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**Promotion and protection of all human rights,
civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, Asma Jahangir

Addendum

Summary of cases transmitted to Governments and replies received*

Summary

In the present report, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief gives an account of communications transmitted by her between 1 December 2008 and 30 November 2009. The report also contains summaries of the replies received from Governments by 8 February 2010 and observations of the Special Rapporteur where considered appropriate.

* The present document is being circulated as received in the language of submission only as it greatly exceeds the word limitations currently imposed by the relevant General Assembly resolutions.

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The judicial authorities of the Tibet Autonomous Region and other localities intend to continue their efforts to deal in accordance with the law with the criminal suspects who participated in these violent criminal acts.

- *Related cases:* Owing to time constraints and the incomplete nature of the information contained in the aforementioned letters, as well as the fact that the investigations being conducted by the Chinese authorities concerned are still in progress, the Government will continue to transmit to the relevant bodies information regarding the outcome of these investigations.

(c) **Observations by the Special Rapporteur**

18. The Special Rapporteur is grateful that the Government of China replied to the joint urgent appeals of 20 March 2008 and 9 April 2008.

2. **Communication sent on 13 March 2009 jointly with 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) **Allegations transmitted to the Government**

19. The Special Rapporteurs brought to the attention of the Government information they had received regarding the cases of **16 deaths of Falun Gong practitioners due to injuries allegedly sustained in custody** in China. While the circumstances under which the deaths occurred differ, all the victims were Falun Gong practitioners and they all died under the supervision of law enforcement officers or soon after their release from custody. Concern is expressed that the arrests and deaths of these individuals were solely connected with their activities as Falun Gong practitioners.

20. Ms. **Hu Yanrong**, from Xiaoyushulin Village, Beilu Township, Lingyuan City, Liaoning Province: On 1 August 2007 around 10 p.m., police officers blocked the entrance of the home of a Falun Gong practitioner, where some 40 persons including Hu Yanrong were present. About midnight, a dozen police officers arrested those practitioners trapped in the house. They beat the practitioners with electric batons and two-inch long metal rods and forced them into police vehicles. The police claimed that Hu Yanrong tried to jump out of a police car. She sustained severe injuries and fell into a coma after being taken to the Lingyuan Prison Hospital. Her head was swollen, her eyes, nose and mouth were bruised, the area between her temples and eyes was coloured in dark purple. There were traces of blood on her face. Doctors at Lingyuan Prison hospital performed two brain surgeries, but Ms. Hu died at 2 a.m. on 5 August 2007.

21. Mr. **Huang Fajun**, resident of Acheng District, Harbin City, Heilongjiang Province: On 24 July 2007, policemen from the Sougfengshan Town Police Station arrested Mr. Huang and beat him until both of his feet broke. The police detained him in the Acheng District First Detention Centre. He went on a hunger strike to protest the detention and was force-fed. He developed open sores, and his hands and feet were swollen and showed deep scars caused by shackles and cuffs. On 2 November 2007, the police notified his family that he was dying and that they could visit him at the Archeng District Traditional Medicine Hospital. He was allowed to return home on 4 November 2007, where he died at around 8 p.m. on 6 November 2007.

22. Mr. **Xiong Zhengming**: On 15 March 2007, police officers took Xiong Zhengming to the Wanyuan City First Detention Center, indicating that they had detected that Mr. Xiong visited overseas websites. Following eight months of detention, the police sentenced Mr. Xiong to one year of forced labour. Later, he was transferred to the Wanyuan City Second Detention Center. On 3 December 2007, he was informed of a second transfer to a

forced labour camp outside the town. He refused to go, but was taken away at around 9 a.m. on 4 December 2007. On 5 December 2007, Mr. Xiong's family was notified that he had committed suicide while on his way to the Sichuan Province Xinhua Forced Labor Camp, by jumping out of the vehicle. Mr. Xiong's father was forced to sign the paper authorizing his body to be cremated immediately. He was also asked not to leak any information to the public; otherwise, his other two sons would lose their jobs. According to information received, the authorities gave inconsistent accounts of the cause of death, saying that he committed suicide in one instance and that he died in a traffic accident in other instances.

