



General Assembly

Distr.: General
11.12.13 January 2025

Original: English

Seventy-ninth session

Agenda item: Moratorium on the execution of the death penalty

Sponsors: Argentina, Botswana, Canada, Ecuador, Fiji, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Malaysia, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Spain, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom

The General Assembly,

Preamble Clause starts here,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and the work of the Human Rights Council,

Recalling the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and in this regard welcoming the increasing number of accessions to and ratifications of the Second Optional Protocol,

Recalling also its resolutions 62/149, 63/168, 65/206, 67/176, 69/186, 71/187, 73/175, 75/183, 77/222,

Noting that any miscarriage or failure of justice in the implementation of the death penalty is irreversible and irreparable,

Noting with regret that, despite the global trend towards limiting the application of the death penalty, there has been a recent surge in reported executions,

Recognizing that there is no conclusive evidence of the deterrent value of the death penalty,

Expresses its concern about the continued application of the death penalty that results in the loss of valuable human lives, despite the other feasible methods which exist;

Approves the steps taken by some States to reduce the number of offences for which the death penalty maybe imposed as well as steps taken to limit its application, including by commuting death sentences,

Calls upon all states to protect the rights of persons facing the death penalty and other affected persons by complying with their international obligations, including the rights to equality and non-discrimination;

Calls upon states that have not yet done so to consider acceding to or ratifying the ICCPR, as well as its Second Optional Protocol, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

Emphasizing that a moratorium on the use of the death penalty contributes to respect for human dignity and to the enhancement and progressive development of human rights, especially the right to life,

Recognizing that discussions on the death penalty, both international and domestic, is indispensable to moratorium of the death penalty, and abolishment of it in the future,

Believing that following standards about the execution of the death penalty is an indispensable factor of protecting the human rights of all accused,

Emphasizing the need of persons facing the death penalty to be treated with respect for their inherent dignity, and that it is essential to protect the rights of them,

Taking into account that failing to respect fair trial that results in the imposition of the death penalty could constitute a violation of the right to life,

Recognizing that information provided by all states on the death penalty would greatly contribute to discussions on the agenda,

Emphasizing the need for countries that have the death penalty to continue considering moratorium and continue discussions in order to create a fair and just public opinion,

Noting its satisfaction to current reports published by the Secretary General and other organizations on the death penalty, and recognizing its contribution to moratorium

1. *Calls upon* member states to establish and maintain moratorium of the death penalty until the international society has gained a consensus on the abolishment of the death penalty, with the view of achieving full global moratorium and eventually abolishing the death penalty in the future;
2. *Requests* member states to conduct the following in order to achieve an eventual abolishment of the death penalty;
 - a. To promote international and domestic discussion and research on the death penalty, especially its relation with the right to life,
 - b. To assess obstacles towards abolishing the death penalty,
 - c. Release of relevant information concerning the number of death penalty sentences and executions carried out in order to proximate,
 - d. Gradually decrease the number of crimes the death penalty is applicable to;
3. *Encourages* member states to improve their justice system and surrounding environment concerning the death penalty as follows to protect human rights of all accused;
 - a. To ensure that any trial leading to the imposition of the death penalty complies with internationally recognized fair trial,
 - b. To improve conditions in detention for those on trial for capital crimes or on death row, by ensuring that all prisoners are treated with humanity and with respect for their inherent dignity;
4. *Recommends* member states to make available relevant information concerning the death penalty, including but not limited to;
 - a. The number of persons sentenced to death and executions carried out,
 - b. The number of death sentences reversed or commuted on appeal or in which amnesty or pardon has been granted, and according to which procedure,
 - c. Information on any scheduled execution,
 - d. Information about inmates executed including their socioeconomic status and demographic;

5. *Encourages* member states that keep the death penalty to actively discuss within the country about the death penalty and its moratorium:
- ~~6.~~ *Requests* the Secretary-General and relevant organizations to monitor and create a report on the implementation of this resolution and the situation of the death penalty as a whole including goals mentioned in Operative Clause 3;
7. *Calls upon* countries politically, socially, and financially capable to provide financial, technical, and educational aid to retentionist nations who are willing to transition towards abolishing the death penalty through means of operative clauses 3, 4, and 10, and to educate the public on the death penalty through social campaigns;
8. *Requests* member states receiving aid mentioned in operative clause 9 to publicize information regarding their progression through means including ones mentioned in operative clause 4;
9. *Calls upon* member states to ratify domestic laws and legislation that will help achieve the following:
 - a. Improved rehabilitation efforts within correctional facilities,
 - b. Alternative methods for both punishment and rehabilitation
 - c. Providing a more humane environment in prisons and other correctional facilities in order to accelerate rehabilitation;
10. *Calls upon* states party to the ICCPR to follow its article 6, which prohibits the use of the death penalty other than the most serious states, and to follow the definition provided by the HRC as “intentional killing” such as genocide and war crimes;
11. *Decides* to remain actively seized with the matter.