

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 331/93 (AFR 23/05/93, 17 September 1993 and follow-ups: AFR 23/06/93, 15 October, AFR 23/07/93, 27 October) - Legal concern

DJIBOUTI: Mohamed Houmed Soulleh, president of the Association pour la défense des droits de l'homme et des libertés (ADDHL) and a former member of parliament.

Amnesty International is now able to confirm that Mohamed Houmed Soulleh was provisionally released on 10 November 1993, pending judgement on the appeal against his sentence, which will be passed on 8 December.

Mohamed Houmed Soulleh was sentenced on 25 October to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 300,000 Djibouti Francs (US \$ 1,700 equivalent) for defaming the Minister of Defence and spreading false information.

Amnesty International considered Mohamed Houmed Soulleh to be a prisoner of conscience unfairly convicted for having criticised the Djiboutian army of human rights abuses in the civil war in the north.

No further appeals are needed on this case - thank you to all those who sent appeals.