23. Mr. **Bai Heguo**, lived in Xiguangshan Village, Liutiao Town in Dengta City, Liaoning Province: Bai Heguo was taken into custody on 9 June 2002 by police officers from Tongerpu District Police Department, for practicing Falun Gong. He was sentenced to 11 years in prison and was held in Liaoning Province Huazi Prison. He was secretly transferred to the Nanganling Prison in Dalian city at the end of December 2007. On 5 January 2008, at 3 p.m., the prison administration notified Mr. Bai's family that he had died. His body was covered in bruises and he had a bump on his head and a cut in his tongue. His leg was broken and his testicles had been crushed. Authorities hurriedly cremated the body. The Nanganling prison authorities claimed that Mr. Bai had committed suicide.

24. Ms. **Zong Xiuxia**, lived in the Fangzi District in Weifang City, Shandong Province: In February 2008, Zong Xiuxia was taken to the Guangwen Police Station in Kuiwen District, at around 11.30 a.m., after she had discussed issues relating to Falun Gong at a supermarket. Police said that they took Ms. Zong to the Weifang City People's Hospital for a physical check-up at around 1 p.m., where she died at 3 p.m. The family was told that she died from jumping out of the elevator in the hospital.

25. Mr. **Yu Zhou**, a well-known singer from Beijing: Yu Zhou was arrested in Tongzhou District, Beijing, on 26 January 2008, along with his wife, Xu Na. The police stopped their vehicle when they were on their way home, arrested them and took them directly to the Tongzhou District Detention Centre. On 6 February 2008, Yu Zhou died at the Qinghe District Emergency Centre. The police claimed that this was a result of him going on hunger strike although he had diabetes. However, other sources indicate that he had been healthy and had never been suffering from diabetes. When the family requested to see the body and to have an autopsy performed, the authorities refused and threatened them.

26. Ms. **Gu Jianmin**, lived in Pudong New District, Shanghai: Gu Jianmin was arrested on 1 March 2008, by officers from the Yangjing Police Station in Pudong New District, Shanghai. Her husband was called and told to go to the Pudong New District Police Department and to the Neighbourhood Administration to do some medical parole paper work. When he arrived at the hospital, he saw that his wife's eyes were protruding, her pupils were enlarged, and that she was bleeding from the mouth. No one treated her although more than thirty agents of the 610 Office were present. She died on 13 March 2008.

27. Mr. **Gu Qun**: He was arrested and taken to the Tianjin Street Police Station, for distributing Falun Gong materials, on 16 March 2008. On the following day, he was transferred to the Yaojia Detention Center. To protest his detention, he went on a hunger strike, but was forced-fed. On 7 April 2008, the detention centre took him to the Dalian City Third People's Hospital. The doctor there said he was in need of treatment, but the detention staff indicated that he would be taken to the Police hospital. However, they returned him to the detention centre. At 9 a.m. on 8 April 2008, he was taken to the hospital once again, but died on the way.

28. Mr. **Fan Dezhen**, lived in Huludao City, Liaoning Province: On 25 February 2008, Fan Dezhen was arrested with eleven other Falun Gong practitioners, by the Suizhong Country Domestic Security Division Leader. He died at around 7 a.m. on 20 April 2008, in the Suizhong Country Detention Centre. Officers notified his family after 4 p.m., indicating

that, if they wanted to see the body, they had to do so on that same evening, because on the following day, an autopsy and cremation would be performed.

29. Mr. **Liu Quan**, lived in Benxi City, Liaoning Province: On 4 May 2008, the Nan'guanling Prison Administration in Dalian City called Mr. Liu Quan's family to inform them that Liu Quan had died at 2 a.m. due to a heart attack. His face was yellow, the flesh around his eyes and lips was purple, there were large purple bruises on his back, and his nose was filled with cotton balls. No autopsy was carried out and the authorities refused to authorize the transfer of Liu's body to Benxi City, where he had lived.

30. Mr. **Wu Xinming**, a resident of Xuanwuo Town, Hanyin County, in Shaanxi Province: Wu Xinming was arrested on 15 June 2006 after talking about Falun Gong to people in the countryside. The police sent him to Zaozihe Forced Labor Camp. There, the guards tied him with a rope. When he went on a hunger strike to protest the detention, the guards force-fed him with a highly concentrated salt solution, chilli powder, water and even laundry detergent. They also tied up his body, and whipped him with wire, resulting in his whole body being covered with bruises. He was returned home on 25 June 2008 after he began coughing up and vomiting blood. He died on the following day, 26 June 2008.

