



International Commission
against the Death Penalty

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Madrid, 20 September 2011

**Statement by the
International Commission against the Death Penalty
on the Imminent Execution of Juvenile Offender
Alireza Molla-Soltani in Iran**

The International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP) is deeply alarmed by the information received from several sources on the imminent execution of Alizera Molla-Soltani, a 17 year old juvenile.

Alizera Molla-Soltani, born on 25 December 1993, was arrested on 18 July 2011 in Karaj for killing a popular athlete of Iran and sentenced to death by public hanging only one month later by the First Chamber of Karaj's Provincial Criminal Court. The death sentence was upheld by the Iranian Supreme Court on or around 11 September 2011. According to the brother of the deceased, Alizera Molla-Soltani is going to be hanged publicly on 21 September 2011.

The ICDP wants to stress that Article 6(5) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) states that the "sentence of death shall not be imposed for crimes committed by persons below eighteen years of age" and that Iran is a State Party to this Covenant since 24 June 1975.

Likewise, the ICDP underlines that Article 37 (a) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), of which Iran is also a party, clearly states that all States Parties shall ensure that "Neither capital punishment nor life imprisonment without possibility of release shall be imposed for offences committed by persons below eighteen years of age".

Therefore the ICDP urges the Iranian authorities to stay immediately the execution of Alizera Molla-Soltani and to commute his death sentence. ICDP furthermore urges also Iran to establish a moratorium on the use of the death penalty in line with the worldwide trend towards the abolition of capital punishment that was confirmed by the UNGA Resolution 65/206 on a Moratorium on the Use of the Death Penalty adopted on the 21 December 2010.

Federico Mayor
President of the International Commission
against the Death Penalty