PEN INTERNATIONAL WOMEN WRITERS' COMMITTEE





Acting Chair: Dr Judith Buckrich Human Rights: Lucina Kathmann Flat 3, 2 Lucy Street Gardenvale, VIC 3185 Australia

lucina.kathmann@gmail.com

December 13, 2011

His Excellency Hu Jintao President of the People's Republic of China State Council Beijing 100032 P.R. China.

Chairman of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Regional People's Government Nur Bekri Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu Renmin Zhengfu 2 Zhongshanlu Wulumuqishi 830041 Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu People's Republic of China.

Re: Mehbube Ablesh and Abdulghani Memetemin

Your Excellencies,

The Women Writers Committee of PEN International, the largest worldwide organization of writers, is concerned about two of our writer colleagues who were jailed in China, **Mehbube Ablesh** and **Abdulghani Memetemin**. In both cases their sentences have expired, yet we have not received information that they have been released from custody.

Mehbube Ablesh was sentenced to three years in 2008, and **Abdulghani Memetemin** was sentenced to nine years in 2002. Though the normal procedure would be for them to be released on expiry of their sentences, the fact that our researchers have not been able to verify this is a matter of concern to us. We ask for clarification on their present situations.

Sincerely,

Lucina I. Kathmann

International Vice-president, PEN International