



## International Commission against the Death Penalty

#### **President**

Navanethem (Navi) Pillay

### **Vice-Presidents**

Ruth Dreifuss Ibrahim Najjar

### **Members**

Marc Bossuyt
Helen Clark
Marzuki Darusman
Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis
Tsakhia Elbegdorj
Hanne Sophie Greve
Sylvie Kayitesi
Ioanna Kuçuradi
Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
Martin Joseph O'Malley
Marta Santos Pais
Ivan Simonovic
Horacio Verbitsky

### **Honorary Members**

Giuliano Amato Louise Arbour Robert Badinter Mohammed Bedjaoui Federico Mayor Zaragoza Bill Richardson José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero Marta Vilardell

### **Founding Members**

Rodolfo Mattarollo (1939-2014) Asma Jilani Jahangir (1952-2018)

### Secretariat

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# Statement by the International Commission against the Death Penalty: 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Commissioners and General Assembly

The International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP or Commission) held its 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Commissioners on 4 July 2021 in a hybrid format. This was the first in person Meeting of Commissioners for those Commissioners who were able to physically participate after three years of travel restrictions. The Meeting took place at the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union, and Cooperation in Madrid.

Under the leadership of President Navi Pillay, the Commissioners deliberated on the activities and achievements accomplished by the Commission including detailed discussions, report backs on specific initiatives that had been carried out since the last annual Meeting of Commissioners in July 2021, which had been held online. They identified challenges and opportunities within the current global context of the situation of the death penalty. Noting this, they made recommendations with regards to the thematic and regional priorities of the Commission going forward and which will shape the drafting of an action plan for the period ahead until the next meeting in 2023. They considered ICDP's financial situation, adopted its budget and audit report, and identified fundraising initiatives to ensure the financial stability of the Commission.

Following the Meeting of Commissioners, the ICDP held, in hybrid format, its General Assembly, an interactive meeting between Commissioners and Member States of ICDP's Support Group. President Pillay led ICDP Commissioners in reporting on the Commission's activities, the decisions made during the Meeting of Commissioners. The representatives from the Member States Countries reported back on their activities, many of which were conducted jointly with ICDP. The Support Group Member States briefed the Commissioners on their future activities underlining their continued commitment to the shared goal of moving the world to be free of the death penalty. They made financial commitments to ICDP for the coming year. The General Assembly concluded with a shared commitment to closer cooperation and the hope of more progress in ICDP's shared goal of a world free of the death penalty.



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### **Background**

Composed of 24 Commissioners of high international standing following highly respected careers in public service and representing all regions of the world, the International Commission against the Death Penalty acts with total independence under the leadership of President Navi Pillay.

The Commission promotes the abolition of capital punishment in law in

States that observe a *de facto* moratorium on the use of the death penalty and promotes moratoriums on executions in States that retain capital punishment. ICDP works with the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, governments and nongovernmental organizations to advocate for worldwide abolition of the death penalty.

The work of ICDP is supported by a geographically diverse Support Group of Member States who are committed to the abolition of the death penalty. Its Secretariat is based in Madrid and is responsible for the day-to-day work of the Commission.