

TUNISIA

- **TUN-06:** Abir Moussi (Ms.)
- **TUN-COLL-01:** 63 parliamentarians



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

Tunisia

Decision adopted by consensus by the IPU Governing Council at its 214th session (Geneva, 17 October 2024)¹



Abir Moussi (centre), President of the *Parti destourien libre* (Free Destourian Party) (PDL), at the Tunisian Assembly headquarters in the capital Tunis on 26 January 2021. FETHI BELAID/AFP

TUN-06 – Abir Moussi

Alleged human rights violations

- ✓ Threats, acts of intimidation
- ✓ Impunity
- ✓ Other violations

A. Summary of the case

A member of the Assembly of People's Representatives of Tunisia elected in 2019 for a five-year term, Ms. Abir Moussi was the victim of acts of verbal and physical violence and sexist, degrading insults directly linked to the exercise of her parliamentary mandate. The abuse suffered by Ms. Moussi is allegedly based, on the one hand, on the fact that she is the leader of an opposition political party and, on the other, on her gender. Ms. Moussi has also received serious death threats, which she has reported to the police, who provided her with security when she was still a member of parliament.

The complainant's allegations were supported by videos and excerpts from social media posts that helped identify the alleged perpetrators, including two former members of the Assembly of People's Representatives elected in 2019, Mr. Seifeddine Makhoulouf and Mr. Sahbi Smara. The latter had physically assaulted Ms. Moussi during Assembly proceedings on 30 June 2021. The two parliamentarians have not been punished as no disciplinary measures had been taken by the parliamentary authorities

Case TUN-06

Tunisia: Parliament affiliated to the IPU

Victim: Female former opposition member of parliament

Qualified complainant(s): Section I.1(a) of the Committee Procedure (Annex I)

Submission of complaint: October 2020

Recent IPU decision: February 2024

Recent IPU mission(s): - - -

Recent Committee hearing: Hearing with the parliamentary authorities at the 149th IPU Assembly (October 2024)

Recent follow-up:

- Communication from the authorities: Letter from the Speaker of the Assembly of People's Representatives (May 2024)
- Communication from the complainant: February 2024
- Communication to the authorities: Letter to the Minister of Justice and Speaker of the Assembly of People's Representatives (June 2024)
- Communication to the complainant: September 2024

¹ The delegation of Tunisia expressed its reservations regarding the decision.

against them or against other members of the same political party accused of harassing and intimidating Ms. Moussi with the aim of removing her from political life.

In several letters sent between 2020 and 2023, the parliamentary and executive authorities pointed out that measures had been taken to protect Ms. Moussi's rights, in particular the provision of permanent security by the Ministry of the Interior. Nevertheless, the Tunisian authorities had repeatedly asserted that Ms. Moussi's conduct was prejudicial and that certain measures taken against her were justified.

On 25 July 2021, President Kais Saïed suspended parliament and lifted the parliamentary immunity of all parliamentarians, invoking Article 80 of the Constitution. The President granted himself the power to legislate by means of presidential decrees, which are not subject to judicial review given the absence of a Constitutional Court. On 30 March 2022, the President officially dissolved parliament and announced a road map for the year 2022 that included the organization of parliamentary elections and the adoption of a new Constitution. According to the results published by the *Instance supérieure indépendante pour les élections*, ISIE (Independent High Authority for Elections), the turnout for the parliamentary elections was around 11%. Several political parties, civil society organizations and the Tunisian General Labour Union (UGTT), a powerful national trade union organization, boycotted the elections on the grounds that the whole constitutional process initiated by President Saïed had been neither free nor fair. They therefore rejected the election results as illegitimate.

In January 2023, Ms. Moussi's political party was reportedly banned from protesting freely against the decrees adopted by President Kais Saïed. Ms. Moussi and her supporters were allegedly violently prevented from marching by a public order brigade.

On 3 October 2023, Ms. Moussi was arrested while attempting to lodge an appeal against the presidential decrees on organizing and holding local elections scheduled for December 2023, citing a lack of transparency in the electoral process. On 5 October 2023, she was questioned by an investigating judge about a series of security-related allegations, and the judge ordered that she be remanded in custody. She is accused of "an attack aimed at changing the form of government, inciting people to arm themselves against each other or to provoke disorder, murder or looting in the country", as stipulated in section 72 of the Tunisian Criminal Code. The complainant added that Ms. Moussi's detention was intended to hinder her participation in the presidential elections that took place in October 2024. No decision to extend her detention appears to have been taken pursuant to section 85 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Ms. Moussi reportedly spent nine months in pretrial detention before being sentenced in August 2024.

