

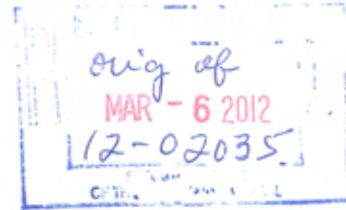
Central

Geneva, 21 February 2012



Ban Ki-moon
UN Secretary General
UN Headquarters
New York,
NY 10017
USA

ACTION *Pascal*
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International Commission
against the Death Penalty

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Federico Mayor

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Dear Secretary-General,

I am writing to you in my capacity as President of the International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP) to express my serious concern about the dramatic increase in the use of the death penalty in Iraq as evidenced by the fact that there have been more than 60 executions already this year.

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, has recently expressed her shock at the number of executions and concern about the lack of respect for fair trial standards.

Security Council Resolution S/RES/2001 (2011) encourages "the Government of Iraq to continue strengthening democracy and the rule of law..." and urges "the Government of Iraq to continue to promote and protect human rights...". UNAMI's mandate also includes the "protection of human rights, national reconciliation, and judicial and legal reform in order to strengthen the rule of law in Iraq...".

As Secretary-General you have issued a number of reports on the death penalty and in those reports you point to significant developments towards universal abolition of the death penalty. Those reports also state that in those countries implementing nevertheless the death penalty, the rights of those facing the capital punishment must be ensured.

On behalf of ICDP I ask that you use your 'good offices' to express your deep concern to President Jalal Talabani about Iraq's use of the death penalty, and urge him to implement an immediate moratorium on executions and a comprehensive review of the use of the death penalty.

ICDP was founded in order to obtain the establishment of a universal moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its total abolition. Its composition of personalities of high relevance that represents all the regions in the world enables it to act with total independence and neutrality.

I am entirely at your disposition and I would be happy to provide any advice or assistance that you might think it is appropriate.

Please accept, your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Indisally

[Signature]
Federico Mayor
President of the International Commission
against the Death Penalty



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