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HAUT COMMISSARIAT DES NATIONS UNIES
AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME

PROCEDURES SPECIALES DU
CONSEIL DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran; the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

SPECIAL PROCEDURES OF THE
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

REFERENCE: UA Iran (2011-16) G/SO 214 (33-27) G/SO 214 (53-24)
IRN 25/2012

11 October 2012

Excellency,

We have the honour to address you in our capacity as Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran; Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; and Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 19/12, 17/5, and 16/23.

In this connection, we would like to draw the attention of your Excellency's Government to the information we have received regarding the case of Mr. **Saeed Sedeghi** and ten other individuals, who are reportedly at risk of imminent execution in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Mr. Saeed Sedeghi was the subject of two previous communications, dated 26 June 2012 and 7 August 2012, by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. A reply to these communications is still awaited from your Excellency's Government.

According to the information received,

On 10 October 2012, Mr. Saeed Sedeghi was transferred to Evin Prison and placed in solitary confinement. It is alleged that, together with him, ten other men including Mr. Hamid Rabi'i, Mr. Mohammad Ali Rabi'i, Mr. Ali Darvish, and Mr. Abbas Namaki were also transferred to this prison for execution. All 11 individuals are reported to be at risk of imminent execution after their transfer to Evin Prison. Their execution is reportedly scheduled for Saturday, 13 October 2012.

Furthermore, Mr. Saeed Sedeghi's brother, Mr. Majid Sedeghi, was also reportedly arrested on 10 October 2012, for allegedly speaking with Voice of America and the BBC Persian service regarding Mr. Saeed Sedeghi's case.

Without prejudging the accuracy of the information made available to us, we would like to reiterate our concerns as expressed in the previous communications that, according to the facts available to us, the execution of Mr. Saeed Sedeghi would constitute a violation of international human rights law. We would also like to refer to the international duties of your Excellency's Government as mentioned in those communications, with particular regard to the international human rights law provisions on most serious crimes and stringent respect of due process and fair trial guarantees in cases of death penalty.

We would further like to seek to clarify information on the other ten individuals that were allegedly transferred to Evin Prison and risk imminent execution. We would be grateful for your information on the accuracy of the facts alleged, as well as on the identity, age, and reasons of the alleged imposition of the death penalty on those individuals.

In view of the irreversibility of the punishment of the death penalty, we urge your Excellency's Government to take all steps necessary to prevent the execution of Mr. Saeed Sedeghi, which, if carried out, would be inconsistent with acceptable standards of international human rights law. We call upon your Excellency's Government not to execute Mr. Saeed Sedeghi and to commute without delay the death sentence imposed against him. We further urge you to prevent the alleged execution of the other ten individuals until a proper clarification of facts and a stringent respect of international human rights law are ensured in their cases.

In view of the urgency of the matter, we would appreciate a response on the initial steps taken by your Excellency's Government to safeguard the rights of the said persons in compliance with the international instruments.

We undertake to ensure that your Excellency's Government's response is accurately included in the report we will submit to the Human Rights Council for its consideration.

While waiting for your response, we urge your Excellency's Government to take all necessary measures to guarantee that the rights and freedoms of the forementioned persons are respected and, in the event that your investigations support or suggest the allegations to be correct, the accountability of any person responsible of the alleged violations should be ensured. We also request that your Excellency's Government adopt effective measures to prevent the recurrence of these acts.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Ahmed Shaheed
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Christof Heyns
Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

Juan E. Méndez
Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment