika Kazakhstan, 473000 Astana, ul. Seyfullina 73 "a", Generalnomu prokuroru TUSUPBEKOVU

**Fax:                      + 7 3172 21 67 20**

**Email:                kanc@pravstat.kz**

**Salutation:      Dear Procurator General**

**COPIES TO:** diplomatic representatives of Kazakstan accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 23 August 2005.