**PRESS RELEASE**

Solidarity with Syrian refugees stuck on the Algerian-Moroccan border

More than 55 Syrian refugees, including 20 children and 17 women, are stuck since April 17 in the Algerian-Moroccan border. Rejected by both the Algerian and Moroccan armies, they are experiencing a tragic situation exposed to the blazing sun in the middle of the desert.

So far, the Moroccan and Algerian authorities have been shifting the blame on to each other, without providing any type of support to these refugees. They are guilty of non-assistance to a population in danger.

The militarization of the Algerian-Moroccan border has been causing serious violations of human rights. For several years now, both armies have been chasing sub-Saharan migrants from one border to another. By violating today the rights of refugees and the Geneva Convention on refugees, they are repudiating the most basic of human rights, which is to host asylum seekers escaping the war in their home country.

This attitude dramatically illustrates the consequences of the security approach imposed to the inhabitants of this region who aspire to an open, solidarity-based and democratic Maghreb.

Considering this situation, the signatory associations and organizations:

⁃ Alert public opinion about this human tragedy;

⁃ Compel the Moroccan and Algerian authorities to ensure the protection of the refugees, to welcome them with dignity and to rapidly provide them with food and medical care;

⁃ Calls on international bodies for an immediate solution in compliance with international law and conventions.

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Fédération des Tunisiens pour une citoyenneté des deux rives (**FTCR**),

Comité pour le respect des libertés et des droits de l’homme en Tunisie (**CRLDHT**),

Fédération des amis de Figuig (**FAF**),

Association des travailleurs maghrébins de France (**ATMF**),

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