

UPDATE N°2 CAMPAIGN FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE UN PROTOCOL

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: http://www.worldcoalition.org/protocol

As of 1 December 2009, 72 States are parties to the Protocol, and 3 States have signed the Protocol but have not ratified it yet.

First 'Friends of the Protocol' (countries officially supporting the campaign):

- → Chile
- → Spain

Actions taken in November 2009

Lobbying target countries:

- → A letter was sent to the President of the **Parliament of Latvia** following a meeting with the Human Rights Counselor of the Latvian Permanent Mission to the UN in Geneva.
- → Letters were sent to **Kyrgyz authorities** following the introduction of a bill for the ratification of the Protocol. This bill was rejected but will be introduced again in a near future.
- → Mission of Pr Speedy Rice in **Cote d'Ivoire** on 28 November. He met with the **Director for Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice**. No ratification may happen before the elections planned in March 2010.
- → Meeting with representatives of target countries during the 6th session of the Universal Periodic Review of the UN Human Rights Council.
- → Mission of the FIDH in **Kazakhstan**.

Lobbying with International Organizations:

- → The WCADP attended the **Universal Periodic Review** of Ivory Coast and Dominican Republic. Both Friends of the Protocol have followed the WCADP's recommendations and have asked those target countries to ratify the Protocol.
- → The WCADP has respected the boycott initiated by its members in Africa of the 46th session of the **African Commission for Human and People's Rights** in November. The Coalition could not use this forum for the campaign. The next session will take place in May 2010.
- → Campaign documents were distributed by PRI during the event organized in Washington about «Kazakhstan: Problems with Rule of Law and Basic Freedoms Ahead of the **OSCE Chairmanship**» on 18 November 2009
- → Report from the WCADP submitted to the **Human Rights Council** for the Universal Periodic Review of Armenia and Kyrgyzstan.

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Act now!

Target Countries for December 2009 and January 2010:

- **→** Ivory Coast
- **→ Dominican Republic**

We encourage you to send letters to their embassy in your country. You will find advice and model letters in the <u>Lobbying Kit</u>.

You may download them online:

http://www.worldcoalition.org/modules/news/article.php?storyid=94.

Agenda for December 2009 and January 2010:

- → **15 December 2009**: 20th anniversary of the adoption of the Protocol for the abolition of the death penalty by the General Assembly of the United Nations
- → 13-14 January 2010: Meeting of the Working Group on Human Rights (COHOM) of the Council of the European Union
- → **25-29 January 2010**: Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, first part of the 2010 Ordinary Session, Strasbourg

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