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Statement by the International Commission against the Death Penalty: Kuwait resumes executions

International Commission
against the Death Penalty

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The International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP) condemns the execution of three men on Monday (1 April) morning. The executions were approved by the Emir of Kuwait after the court of cassation upheld the death sentences.

The three men—a Pakistani national, a Saudi national and a Bidoon (person without nationality)—were all sentenced to death in separate murder cases.

“The executions of the three men represent a step backwards as they are the first executions carried out since May 2007,” said Mr. Federico Mayor, President of the ICDP.

As of the time of the executions, there are reportedly more than 40 people under sentence of death.

Presently a majority of countries have stopped the practice of the death penalty. According to the United Nations (UN), some 150 countries from all regions in the world and cultures have abolished capital punishment or no longer execute. These nations have accepted that state killing is wrong and fails to deter crime.

ICDP calls on the Kuwaiti authorities not to carry out any further executions, to commute all death sentences to terms of imprisonment and declare an official moratorium on executions in line with the UN General Assembly Resolutions adopted in 2007, 2008, 2010 and 2012.

Federico Mayor
President of the International Commission
against the Death Penalty



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BACKGROUND

ICDP was founded in Madrid in October 2010. ICDP is composed of 14 personalities 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 16 states from all regions of the world that are committed to abolition of the death penalty. Its secretariat is based in Geneva.