31. Ms. **Chen Yumei**, resident of Shenyang City, Liaoning Province: On the evening of 3 July 2008, officers from the Chang'an Police Station in Dadong District, Shenyang City, arrested Chen Yumei on Pangjiang Street. During the arrest, they beat and kicked her. Her family was asked to identify her in the ambulance, at around 9 p.m. of the same day, before she was taken to #463 Military Hospital. Having detected bleeding in her skull, the doctor had to perform an operation, for which the family paid. Her arms and legs were covered in bruises, and there were deep scratches on her body. Doctors said the marks were caused by beating or dragging. She died at around 8.30 p.m. on 4 July 2008.

32. Mr. **Zhong Zhenfu**, lived in Zhongjia Village, Changle Town, Pingdu City, Shandong Province: On 4 May 2008, Zhong Zhenfu was arrested at his house at around 6 p.m., as officers from the Pingdu City 610 Office and the City Police Department stormed into houses rented by Falun Gong practitioners in Pingdu City. The police confiscated some of their possessions and interrogated them at the police station. When they refused to reveal any information, the officers poured boiling water over their necks and bodies. Three days later, they were taken to Pingdu City Detention Centre. Guards put shackles on Zhong Zhenfu and whipped him about the head with metal wires. He was detained in a metal cage with the shackles still on, and the guards ordered other inmates to ill-treat him. The latter tried to force him to curse the founder of Falun Gong. When he refused, they beat him for over an hour. He was sent to the hospital and released on medical parole, after having been forced to pay over 100,000 Yuan in medical expenses. He died on 20 July 2008.

33. Ms. **Yang Jingfen**, a resident of Panjin City, Liaoning Province: At approximately 7:30 a.m. on 18 August 2008, six police officers from the Xinglongtai District State Security Division entered the apartment of Ms. Yang Jingfen, aged 59, and her husband to arrest her and search the apartment on the ground that she practiced Falun Gong. At around 9 a.m., her husband had to run an errand and left Ms. Yang alone with the police officers. When he returned at around 9:30 a.m. he found Ms. Yang's lifeless body in front of their apartment building. The police officers claimed that she had jumped out of a window of her sixth floor apartment to commit suicide.

34. Ms. **Sun Aimei**, resident of Xinhua Village, Zhucheng City, Shandong Province: Sun Aimei, aged about 60, was sentenced to detention at the Wangcun Women's Forced Labour Camp on 28 March 2008, three days after being arrested for distributing literature about the persecution of Falun Gong. At the end of 2008, her family was informed that she had suffered a stroke and had undergone surgery. They were not, however, allowed to see

her. On 1 February 2009, Ms. Sun's family was told to go to Wangcun Women's Forced Labour Camp to collect her ashes.

35. Ms. **Hou Lihua**, resident of Dongan District, Mudanjiang City, Heilongjiang Province: Hou Lihua was arrested at her workplace on 17 November 2008 and taken to the Mudanjiang City State Security unit. According to witnesses, she was beaten and otherwise ill-treated while in custody there. She was released in December 2008 but died on 14 February 2009 due to the injuries sustained in custody.

(b) Response from the Government dated 22 May 2009

36. On 22 May 2009, the Government of China replied to the joint communication of 13 March 2009. Since the Special Rapporteur had not received the response's translation from the relevant services at the time this report was finalized, she is unfortunately not in a position to summarize in English the content of the Government's response in the present report. However, a copy of the original response letter is available online at the following address: www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/religion/docs/response220509china.pdf.

(c) Observations by the Special Rapporteur

37. The Special Rapporteur is grateful that the Government of China replied to the joint communication of 13 March 2009 and hopes to be able to make observations on the response in the next report.

3. Communication sent on 9 April 2009 jointly with the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, 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) Allegations transmitted to the Government

38. The Special Rapporteurs brought to the attention of the Government information they had received regarding the death of Mr. **Phuntsok Rabgay**, a 27-year-old monk, in Drango County, Garzê Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan Province. On 25 March 2009, Phuntsok Rabgay was pasting leaflets containing allegations that monks had been tortured and imprisoned by the authorities and an appeal to the local population to forego crop cultivation and harvest as a gesture of mourning and disobedience. He was detected by Drango County Public Security Bureau (PSB) personnel and tried to elude arrest by fleeing on a motorcycle. The PSB personnel, however, managed to pursue and catch him. Upon arrest, they beat him with batons. He died shortly thereafter. The PSB officers reportedly dropped his body from a hill in order to create the appearance of a case of suicide.

