



Geneva, 14 April 2014

## Statement by the International Commission against the Death Penalty: Imminent execution of Reyhaneh Jabbari

The International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP) strongly urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to halt immediately the execution of 26 year old Iranian national Reyhaneh Jabbari. ICDP believes that her sentence has been sent to the Office of Implementation of Sentences (OIS) in Tehran; once the OIS receives a death sentence, the execution may be carried out at any time.

Reyhaneh Jabbari was sentenced to death by a Criminal Court in Tehran in 2009 for the alleged murder of Morteza Abdolali Sarbandi, a former employee of Iran's Ministry of Intelligence, in 2007. The death sentence was upheld by the Supreme Court in the same year.

Ms Jabbari reportedly confessed to the murder shortly after her arrest, though she stated that she had committed it in self-defence. Moreover, she did not have a lawyer present at the time of her confession. Following her arrest, Reyhaneh Jabbari was, according to reliable reports, held in solitary confinement for two months in Evin Prison (Teheran), where she did not have access to a lawyer or her family.

Sources suggest that at least 369 individuals were executed in 2013 in Iran, although the actual figure is likely to be higher as the authorities do not report all executions. According to the United Nations, some 170 people have been executed in 2014, including at least two women.

"ICDP and I urge the Iranian authorities not to execute Reyhaneh Jabbari" said Mr. Federico Mayor, President of ICDP. ICDP also calls on the authorities to stop any further executions, to commute all death sentences to terms of imprisonment and declare an official moratorium on executions as a first step towards abolition of capital punishment in line with UN General Assembly Resolutions adopted in 2007, 2008, 2010 and 2012.

Federico Mayor  
President of the International Commission  
against the Death Penalty

### International Commission against the Death Penalty

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Federico Mayor

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Louise Arbour

Robert Badinter

Mohammed Bedjaoui

Ruth Dreifuss

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## Background

ICDP was founded in Madrid in October 2010. ICDP is composed of 15 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. ICDP 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 the ICDP is supported by a diverse group of 18 states from all regions of the world that are committed to abolition of the death penalty. Its secretariat is based in Geneva.