
La Mission permanente de la République de Turquie saisit cette occasion pour renouveler au Haut-Commissariat aux droits de l'homme les assurances de sa très haute considération.

Genève le, 05 janvier 2021

PJ : Susmentionnée
INFORMATION NOTE IN REPLY TO THE JOINT APPEAL BY THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON EXTRAJUDICIAL, SUMMARY OR ARBITRARY EXECUTIONS; THE WORKING GROUP ON ARBITRARY DETENTION; THE WORKING GROUP ON ENFORCED OR INVOXLUNTARY DISAPPEARANCES; THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN; THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON MINORITY ISSUES; THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

(Reference: UA TUR 22/2020)

1. With reference to the joint urgent appeal sent by the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran; the Special Rapporteur on minority issues; the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment dated 6 November 2020 regarding enforced disappearance of Habib Chaab, the Government of the Republic of Turkey would like to submit its observations herein below.

2. Following the disappearance of Swedish-Iranian national Habib Chaab, shortly after arriving in Istanbul on 9 October 2020, was brought to our attention, the relevant Turkish authorities conducted a thorough and diligent investigation. Accordingly, it has been established that Habib Chaab had been, without his consent, illegally smuggled to Iran, the day after his arrival to Turkey by persons associated with [person] an Iranian citizen known to be the ringleader of an international narcotics substance trafficking network. 12 people involved in the case were arrested according to articles no.109/1-2-3.a-b-f, 220/2-3 and 305/1 of the Turkish Penal Code on 4 December 2020, one of them has been released under judicial control. For the suspect [person], the Public Prosecutor of Istanbul has issued a red notice within the scope of another investigation (no. 2016/47969). Legal procedures are under progress.

3. In light of the above, as opposed to the information contained in the joint appeal, Habib Chaab was not detained, deported, transferred or returned by Turkey to Iran. The outcome of the investigation clearly and unmistakably indicates that the Turkish authorities have no involvement whatsoever in the events surrounding the disappearance of Habib Chaab. Furthermore, steps have been timely taken to hold those who are suspected to be involved in this incident, accountable before the law.