39. The Special Rapporteurs, inter alia, referred to General Assembly resolution 63/181, which urges States "to step up their efforts to protect and promote freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, and to this end: (a) To ensure that their constitutional and legislative systems provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief to all without distinction, inter alia, by the provision of effective remedies in cases where the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, or the right to practise freely one's religion, including the right to change one's religion or belief, is violated; (b) To ensure that no one within their jurisdiction is deprived of the right to life, liberty or security of person because of religion or belief and that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, or arbitrary arrest or detention on that account and to bring to justice all perpetrators of violations of these rights".

report. However, a copy of the original response letter is available online at the following address: www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/religion/docs/response210809china.pdf.

(c) Observations by the Special Rapporteur

45. The Special Rapporteur is grateful that the Government of China replied to the joint urgent appeal of 23 June 2009 and hopes to be able to make observations on the response in the next report.

5. Urgent appeal sent on 14 July 2009 jointly with the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on arbitrary detention, the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

(a) Allegations transmitted to the Government

46. The Special Procedures mandate holders brought to the attention of the Government information they had received regarding Mr. **Zhou Xiangyang**. He was sentenced to 9 years in prison in May 2003, because he allegedly refused to give up his belief in Falun Gong. Reportedly, he was brutally tortured and was locked in a solitary cell for four months in the winter. At Gangbei Prison, Mr. Zhou was verbally and physically abused, and was detained in isolation numerous times. In February 2009, the guard captain at Gangbei Prison informed that Mr. Zhou was being force-fed five times per day and that he could die at any moment. When his family visited him two months later, four prisoners had to carry Mr. Zhou out of his cell as he was too weak and thin to walk by himself. During the visit, the other prisoners monitored his conversation and would kick him as a warning to change the subject, when they had the impression that he was disclosing information about the treatment he had experienced in prison.

47. In April and mid-May 2009, Mr. Zhou was taken to the Police Hospital for emergency treatment, including intravenous injections. Mr. Zhou's family requested his release on bail for medical treatment, but this was refused by the Gangbei Prison. The prison authorities allegedly indicated that he had to renounce his belief before he could be released for medical treatment. Based on Mr. Zhou's deteriorating health, concern was expressed for his physical and mental integrity.

(b) Response from the Government dated 4 September 2009

48. On 4 September 2009, the Government of China replied to the joint urgent appeal of 14 July 2009. Since the Special Rapporteur had not received the response's translation from the relevant services at the time this report was finalized, she is unfortunately not in a position to summarize in English the content of the Government's response in the present report. However, a copy of the original response letter is available online at the following address: www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/religion/docs/response040909china.pdf.

(c) Observations by the Special Rapporteur

49. The Special Rapporteur is grateful that the Government of China replied to the joint urgent appeal of 14 July 2009 and hopes to be able to make observations on the response in the next report.

6. Communication sent on 5 August 2009

(a) Allegations transmitted to the Government

50. The Special Rapporteur brought to the attention of the Government information she had received regarding the **draft legislation on children's freedom of religion being considered in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region**. Reportedly, the regional government of the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region was actively considering a draft legislation that would strengthen the existing legal restrictions on children's freedom of religion or belief and parent's freedom to impart religious education to their children. The draft legislation would build on the 1993 Implementing Measures for the Law on the Protection of Minors currently in force in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region which provides that "parents or other guardians may not permit minors to be engaged in religious activities".

51. The draft legislation under consideration would allegedly include provisions indicating that "no organisation or individual may lure or force minors to participate in religious activities or use religion to obstruct minors' compulsory education". Where minors are "lured" or "forced" into such activities, the draft legislation provides that children "can ask for protection from schools, neighbourhood committees, village committees, offices for the protection of minors or public security organs. Such organisations or work units receiving requests for help must take measures in a timely manner and not refuse or shift responsibility".

52. While respecting the need to legislate on the question of freedom of religion or belief in order to protect children from exploitation or abuse, the Special Rapporteur expressed her concerns that the adoption of such draft legislation was specifically aimed at unduly restricting the freedom of religion or belief of the members of the Uighur Muslim community in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region. Furthermore, if adopted, the draft legislation could foster the existing tensions which had led to the violent clashes that erupted during Han and Uighur demonstrations in Urumqi on 5 July 2009.

53. The Special Rapporteur appealed to the Government to ensure that the freedom of religion or belief of children and parents in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region is protected in accordance with the fundamental principles as set forth in Convention on the Rights of the Child to which China is a Party. The Convention affirms in its article 14 that "States Parties shall respect the right of the child to freedom of thought, conscience and religions; States Parties shall respect the rights and duties of the parents and, when applicable, legal guardians, to provide direction to the child in the exercise of his or her right in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child; Freedom to manifest one's religion or beliefs may be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others".

