



CAMPAIGN UPDATE FOR THE RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL PROTOCOLS AIMED AT ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY – N°21

This document presents the recent evolution of the campaign. This update is published twice a year to give information about the campaign development (status of ratifications, actions taken by the World Coalition and its members) and suggest taking action in target countries.

For more details please refer to our website: www.worldcoalition.org/protocol

As of 6th March 2017, 84 States are parties to the Protocol, and 3 other States have signed the Protocol but have not ratified it yet.

Latest News

- **Sao Tomé and Príncipe** ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR on 10 January, thus becoming its 84th State Party.
- **Madagascar**: the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR by Madagascar is imminent, after the National Assembly approved a bill in January 2017 to authorise it. The President should now sign it and deposit the instruments of ratification to the UN Secretary General.
- **Cote d'Ivoire** and **Suriname** are considering legislation to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.

New list of target countries for 2017

- Sub Saharan Africa: Angola, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Congo, Sierra Leone and Madagascar
- South America and the Caribbean: Suriname
- Asia: Samoa
- Middle East and North Africa: Morocco
- Europe: Armenia

Agenda for 2017:

We are very close to our **goal of reaching 85 ratifications, representing half of the 169 State parties to the ICCPR.**

- 27 Feb-24 Mar: 34th Session of the **Human Rights Council**.
 - Biennial high-level panel discussion on the death penalty and torture on 1 March.
 - Meeting with the "Friends of the Protocol".
- 6-29 Mar: 119th session of the **Human Rights Committee**.
 - General Comment on Article 6 on 15 and 16 March.

- 1-12 May: 27th session of the **UPR** (report of **Morocco and the Philippines**).
- 3-28 July 2017: 120th session of the **Human Rights Committee**.
 - Report of **Madagascar**
- 11-29 September: 35th session of the **Human Rights Council**.
 - Presentation of the report of the Secretary General on the question of the death penalty with a specific focus on the right to equality and non-discrimination.
 - Resolution on the next Biennial panel on the death penalty (March 2019).
- **10 October: World Day Against the Death Penalty**, focusing on poverty
- 6 -17 November: 28th session of the **UPR**.