In a letter received on 20 December 2023, the parliamentary authorities stated that they did not have any official information on the judicial cases in progress, as these proceedings fell within the remit of the judicial authorities, in accordance with the principle of the separation of powers set out in the new Tunisian Constitution adopted in 2022. Furthermore, according to the parliamentary authorities, these cases are also subject to the principle of confidentiality of the investigation in order to ensure the proper conduct of investigations and protection of personal data. In the same letter of 20 December 2023, the parliamentary authorities refuted the allegations that the proceedings initiated against the former members of parliament, including Ms. Moussi, were political in nature, stating that these allegations were unfounded, without, however, providing any arguments to that effect. According to the authorities, the current proceedings are based on laws applicable to all citizens, who remain equal before the law, and that involvement in politics does not guarantee immunity for those who break the law, contrary to what prevailed in the past.

At a hearing with the Tunisian delegation during the 148th IPU Assembly, which took place in Geneva in March 2024, the Committee reiterated its concerns about the arbitrary detention of Ms. Moussi and the recent information received concerning her. During this meeting, the delegation undertook to provide updated information about Ms. Abir Moussi and all the other former Tunisian members of parliament. The Committee had decided not to adopt any new decisions in the Tunisian cases in order to foster constructive cooperation with the newly elected parliamentary authorities. However, in a letter dated 20 May 2024, the parliamentary authorities reiterated the same arguments they had already put forward in their letter of 20 December 2023.

On 5 August 2024, Ms. Abir Moussi was sentenced by the Tunis Court of First Instance to two years' imprisonment under Decree Law No. 54 on the grounds that she had criticized the legislative election process. Ms. Moussi's sentence is said to be arbitrary, as it is based on the legitimate exercise of her right to freedom of expression. In a letter sent to her supporters on 10 September 2024, Ms. Moussi denounced her detention conditions, which are contributing to the deterioration of her health.

At the Committee's request, a further hearing with the Tunisian delegation was held during the 149th IPU Assembly, which took place in Geneva in October 2024. With regard to the physical violence to which Ms. Moussi had been subjected, the delegation stated that the new Tunisian Constitution adopted in 2022 prohibited any act of violence inside and outside parliament. In the event of verbal or physical violence, members of parliament are punished and reprimanded. The Tunisian Parliament had therefore taken serious measures to guarantee a climate of respectful dialogue and to end the acts of incivility that had occurred during the former parliament. The delegation said it wanted the judicial system to conclude its investigation of Ms. Moussi's case so that her attackers did not go unpunished.

In response to the Committee's questions about Ms. Moussi's sentence, her prosecution and the status of legal proceedings, the parliamentary delegation reiterated that it had no information about Ms. Moussi because of the principle of separation of powers. The delegation stressed that as proceedings against Ms. Moussi were still under way and that no final ruling had been handed down, the Assembly of People's Representatives had no influence on the judicial process, which remained independent from political interference. While the delegation had no information on Ms. Moussi's situation, it nevertheless stated that all cases concerning former members of parliament, including Ms. Moussi's case, were not of a political nature and had started after the end of the parliamentary mandate of the members of parliament. Ms. Moussi could therefore not claim parliamentary immunity, which had expired when parliament had been dissolved in 2021.

Regarding the request for an IPU mission, the Tunisian delegation stated that a Committee delegation would be welcome. Nevertheless, all visits were subject to procedures determined by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, under the authority of the President of the Republic, which would have to consider the mission request submitted by the Committee.

