



UPDATE N°16 - 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 October 2014, 81 States are parties to the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR, and 3 other States have signed the Protocol but have not ratified it yet.

This year is crucial to reach our goal of 10 ratifications since the official launch of the campaign five years ago. We are now closer than ever to reach 82 States parties, with **one additional ratification needed before 15 December 2014**, 25th anniversary of the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations of the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

Ratifications in 2014

- **Poland:** ratification of Protocol 13 to the European Convention for Human Rights on 23 May 2014 (44 States parties out of the 47 member states of the Council of Europe. Armenia, Azerbaijan and Russia are yet to ratify it).
- **Poland:** ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (OP2-ICCPR) on 25 April 2014. Poland had signed it in 2000.
- **El Salvador:** accession to OP2-ICCPR on 8 April 2014
- **Gabon:** accession to OP2-ICCPR on 2 April 2014

Actions taken during summer 2014

- 18 June 2014: **high-level Side-Event on the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Second Optional Protocol** during the **26th session of the Human Rights Council** in Geneva organized by ICDP and co-sponsored by Argentina, Belgium, France, Italy, Mexico, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom, all members of ICDP's Support Group, Moldova and the World Coalition against the Death Penalty.
- 16-21 June 2014: **Mission on the ground in Haiti** conducted by ECPM.
- 22-29 June 2014: **Mission on the ground in Burundi** conducted by FIACAT, ACAT Burundi and CCPR Center.
- In its reply to the **Human Rights Committee's list of issues, Burundi** stated: "the country is on the path to ratification of the Second Protocol since the text of its ratification has already been adopted by the Parliament."
- During its **UPR, Cote d'Ivoire** accepted the recommendations made by Chile, France and Montenegro and the head of the delegation said that there were no obstacles to the ratification of the OP2-ICCPR.
- In its **UPR Mid-term Report, Morocco** stated: "Morocco witnesses extensive dialogue conducted by various components of society, especially civil society associations working on human rights, with a view to intensifying accession to international human rights conventions, including the Second Optional Protocol" to the ICCPR.
- Joint report submitted by FIACAT, ACAT Liberia and World Coalition for **Liberia's** next **UPR** session.



Take Action Now!

For September and October 2014, we encourage you to send official letters to the following countries:

→ Armenia

Mr. Serzh SARGSIAN
President of Armenia
26 Marshal Baghramian Avenue
0077 Yerevan
Armenia

H.E. Mr. Eduard Nalbandian
Minister of Foreign Relations
Government House, 2 Republic Square
0010 Yerevan
Armenia
[Fax: +374 10 543925](tel:+37410543925)

→ Samoa

His Highness Tui Atua Tupua Tupuola Efi TAMASESE
Head of State
Office of the Head of State
Motoootua
Samoa
[Fax: +685 26493](tel:+68526493)

Hon Prime Minister Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi
Prime Minister
Apia
P.O. Box L1861
Samoa
mfat@mfat.gov.ws



For more information on these countries, please read the **ratification kits**:

<http://www.worldcoalition.org/protocol.html?attached=documents>

You will find advice and model letters in the **Lobbying Kit** that you may download online:

www.worldcoalition.org/media/resourcecenter/KitLobbyingMembresWCADP-EN.pdf

Agenda for October-December 2014:

- 10 October, **World Day against the Death Penalty**: The CCPR Centre and the World Coalition against Death Penalty organise a **cocktail reception** hosted by the *Conseil administratif* de la Ville de Genève to mark the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the international Protocol to abolish death penalty
- 7 – 31 October: 112th session of the **Human Rights Committee: Burundi** and **Cote d'Ivoire** will be reviewed
- 27 October – 7 November: 20th session of the **Universal Periodic Review: Angola** will be reviewed
- 3 - 28 November: 53rd session of the **Committee Against Torture: Burundi** will be reviewed
- **15 December - 25th Anniversary of the adoption by UNGA of the OP2-ICCPR**: two workshops will be organized in Geneva by CCPR Center and the World Coalition to strengthen the ratification campaign for the next 5 years, one focusing on the role of the Human Rights Committee and the other on the role of the "Friends of the Protocol".