

**Prime Minister**  
**Wen Jiabao Zongli**  
Guowuyuan 9 Xihuangchenggenbeijie  
Beijingshi 100032

VOLKSREPUBLIK CHINA

Dear Prime Minister,

I would like to express my concern about the human rights activist **Mao Hengfeng** from Shanghai.

In December 2006 Mao Hengfeng was sentenced to imprisonment of two and a half years for damage to property. She was accused to have destroyed two table lamps in a detention centre. Since the 15th of May she is imprisoned in the Shanghai Municipal Woman's prison. Neither her family nor her attorney are allowed to visit her in the prison. Her family and her attorney have seen her last at the trial of the appellate procedure. There the sentence of the first court was confirmed without further discussion

In May 2006 Mao Hengfeng had been detained by the police for violating the rules of residential surveillance and taken to custody in a detention centre in the Yangpu district of Shanghai. There she was physically beaten by the police and she was under the daily supervision of six guards who shared a room with her. The damage of the lamps occurred when she was protesting against her treatment.

The process against Mao Hengfeng took only 30 minutes and the court of law has listened only to the statements of the police.

Mao Hengfeng had repeatedly protested against the effects of the Chinese policy of family-planning. She has frequently been detained since she was released from a "Re-education through Labour" camp in September 2005. She had been sent there because of her persistence in petitioning the authorities about a forced abortion and the dismissal from her job. Reportedly she has been ill-treated several times when she was in the custody of the police.

According to *Article 41 of the Chinese constitution* citizens of the Peoples Republic of China have the right to criticize and make suggestions regarding any state organ or functionary.

I call on the Chinese authorities,

- to release Mao Hengfeng immediately and unconditionally.
- to guarantee that Mao Hengfeng will not be tortured or ill-treated while she is in custody
- to ensure that Mao Hengfeng gets an access to her family and her attorney

Yours respectfully