



## UPDATE N°22 - 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 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](http://www.worldcoalition.org/protocol)*

As of 16 October 2017, 85 States are parties to the Protocol, and 2 other States have signed the Protocol but have not ratified it yet.

### Latest Ratifications

- **Madagascar:** ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR on 21 September 2017.
- **Gambia:** signature of the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR on 20 September 2017 after the Adama Barrow, President of The Gambia, delivered a speech at the UNGA in New York, in which he reaffirms the “New Gambia’s” commitment to human rights. A communiqué from the President’s office later stated that “ The Gambia will now work to move from signing to ratification and domestication of the signed treaties, to make them effectively in the country”. The Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Baboucarr Tamedou, had declared on 23 March 2017 that he wanted the death penalty abolished in The Gambia.

### Actions taken in 2017

- March 2017: meeting with the “Friends of the Protocol” during the Human Rights Council
- 1-12 May: during the 27<sup>th</sup> session of the **UPR, Morocco** rejected the recommendations to ratify the OP2-ICCPR.
- 4 May 2017: **Expert Seminar** on ‘The Principle of Non-Discrimination. Equality and the Death Penalty’ Palais des Nations, Geneva.
- 22-24 June 2017: International conference on the death penalty on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the World Coalition, in Washington DC. The conference included several workshops, namely one on the UN mechanisms, namely the **UPR**.
- October 2017: In country-mission to **Morocco** to identify to causes of the rejection of the UPR recommendation to ratify when it had accepted to consider it in 2012.
- **Haiti** accepted the recommendations regarding the ratification of OP2-ICCPR in the addendum.
- Report sent to the **Human Rights Committee** on the **Draft General Comment on Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights** in partnership with The Advocates for Human rights and FIACAT.
- Internal Evaluation of the Ratification campaign, which will be reoriented to adapt to the new context.



## Take Action Now!

We encourage you to send official letters to the following countries:

### → Cote d'Ivoire

#### **S.E. M. Marcel AMON-TANOH Ministre des Affaires étrangères**

Abidjan, Plateau, Bd Agoulevant  
BP V 109 Abidjan  
Côte d'Ivoire

[http://www.diplomatie.gouv.ci/  
contacts.php?page=con](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.ci/contacts.php?page=con)

Tel: +225 20 32 08 88

### **S.E.M. Sansan KAMBILE**

#### **Garde des sceaux et Ministre des Droits de l'Homme et des Libertés Publiques**

Imm. Symphonie - Rue du commerce  
face galeries Peyrissac (ex-CNA), Abijan,  
plateau, 2e étage  
Côte d'Ivoire

<http://droitsdelhomme.ci/conctacts/>

Tel: +225 20 22 59 37

**i** The campaign now targets two priority countries a year and ten countries over 5 years, with a specific focus on one country every six months. All the tools have been updated and are available online.

For more information on the list of target countries, please read the **ratification kits**:

<http://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](http://www.worldcoalition.org/media/resourcecenter/KitLobbyingMembresWCADP-EN.pdf)

## **Agenda for November 2017-March 2018:**

- 16 October -10 November: 121<sup>st</sup> session of the **Human Rights Committee**.
- 1-15 November: 61<sup>st</sup> session of the **African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in Banjul, the Gambia**.
- 6-17 November: 28<sup>th</sup> session of the **UPR**.
- 6 November – 6 December: 62<sup>nd</sup> session of the **Committee Against Torture**.
- In country missions to **Armenia and Samoa, as well as to Angola and Congo** coordinated by the WCADP in partnership with the Working Group on the Death penalty of the ACHPR.