B. Decision

The Governing Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

1. *Thanks* the Tunisian delegation for the information provided at the 149th IPU Assembly;
2. *Deplores* the sentencing of Ms. Abir Moussi to two years in prison and the charges brought against her on the grounds that she criticized the legislative election process; *does not understand* how a simple criticism can justify the charges of "an attack aimed at changing the form of government" brought against her; and *strongly recalls* that Ms. Moussi's remarks were made in the context of her right to freedom of expression, one of the pillars of democracy, which is essential for members of parliament and which covers not only speech, opinions and comments favourably received or considered as being inoffensive, but also those that are likely to offend, shock or disturb;
3. *Regrets* that Ms. Moussi has been held in pretrial detention since October 2023, for almost 10 months in deplorable conditions that are allegedly detrimental to her health; and *calls on* the Tunisian authorities to release Ms. Moussi and to drop the charges against her, given that they appear to be based solely on the peaceful exercise of her rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly, which are guaranteed under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Tunisia has acceded;
4. *Deeply regrets* the lack of concrete information from the Tunisian authorities on Ms. Moussi's case on the grounds of separation of powers that guarantees the independence of the judiciary; *stresses* that while respecting the independence of the judiciary and the principle of separation of powers, the parliamentary authorities could take an interest in the case of former members of parliament as a matter of parliamentary solidarity, and exercise their supervisory powers to ask for information pertaining to public order that does not impede the course of justice; and *encourages* to this end the recently elected Assembly of People's Representatives to use all the mechanisms at its disposal to exercise its supervisory powers over the executive

and judiciary branches, within the limits of the Tunisian Constitution, in order to establish its authority as a legislative body and to inform itself of the charges brought against Ms. Moussi, the date of her trial and the status of the legal proceedings brought against her, to ensure that she is given a fair trial;

5. *Reiterates its hope* that a delegation from the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians will be able to visit Tunisia in the near future in order to foster constructive and inclusive dialogue and help resolve Ms. Moussi's case; and *hopes* to receive a positive response and support from the Assembly of People's Representatives and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to this end to enable the mission to take place in the best possible conditions;
6. *Requests* the Secretary General to convey this decision to the Speaker of the Assembly of People's Representatives, the complainant and any third party likely to be in a position to supply relevant information;
7. *Requests* the Committee to continue examining this case and to report back to it in due course.



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Tunisian security forces guard the entrance to the country's parliament in Tunis, Tunisia, on 1 October 2021. © Anadolu Agency via AFP

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| TUN-07 - Seifedine Makhlof | TUN-39 - Noomane El Euch |
| TUN-08 - Maher Zid | TUN-40 - Abdelhamid Marzouki |
| TUN-09 - Maher Medhioub | TUN-41 - Ayachi Zammal |
| TUN-10 - Yosri Dali | TUN-42 - Samir Dilou |
| TUN-11 - Fethi Ayadi | TUN-43 - Habib Ben Sid'hom |
| TUN-12 - Awatef Ftirch (Ms.) | TUN-44 - Mabrouk Khachnaoui |
| TUN-13 - Omar Ghribi | TUN-45 - Bechir Khelifi |
| TUN-14 - Faiza Bouhleb (Ms.) | TUN-46 - Nouha Aissaoui (Ms.) |
| TUN-15 - Samira Smii (Ms.) | TUN-47 - Latifa Habachi (Ms.) |
| TUN-16 - Mahbouba Ben Dhifallah (Ms.) | TUN-48 - Ferida Laabidi (Ms.) |
| TUN-17 - Mohamed Zrig | TUN-49 - Mohamed Affas |
| TUN-18 - Issam Bargougui | TUN-50 - Abdellatif Aloui |
| TUN-19 - Samira Chaouachi (Ms.) | TUN-51 - Mehdi Ben Gharbia |
| TUN-20 - Belgacem Hassan | TUN-52 - Rached Khiari |
| TUN-21 - Kenza Ajela (Ms.) | TUN-54 - Moussa Ben Ahmed |
| TUN-22 - Emna Ben Hmayed (Ms.) | TUN-55 - Oussama Khelifi |
| TUN-23 - Bechr Chebbi | TUN-56 - Ghazi Karoui |
| TUN-24 - Monjia Boughanmi (Ms.) | TUN-57 - Mohamed Fateh Khelifi |
| TUN-25 - Wafa Attia (Ms.) | TUN-58 - Ziad El Hachemi |
| TUN-26 - Jamila Jouini (Ms.) | TUN-59 - Sofiane Makhlofi |
| TUN-27 - Mohamed Lazher Rama | TUN-60 - Majdi Karbai |
| TUN-28 - Nidhal Saoudi | TUN-61 - Anouar Ben Chahed |
| TUN-29 - Neji Jmal | TUN-62 - Yassine Ayari |
| TUN-30 - Zeinab Brahmi (Ms.) | TUN-63 - Ghazi Chaouachi |
| TUN-31 - Mohamed Al Azhar | TUN-64 - Ahmed Mechergui |
| TUN-32 - Noureddine Bhiri | TUN-65 - Mohamed Ben Salem |

¹ The delegation of Tunisia expressed its reservations regarding the decision.

