



UPDATE N°15 - 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 March 2014, 78 States are parties to the Protocol, and 4 other States have signed the Protocol but have not ratified it yet.

2014: 25th anniversary of the UN Protocol

15 December 2014 will be the 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. We are currently planning a series of events to celebrate it, including:

- a side event during the 26th session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva in June, in partnership with the OHCHR and ICDP
- the Protocol will be highlighted during the UN Treaty Event in New York in September
- events during the 112th session of the Human Rights Committee in Geneva in October

If you would like to join or co-sponsor any of these events, please let us know.

This year is crucial to reach our goal of 10 ratifications since the official launch of the ratification campaign five years ago. We need your support, this year more than ever, to reach our goal of 82 States parties, with four additional ratifications in 2014!

Actions taken in January-February 2014

- Letter sent to the UNSG regarding the UN treaty event. On 13 February 2014, the World Coalition was informed that the OP2-ICCPR had been added to the list for the treaty event. In his introductory speech to the HRC High Level Debate on the Death Penalty, the UNSG encouraged all member states to ratify the Protocol to celebrate its 25th anniversary.
- Reports sent for the UPR of **El Salvador, Bolivia and Angola**
- Follow-up report sent to UPR-info for **Latvia**
- **Togo**: meeting with the representative of the Minister for Foreign Affairs during the Sierra Leone Conference in January
- During its UPR, **Cambodia** accepted the recommendations made by France, Austria, Hungary and Latvia to ratify the OP2-ICCPR
- The **Dominican Republic** will examine and provide responses to the recommendations made by Spain, Portugal and Montenegro no later than the 26th session of the Human Rights Council in June 2014



Take Action Now!

For March and April 2014, we encourage you to send official letters to the following countries:

→ Morocco

**S. E. Mr. Salaheddine Mezouar,
Minister of Foreign Relations**

7, rue F. Roosevelt
Rabat, MAROC
Fax : +212 5 37 76 55 08

**Mr. Mahjoub El Haiba
Délégué interministériel aux droits
de l'Homme**

Email : elhaiba@didh.gov.ma
(cc: rouwane@didh.gov.ma)


→ Burundi

**S.E. Honorable Pierre NKURUNZIZA
Président de la République du Burundi**

Boulevard de l'Uprona, Rohero I
BP 1870
Bujumbura
Burundi
Fax : +25 779 020 202

**S.E. M. Laurent KAVAKURE
Ministre des Relations Extérieures et
de la Coopération Internationale**

BP 6078
Bujumbura
Burundi

 For more information on these countries, please read the **ratification kits**:
www.worldcoalition.org/protocol

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 March and April 2014:

- 3 – 28 March 2014: 25th session of the **Human Rights Council** (Reports of the Independent Experts on **Haiti** and **Cote d'Ivoire**)
- 10 - 28 March 2014: 110th session of the **Human Rights Committee** (Adoption of the list of issues for **Haiti**)
- 28 April – 5 May 2014: 19th session of the **Universal Periodic Review** (Report of **Cote d'Ivoire**)
- 28 April – 23 May 2014: 52nd session of the **Committee Against Torture** (Adoption of the list of issues for **Burundi**)
- 28 April - 12 May 2014 : 55th Ordinary Session of the **African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights** in **Angola** (Report of **Liberia**)