



International Commission
against the Death Penalty

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Statement by the International Commission against the Death Penalty: ICDP welcomes Navanethem (Navi) Pillay as its new Commissioner

The International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP or Commission) warmly welcomes Ms Navi Pillay as its new Commissioner.

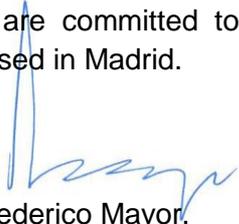
"I am very happy that Ms Navi Pillay, the former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and a highly respected voice of human rights from Africa, is joining the members of the ICDP in its global fight against the death penalty. She brings a wealth of experience as a well-known lawyer, academic, judge in South Africa and internationally. Commissioner Pillay was very active, during her tenure as High Commissioner for Human Rights, with her numerous calls and interventions for the abolition of capital punishment. I believe that she will continue to contribute significantly to the death penalty abolitionist movement in all regions in the world as a fellow Member of the Commission," said ICDP President Mr Federico Mayor.

Ms Navi Pillay will become the 16th Commissioner of the ICDP, which was founded in Madrid in October 2010. ICDP Commissioners are persons of high international standing from all regions of the world who act with total independence and neutrality and work under its President Mr Federico Mayor.

ICDP opposes the death penalty under any circumstances believing that it violates the right to life enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Commission promotes the abolition of capital punishment in law in those states that observe a de facto moratorium on the use of the death penalty and promotes moratoriums on executions in states that rarely use the death penalty. In states that continue to carry out executions ICDP urges strict adherence to international standards.

ICDP works with the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, governments and nongovernmental organizations to further the abolition of capital punishment worldwide.

The work of ICDP is supported by a diverse group of 18 states from all regions of the world that are committed to the abolition of the death penalty. Its secretariat is based in Madrid.


Federico Mayor,
President of the International Commission
against the Death Penalty