



UNESCO'S DIRECTOR-GENERAL CONDEMNS MURDERS OF TWO ALGERIAN JOURNALISTS

Paris, 9 January - UNESCO's Director-General Federico Mayor today condemned the assassination of two Algerian journalists this weekend.

Ali Aboud, news director of the Arabic-language radio station Chaîne I, died Saturday after he was shot Friday in a southern Algiers neighbourhood, according to press reports. In a separate attack Friday, Zine Eddine Aliou Salah, an investigative reporter with the Algiers daily *Liberté*, died after three men shot him near his home south of the capital.

"The United Nations Year for Tolerance in 1995 has been marred by these brutal murders that are clearly aimed at muzzling freedom of thought and expression," the Director-General said. "The wave of violence that has crippled Algeria in the last three years has not only killed more than 10,000 people, it is denying school children their right to education and is destroying the future of this nation. We must urgently find a way of replacing this violence with dialogue and peace," Mr Mayor added.

"UNESCO shall raise its voice each time and wherever violence is perpetrated," the Director-General said. "No one should accept that violence be perceived as a normal means of expression and a way of life. Each one of us has the responsibility to reaffirm our determination to combat violence and to work for a world of tolerance and solidarity."