54. In case the proposed draft legislation would entail limitations on children's and parent's freedom of religion or belief, the Special Rapporteur asked the Government to explain how these limitations would be compatible with international human rights law. She also asked the Government to indicate if any measures were envisaged to prevent the recurrence of violent clashes following the recent inter-religious tensions and violence between the Han and the Uighur Muslim communities.

(b) Response from the Government dated 26 October 2009

55. On 26 October 2009, the Government of China replied to the communication of 5 August 2009. Since the Special Rapporteur had not received the response's translation from the relevant services at the time this report was finalized, she is unfortunately not in a

position to summarize in English the content of the Government's response in the present report. However, a copy of the original response letter is available online at the following address: www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/religion/docs/response261009china.pdf.

(c) Observations by the Special Rapporteur

56. The Special Rapporteur is grateful that the Government of China replied to the communication of 5 August 2009 and hopes to be able to make observations on the response in the next report.

7. Urgent appeal sent on 28 August 2009 jointly with the Vice-Chairperson Rapporteur of the Working Group on arbitrary detention, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

(a) Allegations transmitted to the Government

57. The Special Procedures mandate holders brought to the attention of the Government information they had received regarding Mr. **Wang Yonghang**, a former lawyer from Dalian City, Liaoning Province. On 4 July 2009, Mr. Wang Yonghang was arrested by two dozen Dalian police officers for "using a cult to damage the social and legal system". He was severely beaten during his arrest, resulting in the breaking of his right ankle. He did not receive adequate medical treatment until 11 August 2009, when he had surgery as a result of a serious infection in his ankle. The police did not notify Mr. Wang's family about the operation. However, on the same day, Mr. Wang's family was provided with his arrest warrant, dated 10 August 2009.

58. Mr. Wang Yonghang is currently being detained at Dalian City Detention Center, where he has allegedly been subjected to more beatings. His family and lawyer have not been able to see him, because his case allegedly involves "state secrets". His family has repeatedly complained to the relevant authorities about Mr. Wang Yonghang's ill-treatment, but has not received any response. Mr. Wang Yonghang's license to practice law was not renewed following his annual review period on 31 May 2008. Mr. Wang Yonghang has also published several open letters online in which he advocated for religious freedom and explained his views on the treatment of Falun Gong practitioners. Concern is expressed that Mr. Wang Yonghang's detention may be related to his work as a defence lawyer for Falun Gong practitioners. In light of above allegations of denial of adequate medical treatment and of beatings, further concern is expressed for Mr. Wang's physical and psychological integrity.

(b) Response from the Government dated 26 October 2009

59. On 26 October 2009, the Government of China replied to the joint urgent appeal of 28 August 2009. Since the Special Rapporteur had not received the response's translation from the relevant services at the time this report was finalized, she is unfortunately not in a position to summarize in English the content of the Government's response in the present report. However, a copy of the original response letter is available online at the following address: www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/religion/docs/response261009china.pdf.

(c) Observations by the Special Rapporteur

60. The Special Rapporteur is grateful that the Government of China replied to the joint urgent appeal of 28 August 2009 and hopes to be able to make observations on the response in the next report.

detention on that account and to bring to justice all perpetrators of violations of these rights”.

68. The Special Rapporteurs asked the Government to provide information on the basis upon which Mr. Palden Gyatso, Mr. Tsultrim, Mr. Sangpo, Mr. Jamyang Khedrub, Mr. Gendun, Mr. Shrab Sangpo Mr. Hu-lo and Mr. Yang-kyab have been sentenced to imprisonment and how that is compatible with the international norms and standards on the right to freedom of opinion and expression, freedom of assembly and freedom of religion or belief. They also recalled that during the fourth session of the Universal Periodic Review in February 2009, the Government indicated that the recommendation of the Working Group to strengthen the protection of ethnic minorities’ religious, civil, socio-economic and political rights is “pertaining to measures already being implemented or which had already been implemented” (A/HRC/11/25, para. 115). In this regard, the Special Rapporteurs asked the Government to provide details regarding how such measures are strengthening the protection of the rights of persons in the Tibet Autonomous Region, in particular persons belonging to the monastic community.

(b) Response from the Government dated 26 October 2009

69. On 26 October 2009, the Government of China replied to the joint urgent appeal of 2 September 2009. Since the Special Rapporteur had not received the response’s translation from the relevant services at the time this report was finalized, she is unfortunately not in a position to summarize in English the content of the Government’s response in the present report. However, a copy of the original response letter is available online at the following address: www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/religion/docs/response261009china.pdf.

