

African Union, African Regional Bodies

Resolution on the situation of human rights in Saharawi Republic

Legislation as at 20 April 2010

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African Union

Resolution on the situation of human rights in Saharawi Republic

Published on 20 April 2010

Commenced

[This is the version of this document from 20 April 2010.]

The Pan-African Parliament,

Deeply concerned about the situation of human rights in the Occupied Territories of the Saharawi Republic,

Basing itself on its commitments to protect Human Rights,

Recalling previous PAP resolutions calling for the right of the Saharawi people to self-determination and independence, essentially PAP resolution adopted in the first Session of the Second Parliament, held in Midrand from October 25th to November 5th 2009 condemning the Human Rights violations committed by the Moroccan authorities in the Occupied Territories of the Western Sahara,

Concerned about the group of the Sahrawi Human Rights defenders currently facing a Moroccan military court after paying a visit to their families in the Sahrawi Refugee Camps in Algeria,

Deeply concerned that these Sahrawi activists could face the death penalty sentence for the sole crime of having visited their loved ones, even though the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has worked to facilitate just these kinds of visits. The list below shows the names of the activists that are now incarcerated in Moroccan Prison:

- 1) **Brahim Dahane**, President of the Saharawi Association of Victims of Serious Violations Committed by Morocco (ASVDH);
- 2) **Ali Salem Tamek**, First Vice President of the Collective of Saharawi Human Rights Defenders (CODESA)
- 3) **Ahmad Anasiri**: Secretary General of the Saharawi Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in Smara.
- 4) **Yahdih Ettarrouzi**, Member of AMDH Laayoune Chapter;
- 5) **Saleh Lebayhi**: President of the Forum for Protection of Sahrawi Children and member of the Laayoune Chapter of CODESA and;
- 6) **Rachid Sghayar**, Member of the Committee Action against Torture.

Acknowledging that despite concerns expressed by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and many governmental and non-governmental organizations, the Sahrawi activists continue to be held in a Moroccan prison since their detention in Casablanca on October 8, 2009. They started a hunger strike on March 18th 2010 calling for either a quick and fair trial or their release,

Resolves:

- To denounce the Moroccan actions and ask for the immediate release of the group of Saharawi detainees.
- To express concern about the health state of the Saharawi Human Right activists on Hunger strike.
- To **demand the release** of all **Sahrawi** political prisoners held in Moroccan jails and to put an end to the campaign of repression and violation of **human rights** in the territory of Western Sahara.