TUN-33 - Rached Ghannouchi
TUN-34 - Tarek Fetiti
TUN-35 - Imed Khemiri
TUN-36 - Walid Jalled
TUN-37 - Safi Said
TUN-38 - Iyadh Elloumi

TUN-66 - Lazhar Akremi
TUN-67 - Ali Laraiedh
TUN-68 - Ahmed Ameri
TUN-69 - Sayed Ferjani
TUN-70 - Sahbi Atig

Alleged human rights violations

- ✓ Threats, acts of intimidation
- ✓ Arbitrary arrest and detention
- ✓ Lack of due process at the investigation stage and of fair trial proceedings
- ✓ Violation of freedom of opinion and expression
- ✓ Violation of freedom of assembly and association
- ✓ Violation of freedom of movement
- ✓ Abusive revocation or suspension of the parliamentary mandate
- ✓ Failure to respect parliamentary immunity
- ✓ Other acts obstructing the exercise of the parliamentary mandate

A. Summary of the case

This case concerns 64 members of the Assembly of People's Representatives of Tunisia elected in 2019 who, according to the complainants, are victims of arbitrary prosecutions after expressing their opposition to the exceptional measures adopted by President Kaïs Saïed since 25 July 2021.

More generally, the suspension of parliament on 25 July 2021 by President Saïed had an impact on the 217 members of the Assembly of People's Representatives elected in 2019, who were deprived of their parliamentary immunity, allowances, medical insurance and freedom of movement, including for the purposes of receiving medical treatment.

On 30 March 2022, 120 members of parliament elected in 2019 took part in an online plenary session to discuss the presidential decrees. A few hours after the plenary session, President Saïed officially dissolved parliament and the Public Prosecutor opened an investigation into the members of parliament for an attempted coup d'état and conspiracy against justice. For fear of reprisal, only nine of the 120 members of parliament concerned, including the former Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr. Rached Ghannouchi, submitted a complaint to the Committee. Mr. Ghannouchi was summoned for questioning at great length on 1 April 2022 about this case.

Moreover, the dissolution of parliament had, according to the complainants, additional consequences for some members of parliament elected in 2019 from the *Ennahda* and *Al Karama* blocs, who were directly targeted because of their opposition to President Saïed and were imprisoned before being released, including Mr. Seifedine Makhoulouf and Mr. Nidhal Saoudi. Mr. Nourredine Bhiri, who had initially been arrested and detained on 31 December 2021 before being released on 8 March 2022, was again arrested on 13 February 2023 by officers from the national terrorist crimes investigation unit. Mr. Bhiri is still being held in pretrial detention. The cases concerning certain members of parliament are also being examined in the military courts, as provided for by Tunisian law.

In the same context, Mr. Rached Khiari, who has been charged in other cases, has been detained since 3 August 2022 on a charge of defamation against another person on social media brought by the Ministry of Education. Mr. Khiari is also alleged to have accused President Saïed of receiving foreign funding for his 2019 election campaign and is now facing the military courts on these charges. Similarly,

Case TUN-COLL-01

Tunisia: Parliament affiliated to the IPU

Victims: 63 members of the opposition (49 men and 14 women)

Qualified complainant(s): Sections I.1(a) and (b) of the Committee Procedure (Annex I)

Submission of complaints: August, September and October 2021

Recent IPU decision: February 2024

IPU mission(s): - - -

Recent Committee hearing: Hearing of the Tunisian delegation at the 148th IPU Assembly (March 2024)

Recent follow-up:

- Communication from the authorities:
Letter from the Speaker of the Assembly of People's Representatives (June 2024)
- Communication from the complainants:
September 2024
- Communications to the authorities: Letters to the Minister of Justice and to the Speaker of the Assembly of People's representatives (September 2024)
- Communication to the complainants:
(September 2024)

Mr. Mehdi Ben Gharbia has been held in pretrial detention since 20 October 2021, accused of money laundering, and is allegedly still being held despite the detention exceeding the legal six-month limit. In its Opinion No. 50/2023 of 26 September 2023 concerning the case of Mr. Ben Gharbia, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention considered that Mr. Ben Gharbia's detention was arbitrary based on the information provided by the source. The working group also called on the Tunisian authorities, who have not sent their official observations to the UN mechanism, to release Mr. Ben Gharbia immediately and grant him the right to obtain compensation.

