International Association of Iranian Legal and Political Advocates (IAILPA)

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To: World Health Organization (WHO) Representative for Iran:

Cc: WHO, Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Right

Relevant United Nations Special Procedures Mandate Holders

Subject: Urgent Request for Intervention Regarding the Reported Death Sentence of Iranian Medical Student Sepehr Amirzadeh

Dear WHO Representative,

We write to you with the utmost urgency regarding the reported death sentence

imposed on Mr Sepehr Amirzadeh, a 22-year-old Iranian medical student currently detained in Isfahan Prison, and to request the immediate attention of the World Health Organization to the medical, humanitarian and ethical dimensions of his case.

According to reports published by human-rights sources, Mr Amirzadeh was arrested

by security forces at his home in Isfahan following nationwide protests in Iran in January 2026 uprising in Iran.

Available reports further indicate that, during the protests, Mr Amirzadeh provided basic first aid and medical assistance to injured protesters. We are deeply concerned by reports indicating that his

provision of medical assistance have been considered during the security and judicial proceedings against him.

After a period of detention in security facilities, he was reportedly transferred to Isfahan Prison and has now been sentenced to death.

At present, however, significant aspects of his case remain unclear.

The full judgment, precise charges, supporting evidence and complete court documentation have not, to our knowledge, been made publicly and independently available.

There is also serious concern regarding whether Mr Amirzadeh has had effective and access to independent legal counsel and whether all guarantees of due process and a fair trial have been respected.

Reports have additionally emerged alleging pressure on members of his family and requests that they refrain from publicly discussing his situation.

Medical neutrality and the protection of those providing medical care

The circumstances surrounding this case raise an issue of profound importance to the international medical community.

Providing medical assistance to an injured person, irrespective of that person's identity, political views or participation in a protest, is a fundamental principle of medical ethics and humanitarian conduct.

Medical students, physicians, nurses, paramedics and other individuals providing

impartial medical assistance must be able to care for injured people without fear that the act of providing such assistance will expose them to retaliation, prosecution or punishment. If the reports concerning Mr Amirzadeh's provision of first aid are accurate, any adverse judicial consequence arising from the impartial provision of medical assistance would raise grave concerns regarding medical neutrality, professional ethics and the protection of present and future healthcare professionals.

The criminalisation or punishment of medical assistance may also have consequences extending far beyond a single individual.

It can create a chilling effect in which healthcare professionals and medical students become afraid to assist injured people during emergencies, potentially placing additional lives at risk.

Our urgent requests to the World Health Organization

In view of the potentially irreversible consequences of this case, we respectfully call upon the World Health Organization, within the scope of its mandate and through all appropriate channels available to it:

1. Seek immediate clarification from the relevant Iranian authorities regarding the current legal and physical status of Mr Sepehr Amirzadeh.

2. Request assurances that no execution will take place while serious questions remain concerning the charges, evidence, access to legal counsel and observance of fundamental due process guarantees.

3. Raise concern regarding any prosecution, retaliation or punishment that may be connected to the impartial provision of medical or first-aid assistance to injured individuals.

4. Reaffirm the essential principle that healthcare professionals, medical students and others providing emergency medical assistance must be permitted to perform humanitarian and medical duties without intimidation or retaliation.

The protection of prisoners is not just a humanitarian concern; it is also a fundamental principle of justice during political transitions. In any future process of accountability or democratic transition in Iran, the treatment of prisoners in the present will be a fundamental criterion for measuring respect for or violation of the rule of law.

5. Seek assurances regarding Mr Amirzadeh's physical and psychological well-being, humane conditions of detention and access to any medical care he may require.

6. Request confirmation that he has immediate and effective access to qualified and independent legal counsel and meaningful communication with his family.

7. Communicate the urgency of this case to appropriate United Nations human-rights mechanisms, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and relevant UN Special Procedures mandate holders.

8. Encourage an independent examination of allegations that medical assistance provided to injured protesters has been used as a basis for criminal prosecution or punishment.

A matter extending beyond one individual

This appeal concerns not only the life of one young medical student.

It concerns a fundamental question relevant to healthcare everywhere:

Can a medical student or healthcare professional safely provide care to an injured person without fearing punishment for fulfilling the most basic ethical responsibility of medicine?

Healthcare must never become conditional upon the political identity, beliefs or circumstances of the injured person.

A medical professional should never be forced to choose between saving another person's life and protecting his or her own freedom and safety.

For this reason, we respectfully believe that Mr Amirzadeh's case warrants the immediate attention of the World Health Organization and the wider international medical community.

Given the reported death sentence and the potentially irreversible nature of any execution, time is of the essence.

We therefore respectfully request that WHO treat this communication as an URGENT APPEAL and take all appropriate steps available within its mandate to seek clarification, protect the principles of medical neutrality, and help prevent an irreversible outcome while serious questions concerning this case remain unanswered.

More than this, the world must not allow Iran`s political prisons to become "invisible victims" of war. Their lives, dignity, and rights must remain in the spotlight, even as the world`s eyes are fixed on the battlefields.

We would be grateful for confirmation that this appeal has been received and referred to the appropriate department or officials for urgent consideration.

Ignoring the fate of these prisoners is not only a violation of human and legal obligations but can also undermine the foundations of justice in the international legal order.

The international community, human rights institutions, and public opinion must not allow the fundamental rights of people imprisoned solely for expressing their opinions or civic activism to be marginalized in the shadow of geopolitical crises.

Maintaining global attention to the situation of these prisoners is not only a defence of the human dignity, but also a defence of the principles on which the international legal order is founded.

The history of justice will also always remember who the world saw and who it ignored in such moments.

We would be grateful for confirmation that this appeal has been received and referred

Respectfully,

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