



International Commission
against the Death Penalty

President

Federico Mayor

Members

Giuliano Amato

Louise Arbour

Robert Badinter

Mohammed Bedjaoui

Ruth Dreifuss

Michèle Duvivier
Pierre-Louis

Hanne Sophie Greve

Asma Jilani Jahangir

Ioanna Kuçuradi

Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

Navanethem (Navi) Pillay

Ibrahim Najjar

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**Statement by the International Commission against the Death Penalty:
Four executions carried out by Indonesian authorities**

The International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP) strongly condemns the executions of four men by Indonesian authorities on 29 July 2016. These executions mark the third set of executions carried out after President Joko Widodo assumed office in October 2014; six persons were executed in January 2015 and eight persons were executed in April 2015.

All the four men who were executed in July 2016 were reportedly sentenced to death for drug-related offenses.

Freddy Budiman, an Indonesian national, was sentenced to death in 2012.

Restaurant owner Humphrey Jefferson Ejike Eleweke, a Nigerian national, was arrested in 2003 and sentenced to death in 2004; he had maintained his innocence since his arrest. The police had reportedly found heroin in a room used by one of his employees. Despite Mr Eleweke's request for clemency on 25 July 2016, which was pending, and in apparent contravention of Indonesian law, his execution was carried out.

Michael Titus Igweh, a Nigerian national, was found guilty of possessing heroin in 2002 and sentenced to death in 2003. He claimed that he was tortured in detention by Indonesian authorities to obtain a confession.

38 year-old Seck Osmane, a Nigerian national, was sentenced to death in 2004 for carrying heroin. His appeal was rejected by the Supreme Court in 2005.

Reports reaching ICDP suggest that ten more persons, including one woman and nine men, face imminent threat of being executed. They include nationals from Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan and India. Some of these persons have reportedly claimed to have been subjected to torture and ill-treatment, not granted adequate or timely consular access or access to lawyers. No dates for their executions have been set.

A cloud of secrecy and a lack of transparency shroud the trials and the executions that have been carried out in Indonesia. The prisoners and their families were reportedly not informed in advance about the date of their executions.

"ICDP and I call on the authorities in Indonesia to stop carrying out any further executions. The death penalty violates the most fundamental right in human life: the right to life. This right is enshrined in Article 28(I) of Indonesia's Constitution. Moreover, the death penalty is a cruel and inhuman punishment that amounts to a denial of human dignity and integrity. We do share your government's deep concern on the serious situation on drugs in Indonesia. While we recognize the increasing challenges faced by the authorities and growing public pressure to resolve the situation, we strongly believe that there is no evidence to confirm that the death penalty is a stronger deterrent than other forms of punishment. Fundamental human rights must be respected when fighting drug crimes. We call on the



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Indonesian authorities to establish an official moratorium on the use of the death penalty while steps are taken to move away from the use of capital punishment in the country.” said ICDP President Federico Mayor.

Reports suggest that there are over 160 persons currently on death row in Indonesia and about 40 per cent among them were sentenced for drug-related crimes.

ICDP calls on the Government of Indonesia to join the 102 countries who have abolished the death penalty for all crimes. These States have recognized that modern justice systems can protect the public from crime without the irrevocable and cruel nature of the death penalty and the constant risk of executing an innocent person. These nations have recognized that state killing is wrong and fails to deter crime more effectively than other punishments.

Federico Mayor
President
of the International Commission
against the Death Penalty

Background

Composed of 17 Commissioners, who are persons of high international standing from all regions of the world, ICDP acts with total independence and neutrality and works 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.

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.