As for Mr. Rached Ghannouchi, he is allegedly the target of politically motivated persecution, as he has been charged in several cases that the complainants maintain are politically motivated. On 15 May 2023, he was sentenced by Tunisia's anti-terrorism court to one year's imprisonment and a fine for public statements he had made in 2022.

In their letter of 28 January 2022, the executive authorities stated that all members of parliament, whose mandates had been suspended, enjoyed freedom of movement and travel, apart from those subject to a legal ruling prohibiting them from leaving the country. In a more recent communication of 11 October 2022, the executive authorities confirmed that the members of parliament who had taken part in the online session of 30 March 2022 were being investigated. As for Mr. Ben Gharbia's situation, the authorities stated that he was currently the subject of a criminal prosecution; his first hearing of 7 July 2022 had been deferred to 13 October 2022. Requests for his release had been refused.

In May and June 2023, the complainants referred eight new complaints to the Committee concerning the cases of eight former Tunisian members of parliament who were subject to arbitrary prosecutions because of their opposition to the measures taken by the President of the Republic. These include Mr. Sayed Ferjani and Mr. Ahmed Mechergui, who were allegedly arrested on 27 February and 19 April 2023, respectively, in connection with the investigation against Mr. Ghannouchi in the Instalingo case. Similarly, Mr. Ahmed Laâmari and Mr. Mohamed Ben Salem were reportedly arrested in March 2023 for organizing an illegal border crossing and illegally holding currency. Mr. Lazhar Akremi and Mr. Ghazi Chaouachi were reportedly arrested in February 2023 in connection with a plot against state security. Mr. Ali Laraiedh, the former Prime Minister, was arrested on 19 December 2022 on vague terrorism charges. The complainants state that he is being held in detention without having appeared before a judge. Finally, former member of parliament Mr. Sahbi Atig was allegedly arrested on 6 May 2023 and prosecuted for "corruption" and "money laundering". According to the complainants, the aim of all these cases is to silence former members of parliament who had publicly criticized the Head of State. In a recent communication, the complainants also indicated that Ms. Lilia Bellil wished to have her name removed from the present case, on the grounds that she had never expressed the wish for the Committee to examine her case.

In their letters of July and December 2023, the authorities stated that they were not in a position to provide information on the judicial proceedings under way because of the principle of the separation of powers. Furthermore, according to the parliamentary authorities, these cases are also subject to the principle of confidentiality of the investigation in order to ensure the proper conduct of investigations and protection of personal data. In the same letter of 20 December 2023, the parliamentary authorities refuted the allegations that the proceedings initiated against the former members of parliament were political in nature, stating that these allegations were unfounded, without, however, providing any arguments to that effect. According to the authorities, the current proceedings are based on laws applicable to all citizens, who remain equal before the law, and that involvement in politics does not guarantee immunity for those who break the law, contrary to what prevailed in the past.

Although this case includes individual situations, some of which relate to events prior to the dissolution of parliament, the violations suffered by all the members of parliament concerned, belonging to the Assembly of People's Representatives elected in 2019, are part of the exceptional measures taken by President Saïed since 25 July 2021. The latter invoked Article 80 of the Constitution to suspend and dissolve parliament, lifting the parliamentary immunity of members of parliament and granting himself the power to legislate by presidential decrees, which are not subject to judicial appeal given the absence of a Constitutional Court. On 30 March 2022, the President officially dissolved parliament, announcing a road map for 2022 that included the organization of legislative elections and adoption of a new Constitution. According to the results published by the *Instance supérieure indépendante pour les élections*, ISIE (Independent High Authority for Elections), the turnout for the legislative elections, which finally took place in December 2022 and January 2023, was around 11%. Several political parties, civil society organizations and the Tunisian General

Labour Union (UGTT), a powerful national trade union organization, boycotted these elections on the grounds that the whole constitutional process initiated by President Saïed had been neither free nor fair. The parties involved therefore rejected the election results as illegitimate.

On 13 September 2022, President Saïed promulgated Decree Law No. 2022-54 on combating offences relating to information and communication systems. According to the complainants, since the promulgation of this law, the authorities have used it to muzzle and intimidate the opposition. Several former members of parliament included in this case are being prosecuted under this law and could face up to five years' imprisonment. On 22 September 2022, the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights adopted a decision against Tunisia, in which it deemed that the President of the Republic's power to take exceptional measures was limited by the procedural requirements of Article 80 of the Constitution. The Court found that the measures adopted were not only disproportionate to their stated objectives, but also to the laws of Tunisia.

