



UPDATE N°18 - CAMPAIGN FOR THE RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL PROTOCOLS AIMED AT ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY

This document presents the recent evolution of the campaign. This update will be published every other month to give information about the campaign development (status of ratifications, actions taken by the World Coalition and its members) and suggest taking action in the target countries.

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

As of 1st May 2015, 81 States are parties to the Protocol, and 3 other States have signed the Protocol but have not ratified it yet.

New Regional Protocol in Africa

The African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights has adopted a regional protocol for the abolition of the death penalty at its 56th ordinary session in Banjul, The Gambia. It has now to be sent to the African Union for adoption.

25th Anniversary of the American Protocol

On 8 June 2015, we will commemorate the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights to Abolish the Death Penalty.

Several civil society organizations, including the World Coalition, have requested the Organization of American States to address the issue of the death penalty in its 45th Regular Session of the General Assembly, which will be held in Haiti from June 7 to 9, 2015.

New tool: A Ratification Kit for Parliamentarians

Parliamentarians are essential to the process of abolition in several ways. They are central to law-making in their own countries and in most countries, the ultimate decision on ratification rests with parliament, which must approve ratification. This new tool will help them understand the importance and the process of ratification and it will help civil society engage with them.

Actions taken in March-May 2015

- During the 113th session of the **Human Rights Committee** recommended that **Cote d'Ivoire** ratify the Second Optional Protocol. The Committee also raised the issue of abolition and ratification for **Benin** and **Suriname** based on the information submitted by the World Coalition
- During the Hearing before the **Inter-American Commission on Human Rights** on the situation of the death penalty in the **Greater Caribbean**, the Greater Caribbean for Life urged the Commission to call on all Member States of the OAS to ratify the protocols aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
- FIACAT and the World Coalition participated to the pre-session for the **Universal Periodic Review of Liberia** and conducted lobbying activities in Geneva
- Joint statement made during the 56th Ordinary Session of the **African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights**
- **Universal Periodic Review of Liberia** and **Mongolia** during which recommendations to fully abolish the death penalty were made



Take Action Now!

For May and June 2015, we encourage you to send official letters to the following countries :

→ Sierra Leone

**His Excellency The President
Ernest Bai Koroma**

State House
Tower Hill
Freetown
Sierra Leone

jkawusu-konte@statehouse.gov.sl

Email: jaramenajara@yahoo.com

**Mr Sheku Badara Bashiru Dumbuya
Speaker of Parliament**

The Sierra Leone Parliament
Parliament Building
OUA, Drive, Tower Hill,
FREETOWN
Sierra Leone

admin@parliament.gov.sl,

info@parliament.gov.sl,

sierraleoneparliament@hotmail.com

→ Samoa

**His Highness Tui Atua Tupua Tupuola
Efi TAMASESE**

Head of State

Office of the Head of State
Motootua
Samoa

Fax: [+685 26493](tel:+68526493)

**Mr Laauli Leuatea Polataivao Fosi
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly**

Legislative Assembly
P.O. Box 1866

APIA

Samoa

legislative@parliament.gov.ws

You will find advice and model letters in the **Lobbying Kit** that you may download online:
www.worldcoalition.org/media/resourcecenter/KitLobbyingMembresWCADP-EN.pdf

 Read the new Ratification Kit for Parliamentarians: www.worldcoalition.org/protocol

Agenda for May and June 2015:

- May and June: **Missions on the ground in Angola, Armenia, Cambodia, Dominican Republic and Morocco**
- 7-9 June: 45th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the **OAS** in Haiti, during which the **25th Anniversary of the American Protocol** will be celebrated
- 11 – 12 June: Regional Congress against the Death Penalty in Asia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 15 June - 3 July 2015: 24th session of the UN **Human Rights Council**. Adoption of the UPR report for **Armenia**
- 29 June- 24 July: 114th session of the **Human Rights Committee**, during which the General Comments on article 6 to the PIDCP will be discussed