(c) Observations by the Special Rapporteur

70. The Special Rapporteur is grateful that the Government of China replied to the joint urgent appeal of 2 September 2009 and hopes to be able to make observations on the response in the next report.

9. Urgent appeal sent on 18 September 2009 jointly with the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

(a) Allegations transmitted to the Government

71. The Special Rapporteurs brought to the attention of the Government information they had received regarding Mr. **Li Feng** and Mr. **Yu Ming**. On 4 October 2002, Mr. Li Feng was sentenced to 15 years in prison at Prison No. 4 in Shijiazhuang City, due to his involvement in broadcasting a television program about Falun Gong. Mr. Li was allegedly tortured in prison, which resulted in him suffering from seizures, high blood pressure, breathlessness, bowel and urinary disorders. He also lost consciousness several times. In January 2006, he was kept in the hospital for two days after he lost consciousness for 12 hours. His family was not allowed to visit him. Mr. Li is currently in critical condition. He suffers from lower limb oedema, dizziness and needs support to talk. He also suffers from constant vomiting.

72. According to additional information, on 3 March 2006, Mr. Yu Ming was sentenced to two and a half years of forced labour. He was detained at several centres and transferred to the Tuanhe Forced Labor Camp on 1 September 2006. Mr. Yu refused to renounce Falun Gong and held a hunger strike to protest his detention. As a result, he was tortured, force-fed and tied to a chair with ropes around his neck, chest, waist, hands and legs. A dozen inmates allegedly took turns torturing him. He remained tied to the chair from mid-

September to the end of 2006. He was untied after suffering cardiac arrest. He was later detained in a solitary cell and tied to the bed. On 21 May 2007, Mr. Yu was transferred to the Masanjia Forced Labour Camp in Shenyang City, where he was taken to the camp hospital due to his overall weakness and stiff limbs. He was later transferred to the Luotaishanzhuang Brainwashing Center in Fushun City. On 2 September 2008, Mr. Yu's term was extended for another year. He was sent back to the Masanjia Forced Labour Camp in October, and has been held in solitary confinement since then. At the camp, Mr. Yu was forced to sign a suicide letter, before he was beaten, including on his head with a steel baton, hung and shocked with electric batons. As a result, he bled severely and lost consciousness for more than a week. Repeated requests by his family to visit him have been denied. As a result of the alleged beatings suffered by both Mr. Li and Mr. Yu in detention, concern is expressed for their physical and psychological integrity.

73. The Special Rapporteurs appealed to the Government to ensure the right to freedom of religion or belief in accordance with the principles set forth in the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination based on Religion or Belief and article 18 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. Furthermore, they referred to General Assembly resolution 63/181, in which the Assembly urges States "to step up their efforts to protect and promote freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, and to this end: [...] (b) To ensure that no one within their jurisdiction is deprived of the right to life, liberty or security of person because of religion or belief and that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, or arbitrary arrest or detention on that account and to bring to justice all perpetrators of violations of these rights".

(b) No response received from the Government

(c) Observations of the Special Rapporteur

74. The Special Rapporteur regrets that she has so far not received a reply from the Government of China concerning the above mentioned allegations. The Special Rapporteur is very concerned by the continued violations of freedom of religion or belief suffered by Falun Gong practitioners (see E/CN.4/2005/61, paras. 37-38; E/CN.4/2006/5/Add.1, para. 109; A/HRC/4/21/Add.1, para. 88; A/HRC/7/10/Add.1, para. 32; A/HRC/10/8/Add.1, para. 22). She would like to take this opportunity to refer to the chapter on "Religious minorities and new religious movements" in her report to the fourth session of the Human Rights Council (see A/HRC/4/21, paras. 43-47).

E. Czech Republic

1. Urgent appeal sent on 16 July 2009 jointly with the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on arbitrary detention, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

(a) Allegations transmitted to the Government

75. The Special Procedures mandate holders brought to the attention of the Government information they had received regarding Mr. **Bauyrzhan Imangaliev**, aged 30, citizen of Kazakhstan. Mr. Imangaliev is currently awaiting deportation in the refugee camp "Bélá Jezová" in the Czech Republic together with his pregnant wife and two small children. He claimed that in his country of origin, Kazakhstan, he was subjected to persecution on the part of the authorities for religious reasons as a member of an independent Muslim community which is not controlled by the official religious structures in Western