At a hearing with the Tunisian delegation during the 148th IPU Assembly, which took place in Geneva in March 2024, the Committee reiterated its concerns about the arbitrary detention of several former Tunisian members of parliament. During this meeting, the delegation undertook to provide updated information about the other former members of parliament, including on the status of proceedings initiated against them. The Committee had decided not to adopt any new decisions in the Tunisian cases in order to foster constructive cooperation with the newly elected parliamentary authorities. However, in a letter dated 20 May 2024, the parliamentary authorities explained that the Assembly of People's Representatives, as an independent legislative body, did not interfere in legal proceedings and had no information about the legal action brought against members of the former Assembly.

In September 2024, the complainants indicated that 10 of the former members of parliament in this case were still in detention, while the cases of nine others had been referred to the military courts.

At the Committee's request, a further hearing with the Tunisian delegation was held during the 149th IPU Assembly, which took place in Geneva in October 2024. The delegation reiterated the comments made by the parliamentary authorities in their letter of 20 May 2024; in other words, that it had no information on the cases of the former members of parliament because of the principle of separation of powers. The delegation stressed that, as proceedings against the former members of parliament were still under way and that no final ruling had been handed down, the Assembly of People's Representatives had no influence on the judicial process, which remained independent from political interference. While the delegation had no information on the situation of the former members of parliament, it nevertheless stated that all cases concerning former members of parliament were not of a political nature and had started after the end of their parliamentary mandate. The former members of parliament could therefore not claim parliamentary immunity, which had expired when parliament had been dissolved in 2021.

Regarding the request for an IPU mission, the Tunisian delegation stated that a Committee delegation would be welcome. Nevertheless, all visits were subject to procedures determined by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, under the authority of the President of the Republic, who would have to consider the mission request submitted by the Committee.

B. Decision

The Governing Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

1. *Thanks* the Tunisian delegation for the information provided at the 149th IPU Assembly;
2. *Reiterates its deep concern* at the continued detention of 10 former Tunisian members of parliament on grounds that until now remain vague; and *calls on* the Tunisian authorities, in particular the Ministry of Justice, to provide detailed information on the cases of the imprisoned former members of parliament;
3. *Strongly reaffirms* that healthy democracies are based on the diversity of political opinion, which should be heard and respected; and, to this end, *calls on* the Tunisian authorities to release as a matter of urgency any former members of parliament detained for expressing their opposition to the exceptional measures adopted by the President of the Republic and to drop the charges against them and the 120 former members of parliament who met on 30 March

2022, given that these proceedings appear to be based solely on the peaceful exercise of their rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly, which are guaranteed under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to which Tunisia has acceded;

4. *Deeply regrets* the lack of concrete information from the Tunisian authorities on this collective case on the grounds of separation of powers; *stresses* that while respecting the independence of the judiciary and the principle of separation of powers, the parliamentary authorities should take an interest in the case of former members of parliament as a matter of parliamentary solidarity, and exercise their supervisory powers to ask for information pertaining to public order that does not impede the course of justice; and *encourages* to this end the recently elected Assembly of People's Representatives to use all the mechanisms at its disposal to exercise its supervisory powers over the executive and judiciary branches, within the limits of the Tunisian Constitution, in order to establish its authority and to inform itself of the charges brought against the former members of parliament implicated in this case, the date of their trial and the status of the legal proceedings brought against them, to ensure that they are given a fair trial;
5. *Deplores* the use of military courts in cases concerning civilians, including the nine former members of parliament; *urges* the Tunisian authorities to ensure that military courts are not used in cases concerning members of parliament elected in 2019 and to review the provisions of Tunisian law that allow this practice; and *wishes* to receive detailed information on the situation of all the former members of parliament included in this case;
6. *Reiterates the hope* that a delegation from the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians will be able to visit Tunisia in the near future in order to find satisfactory solutions to the cases under examination, foster constructive and inclusive dialogue and discuss the matter of the possible provision of IPU assistance to the Tunisian Parliament; and *hopes* to receive a positive response and support from the Assembly of People's Representatives and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to this end to enable the mission to take place in the best possible conditions;
7. *Requests* the Secretary General to convey this decision to the Speaker of the Assembly of People's Representatives, the complainants and any third party likely to be in a position to supply relevant information;
8. *Requests* the Committee to continue examining the case and to report back to it in due course.