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Committee against Torture

Decision adopted by the Committee under article 22 of the Convention, concerning communication No. 1185/2023^{*,**}

<i>Submitted by:</i>	A.L. and S.K. (represented by World Organisation against Torture)
<i>Alleged victim:</i>	The complainants
<i>State party:</i>	Tunisia
<i>Date of communication:</i>	20 July 2023 (initial complaint)
<i>Substantive issues:</i>	Torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; measures to prevent acts of torture; prompt and impartial investigation; reparation

1. The communication, dated 20 July 2023, was submitted by A.L. and S.K., nationals of Sierra Leone. They allege that they were beaten by police agents and transferred to a buffer zone between Tunisia and Libya, where they were kept in conditions that constitute torture, amounting to a violation of their rights by the State party under articles 1, 2, 3 and 16 of the Convention. They are represented by counsel.

2. On 21 July 2023, the communication was registered with the request for interim measures granted. The State party was requested to provide S.K. with the necessary assistance, including medical assistance, taking into account the fact that she is pregnant, not to deport the complainants to Libya while their communication was pending before the Committee and to prevent any threats, acts of violence or reprisals as a result of their communication before the Committee.

3. On 24 January 2024 the State party was reminded to submit its observations on the admissibility and merits of the case. The State party was informed, that if the requested observations are not received by 26 February 2024, the Committee may decide to examine the communication in the absence of the State party's observations.

4. On 28 November 2024, the complainants' counsel informed, that she has lost contact with the complainants. The counsel requested the communication to be continued.

5. In view of the fact that contact was apparently lost with the complainants, and without other possibilities for the Committee to contact the complainants, the Committee decided at its 82nd session on 10 April 2025 to discontinue communication 1185/2023.

* Adopted by the Committee at its 82nd session (7 April – 2 May 2025).

** The following members of the Committee participated in the examination of the communication: Todd Buchwald, Jorge Contesse, Claude Heller, Erdogan Iscan, Peter Vedel Kessing, Liu Huawen, Maeda Naoko, Ana Racu, Abderrazak Rouwane and Bakhtiyar Tuzmukhamedov.