INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK
OF
ACADEMIES AND SCHOLARLY SOCIETIES

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His Excellency Colonel Mu'ammar al-Gaddafi
Leader of the Revolution
Office of the Leader of the Revolution
Tripoli, Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Excellency:

We, members of the Executive Committee of the International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies, express our shock and deepest sorrow on learning of the unfortunate and clearly preventable death of our professional colleague, Fathi el- Jahmi.

At the recent 9th biennial meeting of our network we reviewed the cases in whose favor we had intervened. The case of Fathi el- Jahmi was one in which the network took a keen interest and prepared a detailed, informed dossier that regularly was updated and repeatedly was presented to the Libyan authorities.

Physicians who were sent to Libya to examine Fathi el-Jahmi found him to be unwell and in urgent need of appropriate treatment for his serious medical condition.

The response of the Libyan authorities was that Mr. el- Jahmi was a free man, in the hospital of his own choice, and receiving appropriate medical treatment. In fact, Mr. el- Jahmi was held under guard 24 hours a day, was not free to leave or seek further treatment, and his family was allowed only restricted visits.

We now learn that just before he died he was transferred to Jordan, reportedly in a coma, which confirms our repeated claims that he was seriously ill, in need of the medical care that Libya failed to provide him, and that, as we had pointed out to the Libyan authorities, his health had been deteriorating—facts that the Libyan government consistently denied.

We sincerely urge the Libyan authorities, in the face of these sad events, to allow an independent and transparent investigation, and subsequently to publish the exact circumstances of Mr. el- Jahmi's possibly untimely death. We further urge

The International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies works to address grave issues of science and human rights. These academies and scholarly societies act with full autonomy and at their own discretion on cases and issues brought to their attention on a regular basis by the Network's secretariat. Primarily, the Network assists colleagues who are unjustly detained or imprisoned for the nonviolent exercise of their basic human rights. Its work is grounded in the principles set forth in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. For more information see:
www.nationalacademies.org/humanrights/Network_Description.html.

the Libyan authorities to provide comfort and compensation to his bereaved family.

We believe that, had the Libyan authorities been more responsive to informed requests from the international scientific community to protect the basic human rights of its own citizen, or had they agreed, as we previously requested, to show compassion for a clearly seriously ill human being under its jurisdiction, Mr. el- Jahmi might well be alive today.

Yours sincerely,

Members of the Executive Committee

cc: Mr. Seif al-Islam Mu'ammar al-Gaddafi, President, Gaddafi Foundation for
      Development
    His Excellency al-Baghdadi Ali al-Mahmudi, Prime Minister
    Mr. Mustafa Muhammad Abd al-Jalil, Secretary of the General People's Committee
      for Justice
    Mr. Mousa Kousa, Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison
      and International Cooperation