

19. Mr. Daulat Mir, a locally recruited FAO staff member of Afghan nationality who was assigned to a project in Afghanistan as a driver at the G-2 level, was taken from his house, as stated in the 1986 and 1987 FAO reports, on 28 August 1984 by security authorities. Despite the interventions of the UNDP Resident Representative, Mr. Mir has still not resumed his duties with the organization.

20. Mr. Salleem Hairan, a locally recruited FAO staff member of Afghan nationality, assigned to a project in Afghanistan as a driver, was conscripted by the government army authorities on 27 January 1988 for compulsory military service, in spite of his holding a valid exemption card. Despite the démarches by the UNDP Office at Kabul seeking exemption from such military service on behalf of Mr. Hairan, the latter has still not resumed his duties with the organization.

Information provided by staff representatives

21. The staff representatives of the United Nations Secretariat presented information on the independence of the international civil service to the Assembly in the above-mentioned note (A/C.5/43/27). That information included a list of 119 staff members currently detained, missing, imprisoned or executed by States Members of the United Nations over the past 12 years (A/C.5/43/27, appendix). The list included cases which had not yet been fully resolved or which, for technical reasons, fell outside the scope of the report of the Secretary-General. The staff representatives stated that in the overwhelming majority of the cases listed there had been no due process, no access by the United Nations, no opportunity for the staff member to choose legal representation and no public trial. Those staff listed as "detained" had been imprisoned without having had any form of trial or even a sentence. As was apparent from the dates of arrest, some had spent more than five years in gaol which was in direct contravention of internationally accepted legal norms.

22. Concern was expressed by the staff representatives over cases in which imprisoned or detained staff members were reported to be experiencing serious medical problems (A/C.5/43/27, para. 30). In that respect, they reiterated their request that, in such cases, medical teams or officers be granted immediate access to the staff members concerned in order to ascertain their well-being. They also expressed concern over cases in which staff members had been released from detention but were not yet fully reintegrated in service. Attention was also drawn to the hardships suffered by the families of those staff members and it was stated that a list of such cases was being compiled and would be distributed in due course.

23. The staff representatives of the United Nations Secretariat reported that nine staff members from the United Nations common system had been unaccounted for in Somalia since June 1988. The list submitted to the Assembly by the staff representatives also included the case of Mr. Ju Wang Zhu. The Secretary-General had reported to the Sub-Commission (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1988/17, para. 15) that Mr. Ju Wang Zhu, a Chinese staff member of the United Nations Office at Geneva, had returned to his country on home leave at the beginning of 1988 and had not been able to return to Geneva to resume his duties.

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